

THE IPM SCANNER

The official newsletter of the International Police Museum
212 N. Hwy 101, Rockaway Beach, Oregon (503) 457-6056



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Welcome to the Scanner, the official newsletter of the International Police Museum at Rockaway Beach.

International Police Museum Board of Directors and staff, all volunteers, wish you a happy and healthy holiday season. We gave thanks in November for our family, friends and all our supporters who have helped us through the year. Christmas will bring light and joy to the City of Rockaway Beach, The Merchants Association and the City have teamed up to help decorate the Candy Cane Express, light up the city and the traditional Christmas tree, and promote the festive Christmas season with lights. While gatherings may be small, we will remain strong during our current pandemic guidelines. Well Done.

To say 2020 has been a turbulent year would be a gross understatement. IPM's location with the police building worked well because the Police Volunteers opened the door for us during the week and our Museum Volunteers could answer questions for the public and summon police if needed on weekends. The public always had a live person to talk to and access to both the police and museum. IPM started out strong with increases in visitor numbers for January and February. Then COVID closed IPM and the police office on March 14. All fundraising was cancelled, then the rent was raised at the end of June. IPM was prepared to load the wagon when two merchants, the Dody's, stepped in to save us for the city. We reopened on weekends with new COVID protocols on July 10. These protocols included radical changes to our interactive areas, in addition to social distancing, one-way traffic, and frequent cleaning. Our uniform interactive area was discontinued, the popular "bear facts" scavenger hunt for children was modified so "IPM Detectives" received a coupon for a child's ice cream cone rather than choosing a stuffed animal as a prize. The ice cream was well received during the end of summer and we thank Sea Breeze Ice Cream and Gifts for cooperating with us on this. We gave out 191 coupons but may not have the lasting effect of a child taking home a small stuffy which will last longer. While we had good cooperation from the majority, the added stress of masking, monitoring, and cleaning was a burden on our volunteers. With the COVID situation and the majority of our volunteers in the vulnerability category, we struggled to stay open Saturdays. We lost several volunteers due to virus concerns, other health issues, or moves out of the area. We do not yet have an income stream sufficient to pay full time staff on our own. We may be able to do so in future years, at least for the summer months, but not at this time. Considering the challenges, we did well. We exceeded our 2019 October visitor by 2: 196 in 2020 compared to 194 in 2019. But we were still at only 20% of our overall 2019 totals. Then we were informed the building was for sale and learned at a city council meeting it had sold, so we looked for a viable alternative. Nothing reasonable worked out, so we loaded the wagon



COVID – 19 A global police response



The emergence of COVID-19 is impacting communities across the globe. Law enforcement leaders worldwide are encountering unprecedented challenges, and, in response, must take unprecedented actions to keep themselves, their officers and their communities safe. In these challenging, police leaders can learn from one another by understanding how their colleagues from around the world are responding to this pandemic.

Source: IACP

International Association of Chiefs of Police



again to go about 6 miles north to Wheeler. IPM will have a new home, with Wheeler Treasures. That location is open 5-7 days a week, with staff who will monitor the viewers of the museum displays, include us in their COVID protocols, and handle sales from our gift shop stocks. It is somewhat smaller, but allows us to reopen to the public while we search for a new, more permanent home. IPM has had a relationship with Wheeler Treasures for nearly 2 years as they have sold donated items for us on commission. We have found the staff to be honest, trustworthy, and truly interested in the community good. Hopefully, we will gain more volunteers in the year ahead once the COVID threat is reduced, but it will be neither quick nor painless to get to that point. IPM mailing address will remain at: PO Box 165, Rockaway Beach, Oregon 97136.

Fundraising has changed dramatically during this turbulent time. Garage sales, bazaars, and auctions have been suspended due to COVID restrictions. IPM still gets some funding from Wheeler Treasure sales, as well as Amazon and Fred Meyer programs. Sadly, that does not make up for the loss of our three fundraising events. IPM continues to seek grant opportunities and donations. One of our most successful new donation programs is the OR BottleDrop Give beverage container recycling program. I remember scrounging beer bottles from ditches when I was a child riding my bicycle for miles along local roadways hoping to find enough to buy a soda or some other treat, but I do not recall ever gaining more than 25 to 50 cents a trip, generally less, as I was not the only lad on a bicycle searching. IPM is fortunate to have many supporters and as of this writing we have recycled nearly 10,000 containers, picking them up from donors as far North as Nehalem and as far South as Tillamook, as well as supporters in Seattle and Portland. IPM was excited to get our first check of \$650.00 in November and have additional credits that we have not yet cashed out. This program is profitable for us, in part because our Board Secretary, Jane McClain, lives near Gresham and can take the recyclables back with her after meetings. We are also fortunate that Jane's granddaughter assists in sorting and bagging. While successful, this effort will only replace our expected garage sale revenue. We must continue to search for other sources even as we move and reduce expenses.

Coming Events

IPM will reopen in Wheeler, with new displays, within the confines of Wheeler Treasures, in January 2021.

New acquisitions

Large collection vintage Oregon police memorabilia, including State Police patches, model cars, and other items; Mr. Lane Hendrickson, OSP retired, Tillamook. OR

Police patches, vintage holsters, and printed material; Mr. R. M. Fischer, Jacksonville, OR

Large collection of international and Oregon hats, uniforms, and memorabilia; Mr. Craig Cunningham, Redmond, OR Donated in honor of his father Jack Cunningham, a former Oregon police officer.

Significant Cash donations; Mr. Fred Morgan, Mrs. Mary Ellen Knipe, Mr. / Mrs. Herman Dody

Photo Credits: Ed Wortman,

Article Sources: Antikeychop.com/corona-3 Offbeatoregon.com; Gardner Shackle

Help us keep history alive

Your donations allow us to bring the Law Enforcement experience to life for visitors, school children, and other tour groups. The International Police Museum is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Donations may be made directly to the Museum, at any U. S. Bank branch, or online at www.internationalpolicemuseum.org.

Please consider supporting the museum with a Memorial Bequest or remembrance in your estate planning. IPM has no paid staff so we rely on volunteers and Board members for staffing and support. We are appreciative of the public support from both area citizens and businesses that has helped us grow and will help us keep history alive for future generations.

Bringing History To Life; innovation, use and improvement. Ed Wortman, Chief of Police, retired

Today's museums are light, vibrant, and interactive. They present both an educational and historical perspective which arouses the creativity of the viewer, leading to potential opportunities of the future. Otto Petermann, as an example, looked at early attempts to make a compact typewriter in 1909 and thought, "I can improve on that." The result was the Corona #3 folding typewriter which was marketed from 1912 to 1941 with only minor changes. While presenting and contrasting how something was made or how it was done to the current state of the art, a museum can educate, spark imagination, and invite improvement. Many local museums are small, but offer a special glimpse into the history, the present, and the future of a specialty genre such as logging, maritime history or, in the case of the International Police Museum in Rockaway Beach (IPM), law enforcement. All use a combination of interactive activities combined with visuals and videos of history to introduce the possibilities of the future.

The International Police Museum has in its collection an original Gardner Shackle", named after the first warden of the Oregon State penitentiary in Salem, J. C. Gardner. Developed in 1866 to replace the ball and chain or the chain gang to control prisoners, it consisted of a bracket attached to the convict's shoe upon which could be affixed a 26 pound weight to prevent escape when working outside the prison cells. The device became known as the "Oregon Boot" and was adopted in many early detention facilities. While only worn when working away from the cell area, it was considered inhumane for full time wear because of serious injuries caused by the weight sliding around on the bracket and hitting the shins or calves of the prisoners. The boot was discontinued for daily use at the Oregon State prison in the mid 1870's, but continued in use through the 1940's for specialized transport details. As the shackle was worn on one ankle and small enough to be covered by a trouser leg, it was possible to transport a prisoner without outward manifestation of restraint. No one was going to escape with 26 pounds affixed to one ankle. You might say the "Oregon Boot" was the original "ankle bracelet", similar to those currently used by law enforcement and the courts to track and manage prisoners.

Modern museums of all sizes, whether those with large acreage and buildings such as the Tillamook Forest Center or smaller, single room museums, such as the International Police Museum in Rockaway Beach, are constantly changing to improve interactive opportunities. No longer are museums the dim, sometimes musty caverns where there is nothing to do except walk in a confined space between dimly lit exhibits. These museums strive to frequently change exhibits to provide a new experience for returning visitors, connecting visitors through all the senses of sight, sound, and touch. Visitors are encouraged to touch some items, and/or have a chance to listen to recordings and watch videos. Some museums feature live recreations of events relevant to a particular era and invite tourist participation - allowing them to share the experience. At IPM, a visitor can try to identify their fingerprints, don a ballistic (bullet proof) vest, or stand behind a real jail cell door. By experiencing the evolution of items, visitors gain a better understanding of our history, which may in turn spark their imagination on how to improve in the future. Museums provide students and visitors with a perspective or starting point to ask, "why" or even better, "why not?"

Note: Governor Brown issued a restrictive order on November 13, 2020, closing most restaurants and other nonessential businesses, including museums. IPM looks forward to an active 2021, returning to the "new normal" once the restrictions are lifted and the vaccine becomes widely available.



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International Police Museum moves to Wheeler, Oregon

Now shop Wheeler Treasures for gifts, antiques, collectables AND see the Museum.



Please join us at the end of January as IPM reopens in the Wheeler Treasures building, 395-Wheeler Avenue (Hwy 101). See new displays of both Police and local history. Gift shop open through the Wheeler Treasures desk. Please enter through the Wheeler Treasures front doors.