

# THE IPM SCANNER

The official newsletter of the International Police Museum  
at Rockaway Beach, Oregon

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**Welcome to the Scanner**, the official news letter of the International Police Museum at Rockaway Beach. The name originated at the January Board of Director's meeting where the discussion brought up the fact that when the general population wants to know what the police are doing; they get a scanner. Thus, if one wants to know what the International Police Museum is doing, they read The IPM Scanner.

**We have made great progress** since opening in September 2015. We have built a first class tourist attraction in Rockaway Beach, Oregon, dedicated to promoting mutual understanding and respect between law enforcement and the community. We have had nearly 800 visitors to the museum. Our current primary displays include: The Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the Hong Kong Police, and the U.S. Marshal. They all have received many positive comments in our guest book. We have had visitors from Norway, Australia, England, Canada and many places in the United States. We have had many contacts on Facebook, all with great reviews, and our new website also has been well received. Using the extensive uniform and memorabilia collection of retired Chief Ed Wortman, who serves as Executive Director, the museum has 18 showcases, 19 uniforms on mannequins, a small children's interactive area where they can try on hats, helmets, a ballistic (bullet proof) vest and other uniform items.



**May 15, 2016 - Honoring those who made the ultimate sacrifice:** In 1962, President John F. Kennedy designated May 15 of each year as "Peace Officers Memorial Day," and the week in which it falls as "National Police Week" by signing Public Law 103-322 (36 U.S.C. 175). The act also designates that the flag be flown at half-staff on Peace Officers' Memorial Day. The Oregon memorial honors all aspects of Oregon law enforcement service including city, county, and state police officers; county and state corrections officers; parole and probation officers; and other local, state, and federal law enforcement agents and officers. To date more than 160 line-of-duty deaths have been approved for the memorial wall from as far back as the 1880's. (Oregon DPSST) (Statue, "911 Memorial" by Vanmark) Please join us in recognizing those who gave the ultimate sacrifice as well as supporting those officers, serving and retired, who dedicated themselves to law enforcement careers.

**Coming Events.** We are actively engaged in seeking grants and funding to maintain the museum as a free experience and to expand our interactive area. Plans are underway to have a photo area which will include cowboy cutouts and a jail cell area. Yes, we have a part of a real jail! We have a cell door, a passage door, and two barred panels from the Rocky Butte jail in Portland, OR. The jail opened in 1942 and was later closed and demolished in 1983. Limited space may prevent using all of the parts but the passage door will make a great display wall and photo opportunity. We have applied for a grant to rehab the door and build the interactive area around it. We anticipate hearing about the grant in time to have the area operational by Police Memorial Day, May 15, 2016.

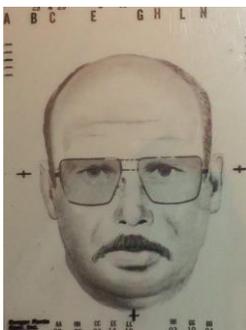
We are also doing a major rotation of our dioramas to include a section on the contribution of women in law enforcement.

**You may be aware that** while Alice Stebbins Wells of Los Angeles PD gets credit for being the first female officer in the U.S. She was actually preceded by an Oregonian, Lola Greene Baldwin of the Portland Police Bureau, who was sworn in as a “female detective” on April 1, 1908. (Portland Police Historical Society photo)



Since that time women have become a valuable asset and are significant contributors to the law enforcement community, both in the United States and internationally. Women now make up nearly 14% of officers in the United States (Bureau of Justice Statistics). The Museum is proud to recognize their achievements with a new exhibit to coincide with the recognition of Law Enforcement Memorial Day, May 15, 2016. Also pictured is a Probationary Inspector, who shows off her achievement award from the Hong Kong Police Officer Candidate School in 2009.

**The museum will expand and improve** the evidence collection and identification displays. We are working with a Forensic Dentist to create a display which explains how people may be identified using dental records. Dental records are often used to confirm the identification of victims and missing persons for whom no other identification is readily available. Teeth may also provide clues to age and sex while wear patterns or staining may provide more information to the trained dental investigator. Dental impressions from bite marks may also assist in suspect identification.



**Also on display** will be a Smith and Wesson Identikit which, during the 1950's through the 1980's, enabled officers to use plastic films to create composites of victims, suspects and missing persons. The numbered plastic sheets, called foils, allowed the officers to put together a composite and then teletype the results to other departments whose trained technicians could then duplicate the composite without waiting for the mail or dealing with a blurry fax transmission. Today this is done using computer programs and digital transmission, technology not available to the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century police officers. Come see how the forensic sciences have evolved.

**You can help preserve history.** The Museum is always seeking old, unique equipment items or documents and posters related to law enforcement which will enhance displays. It is always interesting for visitors when the items can be identified to a specific person or department. Donations are identified, cataloged, and displayed with the information available to make them relevant and understandable. All donations are tax deductible as IPM is a recognized 501(c)3 organization.

**Museum admission is free,** but we still have costs including rent, utilities, repairs, and office supplies. You can contribute to this valuable work and preserve this attraction by becoming a Friend of the Museum, contributing at any US Bank, or on line with the PayPal Donation button from the museum web site at [www.internationalpolicemuseum.org](http://www.internationalpolicemuseum.org). Contributions are also accepted at the museum.

Information on the Friends of the Museum program, including levels of participation and benefits, are available on the website.