

THE IPM SCANNER

The official newsletter of the International Police Museum
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Volume 3 Issue 2 May 2018



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

The international Police Museum brings a historical perspective and educational experience to life for visitors to the Rockaway Beach facility. Guests can take their fingerprints the way it was done in the past, using ink and paper. They may try on uniform parts including a ballistic or “bullet proof” vest. Visitors can also get their picture taken behind real jail bars salvaged from the Rocky Butte Jail in Portland, Oregon when it was torn down in 1983. Displays include telephones, early cell phones, cameras, typewriters, and a court stenographer machine. There are also some old sewing machines as there was not always a tailor available on the frontier or some far flung station. Hopefully, by studying history, such as differentiating when a hatchet or gun is used as a tool or as a weapon, we can avoid some mistakes of the past and foster an educational program to demystify police work in the future. This year at our annual Board of Directors' retreat, we expanded our tag line to: “Bringing police history to life, it's not all guns and cuffs.” We feel this exemplifies the larger role police perform for a community, beyond just arresting violators.

The history of police work is as old as society itself. All societies, groups, or villages have accepted norms or rules of conduct. These rules are set by the kings, elders or elected representatives and are generally adhered to by citizens. Unfortunately, there are always those who do not wish to follow the rules, so societies have designated someone to enforce them. When the king made the laws, the army was often employed to enforce them. As laws became more codified and less dependent on the whim of the king, specialized individuals were desired. Thus the role of law enforcement began. It was not an easy transition from king or local strongman to law enforcement as we know it today, and many mistakes were made along the way.

While it is generally accepted that modern law enforcement began in 1829 with the establishment of the Metropolitan Police Act in London, England, while Robert Peel was Home Secretary, there may be others. The foundation for the act was the Ireland Peace Preservation Act of 1814, which was later codified by the Irish Constabulary Act of 1822. This marked the true beginning of the Royal Irish Constabulary while Robert Peel was First Secretary to Ireland. The act established a force in each barony with chief constables and inspectors general under the control of the civil administration at Dublin Castle. (royalirishconstabulary.com) Peel reportedly used the information and lessons gathered from Ireland to develop the Metropolitan Police Act in 1829. According to Wikipedia, however, the first centrally organized police force was created by the government of King Louis XIV in 1667 to police the city of Paris, then the largest city in Europe. This force was responsible to the king and enforced the king's laws, not those created by a local authority. The International Police Museum concentrates on the period of 1829 to present.

History has a way of being written or rewritten to fit the narrative of either a story or the times. Sometimes history is written after the event, thus glorifying a person or event regardless of fact. Perhaps this is best illustrated with the story of a legendary lawman of the wild west, Wyatt Earp, (1848-1929). The first major Earp biography, “Wyatt Earp, Frontier Marshal” by Stuart N. Lake, was published in 1931 and became a bestseller. It established Earp as a folk hero among millions of Americans searching for inspiration and excitement during the hard times of the Great Depression. It was published 2 years after Earp died. Lake later admitted he embellished some heroic acts and even made up others.

Meet your Museum Board



Jane is trying to be retired after 30 years as a paralegal in Alaska and Oregon. She owned and operated a destination bed & breakfast in Oregon for ten years, and enjoys interacting with tourists

Jane has served as IPM Secretary and gift shop toy buyer/tester since IPM's beginning in September of 2015. She has enjoyed watching the museum grow from its inception, and likes seeing visitor's reactions as they discover historical treasures in the museum.

(history.com) In 1838, the city of Boston established what is believed to be the first American police force, followed by New York City in 1845. (history.com)

Law enforcement came slowly to the American west, where towns were built around water or transportation. Dodge City, as an example, came into existence in 1872 when the first business opened; it was a saloon in a tent destined to sell liquor to soldiers of the nearby fort. Later the railroad and cattle drives came together to create a cluster of cattle yards, saloons, gambling houses, and brothels, each with the goal of separating the cowhands from their money at the end of a log drive. This combination led to significant unrest, violence, and danger for the citizens with 15 being killed in the first year. This unrest was met with force by local vigilantes and later, in 1873, by the appointment of a sheriff after the army arrested several of the vigilantes. Charlie Bassett was elected the first sheriff and was followed in 1777 by William "Bat" Masterson. Wyatt Earp also served as a deputy sheriff in Dodge City. (Kansashistory.us) An interesting aside for taming of the west was that many of the "lawmen" were not career law enforcers but were ex-soldiers from the civil war, gamblers, saloon bouncers, or brothel operators who were schooled in violence and willing to take a life if necessary. They were hired for a specific task, generally "taming" a violent town, often with the liberal use of force. It should be noted they were often fired and asked to leave the town once peace was restored - thus exemplifying the last of what are known as Peel's Principals: "The test of police efficiency is the absence of crime and disorder, not the visible evidence of police action in dealing with them." Wyatt Earp, as an example, was tried and acquitted of a death while he was a US Marshal. Police work of the time was, and in many cases still is, a violent and dangerous business. As recognized by the supreme court in *Graham v Connor* (490 U.S. 386 (1989)) Police officers are often required to enter situations which are volatile, emotionally charged, and rapidly evolving beyond the limited initial information.

Today's police are still hired to protect the citizens, with force if necessary, but they also provide a wide variety of other services. Working with schools and civic groups police provide education and safety information to citizens, they investigate crimes and accidents, and arrest of violators as well as performing such functions as search and rescue for lost children and adults. The purpose of a modern police force is to provide a safe environment in which all people can go about their lives in peace and confidence. Modern police officers are citizens of their community whose job it is to provide protection, service, and confidence to the community.

Coming Events

Garage Sale; May 25 and 26, 10AM – 4PM at 315 N. 3rd Avenue in Rockaway Beach. See Website for details.

June Dairy Parade; Tillamook, June 23

July 4 Parade; Rockaway Beach, July 4

July 4 Auction; July 4, 12:30 following the parade at City Park 100 Block N. Highway 101. Bid on weekend getaways, sports tickets, wine baskets, a balloon ride, salmon fishing, and much more. All proceeds to benefit IPM.

New acquisitions

Motorcycle, coin-operated kiddie-ride: Acquired with the help of a grant from the US Bank Foundation. The Rockaway Beach Lions club aided with the backdrop to improve the visitor experience.

Tillamook County Badge: Circle Star badge, reportedly used by the Tillamook County Sheriff in the 1940's. No further information provided, and we seek the history of this badge from anyone with knowledge of its use.

Patty Hearst wanted poster: Donated by Herman Dodi of Rockaway Beach

Photo Credits: Weapon photos, GunsInternational.com and the Wortman collection. Cover photos, Wortman.

Help us keep history alive

Your donations allow us to bring the Law Enforcement experience to life to 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. Link us to your Fred Meyer Reward card and we earn as you spend without affecting your reward. You may call 1-800-576-4377 to get a live person, tell them you wish to link to #85751. Confirm they "pull up" International Police Museum. You will need your FM reward card number or your phone number.

Consider supporting the museum with a Memorial Bequests or remembrance in your estate planning. We are appreciative of the public support that has helped us grow and will help us keep history alive for future generations.

Weapons of Law Enforcement: Part Two, Early Firearms (Ed Wortman, Chief of Police, retired)

As noted in the first part of this series, shoulder fired weapons led the way and many early American law enforcers were often pictured with either a shotgun or a rifle, as distance was considered a friend if you had to reload. Another reason for the use of long guns was the introduction of metallic cartridges for rifles and shotguns which were not readily available for handguns. Or perhaps better stated, handgun development had not yet advanced to accommodate the



ammunition. Baltimore Police Department claims to be the first, or one of the first in 1857, to arm all police officers, using the 1849 colt, .31 caliber percussion revolver. This revolver required the individual loading of each chamber with a powder charge, followed by a soft lead ball carefully seated by use of the under-barrel rammer. Once all the cylinders were loaded a percussion cap was applied to the nipple on each

cylinder and the weapon was ready for use. There were probably several reasons for choosing the smaller revolver, not the least of which was the convenience of carriage as it could be holstered on a belt or worn inside a tunic while performing normal duties. Police officers of that era walked a beat and had to carry all their equipment with them. A long gun had to be either slung over the shoulder or set aside while performing other duties, exposing the officer to other hazards or loss. There are no known statistics on how often the Baltimore officers used their weapons, but history has shown us that most police officers do not fire their weapon other than on a shooting range. It is not known how often the officers had the opportunity to practice or if they were required to unload their weapons on a regular basis. It may be speculated that with the tendency of old powders to draw moisture and cause corrosion it is possible that after a few weeks the weapon may not have been completely reliable. Not a powerhouse by modern standards, it delivered a .31 caliber lead ball at 700 feet a second, generating about 100 foot pounds of energy, enough to stop an opponent, thus making it useful as a defensive weapon.

The Civil War fostered many improvements in both weapons and ammunition. These improvements were also seized upon by both criminals and members of law enforcement. The Baltimore Police switched in 1876 to the Smith and Wesson "baby Russian" cartridge revolver in .38 caliber. The handgun manufacturer Smith and Wesson had developed the cartridge handgun, in .22 caliber, in 1857. They acquired the rights to a patent on "through bored" cylinder to accommodate the cartridge and held it until 1872. Smith and Wesson later adapted a larger framed handgun to .44 producing it in both Henry rim fire and later in .44 American. These cartridges was the forerunner of the modern .44 Magnum developed in 1956. Both the Henry and the American were rim fire and not considered + + + ,



Long guns were still preferred in rural areas where horses were used as transportation and scabbards on the saddle could contain the weapon when not in use. The lever action Henry Rifle first appeared in late 1864 or early 1865 near the end of the war. It fired a .44 rim fire cartridge and was prized by anyone who could acquire one. Winchester acquired the Henry Company and introduced the new weapon as the 1866. The action



needed improvement to handle a more powerful cartridge and the 1873 was introduced along with the .44 Winchester Center Fire cartridge that we know today as the 44-40. Smith and Wesson had developed a handgun for the .44 rim fire, but the cylinder was too short to accommodate the newly developed 44-40. By developing the rim fire model into a center fire, Smith and Wesson found a lucrative contract developing a handgun and cartridge for the Russian government and the .44 Russian was born. Many notable lawmen, such as Wyatt Earp, used the Smith and Wesson in .44 Russian caliber to good effect. Colt, meanwhile, took advantage of Smith and Wesson's expiring patents and further developed their single action revolver design, strengthening it to accommodate the more powerful 44-40 in 1872. Their



previous military contract experience and near mythical "natural pointing" ability increased their chances of military contracts to fund increased exposure, advertising that now citizens and law enforcers could have one ammunition to serve both rifle and handgun. Pairing their handgun, which was nicknamed the "Peacemaker" with Winchester's 1873 carbine in 44-40, they created an effective set of tools for cowboys, ranchers and lawmen.



To be continued in the August issue of the IPM Scanner



International Police Museum
212 N Hwy 101, PO Box 165
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Young visitors to the museum's jail cell



Smith and Wesson Breathalyzer Mod 900A; alcohol breath tester



Wanted Poster display

“Bringing Police History to life, It’s Not All Guns and Cuffs”

INTERNATIONAL POLICE MUSEUM, ROCKAWAY BEACH, OR

www.internationalpolicemuseum.org