

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 news letter of the International Police Museum at Rockaway Beach.

IPM was seen on National TV with the appearance of our Polygraph artifact on the television show “Mysteries at the Museum” Season 24, Episode 11. This was an exciting event for IPM. Filming was done in October of 2018, but we were unable to talk about it until the segment aired in January. We have had people come into IPM telling us they came to the City and the Museum because they saw us on television. This was the third time IPM has been contacted by a television production company but the first time we have had an artifact actually appear in a production. You can find the episode on Hulu and some of the other services.

The first quarter attendance for 2019 shows a 40% increase over the first quarter of 2018, demonstrating that IPM continues to be an attraction in Rockaway Beach. In addition to the visitors at the museum, Ed Wortman took the IPM on the road, presenting to the Tigard Kiwanis Club on February 9. Volunteers are completing the reset with the Tillamook County and Oregon State Law Enforcement displays, adding uniforms from Tillamook County agencies and other artifacts from around Oregon. Tillamook County Law Enforcement is primarily conducted by five departments: Tillamook County Sheriff, Oregon State Police, the City Police Departments of Rockaway Beach, Tillamook, and Manzanita. These agencies are mutually supportive and assisted as needed by other State and Federal agencies to provide service to Tillamook County. The official opening of the exhibit will be Saturday, May 18, during National Police Week. Peace Officers Memorial Day is held annually in the United States on May 15 in honor of federal, state and local officers killed or disabled in the line of duty. The week in which it falls is known as National Police Week. Watch for more details on our web site, www.internationalpolicemuseum.org

Tillamook County was formed in December of 1853 from portions of Yamhill and Clatsop Counties. Tillamook County covers about 1,125 square miles with a population of about 26,000. The first Sheriff, Obed Severence Thomas took office in April, 1854. The county name, Tillamook, comes from the Native American name Killamook, reported to translate as, “land of many rivers”. Sheriff Andy Long, elected in 2011, oversees a modern department made up of Civil, Corrections, Criminal, Emergency Management, Parole / Probation, Records and Search / Rescue Divisions. These first responders, both paid and volunteer, provide service and safety for residents and tourists alike. The Sheriff’s office has been supplemented through the years by volunteers such as Posse, Reserve, and the Chaplain Corps. Tillamook County is fortunate to have these dedicated personnel who serve without pay to support law enforcement services. The museum displays showcase some of these brave personnel with uniforms from the 1950’s Mounted Posse, 1970’s Reserve, and a current Chaplain uniforms. The mission of Tillamook County Public Safety Chaplaincy is to provide emotional and spiritual support to public safety personnel and to citizens that experience traumatic events. These personnel, working unarmed in the aftermath of traumatic situations, provide emotional support services to both victims and first responders alike. Chaplains, many with a prior background in law enforcement, understand both victimology and the challenges faced by law enforcement officers. They also support law enforcement by working with victims of trauma at a crime or accident scene, freeing officers to conduct investigations. They often follow-up to ensure

Meet your new Board President



Doug Tharp, Board President

Having served IPM since the inception of the museum in 2015, Mr. Tharp was elected President of the Board of Directors for the 2019-2020 period. He succeeds Mrs. Cecile Doyle, and will continue as the museum’s volunteer coordinator. Mr. Tharp is a retired executive and with his wife Marlene, is also active in their church and other Rockaway Beach volunteer activities. His service is appreciated

the emotional wellbeing of both victims and first responders. Reserve Officers supplement the activities of full time municipal and county officers, providing extra personnel for activities or calls for service which might otherwise go unanswered. Volunteers, both law enforcers and non-sworn, provide a valuable tool for jurisdictions they serve. They are truly VIPs (Volunteers in Police Service).

IPM remains active in the Tillamook County History Alliance (TCHA) and works closely with the county's tourism promotion group, Visit Tillamook Coast (VTC). The museum has had over 15,000 visitors in the first three years of operation. IPM Board and Volunteers are proud of our accomplishments for a relatively new museum. While most travelers come from the US, the museum hosted visitors from Australia, China, Canada, and several countries in Europe.

The IPM Board looks forward to a successful and exciting 2019 with new displays and new things for visitors to do.

Coming Events

Opening of Tillamook County and Oregon Law Enforcement Display; Opening of the Tillamook County and Oregon display during National Police Week, Saturday, May 18, 2019. See Website for details.

Garage Sale; May 24 and 25, 10AM – 4PM at 315 N. 3rd Avenue in Rockaway Beach. Our annual fundraiser will have a myriad of donated items for sale including furniture, household items, notions and plants. See our Website for details.

July 4 Auction; July 4, 12:30 following the parade at Central City Park, 100 Blk N. Highway 101. Bid on Weekend getaways, sports tickets, gift baskets, and much more. All proceeds benefit IPM.

Art Displays; Currently three framed art pieces and a collection of Nancy Drew Books are being displayed for sale at Wheeler Treasures in Wheeler, Sea Treasures Inn and Silver Sands Motel in Rockaway Beach. IPM extends its appreciation to these merchants for their support.

New acquisitions

1960 Tillamook county Uniform; Mr. Jack DeSwart, Tillamook County Reserve Deputy 1969 - 1998

Benton County badge and patches; Mr. Mike Blackwell, owner, Squad Room Emblems

Tillamook County Chaplain uniform; Chaplains Carol Elms and David Elkins

Manzanita Police uniform; Chief Erik Harth, Manzanita Police

Tillamook Police uniform; Chief Terry Wright, Tillamook Police

Rockaway Beach Police uniform; Chief Charles Stewart, Rockaway Beach Police

Oregon State Police uniform dress tunic; From collection of Ed Wortman

Photo disk and California police patches; Mr. Hal McMahan, Nehalem

Mounted Posse Badge and 1959 parade picture; Mr. Roy Peterson, DVM ret, Posse Captain

Italian presentation plaque and Stuttgart Germany police patch; HP Schwab, German Police, retired

Photo Credits: Wortman, Midevalcostumeand gift.com, Vintage.es, Blauer.com and CowellTactical.com

Article Sources:

1 <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2018/12/27/police-deaths-144-killed-line-duty-2018/2423797002>

2 <https://mentalfloss.com/article/24039/brief-history-bulletproof-vests>

3 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ned_Kelly

4/5 <https://www.thoughtco.com/history-of-body-armor-and-bullet-proof-vests-1991337>

6 <https://www.nij.gov/topics/technology/body-armor/Pages/welcome.aspx>

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.

Body armor for police: By Ed Wortman, RBPB Retired

Line of duty deaths (LOD) rose in 2018. "The rising number of law enforcement officer deaths in 2018 is disappointing news after a decline in 2017," said Craig W. Floyd, CEO of the memorial fund. "Sadly, this reminds us that public safety is a dangerous job and can come at a very steep price." Of those killed in 2018, 134 were male and 10 were female. The average age was 41, with an average length of 12 years of service. 52 deaths were firearm related, 50 traffic related, and 42 were classed as "Other".⁽¹⁾ While it is impossible for a police officer to conduct business from inside a totally safe bubble, law enforcement attempts to protect their officers to the extent practical. One of the ways officers are protected is through the mandatory use of bullet resistant, or ballistic, vests. Presently, there is no such thing as a bulletproof vest. Vests are only considered "bullet resistant," simply because there is always some type of firearm that can penetrate even the latest advancements in protective technology. For over 30 years, the synthetic fiber Kevlar has been the go-to material for making bullet-resistant vests. Researchers are constantly looking for new ideas and new materials to make a truly bulletproof vest.⁽²⁾



Throughout history, when two or more combatants faced each other, each has sought to find a way to mitigate the other's weapons, protect themselves, and become victorious. This led to the development of various forms of wood or metal plates and even full suits of metal armor against the swords or arrows of the period. While effective against many of the weapons of the day, including early firearms, they were heavy, cumbersome, and could be defeated by powerful crossbows and, in some cases by the specially designed bow and arrow. Unhorsed, a knight in full armor was reportedly easy prey for infantry armed with daggers or pikes. Yet there were individuals, such as the outlaw Edward "Ned" Kelly in Australia (1854-1880) who used armor made from "plow steel" material to protect his upper body in armed confrontations. Unfortunately, it did not cover his whole body; he was wounded in a confrontation with police, captured, tried, and hanged for the murder of a police officer on November 11, 1880.⁽³⁾ Like a knight of old, Kelly's armor was heavy and not suitable for daily wear. While there are no statistics on the number of police officers who face an armed threat annually or even in a career protection, when needed, it is essential. But to be effective it must be flexible enough to not hinder work - and it must be worn.

One of the first recorded instances of the use of soft body armor was by the medieval Japanese, who used armor manufactured from silk. It was not until the late 19th century that the first use of soft body armor in the United States was recorded. At that time, the military explored the possibility of using soft body armor also manufactured from silk. The project even attracted congressional attention following the assassination of President William McKinley in 1901. While the garments were shown to be effective against low-velocity bullets, those traveling at 400 feet per second or less, they did not offer protection against the new generation of handgun ammunition being introduced at that time, with ammunition that traveled at velocities of more than 600 feet per second. This, along with the prohibitive cost of silk, made the concept unacceptable. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office lists records dating back to 1919 for various designs of bulletproof vests and body armor type garments. One of the first documented instances where such a garment was demonstrated for use by law enforcement officers was detailed in the April 2, 1931, edition of the Washington, D.C., Evening Star, where a bulletproof vest was demonstrated to members of the Metropolitan Police Department.⁽⁴⁾



In the 1970s, one of the most significant achievements in the development of body armor was the invention of DuPont's Kevlar ballistic fabric. This fabric was originally intended to replace steel belting in vehicle tires. In 1975, an extensive field test of the new Kevlar body armor was conducted, with 15 urban police departments cooperating. A final report released in 1976 concluded that the new ballistic material was effective in providing a bullet resistant garment that was light and wearable for full-time use.⁽⁵⁾ Initially worn under the uniform shirt or in the lining of a uniform jacket, the vests were expensive for the time and considered uncomfortable, particularly in warm climates or sunny days, and many officers were reluctant to use them. Vests were widely used by the 1980's in major departments and were highly recommended by government sources. The Department of Justice initiated a grant program in 1998 to attempt to get more departments to adopt the vests as mandatory equipment.



Today, the vast majority of departments make the wearing of ballistic protection mandatory and the vests have evolved from the basic under shirt model to a load bearing type vest which, while it may look more "military", has the advantage of getting some of the equipment and weight off of the officer's waist and distributing it to the shoulders. Officers carry a wide variety of equipment in addition to their guns and cuffs, resulting in a very crowded duty belt, and seek other options for transport. The exterior vest cover provides that storage while keeping the items readily available in an emergency. These vests also provide the opportunity to be removed when in the station to provide a welcome break from the heat and weight. National Institute for Justice (NIJ) states "Firearms are one of the most dangerous threats faced by law enforcement officers in the United States. During the past three decades, they report ballistic-resistant soft body armor has saved the lives of more than 3,000 police officers. Body armor is critical safety equipment that law enforcement and corrections officers need for personal protection."⁽⁶⁾ Research is ongoing to improve both the wear ability and threat stopping capability.





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SEE OUR NEW TILLAMOOK COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT DISPLAY OPENING IN MAY 2019



Mounted Posse, Tillamook Parade 1959



Reserve Deputy 1969, Posse 1956 Chaplain, 2018 Tillamook County Sheriff

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

INTERNATIONAL POLICE MUSEUM, ROCKAWAY BEACH, OR

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