

# 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.

**2017 in review.** The International Police Museum (IPM) had a very good year in 2017 with 5,161 recorded visitors. This is a 34% increase over 2016 visitor numbers (3841). The museum had visitors from as far away as China and England as well as throughout the United States and Canada. Museum volunteers welcome guests on the weekends May through September and holidays. Weekday access to the museum is through the police lobby. Visitors are asked to sign in on a visitor log at the museum desk to tell us where they are from. Most of our visitors, over 96% based on those who signed in, come from areas beyond a 50-mile radius of Rockaway Beach. Some visitors tell us it is their second or even third visit to the museum and that they are bringing their parents, children, or grandchildren to see the varied exhibits. We are listed in Trip Advisor as one of the top 6 attractions in Rockaway Beach.

The visitor counts listed do not consider other IPM public exposures such as displays at the Boring Post Office, the Oregon Association of Chiefs of Police, The National Night Out Against Crime in Rockaway Beach, or the Tillamook Farmer's Market. The museum also participated in the Tillamook Dairy Parade in June and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade in Rockaway Beach in 2017. IPM hosted a middle school class from Forest Grove and numerous local school children. Director Wortman will make a presentation to the Ross Island Kiwanis in Portland, on February 9. The IPM will continue to actively seek opportunities to present our exhibits as it is important for people to understand law enforcement history and to know that the police are not their enemy.

IPM is a registered non-profit and held two fundraisers in 2017: a July 4 auction of donated items and a booth at the Holiday Fair at the Rockaway Beach City Hall. The museum also received a grant from Visit Tillamook Coast (VTC), US Bank, the City of Rockaway Beach, and numerous private donations. Sales in the gift shop also augmented revenue. The holiday season was brightened by some new holiday lights for the building, including a police car outline, thanks to the VTC Village Lights program. We joined the rest of the city and lit them up following the Tree Lighting at the Wayside. We are already planning ways to improve the decorations and lighting for next year.

**Community participation** has been a hallmark of the IPM. Hopefully our outreach efforts will entice travelers to visit the museum to see our artifacts, support our museum, and maybe get some ice cream or coffee from a local vendor while fondly remembering Rockaway Beach. The younger visitors enjoy searching for the Officer Bears in the displays or the interactive finger print station where they can take and examine their own fingerprints to determine if they have loops, whorls or arches. Children find it

## Meet your Museum Board



Doug Tharp, IPM Treasurer  
A retired insurance executive, Doug has been a member of the board since 2015. Doug also serves as the museum's volunteer coordinator. Doug and his wife Marlene are also very active in their church and other Rockaway Beach volunteer activities.

fascinating that they have different fingerprints on each finger and that they may have different fingerprint patterns than their parents. Our new motorcycle ride will create another child activity in May. Older visitors enjoy the fact that we are not all guns, badges, and clubs. They can view displays of telephones, cameras, and even sewing machines, that they may remember from their childhood. Parents and grandparents enjoy watching their children try on the hats, helmets, and other uniform items and taking pictures with the jail door from the old Rocky Butte Jail in Portland, OR. Many adults participate with the children, reading the clues and seeking out the “Officer Bears” guarding the cases in the museum. This is another way to promote both the city and the Tillamook Coast.

### **New acquisitions**

**Tillamook Sheriff’s Posse Uniform.** Worn by Mr. Roger Pye from 1952 to 1956 while serving as a member of the Posse. Uniform donated by Mrs. Pye and family.

**Motorcycle kiddie ride.** Purchased in part with a donation from US Bank Foundation. This 25-cent arcade ride and backdrop will be called “A Ride Into the Future”

**Antique police rattle.** From Canada, originally from England and once owned by the Minister of Corrections in Ontario Canada. Has documentation; from Gerry Theoret, Orleans, Ontario, Canada.

**Weapon display Case.** A new police weapon display, showing items from pre-1800 to present, will be installed before the beginning of the tourist season. Watch the web site for details.

**Thank you for your donation which helps keep our museum displays fresh and meaningful for visitors. IPM is always seeking history related items for current or future displays**

### **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 direct to the Museum, at any U. S. Bank branch or online at the web site:

**[www.internationalpolicemuseum.org](http://www.internationalpolicemuseum.org).** Link us to your Fred Meyer Reward card and we earn as you spend without affecting your reward, our Organization number is 85751. You may also 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.

The museum may also be supported by Memorial Bequests or remembrance in your estate planning. IPM has no paid staff so we rely on volunteers and Board members for staffing and support. We most appreciate public support to help us keep history alive for future generations.

### **Spring 2018 Events:**

Come “Ride into the Future” with our motorcycle ride opening in April. IPM Staff is working on refreshing displays and adding some new displays such as a Smith Carona #3 folding typewriter from the 1920’s, a percussion revolver and updating our displays of hats and badges. The popular interactive fingerprint station will be made part of our permanent display. Drop by and see what is new, see our web page or follow us on Facebook.

### **Illustration and Photo Credits:**

Kids and jail; Ginny Wortman, with permission of the Brueck, Kyler and Nygard families 2017  
Night Watchman drawing; <http://c7.alamy.com/comp/G3BBWG>  
Charlie Rouse; <http://gallery.nen.gov.uk/image69125-vcp.html>  
Early “Peeler”; <http://www.sole.org.uk/apoliceman.htm>  
Joseph Meek, US Marshal 1849; Joseph Meek, charcoal drawing [https://oregonencyclopedia.org/articles/meek\\_joseph\\_1\\_1810\\_1875/](https://oregonencyclopedia.org/articles/meek_joseph_1_1810_1875/)  
Back Cover: Ed Wortman



**Weapons of Law Enforcement: Part one of a three part series** (Ed Wortman, Chief of Police, retired)

Professional law enforcement, involving preventative patrol, assistance to citizens and the prevention or apprehension of criminals, is generally accepted to have begun in England with the adoption of the Metropolitan Police Act of 1829. Prior to that time, many cities had a system of “watchmen” or personnel who looked mainly for fire but raised the alarm if they found something suspicious. This was supposed to be a voluntary duty shared with each male member of the designated area taking a turn. This was somewhat problematic in that many did not want to give up a night to stand a “watch” so they hired someone to take their place. This could be anyone who would do the job, and history has indicated it was often someone who was considered unskilled or even the town drunk. Each watchman had some type of lantern, a noisemaker (horn, whistle, rattle or gong) to raise an alarm and probably a club or



Early Watchman

staff for protection, or to assist someone out of a creek or puddle. Some became professional watchmen and made a living collecting from those not wishing to serve or, in some cases, from the municipality itself. Some of these watchman, such as Charlie Rouse in London, continued their duties even after the establishment of the Police Act. Rouse is generally depicted carrying a rattle, a sword, and in some images, a large club or flintlock handgun. Watchmen had no arrest power as the authority to arrest was generally delegated to local town magistrates and their appointees. These magistrates often used criminals to pursue other criminals, thus the title of “Thief Catcher” and while not officially armed, it was considered acceptable for them to protect themselves. Knives, clubs or swords were the preferred as the firearms of the time were single shot, bulky by today’s standards, and



Charlie Rouse, 1850

subject to malfunction in inclement weather. While firearms were carried by some magistrate’s deputies, a knife or short sword was considered both quicker and more effective at close range. The apprehension of dangerous or armed criminals, once they were located, was generally delegated to the military. Apprehension of armed criminals was recognized as a dangerous occupation even in the early 1800’s.

When the Metropolitan Police were first established in London, 1829, the newly formed Constables were known as “Peelers” after the author of the Police Act, Sir Robert Peel. They were distinctively uniformed with top hat and tunic, armed with a rattle, whistle, truncheon, and a short sword. London Police were and still are, not issued personal firearms for daily use, although there were and still are, armed squads in the English police forces. Most available firearms were single shot, smooth bore, flint or later percussion. They had to be loaded with powder, a projectile, and primed before firing. A good marksman could get off 3 shots a minute or one every 20 seconds - provided he was not distracted by someone attacking or maybe shooting at him. The firearms of the time were, for the most part, large and built to be used as a club once discharged. Knives still have uses in police work and swords are still issued today by some police agencies, but they are primarily for parades or ceremonial uses as firearms have become the weapon of choice.



Constable, 1829  
Known as Peelers

In the early years of the colonies, which would later become the United States of America, similar situations existed. Watchmen patrolled the cities to sound the alarm in case of fire. Magistrates, Judges, Sheriffs, or Town marshals, were appointed by the controlling faction of the town. Early constables in the cities were armed only with a truncheon or club and a whistle to summon aid. When clubs were ineffective firearms were issued and used as needed to meet the threats. Firearms continued to evolve and improve in accuracy and effectiveness. 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. Baltimore Police Department claims to be the first to arm all police officers, using the 1849 colt percussion revolver. As US Border Patrol Officer Bill Jordon wrote in his memoirs (1959); “There is no second-place winner in an armed confrontation.” To be continued in the May issue of the IPM Scanner.



Joseph L. Meek  
US Marshal, 1849  
Oregon Territory



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