

THE IPM SCANNER

The official newsletter of the International Police Museum

320 South Highway 101, PO Box 165, Rockaway Beach, OR 97136

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

Summer has come to the Oregon coast and Rockaway Beach. It brings with it tourists - and most important for us - museum visitors. As a small museum focused on law-enforcement, we may not immediately appeal to everyone. We work hard on creating exhibits for all visitors, and are pleased by the number of visitors who did not really expect to enjoy the visit as much as they did. Our interactive area is popular with the young and young at heart as they can try on used police equipment and get a more hands-on feel to police work. We are not sure who has more fun - the children dressing up in old uniforms, or putting a variety of jackets, vests, and hats from around the world on mom and dad. Our interactive telephone exchange area is popular because families can point out to their children and grandchildren the types of telephones they once used. Additions to that display will include a telephone lineman's repair set and test equipment recently donated to us by the family of a retired telephone repairman. These artifacts, along with other items on display, which may not be specific to uniform patrol, represent the support needed to meet the law enforcement challenges. Many visitors comment on the variety of artifacts and that it is not all guns and handcuffs that make up police service.

One of the exciting things about operating a museum is that you never know what or who may walk in the front door. Many retired personnel or their families have chosen IPM to preserve and display the items they acquired over years of service. Uniforms and hats, as an example, take up a substantial amount of storage. IPM



has received numerous artifacts, and in some cases whole collections from retirees or their heirs because they trust IPM to care for their donations. Sometimes it is a single item, such as a unique coat, hat or nightstick which alone may not make a display, but form the basis for a future display. One display we had not been able to complete was our Alaska State Trooper (AST) display. We had the Captain's mess dress uniform from a retired AST captain, and Director Wortman's prior Chief of Police at the Port of Seattle. We also had a first sergeant and game trooper uniform, but insufficient accoutrements to make a complete display. We created a partial display. A museum visitor who was a retired AST, observed our dilemma and later returned to IPM with an AST sergeant's hat and badge. Another contact provided a hat badge and information which was used to complete the game trooper uniform. We can now properly display these historic artifacts thanks to the generosity of retired members Pat Kasnick, Glenn Morse, and Thomas Anderson. The new and complete displays have been well received, and the story of their completion has also been enjoyed by visitors.

An exciting donation from retired officer Keith Johnson includes a vintage photograph from an inter-agency meeting in Mexico. Portland Police Chief Harry M. Niles headed a delegation of Portland officers to the

convention of the Pacific International Association of Law Enforcement Officers held in Mexico City in November, 1939. This is a wonderful example of forward thinking and early international cooperation between police agencies, showing that even in 1939 police leadership recognized the fundamental benefit of multi-agency cross border cooperation to fight crime and disorder. Meeting with Keith and his daughter Christine, who also provided us results of research she had done about the convention, was not only informative, but full of humor and memories.



A life member of the international Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and the Oregon Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP), Director Ed Wortman understands first-hand how multi-agency cooperation can be used to combat crime and disorder in our neighborhoods, sometimes deterring a situation before it starts. Looking back to the 1839 Metropolitan Police Act in London, and Peels Principles, we see that techniques have changed, but the desire of the people to remain safe in their homes has not. The Act established a civilian police force that was not connected to the military, and was rooted in the service to the people.

IPM is constantly updating and improving our displays so there will be new things to see for returning visitors. Part way into our 11th year – including 3 moves – we are in our own building. It is rewarding to hear comments from those who have seen our displays before – “You got serious!!” – “Whoa, this is so much bigger,” “Oh my, I need to go get my kids and dad. He is a retired officer and needs to see this.” And a recent comment – “A rich collection of law enforcement history. Full of the deepest respect.” Many visitors complement our volunteer docent and museum manager on her friendliness and knowledge of the displays. Jane has been a member of our team since it’s inception. Beginning with the opening of our new space in March, 2025, she says there has never been a day when she has not learned something new about policing, police history, local history, or been honored to hear a personal story shared by or about an officer. She is convinced only the best and most interesting people come to visit police museums located in Rockaway Beach, OR.

With over 60,000 visitors through the displays, many from international homelands, our goal is to make each visitor find something both meaningful and enjoyable to carry back with them as a memory, as well as a bit better understanding of the work police – and all law enforcement officers – do every day.

IPM will continue to refine displays and traffic patterns to ensure accessibility and maximize the potential of the displays.

Coming Events

National Night Out Against Crime and IPM Open House. August 4, 2026 4-7 PM

Artifact donations

Telephone repair kit, line tester, repairman’s phone; Jan Morris, OR

Alaska State Trooper hat bagge; Tom Anderson, AST ret, AK

Numerous police artifacts, Alaska State Trooper hat and badge; Glenn Morse, AST ret, WA

Photograph, 1939 Portland Oregon Police meeting in Mexico; Keith Johnson, WA

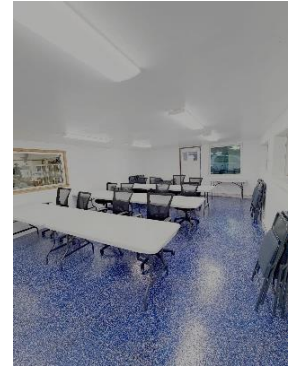
Significant Cash Donations

Jim Whittom

IPM COMMUNITY / MEETING ROOM: WHAT WE OFFER



IPM is pleased to offer a competitively priced meeting room for public rental. See our “Use Agreement” for specific guidelines and rules.



All our facilities are accessible to people with disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. IPM's community room is for your use only during your designated time. Please be respectful of museum guests in the museum portion of the building.

Your rental fee provides tables and chairs that will allow a variety of configurations suitable to the needs of your group. There is one bathroom accessible to your group and museum visitors.

Please let us know if you are interested in times/hours outside of those listed in the Use Agreement.

Available equipment:

12 - Rolling Chairs 25 - Folding Chairs 10 - 30" x 6' Tables

2 - 2'x4' Tables 2 - 18"X6' Tables

Hours and Fees: See our “Use Agreement” and call for availability and fees.

A/V equipment or screens, easels, power cords, or other display equipment: You are welcome to bring your own stand-alone equipment. IPM has several power strips throughout the room, but no other equipment..

Wi-Fi access: You may have access to any Wi-Fi service IPM has on any given day. However, our Wi-Fi is not always reliable, and we cannot guarantee any Wi-Fi service will be available.

Food and drink is limited to standalone, pre-packaged items, such as cookies. Coffee/tea carafes are acceptable. Coffee makers are not permitted at this time. Additional restrictions may apply.

Cooking food is not allowed as we have no public kitchen facilities.

May I use a caterer at my event? Not at this time. This may change later on a case-by-case basis, and may include an additional cleaning fee. The decision of any staff member on this subject is final.

Capacity limits per Rockway Beach Fire Department:

Standing Only – 80

Chairs Only – 58

Tables and Chairs – 27



NATIONAL POLICE MUSEUM
320 S. Highway 101, PO Box 165
Rockaway Beach, OR 97136
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Recent changes to IPM displays include Alaska State Troopers (USA), Spanish and Italian dress uniforms



Help International Police Museum keep history alive

International Police Museum is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization which provides a free, interactive experience to visitors young and old. IPM has no paid staff and 100% of your donations go directly to supporting our mission. Your donations allow us to bring the Law Enforcement experience to life for visitors, school children, and other tour groups. Donations may be made directly to the Museum, or online at:

www.internationalpolitemuseum.org

Back issues of the IPM SCANNER are available on the web site