

THE IPM SCANNER

The official newsletter of the International Police Museum

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

Volume 11 Issue 4 OCTOBER, 2026



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

International Police Museum had a very good summer, and we are ahead of our visitor count from last year, although not as busy as we might like to be. Attendance through September 2026 was 3592, an increase over 2025, which was 3267. Revenues, through our gift shop and donations, are up from this period in 2025. Much of this is due to the display and marketing efforts of our Museum Manager. She has also upgraded the gift shop with sales of duplicate patches and our new challenge coins and lapel pins. In addition, she has been assisted by our student volunteer Ellie in the creation of “patch boards” to display some of IPM’s police patch collection. Now on display are two large framed displays, one which features a patch from 49 of our 50 United States, and one devoted to K-9 patches from across the US. Jane and Ellie have several other boards “in the works”, including 2 boards dedicated to Oregon (one to feature a patch from every Oregon Sheriff department). The two ladies earlier completed several small framed display of foreign patches and have promised more are on the way.



Improvements also continue to enhance our interactive displays, Two old phones are connected and working. These are great hit with both kids and adults. Many of the young people coming to the museum have never seen or used a dial telephone or were ever knowingly connected by a hardwired connection. Being of the cell phone generation, where communication is quick and effortless, they did not have to experiment with two cans and a piece of string to make a phone. We had one young visitor argue with staff whether or not wires were ever used to connect telephones. This particular person held up their cell phone and said “all you have to do is say call grandma and it happens.” One of the joys of being able to show people some of the things that used to be is seeing the spark that may become an interest in their developing “what could be” in the future.



We have several exciting new things happening with the museum displays. We have started a project to add QR codes to many of the mannequin displays. This will provide visitors with more information than can be put on a 3 x 5 card or a display identification tag. This allows expanded information, perhaps a history of the uniform, donor information if appropriate, and an explanation of the function of the unit depicted. We have unveiled new uniform displays including Italian Carabinieri dress uniform with tall plumed hat, Peru National Police, Philippine National Police uniform and Chicago Police tunic displays. Director Wortman was able to visit the Guardia Urbana (Regional Police) Museum in Barcelona, Spain and meet several great police officers. He brought back some small artifacts for the Museum, including two ball caps and some patches from Spain which are now displayed.



International visitor, Constable Sam Teisseire, South Australian Police, stopped by last summer while on vacation on the Oregon coast. When he returned home, he sent us a uniform cap, shirt and tie from the South Australian Police Force and numerous Australian patches for the uniform collection. IPM is always excited to greet international visitors, particularly police officers who have sought us out on the internet or through other publications. Having them leave or send items for display is always appreciated.

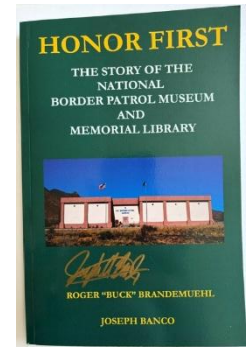
IPM obtained a display case which needed the base rebuilt and put on casters to meet our display standards. These modifications have been completed and form the base for a new international border protection display. This new display will showcase hats and artifacts including vintage German DDR, (East German pre-1990) Czechoslovakian (pre-1993), Slovak Border Guard headgear (1995), US Border Patrol, current headgear and other artifacts.

Exterior building improvements continue. Our first police painted silhouette has been installed near the front door. This creates another child-friendly interactive experience for those who want to get picture in a uniform without actually dressing up. We have new fencing planned and some plywood cut outs have been placed in temporary position to help visualize the final result and entice visitors. These will be replaced with aluminum silhouettes once the new fencing and gate are installed. Street side improvements to the back of the building have reduced the weeds and improved the visual effects of our area. The installation of an elevated OPEN sign to our existing pedestal sign will make



us more visible to visitors driving by. The signage will be dependent on permitting and our electrical contractor for timing and completion. We anticipate completion is in February, before we reopen after the annual display reset, which begins in January. IPM will close December 20 for our annual display reset and reopen March 5, 2027.

A new book available for sale at the gift shop is *Honor First*, by Chief Roger Brandemuehl, and Joseph Banco Deputy Chief Patrol Agent, both US Border Patrol, retired. This book tells the story of the National Border Patrol Museum and Memorial Library located in El Paso, Texas. The museum was conceived in 1979 and opened in temporary location in 1985. The Museum moved into the current 10,000 square foot building in El Paso, Tx. in February 1994. This book is a compelling read for anyone interested in the triumphs and the challenges of operating a modern museum.



Correction; IPM endeavors to get our facts correct but occasionally we fall short on that mission, Our last issue incorrectly stated Glenn Morse had served and retired from Alaska State Troopers. Mr. Morse corrected us, clarifying that he was a member of the “Alaska State Student Troopers” program in the 1970s. He went on to work as a Police Officer in the City of Fairbanks and Cordova, Alaska Police Departments. We regret the error and any confusion it may have caused.

Coming Events:

Halloween Candy Rush, October 31; Sponsored by Rockaway Merchants 5-7PM
Tree lighting at the Wayside, November 27. Arrival of “Christmas Train” at dusk
Light parade, November 12, from Nedona to Fire Station, delivering Santa to RB Fire Station,

Acquisitions:

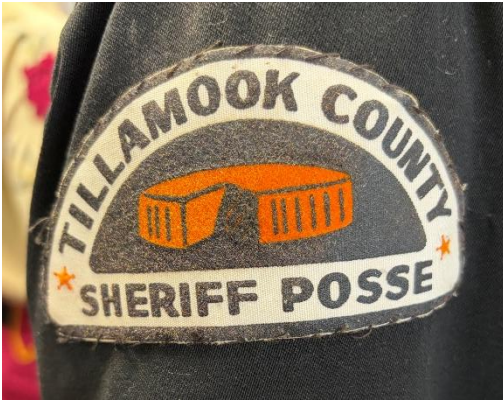
US border patrol uniform and artifacts; Joe Banco, USBP Deputy Chief Patrol Agent, Retired, Florida.
RCMP Lance artifacts; Geoffrey Engleman, AST Retired, Arizona
RCMP qualification badges, Don Klancher, RCMP Inspector, Retired, BC, Canada
South Australia uniform and Australia patches; Sam Teisseire, Senior Constable 1st Class, SA Police, Australia
English Police helmet plates and vintage promotion study book; Mary Ann Pont, Salisbury, England
Numerous patches and challenge coins received from visiting officers

Contributions:

Colonel Fred Morgan; USAF Retired, Colorado Springs, CO, in memory of Ginny Wortman
Priscilla Thompson; Tommy’s Cleaners, Tillamook. OR
Vickie Goodwin; Award winning author, Wyoming

Volunteers assisting Law Enforcement; Ed Wortman, Chief of Police, Retired

Many people have seen the old western movies where the sheriff burst into the saloon and announces:



"the bank has been robbed" or "little Mary is missing" and he needs help. Citizens immediately rise to the occasion. Today's volunteers and first responders are not significantly different. They serve under various titles, reserve, auxiliary, special officers, posse, search and rescue. Office staff may follow the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Volunteers In Police Service (VIP S). For young people, the Scouting Explorer program may allow them to volunteer with a paid officer or administrator.

All of these dedicated volunteers give up a portion of their personal time to train, prepare and respond, often on short notice or to fill a schedule position. Each

volunteer goes through a background check, training and field training before they actually begin working at their assigned task. Many must supply their own equipment, transportation to and from events and must participate in ongoing training in their chosen area. Some bring skills not available in the agency, such

as advanced computer skills or medical training. The training standards, particularly in enforcement-related positions, are often set forth in state law.



One advantage of a reserve or volunteer position is that the candidate gets the opportunity to see if this type of public service is something they wish to do. Public service is not all fun and excitement. There are many times when the volunteers, particularly patrol and search and rescue are out at night, in the pouring rain, or freezing temperatures. Time is often critical and agencies cannot wait for daylight or better weather. Some go on to become full-time employees, some continue their volunteer service, and some realize it is not a profession that

they wish to be involved with.

My personal experience as chief of police in a small agency revealed the value of volunteer staff to handle many station tasks, such as providing a public greeting, answering phone calls, general information and Lost and Found. This allowed officers to concentrate on patrol or investigative duties. Volunteers can be a



significant help to any agency as they struggle to meet the modern demands of public service.

International Police Museum relies heavily on volunteers to build displays, perform maintenance and keep the doors open for our visitors. We appreciate the dedication and support of these individuals. Not all volunteering is glamorous, but the knowledge that performing some of the unsung tasks provides value and support to an organization which the volunteer cares about. One of our new volunteers put it quite succinctly when asked why she volunteers: "I saw you needed help." Time



is a precious commodity, and we appreciate that volunteers and visitors choose to spend some of theirs by supporting IPM.



International Police Museum
320 S. Highway 101, PO Box 165
Rockaway Beach, OR 97136
503 457-6056



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.internationalpolicemuseum.org

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