

# THE IPM SCANNER

The official newsletter of the International Police Museum  
395 Nehalem Blvd. (Hwy 101) Wheeler, OR 97147  
Wheeler Treasures Antique Mall (503) 354-4454



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**Welcome to the Scanner**, the official newsletter of the International Police Museum at Wheeler, Oregon

Reporting success is always more fun than reporting failure. This quarter IPM is pleased to report that we have had a very successful transfer to Wheeler Treasures Antique Mall. IPM has welcomed 4,592 visitors since reopening in mid-April, this is over a 7% increase from our numbers in Rockaway Beach for the same period in 2019. July was our best month with 1,297 visitors, followed closely by August with 1,058, as recorded by the personnel at Wheeler Treasures. The 1,297 in July eclipsed our attendance for all 2020 when we were shut down due to COVID. The cooperation and assistance provided by Ms. Peggy Schumann and the staff at Wheeler Treasures has truly been helpful to IPM. We are also pleasantly surprised that we are getting enough donations at the door to support the rent and the motorcycle kiddie ride has had over 133 uses. Ms. Peggy Schumann also tells us that 1 in 5 of the IPM visitors also spend money in her store, this has created a wonderful symbiotic relationship between the two entities which is a bonus.

The displays in Wheeler are being very well received. We have new displays coming online, including the City of Wheeler display which includes old pictures of the railroad being constructed in 1911 and the Wheeler Lumber Company mill. With the abundant timber, water transportation by the river, and the hearty, hardworking loggers to harvest the timber, the Nehalem Valley was an important location. The fertile farmland in the valley provided sustenance for the loggers, homesteaders, and their families. Wheeler has always relied on the Sheriff's Office for law enforcement services, so the City of Wheeler display helps tie us with the community.

While we are pleased that the collection point at the door is paying the rent in summer, fundraising is always on our radar. We must prepare for the lean winter months and for the additional expenses of insurance, taxes, fees, and our inventory project. The bottle drop program, where we collect recyclable cans and bottles for fundraising, continues to be a success. While we're excited about our progress, it is not without its challenges. We cannot accept cans which have been used as spittoons or which have been bent or crushed as they must pass through the automatic counting machines. Crushed or damaged cans require us to have them counted individually which means standing in line. That takes up time and makes it more difficult to recycle the items. Fortunately, most of the items we receive are not damaged. We have recycled over 25,000 cans and glass and plastic bottles so far and have several bags which awaiting re-repackaging for deposit. Other fundraising efforts include sales of donated items through Wheeler Treasures and a picture we were able to sell with the assistance of the staff at the Silver Sands Motel. We appreciate the support we have received through grants, gifts and citizen volunteer support from both the Wheeler and Rockaway Beach communities. The support of the community is invaluable to our survival.

## Meet Your Museum Board



**Jane McClain, Board Secretary**

Jane is trying to be retired after 30 years as a paralegal in Alaska and Oregon. She also owned and operated a destination bed & Breakfast in Oregon for ten years. She enjoys interacting with tourists. Jane is an accomplished quilter; she enjoys teaching quilting classes in her studio.

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

Jane is the originator and coordinator of our very successful Bottle Drop recycling program. Thank you, Jane

IPM has received several exciting pioneering artifact donations recently, several of which are now on display. A new display addition is the 6-foot, 2-man, timber felling saw, as would have been used in the early 1900's during springboard logging operations. U.S. and Canadian West Coast loggers adapted tools and invented new techniques to fell the area's giant trees. Springboards were an innovation that allowed loggers to more easily fell trees with a flared base, such as firs. Notches were cut into the tree above the base, the logger then wedged in the springboard into the notch, on which he stood to chop and saw the tree down. The springboards had a steel tip with a lip that was bolted to the end of the board. The steel provided a good grip on the tree, while the board itself provided a level, springy surface from which to work. Loggers made only one clear concession to safety in the slipperiness of the rain forest: hobnailed boots prevented slipping off their narrow springboards. Hardhats and steel-toed boots did not exist at that time. Today you can still find huge stumps with springboard notches in North Vancouver, Canada. (Museum of North Vancouver) <https://monova.ca/moodyville-springboard/> Also the coastal areas of Washington and Oregon, including the Nehalem Valley where they were used.



IPM received a marvelous donation of Clackamas County Sheriff uniforms and material from a retired deputy. Additional items of artifacts from the Dick Tracy collection were received and are also on display at the museum. These items will be entered into the inventory data base, which is coming along nicely with the diligence of our contractor. Our web site contractor has updated the web site and we have added additional information on the museum. We have also brought on more interactive games for children in the "IPM Kids "section.

### Coming Events

**Remembering September 11, 2001:** Remembering the victims and honoring the dedication and sacrifice of the first responders and volunteers who responded to the New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania crime scenes as well as those who toiled in the wreckage to rescue survivors and complete an investigation.

**Halloween, October 31:** We will have one of our manikins and other things set up specifically for Halloween. I am told Wheeler Treasures is planning a large display for the season. We look forward to having a cooperative effort on that event and doing some fun things to put together the best display we can for visitors of all ages.

### New acquisitions

**Handcuffs and artifacts of Richard "Dick" Tracy, Multnomah County;** Sandra Tracy Christoffer, Vancouver, WA  
**Clackamas County uniforms and memorabilia;** James Landles, LaPine, OR

**Inmate novelty T-shirt;** Wallace B. Therien, Sherwood, OR

**Large 2 person "Felling Saw" for timber;** Herman Doty, Rockaway Beach

**Long Beach Police Motorcycle patches, books and memorabilia;** Robert Fischer (retired), Jacksonville, OR

**Significant Cash donations;** Sandra Tracy-Christoffer, Ed Wortman

**Photo Credits:** Don Best, Jane McClain, Mia McClain, Ed Wortman

**Article Sources:** (1) <https://www.irvinhahn.com/origin-of-sheriff-badges/>  
(2) <https://outsidethebadge.com/police-badge/>

### 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](http://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.

## Police Badges, a bit of history and mystery: Ed Wortman, Chief of Police, retired

As far back as written history societies have had some indicia of leadership and authority. Sometimes the identification was in the form of a staff or scepter, sometimes a flag, banner, clothing, or symbol. Shields of authority are commonly believed to have originated in medieval times when knights would wear their coat of arms as a symbol of authority representing the king or some subdivision of authority. This image still holds as sheriff and police badges are recognized as a sign of authority by most people. (1)

Police officers take pride in their work and their service to their communities. Those who carry a police badge, or shield, do so with responsibility to, and trust of, the public to adhere to ethical standards and serve and protect the community. The badge brings with it authority, honor, and respect for all those who display it. Realistically though, while it stands for all the above, its main purpose is identification. Anyone wearing the badge is generally trusted as a legitimate police officer. Those posing as police officers without legitimate authority, can face severe penalties. The police badge has become such a universal symbol of authority it can be recognized quickly by anyone regardless of where they're from or what language they speak. This could be extremely beneficial as police officers deal with many people from all over the world.

In the early days American police badges were often personally purchased by the officer. These were locally made or ordered from traveling salesmen known as drummers. Badges were in some cases ornate, made from precious metals, and often changed whenever the lawmen or issuing authority changed. Major cities purchased in bulk and most eventually created a distinctive design for the city. Some, like the City of San Francisco star badge, have not changed their badge in over 100 years. (2) The Deputy U.S. Marshal badge pictured to the left, still shows file marks on the edges. I find it interesting that I have never seen a picture of any Deputy Marshal from Oregon Territory wearing a badge during the Territories existence (1848-1859). The Territory existence was terminated at Oregon Statehood in February of 1859. Therefore, the history of this specific badge remains a mystery.



Special badges are sometimes created to commemorate municipal anniversaries, special occasions like Presidential Inauguration, breast cancer awareness, and police week. The special issue badges are normally only authorized for a specific period such as the year of the centennial, the week, or months of the honored event. The badge on the right, National Police Week, May 9-15, 2021, is authorized by some departments for the week only, in honor of fallen officers. After the event, such the inauguration of the President of the United States, the badges often become highly prized collector items



Today, special badges are also used as symbols of retirement, given after years of successful service. Retired members are proud of their service and the retirement badge symbolizes the trust and appreciation of the community. The badge pictured on the left was awarded to Sheriff Andy Long on his retirement after 20 plus years with the Tillamook County Sheriff's Office. Sheriff Long served in all departments and divisions, including corrections, patrol, and investigations. He served as Sheriff from 2011 to 2019. Retirement badges are often affixed to a retirement plaque, presented in a retired wallet or in some cases, encased in Lucite for display purposes. Regardless of how they are presented, retirement badges, and accompanying identification card, are a source of pride for all who possess them.



The police badge is not easy to obtain and serves as a beacon of light at the end of a long hiring process and intense training. Those who have made it through the hiring process then have to successfully complete the police academy. The training is difficult, physically, and mentally, so getting to the end of the road is a great moment for all those who make it. The effort is rewarded by issuing them with their police badge. Once the training at the academy is done it is time for on the job training and eventually patrolling on their own. This initial process can take up to a year and a half to complete and the ongoing training process ensures the learning continues throughout the officer's career.



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## International Police Museum moved to Wheeler, Oregon

Now shop Wheeler Treasures for gifts, antiques, and collectables AND see the Museum.

**SEE US AT WHEELER TREASURES FOR A SPOOKTACULAR HALLOWEEN**

