

SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Monthly Newsletter—October 2011 Edition



CHANGES—GOOD, BAD, OR JUST REALITY?

Several months ago, Sgt. Eric Olsen provided members of Command Staff a showing of the new Honda motorcycle purchased for the Traffic Unit. I was very impressed with the equipment mounted on this motorcycle. I spent some time after this demonstration thinking back over some of the changes I have seen since I started here in 1969. These are just a few that come to mind:



- (1) The old building was located at 242 W. Riverside, and I mean an *old* building. Our “new” building located on Mallon was, and is, a great improvement with lots of changes, and changes still to be made.
- (2) Modern traffic motorcycles are equipped with all kinds of modern electronics, making traffic motorcycles not only safer, but more efficient. The old motorcycles had a siren that would only work if the motorcycle was in motion and your foot was held down on the pedal so the siren was activated by the rear wheel.
- (3) We now have a new, more efficient dispatch center. Calls used to come into the front desk with information written on a card. The information was held together with a large paperclip which was attached to a long string and was pulled up to radio to be dispatched.
- (4) Officers are now equipped with computers, cell phones, and radios to communicate with each other more safely and efficiently. Beat officers had a key and found a call box every half hour to check in and report that they were okay.
- (5) Officers now have to carry enough equipment with them that a hand cart would be helpful! A piece of paper folded in fourths and placed in your hat was all you had to work with back then.
- (6) The property room was located just inside the west doors, which was about the size of the Senior Volunteers Office. The new property room is hard to describe and a few pictures have been included on page 3.
- (7) With the exception of a few, the faces of the commissioned, civilian, and all of the people essential to getting our job done have continued to change over the years.

The one thing that has not changed is the reason we all chose this profession, and that is to Protect and Serve. I have always been, and am still very proud and honored to be part of the Spokane Police Department.

- Captain Steve Braun

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EMPLOYEE OF THE 3RD QUARTER



TANYA HAUENSTEIN

Employee of the Quarter nominations are based on either a specific act of unusual meritorious service; a specific project of significance to the community, city, or department; or sustained superior performance of assigned duties. When the Special Awards Committee reviewed the nomination, it was clear that Tanya was most deserving of this recognition.

Police Dispatch Supervisor Pam Ames nominated Tanya Hauenstein for Employee of the 3rd Quarter for 2011. The nomination stated:

“Tanya has been working for the Spokane Police Department as a Radio Dispatcher since 1995, and a Radio Supervisor since 2008. Tanya has always been a team player and now as a supervisor, she incorporates a team atmosphere in our work group. She was involved in the Vertical Staffing Committee regarding Radio issues this past spring. The group came up with numerous suggestions that were put into place for the betterment of Radio. Tanya is also involved in training at the C.O.P.S. Shops on police procedures with regards to Radio. She even volunteered to go out and advertise Police Dispatch as a career to nearby schools and colleges. Tanya is great at rearranging her schedule to cover both dayshift and nightshift when needed and doesn't complain. She is currently co-supervising training in Radio with Terri Jensen. Tanya is a great partner and supervisor in the Radio Unit.

Maria Kurtz, Dispatch Manager, advised that Tanya is one of our most dedicated dispatch employees and can always be counted on.

Captain Scalise advised that Tanya has a long history of excellent performance and an infectious positive attitude.

Because of Tanya's leadership and dedication, she sets a good example for all of our employees. We are fortunate to have such a dependable, innovative, and dedicated employee as Tanya has proven herself to be and she is quite deserving of recognition.

Tanya will be given the Employee of the 3rd Quarter plaque at our annual Employee Awards Ceremony in 2012.



Sgt. Eric Olsen recently nominated Ofc. Tyler Cordis for the Purple Heart Medal. The Purple Heart Medal is being awarded to Ofc. Cordis for an incident that occurred on July 1, 2010 at 9:34am. While Ofc. Cordis was in pursuit of a suspect who was driving recklessly, he suffered severe injuries in an accident caused by the reckless driver.

Lt. Dave Richards recently nominated Ofc. John McGregor for the Medal of Merit Award. Ofc. McGregor recently celebrated his 30th year with the Spokane Police Department. He has been assigned to the Special Investigative Unit for many years. Ofc. McGregor IS the Technical Support Unit for SIU. He provides expert technical support to SIU and Gang Unit operations, and he is the “go to” person for the entire department when it comes to expertise in covert camera operations, GPS trackers, video and photographic forensics, computer software, video surveillance, alarm systems, and more.



When the Special Awards Committee reviewed these nominations, it was clear that Ofc. Cordis and Ofc. McGregor are more than deserving of these awards.

Ofc. Cordis and Ofc. McGregor will be given their medals at our annual Employee Awards Ceremony in 2012.

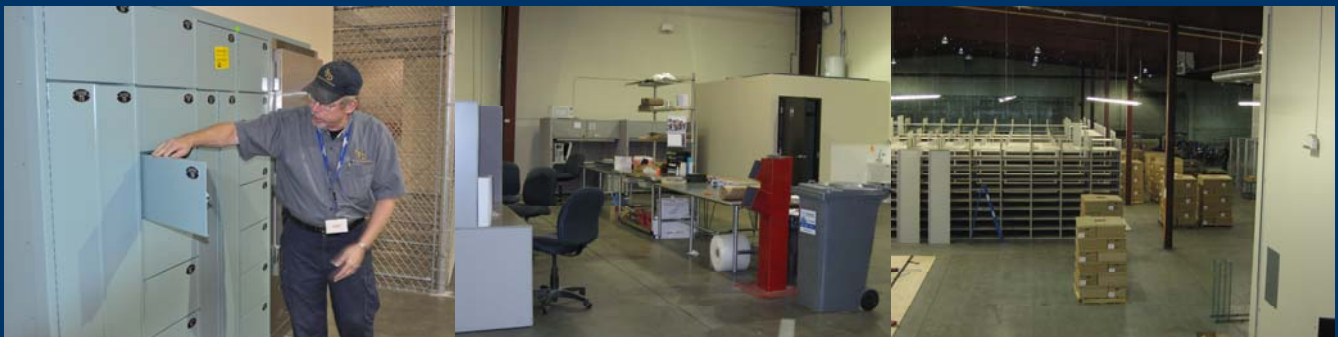
For more SPD Heroes and their stories, please visit our website.



The City was able to purchase and renovate a building to serve as a new property/evidence building without adding costs to the Police Department budget. The City gave up leased space in a couple of different buildings, and will use the savings to pay debt service, most remodeling costs, and annual operational expenses on the new facility.

The project for the new property/evidence facility began around five years ago, and the grand opening was held on October 5th, 2011. The previous facility was 17,000 square feet, while the new facility is nearly three times that size at a little over 60,000 square feet.

The facility is regional, providing the property and evidence storage needs of the entire community, including our partners at Spokane County, the City of Spokane Valley, and others. It replaces a facility that provided inadequate protection for the many critical pieces of evidence from local crimes, and can easily be a premier property/evidence facility for decades to come.



Avijit Chakraborty just completed a journey on a bicycle of 37,300 miles across 61 countries in 19 months and 20 days in SPOKANE!



From Left: Senior Volunteer Gayle Yeager, Avijit Chakraborty, Kathy Panas, Carla Stamatoplos

In order for the Guinness Book of World Records to verify his journey, Chakraborty had to register with local police ever 25-30km, and had to meet local government officials to verify his bicycle odometer reading.

On Thursday, October 27, 2011, Chakraborty arrived at the Public Safety Building. Officer Jennifer DeRuwe provided Chakraborty with a letter written on official Spokane Police letterhead confirming his travel. He was given a Chief's Coin to commemorate the end of his journey. After his Spokane stop, he was riding back to the Seattle area to fly home to Kolkata, India to see his wife and daughter for the first time in 19 months!

Chakraborty's goals were to showcase the environment, highlight effects of pollution, and focus on sustainable development—as well as to set a world record.

In 1997-1999, Chakraborty bicycled over 60,000 km across 54 countries over a period of 27 months. This trip he planned to complete the journey faster, which he did! During the earlier trip, he was the first person on a bicycle to cross the Arctic Circle at two points, in Alaska and in Sweden, and has been recognized by the Guinness Book of World Records.

3rd ANNUAL

HONORING WASHINGTON STATE'S FALLEN AND INJURED OFFICERS



Saturday, November 19th @ 5:00pm
Spokane Veteran's Memorial Arena
Spokane Chief's Game @ 7:00pm

Call 535-PUCK to order tickets!
Mention the law enforcement game and receive the group discount!!

T-shirts will be for sale at the game, but if you'd like to get a shirt before the game, you can go to Brunette's e-store to order. Adult and children's sizes are available, and the shirts are only \$10! Follow the link to [Brunette's e-store](#) to order your shirt and show your support for SPD, SCSO, and BEHIND THE BADGE.

Honoring officers injured or killed in the line of duty.



The Spokane Police Department K-9 Unit recently hosted an Advanced K-9 Handler Course on October 17—20, 2011.



The course is designed to provide instruction in recognized advanced levels of Police Patrol Dog Handler skills. Each team will receive instruction and exposure to tactical firearms scenarios with their K-9, multiple forms of decision based firearms training, and instruction and exposure to multiple forms of indoor live-fire under the guidance of K-9 and firearms instructors. Handlers will receive instruction and participate in discussion regarding the best techniques to document K-9 deployments and training, and will be writing reports based on training scenarios throughout the course.



Teams will be exposed to numerous realistic searching and tracking scenarios that are challenging, and will provide future guidance towards their handling and decision making skills. Training on how to integrate K-9 into the SWAT arsenal, including participating in multiple dynamic entries with explosive entry deployments and noise/flash diversionary devices as well as multiple force options—and much more!

SPD's K-9 Unit also offers other K-9 courses such as K-9 Narcotics Detection and K-9 Basic Patrol Handler.

The 2012 Advanced K-9 Handler Course is set for September 24-27, 2012.

For more information on this course, as well as other law enforcement training opportunities, please visit the [Spokane Police Academy](#) page on our website!

YEARS OF SERVICE—OCTOBER



Frank Erhart
10 Years



Charmaine Dauterman
5 Years

Trials and Tribulations

By Pam Ames

We all go through trials and tribulations. Some are more public than others, especially in law enforcement. We have judges and juries around us constantly. Here are some encouraging words that may help in times of judgment and high stress: "We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned." 2 Corinthians 4:8

Our Chaplains want to help if you are feeling hard pressed, perplexed or persecuted. We thank you for your generosity and especially the new givers we have. If you need their assistance you can always call them. Chaplain Ron 768-5164 or Chaplain Beth 981-2883.

Social Media refers to the use of web-based and mobile technologies to turn communication into an interactive dialogue (from Wikipedia). Blogs, Social Networking Sites (Facebook, MySpace, Friendster), Social News, Social Measuring, Microblogging (Twitter), Social Bookmarking (Diigo), Social Q&A (Answers.com, yahoo!Answers), Video Sharing (YouTube, Vimeo), Photo Sharing (Flickr, PhotoBucket), Social Search (Google, Yahoo!), Professional Networks (LinkedIn), Content-driven Communities (Wikipedia), Product-based Communities (Ebay, Amazon.com) and the list goes on and on and on.....

So, how does this fit into police work? What happened to simply arresting bad guys and putting them into jail? The primary focus of police work is to maintain laws within our society; we must add another weapon to our arsenal – social media. Ofc. DeRuwe recently attended a three day SMILE (Social Media the Internet and Law Enforcement) conference in Dallas, Texas. The speakers addressed social media as community media, investigative techniques and case studies, officer safety, social media policy and strategy, legal issues, and recruitment and retention.

If the Spokane Police Department is going to compete in the world of social media, we need to understand how and when to send our messages. As the Public Information Officer, Ofc. DeRuwe has taken on the task of entering SPD into the world of social media.



"Like" us on Facebook



"Follow" us on Twitter



"Watch" us on YouTube

WE control our message and WE send it out directly to our citizens.



I am writing to thank the Spokane Police Department, specifically Ofc. Shaney Redmon for her professional and proactive response to the chalk art situation that is plaguing River Park Square and it's neighbors. Our customers are feeling intimidated, and our flooring and escalators are being damaged from the chalk dust. Man hours and water resources are being wasted in an attempt to keep the sidewalks clean of the profanity and drug references drawn in chalk for all to see. I appreciate the tenacity of Ofc. Redmon, and her willingness to go above and beyond to inform us of our rights and assist us in remedying the situation.

- General Manager, River Park Square



I would like to call to your attention the fact that the City of Spokane has on it's staff a very outstanding police officer. I have served in two organizations with Sgt. Eric Olsen; the Spokane County Safety Commission, and the selection committee for Photo Red Light Systems. Sgt. Olsen has been chairman of both of these groups, and I have observed great leadership, and organizational and social skills. Sgt. Olsen could be used in any role, especially dealing with the public. He would be an excellent representative of the Spokane Police Department, and the City of Spokane.

- Al C.



I am the father of an adult son who suffers from mental illness and receives psychiatric care. Because he has been unable to care for his own needs, he has been living with my wife and me. This past year has been very difficult as my son has resisted the treatment regimen suggested by his doctors, and his mental and emotional health has deteriorated significantly. On two occasions this year, the assistance of the Spokane Police Department has been needed to intervene in his stated intent to take his own life, and to ensure his safe transportation to the hospital. On both occasions, I have found the responsiveness, the professionalism, and the effectiveness of the officers to be exemplary. In particular, I wanted to express my very special gratitude to Ofc. Frank Erhart. Ofc. Erhart, in my experience, took a lead role in intervening with my son during the event and was instrumental to its successful and safe resolution. He was also the primary officer who communicated with me throughout the event and kept me informed and involved, as appropriate. In my opinion, his performance and professionalism was exceptional and I am profoundly grateful. Lastly, I am also deeply grateful to live in a community with such an exceptional police force. The commitment and dedication shown by the officers of the SPD is underscored by the leadership of Chief Kirkpatrick, Chief Nicks, and the rest of the Command Staff. Thank you so very much.

- Spokane Citizen



We recently suffered a home invasion and robbery, and the suspect was apprehended. Not only did the police respond within minutes (I called Crime check not 911), their empathy, attitude, and professionalism was outstanding. I cannot articulate what their presence, reassurance, confidence, and kindness meant. Ofc. Chris Conrath is "OUTSTANDING." Bless those guys...every one of them.

- Marla M.



I would like to commend Ofc. Derek Bishop for his RESPECTFUL and GENTLE speech with me and my husband as we interacted in the pouring rain while he was explaining the area of a school zone near Audubon Park and citing me for a speeding ticket. I sincerely commend him. He spoke to me like a friend and because of his kindness, I was able to forget my fear and realize my failure to see the flags posted for the summer where children might be crossing and regret my mistake. Please thank him and tell him I did not resent getting a ticket and have been made more aware of my need to improve my driving skills. I requested a mitigation hearing to say this personally, but the letter of response states it is not allowed for my type of ticket. I called Spokane Municipal Court today and requested attending a Driver's Education class but she said they are not available yet in Spokane. She referred me to the Internet to write this note to be put in his personal file and be printed in your monthly newsletter for policemen to commend Ofc. Bishop. I pray God will bless him with SAFETY and continued SUCCESS in his work.

- Jeri H.



M.J. ROSE
2009

Due to demand, the Spokane Child Passenger Safety team will be hosting one more car seat check this year!

Saturday, Nov. 5th from 10:00am-2:00pm.
Call to reserve your spot 509-324-1530.

**Enhancing the Survival Mindset
"It's not if it happens...It's when!"**

Monday, November 7th, 2011
5:30pm - 9:30pm
Class costs \$50

[Click here to Register Now!](#)
or call (509) 742-8100 for more information

As a volunteer member of the Occupy Spokane movement, I would like to personally thank the Officers of the Spokane Police Department for their assistance in keeping the citizens of Spokane safe. You were instrumental in assisting our unofficial safety team in dealing with an individual that was slightly unstable earlier last week. You conducted yourselves with professionalism and were courteous. Whatever the perceived negative actions of individual officers in any of the other Occupy movements, we acknowledge your dedication to protecting the citizens of this nation. Again, with deepest respect, thank you for being who you are and doing what you do in these trying times. We are all on the same side.

- Steven O.

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SUGGESTIONS—COMMENTS?
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