

Volume 38-Number 3 May-June 2020 Issue Number 75

COVID-19 Dramatically Impacts Hobby

The deadly COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the hobby worldwide. Insignia shows have been canceled or postponed in Australia, Canada, Great Britain and the United States. It has generated a revival of trading by mail, increased online trading and the advent of the virtual collectors show.

By Mike R. Bondarenko, Editor

BALDWIN, Wis. – The outbreak of the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic in February has had an unprecedented impact on the law enforcement insignia hobby.

Tragically, two well known United States collectors, Rick Vanderlock of Wayne, N.J. and Milton Tannenbaum of Brooklyn, N.Y., have died as a result of the deadly virus. Others may have died as well, but their deaths have not yet been reported.

Police insignia shows in Australia, Canada, Great Britain and throughout the United States have been canceled or postponed as a result of “stay at home” orders to reduce the spread of the virus and large gathering prohibitions.

Necessity has forced collectors to find alternative ways to enjoy the hobby during lengthy lock downs, even though those who are active law enforcement professionals must also face the deadly virus on a daily basis on the job. Further, these unsung heroes must prevent contaminating their loved ones when they return home from duty.

According to the National Fraternal Order of Police, 82 law enforcement officers have died of COVID-19 in the United States as of May 1. In comparison, 17 officers have died feloniously during the pandemic. The virus has killed more than four times as many officers as firearms.

There has been a marked increase in by mail and online buying, selling and trading attributable to show cancellations. Many collectors stockpile traders for shows. When there are no shows, the only alternatives are by mail or online trading.

In some ways, the hobby has reverted to yesteryear when there were no shows and there was no face to face buying, selling and trading. Yet, in other ways, the Internet has facilitated continuation of the hobby during an ongoing international health emergency.

“I am hunkered down and doing okay. Doing all my trading over the Internet for now. I miss the face to face trading at shows,” said Bob Speed of Monkton, Md.

“I am doing okay, but the death rate in New York City had been first in the nation. For a while, we had about 700 deaths a day. Four or five auxiliary police have died so far from COVID-19 that I know of. I have been on 23-hour lock down for about seven weeks,” Eric Wollman of New York City, a popular *PCNEWS* columnist, said.

Jim Post of Police Collectibles in Lowell, Ark. reported an increase in mail orders as a direct result of the pandemic.

In Australia, Canada and California, COVID-19 necessitated an ingenious and previously undiscovered concept, the virtual collectors show, an online session during which collectors buy, sell and trade with other collectors over the Internet.

When the hobby can return to pre-virus normality is uncertain. While many states have relaxed stay at home orders, public gatherings are still restricted in most states. National



Rick Vanderlock, 71, a longtime and popular New Jersey collector, will long be remembered for his contributions to the hobby. He was a regular the New York and New Jersey shows. He was an old fashioned collector who loved to collect in person and trade through the mail. *Contributed photograph*

public health officials warn that while new cases may decline during the summer, a second outbreak is likely this autumn and winter.

Until then, collectors can continue to enjoy the hobby in the safety of their homes and practice social distancing with alternative means for buying, selling and trading the badges, patches and collectibles we all treasure.

Lost hobbyists mourned The hobby is mourning the deaths of veteran collectors Rick Vanderlock and Milton Tannenbaum from COVID-19. Both hobbyists died in April after being hospitalized with virus symptoms; Vanderlock in New Jersey and Tannenbaum in New York City.

Vanderlock, 71, died on April 13. He joined the New Jersey State Police in 1971 and served for 29 years. He retired in 2000 with the rank of detective sergeant-first class.

His family said Vanderlock became ill on March 12 and was hospitalized on March 21.



Richard “Rick” Vanderlock was a New Jersey State Trooper for 29 years from 1971 to 2000 and retired with the rank of detective sergeant-first class. He is shown working the sidelines during an NFL game at the Meadowlands. Vanderlock died of COVID-19 on April 13. *NJSP official photograph*



The 2020 National Police Collectors Show is still on for the first weekend of October. Even though the Nugget Casino Resort in Reno remains closed due to COVID-19, it is fully expected to reopen long before the show, which is a 252-table sellout with a waiting list. *Contributed photograph*

COVID-19 Hobby Impact ...Continued

He spent the next 21 days on a coma before he succumbed to the disease.

"The Clocker," as he was known to many collector friends, was a dedicated New Jersey patch collector and a regular at the New York and New Jersey shows. He also attended the National Police Collectors Show in Marlborough, Mass. Years ago, he was a regular at the Philadelphia shows.

Vanderlock rarely brought insignia to trade at shows. He preferred to visit agencies and obtain patches in person and trade with his friends by mail using old fashioned want and trade lists.

"I go to the shows to see my friends, like you, Mike," he told me at the 2018 "Central Jersey" show. I had the pleasure of being his friend for more than 30 years. We first met at the Paramus show in early '80s and stayed in touch ever since.

Vanderlock was highly regarded by his fellow Garden State hobbyists.

"He was one of my first trading partners. I got him south Jersey patches, and he sent me north Jersey patches. The old snail mail days when we mailed out trade lists," recalled Dom Botteri, host of the long-running "Central Jersey" show.

"Joe Sacco, Gary Stanicki and I have been reminiscing about Rick over the last few days. 'The Clocker' was larger than life and will be missed," he said.

Chip Greiner, who hosted the Paramus show where I met Vanderlock, likened news of his longtime friend's death to "a punch in the gut."

Brian Lyons, another longtime friend and retired New York trooper, said he was brokenhearted.

Rick Jennings offered his recollections on the funeral home remembrances page:

"Rick lived on the border of the town I worked in. When I was a rookie patrolman, my training officer said we were going to take our dinner break and meet his friend, Rick, a trooper. From then on, I considered Rick one of my best friends and the adventures started.

"Rick was an avid patch collector and got me hooked on that, too. We attended many patch swap meets. One day he called and said we were going to a swap meet in Washington, D.C. The only catch was we had to bring our body armor and guns because he had hooked us up to ride with narcs in the Fourth District. Well, we rode in a crime-ridden area of D.C. and took a very active role in making numerous arrests.

"In my own P.D., I ended up working a plainclothes detail late nights dealing mostly with drug offenses. I can't even count the times, either on his way home from work or responding from home, that he backed me up. Rick was truly a cop's cop.

"Maureen, Ricky and David, you've heard all the stories. Even in this difficult time, thinking about them brings a smile to my face. He will be greatly missed."

Vanderlock touched the lives of many people, even those he knew only casually. The Postal Service carrier who delivered mail to his home posted he looked forward to their conversations and recalled he always made sure he got a bottle of cold spring water on a hot day. A woman who often ran into him at a local convenience store while getting a Sunday paper said she, too, looked forward to chatting with him and hearing about his excursions.

Vanderlock's death made news throughout New Jersey.

Governor Phil Murphy talked about him during his COVID-19 briefing on April 23. He described him as the "prototypical New Jersey State Trooper" and said he was cut out of granite!

Governor Murphy spoke of Vanderlock's life and related he had spoken with his wife, Maureen, and his son, Rick, whom he said also tested positive for the disease.

He related that Vanderlock's father, Robert, served as chief of police in Midland Park until his 1981 retirement. The elder Vanderlock died in 2010 at age 91.

"God bless you, Rick," Governor Murphy said.

CBS New York featured Vanderlock on an ongoing series about the lives of COVID-19 victims airing on local news broadcasts in New York City. The segment featuring the collector aired on April 23. (Also featured during the segment was Klaus Kelly, a nurse manager at Mount Sinai Hospital in Manhattan.)

Reporter Jessica Moore showed photos of Vanderlock and his family. She pointed out that his two sons both became police officers in New Jersey.

"His focus was on family, service and respect. Rick taught his boys to always look people in the eye and never shake a hand sitting down... He never missed one of son's football games," she said.

The segment can be viewed on YouTube by searching the CBS New York archives.

Wayne Mayor Chris Vergano offered condolences to the family during his daily COVID-19 briefing on April 15.

Rick Vanderlock Jr. is a police officer in Wayne, while his brother, David, is retired from the West Caldwell Police Department.

He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Maureen, his sons, Rick and David, a brother and sister and their families and four beloved grandchildren.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, Vanderlock's funeral services were private. However, a 30-minute video of the service can be seen on YouTube.

Tannenbaum died on April 6. He was hospitalized with his wife, who also has the disease. No details on her condition were available.

Tannenbaum was a longtime New York City collector and attended most of the early New York shows, including the Long Island shows in Mineola hosted by the late Eddie Miller. I met him at one of those shows in the '80s.

He was an early member of the Police Insignia Collectors Association and early subscriber to *Police Collectors News*.

Unfortunately, I have been unable to locate any additional information on his death,



Veteran collector and former Massachusetts show host emailed Mike R. Bondarenko a picture of a mask he said he wears when he goes anywhere during the pandemic. Of course, when Bondarenko opened the attachment, he saw the mask was a likeness of Pontes. Gotcha!!! *Contributed photograph*

collection or funeral services. I have also been unable to find a photograph.

If any readers have any information on Tannenbaum's death or recollections of his life, please contact me.

Show cancellations, postponements The spread of COVID-19 resulted in cancellation or postponement of every show originally scheduled for March, April, May and early June.

The next scheduled hobby event is a combination police and fire collectibles show in Peotone, Ill. on June 27. The nearly four month show drought is the longest in modern hobby history.

The Bay State Show in Fall River, Mass. on May 3 was canceled on March 23. Because this is a biannual show, the next show will be October 4.

"We feel this is the right thing to do for the safety of all. The fall show is still on. Thank you for your understanding," co-host Barb Haven said.

She said all paid table fees for the canceled show will be transferred to the fall show.

The Detroit Area Police-Fire Collectors Show and Exhibit in Madison Heights, Mich. planned for April 4 was canceled on March 14, according to an announcement from co-host Mike Duvall. There will be no Motor City show this year.

"It's up to all of us to slow the spread of COVID-19," he said.

The 36th annual show will take place next April 10 at the same location.

After initially being postponed from March 28 to June 6, the Florida "Gulf Coast" show in Clearwater host John Radcliffe canceled it for 2020 on May 4. Collectors will have to wait until 2021 for the next swap meet.

The show was originally scheduled for the Greenbriar Club House. Radcliffe changed the venue for the June 6 show to Saint Petersburg College College of Public Safety Allstate Center.

Radcliffe said the college has canceled all classes and events until September.

He has offered refunds to all tableholders.

Co-host Jim Post announced on April 15 the "Heart of the Ozarks" Police Collectors Show in Branson, Mo. on June 12 and 13 has been canceled and will not be held this year. It would have been the sixth annual show.

"The executive committee for the National Law Enforcement Week in Branson voted today to cancel the 2020 week in June due to COVID-19. We are forced to cancel the show as well because we have no desire to produce a stand-alone show without their support," Post said.

"We are successful in part because of Law Enforcement Week and the police families they bring into town. We could not put on a show with \$15 tables and free admission without their help," he said.

Refunds are being issued to tableholders. Sadly, 25 tables had already been reserved as of January, more than six months before the show.

The Hasbrouck Heights, N.J. co-hosts announced on March 17 that their April 19 show has been postponed until August 2 due to the pandemic.

"We, the show hosts, want to express our sincere appreciation to all of you for continued support for the Hasbrouck Heights show. We do not make this decision lightly, but after gathering all the information and getting input from governmental and health care professionals, we sadly have to advise that will be postponing the April 19 show due to this pandemic," Ed Zitek said. He added the hosts want to be part of the solution and not the problem.

The Peotone show was originally scheduled for March 21 was postponed on March 13, according to an announcement by co-hosts Past Holohan and Jerry Dole.

As previously reported, it will now be held on July 27 at the Will County Fairgrounds. The Peotone Fire Department will sponsor the eighth annual show.

Peotone is located about 45 miles south of Chicago, one of the major cities hardest hit by the virus.

The popular Mid-Atlantic Regional Show in Riverdale, Md. hosted by Andy Ferraro was postponed on March 19. It has been rescheduled to August 22 at the same location.

The California Law Enforcement Historical Society canceled the 2020 San Luis Obispo Collectors Show on April 22.

President Gary Hoving was notified by Cuesta College, where the show would have been held, that all events have been canceled until further notice and most campus buildings are closed. CLEHS officers decided to cancel the show for this year rather than attempt a postponement or an alternate location.

The popular Central California show, which is open to members and non-members, will return in 2021, Hoving said.

Andy Watson and Clay Loving announced postponement of the Fourth Annual Southeastern Ohio Collectors Show in Athens, O. on April 19. The show was scheduled for May 9.

"The show is postponed due to the corona virus. The Athens Community Center remains closed at this time. We will reschedule for this summer or fall," Watson said.

Tableholders who have already paid will be credited for the next show. Refunds are available.

Collector response to the 2020 show was strong, and it was anticipated it would be a sellout.

Co-host Nick Kanaya announced on April 8 that the first Tri-Valley Police Collectors Show in Livermore, Calif. would be rescheduled to August 29. The venue and show schedule will be the same.



Police Insignia Collectors Association of Australia members who participate in the first virtual collector show in Australian hobby history on May 17 will receive this commemorative emblem. Show patches have become a tradition at the popular West Wallsend shows. *Contributed photograph*

The inaugural 30-table show will be held at the Fraternal Order of Eagles lodge in Livermore, which is a city of 90,000 in Alameda County at the eastern edge of the sprawling San Francisco Bay Area. Matthew Hutchens is the host.

As of this writing on May 4, the National Police Collectors Show has not been impacted by the pandemic. It is scheduled for the first weekend in October in Reno, Nev.

Governor Steve Sisolak ordered all hotels, casinos and entertainment venues closed on March 13. The governor has extended the order to May 15. However, he has also indicated his desire to open hotels, casinos and restaurants as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, no venue has been chosen for the 2021 National Show. No bids were made during the tableholder meeting in Dallas last summer.

In March, longtime collector Willie Herald of Louisville, Ill. announced plans to explore hosting the National at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center in Columbia, S.C. The host hotel would be an adjacent Hilton. The show would be held in July.

Herald is scheduled to fly to Columbia the second week of May to visit the hall and hotel. However, those plans are subject to change and dependent upon travel restrictions and the availability of the convention center and hotel.

If Herald is able to put together a proposal, a presentation could be made online and tableholders registered for the Reno National could vote electronically before the show. Since the show is a sellout, the tableholders have already been determined.

Nevertheless, Herald left open the possibility of a presentation in Reno. He speculated the last possible date he could contract with the convention center and hotel would be January 2021, which would only give him seven months to organize and promote the hobby's annual convention.

Virtual swap meets Necessity is the mother of invention is an old saying that has never been truer than now. The COVID-19 pandemic necessitated introduction of the first online only trade shows in hobby history.

No displays. No looking over everything on a table. No picking up an item and examining it closely. No face-to-face negotiating. No camaraderie. No gossip. No chatting with friends. Just buying, selling or trading from pre-selected online postings. Prices or trade values are either set by the seller or "best offer" auction style.

Yet, when there are no alternatives, a virtual collector show is better than no buying, selling or trading at all.

Craig Boan, a Manitoba collector who also designs and produces badges, patches and challenge coins for Canadian law enforcement agencies, hosted the first virtual collectors show on April 11 from 9 am to 4 pm. It was limited to patches only.

A few days before the virtual event, Boan posted a few rules, including Canadian patches only, a ten minute time limit to close deals and "No bad-mouthing other collectors. Remember we need to agree to make the deal. If it cannot be made, move on."

Boan said the inaugural event went well. "Overall, it was good. I sold a load and did pick up ten patches. Made deals with 25 collectors... This was as much action as I have had at a swap meet, and it was online," he said.

"The challenge for me was I posted a lot of good patches that were in demand, and my phone was ringing every few seconds. Kind of like being at your table and having a number of people talking at you at the same time. I did manage and would do another one," Boan said.

The host added not all items posted were sold or traded.

The California Law Enforcement Historical Society staged the first online show in the USA on May 2. President Gary Hoving said it was an undisputed success. "It appeared to be fun, and I witnessed a lot of super transactions throughout the day," he said.

CLEHS will do another virtual show on July 11, which would have been the date of the canceled San Luis Obispo show.

Hoving wrote an article about the virtual collector show experience. It appears elsewhere in this issue.

Australia will experience its first-ever cyberspace show on May 17, the date of the canceled West Wallsend, New South Wales swap meet. It will be hosted by Rod Johns, president of the Police Insignia Collectors Association of Australia, and show host Rob Beath.

The 10:30 am to 2 pm "show" is limited to PICCA members only and will be conducted on the club Facebook page.

"Hopefully, it will be a bit of fun and not too serious, and, hopefully, some nice items can be added to collections," Johns said.

"We haven't tried this before, so we are hopeful that members will enter into the spirit of the event and make it work," he added.

The first 50 participants will get a commemorative patch, which is a tradition at some Australian shows, including West Wallsend.

The lighter side With all the sadness surrounding COVID-19 and its adverse impact on our world, it has been difficult for many to cope, especially those who have lost loved ones or have loved ones who put themselves in harm's way as public safety and/or medical professionals.

Yet, cops will always be cops. We may have invented dark humor. Perhaps that's how we can deal with all we see and do on the job.

A few collectors have managed to interject some respectful humor into my lock down life lately, and I want to share it because it is important to maintain a positive attitude during these difficult times.

An East Coast collector enclosed a note with his subscription renewal that he was doing fine. "Now I know what house arrest feels like!" he quipped.

A couple collectors asked if I was doing any "quaran-trading" or trading during quarantine. I don't know who coined the term, but it certainly fits our hobby right now.

Finally, there is the affable Rich Pontes, my longtime friend in North Dartmouth, Mass. We have been emailing back and forth during the pandemic. He mentioned he has been wearing a homemade mask when he goes grocery shopping or anywhere in public and sent me a picture of it.

Ever the comedian, of course, it is a cropped photograph of his face!

"No one can tell I'm even wearing a mask," he quipped.

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IACP Goes Pink When police chiefs from throughout the country gathered in Chicago in late October for the 2019 International Association of Chiefs of Police Conference, the annual commemorative conference patch was a pink cancer awareness emblem. The design depicts the city skyline and breast cancer awareness ribbons.

Waushara Goes Dark The Waushara County, Wis. Sheriff's Office has adopted a subdued version of its custom-designed shoulder patch, which depicts a whitetail deer, for wear on its new black uniform shirts. The original full color version of the patch is displayed on uniforms worn to court by deputies and worn by all administrators. The department is headquartered in Wautoma.

DSS Training Center The Diplomatic Security Service planned to open a new 1400-acre training center for foreign affairs officers in Blackstone, Va. in December. 2019 The center will train 10,000 students a year, including DSS special agents, Foreign Service employees and government employees assigned to embassies and consulates around the world. It is expected the new training center will generate its own insignia.

Swap Meet Calendar

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SPECIAL – These are the latest police insignia show and swap meet announcements.

Collectors interested in attending these events should contact the sponsors at the addresses or telephone numbers listed for additional information, such as driving directions, table availability, hotel or motel accommodations, handicapped accessibility, parking or possible last-minute changes and/or cancellations.

Show sponsors provide "Swap Meet Calendar" listings. We are not responsible for changes after we go to press, nor are we liable for errors or omissions.

These announcements are published at no cost to show sponsors. However, hosts are requested to cooperate in our effort to obtain a follow-up story as soon as possible after each show.

Because many collectors now use global positioning systems (GPS) to locate shows, street addresses should be included in these announcements.

Peotone, Ill.

The Eighth Annual Fire and Police Swap Meet will be held on Sat., June 27 from 8 am to 2 pm at the Will County Fairgrounds Atrium Building, 710 West St., Peotone, Ill. It will be sponsored by the Peotone Fire Department and hosted by Chief Bill Schreiber, Pat Holohan and Jerry Dole.

Admission is \$5.

Table information is available from the hosts. The hall will open at 7 am for exhibitor setup. Early admission is offered for \$25.

The indoor and outdoor show will feature fire and police artwork, antiques, collectibles, toys, emergency lights, sirens, radio equipment, on the job merchandise, books apparel, patches and badges, new and used tools and equipment, apparatus restoration parts, vehicle scale models, and surplus items.

Police vehicles and fire apparatus will be displayed outside the hall.

A food concession will be onsite.

For additional information, contact the hosts:

Holohan at holohanpat@att.net or (815) 932-9877 or (815) 482-8454

Dole at acdole@yahoo.com or (815) 739-3486 (cell)

Schreiber at (708) 258-6884.

Hasbrouck Heights, N.J.

The Fourth Annual New York and New Jersey Metropolitan Police and Fire Collectors Show will be Sun., Aug. 2 from 8:30 am to 3 pm at the Hilton Hasbrouck Heights Hotel, 650 Terrace Ave., Hasbrouck Heights, N.J. Gerry Tibbs, Brian Lyons and Ed Zitek will host it.

Admission is \$5. Spouses and children under 12 will be admitted free. The hall will open at 8 am for exhibitor setup.

Table availability information will be announced.

Displays are encouraged. Awards will be presented form the best patch, badge and overall displays. The hotel ballroom has been expanded to 7000 square feet.

There will be a patch and challenge coin drop at the door.

Reproduction material must be marked as such.

Only public safety collectors and known collectors will be admitted. Identification may be required.

Guest rooms at the Hilton have been renovated. The restaurant has been moved and expanded. There will be a new larger bar.

A group rate of \$129 per night (plus taxes and fees) is available. Early room reservations are highly recommended.

The show has a Facebook page.

Inquiries can be made by email at nynjpcs@gmail.com.

Bloomington, Ind.

The Indiana Law Enforcement Memorabilia Collectors Show will be Sat., July 25 from 10 am to 4 pm at Saint Paul United Methodist Church Brashaber Fellowship Hall, 4201 W. Third St., Bloomington, Ind. It will be hosted by Kyle Landgrebe.

Admission is free.

Tables are \$10 each. Exhibitor set up will be from 4 to 6 pm on Fri., July 24 and from 9 am to 10 am on Sat., July 25.

For reservations or additional information, contact the host at kc9agm@gmail.com or (812) 360-7641.

Riverdale, Md.

The next Mid-Atlantic Police Collectors Extravaganza will be Sat., Aug. 22 from 10 am to 3 pm at the Elks Lodge, 6700 Kenilworth Ave., Riverdale Md. Andy Ferraro will host it.

Admission is \$5.

Approximately 100 tables are available for \$23 each. The hall will open for exhibitor setup only from 8 am to 10 am.

Collectors without tables who wish to enter the hall before 10 am must pay a \$10 early bird fee.

There will be a trophy for the best display.

Send table reservations to Andy Ferraro, P.O. Box 1, Brentwood MO 20722.

For additional information, contact the host on (240) 723-0507 or (301) 927-2327.

Livermore, Calif.

The First Annual Tri-Valley Police Collectors Show will be Sat., Aug. 29 from 8 am to 2 pm at the Fraternal Order of Eagles, 527 N. Livermore Ave., Livermore, Calif. Matthew Hutchens will host it. Jarrod Nunes, Nick Kanaya and Greg Gilstrap are co-hosts.

Thirty tables are available for \$40 each.

For table reservations, additional information or questions, contact: Matthew Hutchens, 1983 Second St., Livermore CA 94550, (650) 245-2264, matthewbhutchens@gmail.com.

Swap Meet Calendar ...Continued

Orlando, Fla.

The 2020 "Vacation Capital" Police Collectors Show will be Sat., Sept. 5 at the Rosen Plaza Hotel, 9700 International Dr., Orlando, Fla. The show will begin at 9 am. Doug Sarubbi, Ron Bartholome and John Holmes will host it.

Admission is \$5.

Ninety tables are available for \$30 each. The hall will open at 7:30 am for exhibitor setup. Reservations must be confirmed by mailing a check to Doug Sarubbi, 4023 Salmon Dr., Orlando FL 32833.

Awards will be presented for the Best Badge, Best Patch and Best Overall displays.

A special room rate of \$109 a night is being offered by the Rosen Plaza. The rate is available for three nights before the show and three nights after the show. Rooms can be booked by calling the hotel on (800) 627-8258. Please mention the "Vacation Capital" Police Collectors Show by name to qualify for the rate. Rooms must be reserved by Aug. 5.

For additional information, contact Sarubbi at sarubb@aol.com or call (407) 883-6959.

Saint Paul, Minn.

The Sixth Annual "Capital City" Law Enforcement Collectors Show will be Sat., Sept. 12 from 9 am to 1 pm at the Saint Paul Police Department Western District Headquarters, 389 N. Hamline Ave., Saint Paul, Minn. David Pasicznyk, Jim Hart and Mike R. Bondarenko will host it.

The show is sponsored by the Saint Paul Police Historical Society and *Police Collectors News*. It will be co-hosted by the Saint Paul Police Department.

Admission is free. A donation to the historical society is requested.

Forty-eight tables are available. A donation to the historical society is requested.

This show is a fundraiser for the Saint Paul Police Historical Society.

Refreshments will be available. Lunch will be served. There are also fast food outlets in the immediate area. Refreshments and lunch are complimentary but donations to the historical society are requested.

Parking is free. The hall offers easy loading and unloading.

Please make table reservations with Mike R. Bondarenko on (715) 684-2216 or email mikerbondarenko@baldwin-telecom.net.

Fall River, Mass.

The next "Bay State" Police Collectors Shows will be Sun., Oct. 4 at the Fall River Police PAL Building, 31 Franklin St., Fall River, Mass. The hosts are Gary Smith and Barb Haven. General admission is \$7.

Eight-foot tables are available for \$17, which includes one admission. Additional tables are \$10 each. Tables not occupied by 10 am will be resold with no refunds. Table space is limited so early reservations are recommended.

Some refreshments will be available for purchase.

Fire, EMS and public safety insignia and memorabilia is welcome.

This show is open to law enforcement officers and known collectors only. Credentials may be checked at the door. The hosts reserve the right to refuse admission to anyone.

For table reservations email the hosts on baystatepolice@gmail.com.

National Police Collectors Show

The 2020 National Police Collectors Show will be Fri., Oct 2, Sat., Oct. 3 and Sun., Oct. 4 at the Nugget Casino Resort. 11 Nugget Dr., Sparks, Nev. It will be hosted by the 2020 National Show Committee.

Friday is reserved for tableholder setup from 12 to 6 pm. Only tableholders and assistants will be admitted.

Show hours for the public are Saturday from 9 am to 5 pm and Sunday from 9 am to 2 pm.

Admission is \$5 per day. Children 12 and under are admitted free.

All 252 tables have been sold. A waiting list being maintained.

The Nugget has been the site of three previous National Shows (1992, 1994 and 2007). The recently renovated hotel and convention center are only eight minutes from the Reno-Tahoe Airport. There is complimentary airport transportation for hotel guests.

The hotel offers free parking, complimentary WiFi and a large swimming pool and fitness center.

There are numerous dining and entertainment venues on the premises.

The casino is open 24 hours.

The National Show hotel rate for the Resort Tower is \$99 per night plus resort fees and taxes for Friday and Saturday. All other nights from Mon., Sept. 28 through Wed., Oct. 7 are \$59 per night plus resort fees and taxes. Reservations can be made on (800) 648-1177.

The booking code is GNPC820. Rooms can also be booked online through the show Web site, Reno2020.US.

The show has Facebook page.

For additional information, questions etc., email the hosts 2020nationalpoliceshow@gmail.com.

Clinton, Tenn.

The Sixth Annual Smoky Mountain Public Safety Collectors Show will be Sat., Oct. 17 from 8 am to 4 pm at the Second Baptist Church, 777 Public Safety Ln., Clinton Tenn. Jason Pollock, Ray Green and Rob Jackson will host it.

No show admission price is listed on the show announcement.

Tables are available for \$15 each which includes two people. Set up will be Fri., Oct. 16 from 5 to 7 pm or 7 am to 8 am on Sat., Oct. 17. Tables can be paid for by check or Pay Pal. Tables are not guaranteed until payment is made.

For table reservations or show information, contact:

Pollock at mcso941@yahoo.com or (865) 441-8786 (call or text)

Green on (865) 454-5922 (call or text)

Jackson at robpatches@aol.com or (727) 455-1213 (call or text).

Saint Louis, Mo.

The 35th Annual "Gateway" Police Collectors Show will be Sat., Nov. 7 from 8 am to 3 pm at the Holiday Inn Route 66, 10709 Watson Rd., Sunset Hills (Saint Louis), Mo. Co-hosts are Frank Selvaggio, Bob Shockey and Roger McLean. Please note: This is a new location for the show.

Admission is \$5.

All 70 tables have already been booked. The show is a sellout. Setup will begin at 6:30 am.

This is a private show only open to active and retired law enforcement officers, firefighters, military and bonafide collectors, their families and friends.

Hotel rooms are available for \$104 per night, which includes breakfast for two each morning. Make reservations directly with the hotel on (800) 465-4329. Please ask for the "Gateway" Police Collectors block of rooms. The rate expires on Oct. 16.

For additional information, please contact Selvaggio on (314) 614-9444.

Allentown, N.J.

The 30th Annual "Central Jersey" Police and Fire Insignia Collectors Swap Meet will be Sun., Nov. 22 from 8 am to 2 pm at the Allentown First Aid Squad Building, 70 Route 526, Allentown, N.J. Dominick Botteri will host it.

Admission is \$5. Wives, girlfriends and children are admitted free.

Six-foot tables are \$20 each and must be paid for in advance. One admission is included. Early reservations are recommended; all previous shows have been sellouts. The hall will open at 7 am for exhibitor setup.

There will be a patch drop and display contest.

Displays are encouraged.

Patch reproductions available for trade must be marked as such. Contact the host with any questions or additional information regarding this policy.

Food and refreshments will be available. All proceeds benefit the Allentown First Aid Squad.

For table reservations, directions or additional information, contact Botteri on (609) 571-8201 (voice or text) or email LtD104@aol.com.

CLEHS Hosts First Virtual Collectors Show

A virtual collectors show? No one ever heard of such a thing before the COVID-19 pandemic. In an ingenious effort to keep the hobby alive during the lock down, the California Law Enforcement Historical Society hosted the first virtual show in the USA on its Facebook page on May 2. It was a success!

By Gary Hoving, Guest Writer

SAN LUIS OBISPO, Calif. – Like most of the country, California is under a stay at home order based on the fear of the COVID-19 pandemic virus. Most businesses are closed and millions are filing for unemployment benefits. We have all been impacted by the virus, or the government response to the virus, in one way or another.

From a collector standpoint, the virus has crippled onsite collector shows. In California, the closures were the new event in Livermore scheduled for May and the annual San Luis Obispo Collectors show scheduled for July. Livermore has been rescheduled to August, but the SLO show has been canceled and will resume in 2021.

Be it good luck or skillful planning, it appears the National Police Collectors Show will be held without interruption in October.

No shows from February to August here in California was simply unacceptable. Hosting an underground show by invitation only at a private ranch was considered, but the legal ramifications and health risks to our participants were too great to pursue.

The only available option was to host an online event or virtual collectors show. With only two weeks notice, the event was scheduled for Saturday, May 2. We considered several commercial programs to host the show but found none that appeared suitable for our needs. Ultimately, the Friends of the California Law Enforcement Historical Society Facebook page was selected.

Normally, the CLEHS page prohibits the selling and trading of collectibles. Our focus has been to present historical information about the law enforcement profession, including insignia, and share images from our personal collections with the other members.

We have also worked hard to ensure that our site is drama free and have blocked several people who felt it was an opinion blog. The result in maintaining a semi-strict format has proven to be successful, and the site allows us to simply enjoy our hobby.

One program that has been implemented is Friday Favorites where a pre-designated theme is announced, and the members share their insignia and artifacts following the selected focus.

The themes have been traffic, detectives, dispatch and communications and executive level (chiefs, sheriffs, etc.) Each week, Friday Favorites has grown and now boasts over 300 postings weekly. Not only are the numbers impressive but the images shared include some of the most beautiful and rare examples ever viewed.

Back to the story! It was decided we would host a virtual show on our Facebook page allowing for the sale and trade of items during the specified hours of the show. For our first event, we started at 6 am and continued until 2 pm, a full eight hour show.

We had very few rules and hoped to attract the same variety of items that would be seen atop the tables at a traditional show. That goal was quickly met. The volume and quality of items posted from around the country were not exclusive to a region as previously experienced. The individual format was at the discretion of the poster, some choosing a fixed price while other selected the "deal or no deal" option of posting in auction format.

This show was moderated throughout in order to maintain some semblance of order. We suspended our typical historic postings during the show to reduce clutter and make it easier to re-find a piece of interest for reviewing. It was a pleasure to see compliance with our minimal rules which necessitated the removal of only a few posts.

The big question before we started was if this venture would work. The answer was a resounding yes with a huge number of successful comments at the end of the show expressing appreciation and desire to participate in another show.

The second question would be why did the show format work (or fail), so we could replicate and enhance those points.

The obvious is we have 675 registered Facebook members and there was no fee for posting an item for sale. We did ask for a nominal donation at the end of the day for participating and especially if the virtual tableholders made any sales.



Gary Hoving hosted the first virtual collectors show in the USA on May 2. It took place for eight hours on the Friends of the California Law Enforcement Historical Society Facebook page. Hoving, the CLEHS president, said the show was a resounding success. *Contributed photograph*

Collectors affiliated with the California Law Enforcement Historical Society have been very supportive and demonstrated a history of generosity. At the close of the show, the CLEHS had already received \$550 in donations while others shared their intention to send a donation later.

One measure of success is the volume of transactions during an event. Since we do not charge a fee or a commission, it would be hard to determine the exact dollar amount. Based on a casual review of sales during the show, many thousands of dollars were exchanged during the day and complaints were nearly non-existent.

The final question asked by most was whether there would be another virtual collectors show. Based on the overall response from the participants, we fully expect to host additional shows. Since the San Luis Obispo show has been canceled, we intend to have the second virtual show on July 11 on the CLEHS Facebook page.

Only registered guests can access the site and participate in the shows. We do a minor screening to exclude commercial ventures and those not in the profession or a collector. Should you have a fictitious Facebook account name, please be ready to verify your identity before you request to participate.

GARY HOVING, President, California Law Enforcement Historical Society (PO Box 254875, Sacramento CA 95865)

Canadian Collectors Mourn While Hobby Future Uncertain

Canadian collectors are concerned for the hobby's future after a Royal Canadian Mounted Police impersonator killed 22 people, including an RCMP constable, in a violent rampage across northern Nova Scotia on April 18 and 19. The gunman was a RCMP wannabe who wore a counterfeit uniform and drove a counterfeit RCMP look-alike cruiser.

By Mike R. Bondarenko, Editor

TORONTO, Ont – Canada remains in mourning after a police impersonator killed 22 people, including a law enforcement officer, in the nation's worst mass shooting on April 19. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said the shocking overnight rampage killed people across a large swath of northern Nova Scotia.

The shooter, Gabriel Wortman, 51, opened fire on people hunkered down in their homes, setting many ablaze. He was among the dead in the weekend attack.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police Constable Heidi Stevenson, a 23-year veteran, was among those killed. She was participant in the annual RCMP Musical Ride, a former teacher and a mother. She is survived by her husband, a high school teacher, and two children, ages 13 and 10.

She was said to have had "an infectious personality, fantastic smile, was full of life and loved what she did as a constable."

RCMP officials said Wortman wore a police uniform and made his car look like an RCMP



Royal Canadian Mounted Police Constable Heidi Stevenson was a 23-year veteran when she was killed during an overnight rampage by an RCMP impersonator on April 18 and 19. She was a former school teacher and mother of two, ages 10 and 13. The shooter was also killed. *RCMP official photograph*

cruiser.

"The fact that this individual had a uniform and a police car at his disposal certainly speaks to it not being a random act," RCMP Superintendent Chris Leather said.

According to his high school yearbook, Wortman long had a fascination with the Mounties. "Gabe's future may include being an RCMP officer," his yearbook profile read.

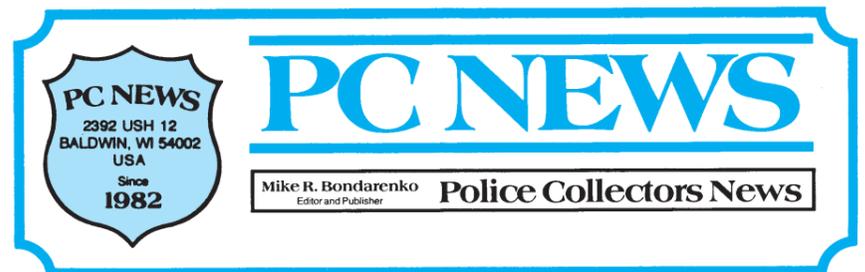
RCMP officials pledged to investigate how Wortman gained access to a police uniform and equipment and markings to make his car look like a RCMP cruiser.

"We'll get to the bottom of this. We'll find out how he got the uniform and the gear. We'll take the appropriate steps to ensure this never happens again," Superintendent Leather said.

Media reports indicated Wortman was "obsessed" with police work, especially the RCMP.

"Since high school, Wortman, a dentist with multiple Nova Scotia clinics, had shown a passion for policing, buying law enforcement memorabilia and boasting about his hobby of refurbishing old police vehicles," the *Toronto Globe and Mail* reported. It is unknown if he ever attended a show.

Nathan Staples, who knew Wortman, told the newspaper the killer's home in Portapique where the deadly spree began, was a "shrine" to the RCMP and he parked old cruisers on his front yard. "He was one of those freaky guys, he was really into police memorabilia," he



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Police Collectors News (USPS 001759) (ISSN 1071-1724) is published bimonthly for \$26 for two years (12 issues) by Police Collectors News, 2392 USH 12, Baldwin WI 54002-7000. Periodical postage paid at Baldwin, Wis.

POSTMASTER Send address changes to *Police Collectors News*, 2392 USH 12, Baldwin WI 54002-7000.

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CIRCULATION MANAGER Donna K. Nelson
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Police Collectors News merged with the Law Enforcement Badge and Patch Collectors Society (LEBPCS) on June 1, 1985.

Police Collectors News merged with the Police Insignia Collectors Association (PICA) on January 1, 1992.

Police Collectors News merged with Casey's Police Guide on September 1, 1998.

PCNEWS is printed by Publishers Printing Service, Inc. in Amery, Wis.

Subscription Rates \$26 for two years (12 issues) periodical class mail in the USA. \$30 for two years periodical class mail in Canada. \$76 per two years (12 issues) airmail delivery worldwide. Only US funds can be accepted for subscriptions. Subscriptions must be paid in advance.

Subscribers are responsible for notifying us of address changes. We do not remail copies sent to an expired address.

In the United States, first class mail delivery is available for an additional \$20 for two years (12 issues). The total cost of a two-year subscription by first class mail is \$46. Priority Mail delivery is available for an additional \$48 for two years (12 issues). The total cost of a two-year 12-issue subscription by Priority Mail is \$100. Express Mail (overnight) delivery is available. Contact the Circulation Manager for information. It is possible to upgrade an existing subscription to first class, Priority Mail or Express Mail; it is not necessary to wait until renewal. Please contact the Circulation Manager for details.

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Publication Dates PCNEWS is published bimonthly in January, March, May, July, September and November. Please contact our office for advertising deadlines and printing dates.

Photographs are produced by John Schieffer.

PCNEWS is printed by Publishers Printing Service, Inc. in Amery, Wis.

Nevada Highway Patrol Wearing Memorial Patch

Nevada Highway Patrol Sergeant Benjamin Jenkins, 47, was shot and killed on duty on March 27 by a motorist he had stopped to assist. The killer stole his uniform, duty belt, and patrol vehicle but was captured a few hours later. Now, the NHP will wear a Sergeant Jenkins memorial patch until May 2021.

By Mike R. Bondarenko, Editor

LAS VEGAS, Nev. – The Nevada Highway Patrol will wear a memorial patch until next year to honor a veteran trooper killed in the line of duty. Colonel Daniel Solow, the NHP chief, authorized all troopers statewide to wear a commemorative emblem honoring the memory of Sergeant Benjamin Jenkins, who was shot and killed by a motorist he had stopped to help near Ely just before 6 am on March 27. The agency made the announcement on April 27. The emblem will be worn on the right garment sleeve until the conclusion of National Police Week 2021. Troopers will continue to wear the standard issue insignia on the left sleeve.

Colonel Solow authorized the patch for uniform wear until May 15, the end of Police Week. Sergeant Jenkins will be honored in Washington, D.C. at the annual Candlelight Vigil and his name will be inscribed on the National Law Enforcement Memorial.

The emblem design is similar to the current NHP emblem. It is a state shape with a large round center design that is slightly larger than the state shape and protrudes slightly on two sides. The background is black. There is a blue border.

The design shows a segment of the United States flag with white stars on a dark blue field, alternating white and dark blue stripes, except the center stripe is light blue to symbolize the thin blue line, a symbol of law enforcement solidarity and sacrifice.

A diagonal stripe bisects the flag from the lower left to the upper right. It is dark blue with the number "196" and two five-point stars in white on it. "196" was Sergeant Jenkins's call number.

A thin blue ring surrounds the center design. It shows 36 small blue stars at the top and "SGT. BEN JENKINS" in small white letters at the bottom. Nevada was the 36th state admitted to the Union in 1864.

A thick light gray ring surrounds the blue ring. "NEVADA" appears at the top in dark gray letters with "PUBLIC" on the left and "SAFETY" on the right, also in dark gray letters. Three blue stars separate the legends.

"HIGHWAY PATROL" appears on a small light gray banner beneath the seal in dark gray letters.

Finally, "EOW/ 3-27-20" completes the design in white legends at the bottom of the state shape. "EOW" abbreviates end of watch.

Sergeant Jenkins stopped his patrol vehicle behind a possible disabled vehicle on Highway 93 near of Ely in White Pine County at 5:56 am. He made contact with the motorist, later identified as a 65-year-old man who resided in the county. He was shot and killed by the motorist.

The killer stole Sergeant Jenkins's uniform and duty belt. The motorist set fire to his vehicle, a rented pickup truck, and fled the scene in the sergeant's marked patrol vehicle. He was captured several hours later after a search by multiple law enforcement agencies. The suspect faces capital murder and other felony charges. Nevada is a death penalty state. (The White Pine County district attorney confirmed the murder is a death penalty case.)

Sergeant Jenkins was 47 years old. He was an Elko native and became a trooper in 2008. He was assigned to the Jackpot substation in Jackpot and promoted to sergeant in Elko in 2017.

Before he became a state trooper, the sergeant was a training officer for the Nevada State Fire Marshal Division, a crew supervisor for the Nevada Division of Forestry and



(Top) A grainy traffic camera image captured the Nova Scotia shooter next to his homemade RCMP look-alike car. (Bottom) The RCMP issued this photo of an authentic patrol car. The arrow points to the car number. The shooter's vehicle was an RCMP replica but without the number. RCMP official photograph

Canadian Impersonator ...Continued

said.

Former customers at his clinics told investigators Wortman often spoke of his restored police cruisers and sometimes drove them to work. One customer said he had an RCMP car that looked "exactly like the real thing." He had two of them at his Halifax location.

As Canadian collectors grieved, especially for the loss of a fellow law enforcement officer, several expressed concerns over whether the murders may have a long term impact on the hobby. Their names and agency affiliations have been withheld to protect them from possible management recrimination.

"I don't know how this is going to go. RCMP stuff is already hard to get. It could be departments completely cut off collectors," said an Ontario collector.

He is also concerned that Parliament may enact sweeping anti-insignia legislation.

"In the States, there are shut downs. New York for instance. Collectors are afraid to show their stuff because 'big brother' is watching. It could get worse. Maybe not. No one knows how far this will go," he said.

A badge collector in an eastern province wondered if a national police insignia prohibition might be on the horizon.

"This person had an RCMP uniform, genuine or not, and a car like a Mountie cruiser. We [already] have to be careful with RCMP items. If things go bad, we might not be shows or anything else [in public]," he said.

Whether or not the national or provincial governments take action against police insignia, other Canada collectors worry those few agencies that still make insignia available to collectors may no longer do so.

"The word is out. He [the shooter] looked like a Mountie. His car looked RCMP. That's bad. Superintendents and chief constables know it. It will mean we [collectors] might get cut off," an Ontario collector said.

He predicted longstanding negative implications for the Canadian hobby.

Yet, not all Canadian collectors contacted were pessimistic about the future. Others were decidedly more optimistic.

"Our hobby is different. It's a lot smaller, almost all active or retired officers. Not many forces give access anyway. No one wants something bad, but we really don't rely on forces for patches and badges all that much," he said.

Finally, a former show host summed up his feelings:

"Shootings like this happen a lot in the States. Not here. We will endure it. I don't think this is a hobby issue. This is different. I don't think it will change things. I could be wrong. But, the hobby was not responsible for this. No one can blame collectors," he said.

MIKE R BONDARENKO (2392 USH 12, Baldwin Wi 54002) pcnews@baldwin-telecom.net



A Nevada state trooper models the Sergeant Benjamin Jenkins memorial patch on the right sleeve of his dress uniform jacket while posed in front of the iconic "Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas" sign. The commemorative emblem will soon be available to collectors. NHP official photograph



Sergeant Benjamin Jenkins was a 12-year veteran of the Nevada Highway Patrol when he was shot and killed during an apparent motorist assist in White Pine County on March 27. He was military veteran, once worked for the state fire marshal and was an assistant fire chief. NHP official photograph



All Nevada Highway Patrol troopers will wear this custom-designed insignia on the right sleeve of shirts and jackets until May 15, 2021. The white, gray and two-tone blue state shape honors the memory of slain Sergeant Benjamin Jenkins, who was shot and killed on March 27. *NHP official photograph*

assistant chief of the Spring Creek Volunteer Fire Department. He was a United States Army and National Guard veteran.

The slain officer is survived by his wife, four children, mother and five grandchildren.

The Highway Patrol announced the Sergeant Jenkins commemorative patch will be available to the public as a fundraiser for the Nevada Injured Police Officers Fund (IPOF) headquartered in Las Vegas. Patches will be \$10 each plus shipping. All proceeds go the fund which assists injured officers and their families.

Patches will be available on the IPOF Web site, IPOF.Vegas, once the state allows non-essential businesses to reopen due to the COVID-19 virus. The fund operates an online gift shop, but the items are shipped by a private business in Las Vegas, Nevada Coin Mart (4065 South Jones Blvd.), which houses the IPOF gift shop and ships all mail orders for the non-profit. The coin shop is closed but is expected to reopen once the state lifts the "stay at home" order, anticipated for May 15.

Collectors should check the Web site frequently for ordering information once the shop reopens. Obviously, if the governor's order is lifted earlier than May 15, it may reopen sooner.

Once the initial order is sold, the emblem will no longer be available to the public, according to the Highway Patrol.

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Butte County Commemorates Tragic Camp Fire

Eighty-five people lost their lives in the horrific Camp Fire in Butte County, Calif. in November 2018. The Sheriff's Office commemorated the one-year anniversary of the tragedy by issuing a beautiful badge designed by deputies and manufactured by Ed Jones Company.

By Mike R. Bondarenko, Editor

OROVILLE, Calif. – The Butte County, Calif. Sheriff's Office has adopted a new badge to commemorate the infamous 2018 Camp Fire. It was adopted in November.

The Camp Fire was the deadliest and most destructive in California history. It was also the most expensive natural disaster in the world in 2018 in terms of insurance claims, \$16.5 billion.

A faulty Pacific Gas and Electric transmission line started the fire on Camp Creek Road in northern Butte County on November 8. It destroyed nearly 19,000 buildings and charred almost 154,000 acres before the blaze was finally contained on November 25, 17 days later. Fifty-two thousand people were evacuated to escape the firestorm.

Tragically, 85 people were killed and 17 others were injured, including five firefighters.

The towns of Paradise and Concow were almost completely destroyed. Ninety-five percent of the structures were destroyed in both towns.

Fifty percent of the structures in the town of Magnolia were lost.

Sheriff Kory L. Honea said the badge debut commemorated the one-year anniversary of the historic fire. "As we approached the one-year anniversary of the Camp Fire, members of the Butte County Sheriff's Office will be wearing newly-designed badges to commemorate that unprecedented and tragic event," he said.

The seven-point stars feature extensive filigree on the star points and blue enamel legends.

The oval-shaped custom center design features the historic Honey Run Covered Bridge, which was built in 1887 but destroyed in the fire, and the raised relief legends, "CAMP FIRE 2018" and "BUTTE STRONG."

"There is now a vigorous effort underway to rebuild it. This makes the badge a fitting symbol to show our respect for all that was lost and to express our continuing commitment to help our community rise from the ashes," Sheriff Honea said.

Ed Jones Company in Berkeley, Calif. produced the badges for the department. There are silver-colored stars for patrol and correctional deputies, while supervisor badges are gold-colored.

"The owners and staff of Ed Jones Company understood the significance of the project and took extraordinary efforts to handcraft a badge worthy of the extraordinary and dedicated service of BCSO members during the fire and the months that followed," the



The Butte County, Calif. Sheriff's Office in Oroville, Calif. Commemorated the one-year anniversary of the Camp Fire with a beautiful badge made by Ed Jones Company. The badges were designed by department employees. They will be worn until November 2020. *Contributed photograph*

sheriff said.

Sheriff Honea said the badge was created at no cost to taxpayers. Deputies who wanted to wear them purchased the badges on their own.

BCSO members are authorized to wear the badge until November 2020 and then every November in subsequent years, the sheriff said.

MIKE R. BONDARENKO (2392 USH 12, Baldwin WI 54002) pcnews@baldwin-telecom.net.

Chicago Police Hybrids The Chicago Police Department is buying 200 2020 Ford Police Interceptor hybrid patrol SUVs made in Chicago. A department spokesman said the agency decided to purchase the vehicles mainly because they are made in the city. The vehicles operate both on gasoline engines and lithium-ion powered batteries. The gasoline engines shut off when batteries power the vehicle. Ford said the vehicle will save law enforcement agencies million of dollars in fuel costs. The Ford Police Interceptor now accounts for more than half of the law enforcement vehicles in the country.

Quebec Patch Faked A warning has been issued to Canadian police patch collectors over a black subdued version of the 1979 Quebec police patch. According to information shared by several leading collectors, the Quebec police did not issue a black subdued version of their emblem in 1979. The subdued patch, which is circulating over the Internet, is a fake, according to the collectors. Buyer beware!

Show "On Hold" The hosts of the popular Fairfax Regional Show in Fairfax, Va. have temporarily stopped promoting their November 7 show. They asked their show announcement and advertisement not appear in this issue. The hosts were informed by the Fairfax County Police Association that they will not have access to the hall on the scheduled date. They are working toward a solution and will inform the hobby when one is found. Please watch for future announcements.



A close-up of Sheriff Kory L. Honea's personal Camp Fire commemorative badge shows the Honey Run Covered Bridge, which was built in 1887 but was destroyed in the fire. Eighty-five people lost their lives in the 17-day blaze started by a faulty electric transmission line. *Contributed photograph*



Claudia Bleess's new design for the Fairmont, Minn. Police Department is shown on the right. It shows a state outline and lakes as the center design, as well as the year of the city foundation. The previous Chain of Lakes patch the new design made obsolete is shown on the left. *Chief Mike Hunter photograph*

Officer's Daughter Designs New Patch For Fairmont Police

Claudia Bleess, daughter of Officer Jaime Bleess, designed the new shoulder patch for the Fairmont, Minn. Police Department. Chief Mike Hunter wanted an emblem representative of the community. It debuted in April and replaces a longstanding design.

By Jason Sorenson, Fairmont Sentinel

FAIRMONT, Minn. – The Fairmont Police Department rolled out a new uniform patch beginning April 1 and transitioning into May.

The patch will not only be applied to uniforms but eventually be seen on new squad car designs. Police Chief Mike Hunter discussed why it was important to update the patch, designed by Claudia Bleess.

"Way back in 2000, our department was looking at doing some updates for the 100 year anniversary for the police department in 2001," he said. So we talked about new squad car designs, new patches and new badges. Things changed in our department at that time so we didn't get the updates with the patches and badges at that time.

"In 2019, we developed a thing called the 2020 project at one of our meetings, which entails some short- and long-term goal setting, our officers came up for our department. We have a new squad car design coming out, we have new badges that were updated this year, but one of the most significant things we had was the development of our new Fairmont police patch.

"It's something that professionally represents the uniqueness of our community and we wear it on our shoulders very proudly."

Chief Hunter said he initially worked with an embroidery company, but difficulties arose when trying to capture a design unique to Fairmont. The desire was to have something that incorporated certain elements that represented both the department and community. Fortunately, officer Jaime Bleess mentioned the project to his daughter Claudia, who is a marketing and graphic design major at the University of Minnesota-Duluth.

"My dad sent me a few of the designs they were working with and I agree that nothing was personal to Fairmont," she said. "It was very generic, and I thought I could take it farther because I've lived in Fairmont almost my whole life, and my dad has been working with this police department as long as I can remember.



Claudia Bleess, daughter of Officer Jaime Bleess, designed the new Fairmont, Minn. police shoulder patch. Chief Mike Hunter presented Miss Bleess with a recognition award and a frame with the old and new patches as well as a challenge coin. *Jason Sorenson photograph*

"I'm really looking to find a job in marketing and advertisement, but I appreciate it when I can tie in some art design. This was a really good experience for me in a professional sense, but I'm glad I got to help in a more personal way, too."

When asked about any challenges she faced in the design process, Bleess said, most of her issues arose when it came to color schemes and sizes.

"We were trying to get everything to match with what the police officers have to wear, like the flag patch and badges," she said. "Sizing was also a little difficult, and we never met once in person, it was all over email and text messages. So there was never any face to face, which was a little difficult in nailing down which parts we wanted to change or keep the same."

"Somehow over the years, our original patch got lightened in color and it got smaller," Chief Hunter said. "So right now, the city is using the phrase City of Lakes instead of Chain of Lakes, and the original has the outdated abbreviation for Minnesota. So those are some of the things we wanted to incorporate to capture the uniqueness of Fairmont, and I think what Claudia produced for us definitely captured that."

Chief Hunter said all the officers were happy with the finished product, and are looking forward to getting it on their uniforms as soon as possible.

JASON SORENSON (Fairmont Sentinel, PO Box 681, Fairmont MN 56031)

Reprinted with permission from the March 14, 2020 edition of the Fairmont Sentinel. Our thanks to Editor Lee Smith for allowing us to share this story. EDITOR

Singer Doris Day Honorary Badge Sells For \$2500

A Monterey County, Calif. honorary deputy sheriff badge that once belonged to legendary entertainer Doris Day recently sold at auction for \$2500. Sheriff David B. Cook presented Day with the badge enclosed in a wallet with an ID card in the 1980s.

By Mike R. Bondarenko, Editor

SPECIAL – An honorary Monterey County, Calif. Sheriff Department deputy sheriff badge once belonging to actress, singer and animal welfare activist Doris Day sold at auction for \$2500 on April 5. The auction benefited the animal care organization she founded and was conducted by the prestigious auctioneers, Julien's.

The badge had been valued at between \$300 to \$500.

Collectors expressed surprise at the amount of the winning bid. "Who knew?" a Southern California collector declared.

The badge is a seven-point gold-colored star with the California state seal as the center design. The seal is surrounded by an enamel ring with the legends, "THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA," on it. "HONORARY DEPUTY SHERIFF/ MONTEREY COUNTY" is lettered on a gold ring around the center design.

Interestingly, unlike many honorary badges, the star is not personalized to the legendary entertainer.

However, it was sold enclosed by a black leather badge wallet and an undated identification card signed by Sheriff D.B. "Bud" Cook certifying that Ms. Day was a duly appointed honorary county deputy sheriff.

Sheriff David B. Cook served from 1979 to 1991. Ms. Day lived in Carmel in Monterey County.

The small coastal community (population less than 4000) is well known as an artist and animal lover community, which would certainly attract Ms. Day. Actor Clint Eastwood once served the city as mayor.

Ms. Day, who died in Carmel at age 97 in 2019, began her career as a big band singer in 1939. She had two chart-topping recordings in 1945 and recorded more than 650 songs between 1947 to 1967. She is best known for her million-seller hits, Que Sera, Sera and Secret Love.

She began a 20-year feature film career in 1948. She was best known for her hit comedies with Rock Hudson. She was one of the biggest box office stars in Hollywood during the late 1950s and early 1960s.

Ms. Day ended her film career in 1968 and turned her attention to television. She starred in a sitcom from 1968 to 1973, even though she also continued her singing career.

Her career as an American entertainment icon spanned 50 years from 1939 to 1989 when she retired to Carmel.

Ms. Day, whose real name was Doris Mary Anne Kappelhoff, was born in Cincinnati, O.



Monterey County, Calif. Sheriff David B. "Bud" Cook presented legendary entertainer Doris Day, who lived in his county, with this honorary deputy sheriff badge in the 1980s. The badge, which came with a signed ID card and enclosed in a black leather wallet, sold for \$2500. Contributed photograph

in 1922 as the daughter of German immigrants. She changed her last name to Day after she began singing on a local radio show.

President George W. Bush presented her with the Presidential Medal of Freedom at the White House in 2004 in recognition of her lifelong achievements as an entertainer and animal welfare activist.

MIKE R. BONDARENKO, (2392 USH 12, Baldwin WI 54002) pcnews@baldwin-telecom.com

Our thanks to Southern California collector Jack Berkus for his contributions to this feature. EDITOR

PICAA Hosts Their Annual Swap Meet

The Police Insignia Collectors Association of Australia hosted their annual swap meet in Seymour, New South Wales on February 2. Thirty-six club members and five non-members enjoyed a light-heated day of buying, selling and trading. Three collectors won trophies for outstanding displays.

By Graham Morrell, Guest Writer

SEYMOUR, New South Wales – This year's Police Insignia Collectors Association of Australia Swap Meet was held on Sunday, February 2. I decided to attend from New Zealand after a few days in Melbourne watching some Australian Open tennis.

So, on Friday I arrived by train in Seymour to a temperature of 45 degrees Celsius or 113 degrees Fahrenheit. That's a shocking temperature for a kiwi!

PICAA President Rod Jones picked me up and we headed to Rod and Linda's place in Avenel, about 20 minutes drive, for air conditioning and a pool!

That is until a brief but violent storm hit the area. Trees went down and branches were everywhere. The pool was full of furniture and debris. Power was lost to the property and was not restored until 11 pm on Sunday night!

The traditional Saturday evening barbecue still went ahead with the help of battery-powered LED lights. Nice food, good company and only a few colorful visitors from a local institution (collectors dressed in rather colorful attire.)

So, the Sunday swap meet drew 36 members with about six partners and five non-members.

There were several tables covered with collectibles and other donated items which were sold at a charity auction. It raised \$3122, including \$1000 donated by PICAA. The proceeds went to two local rural fire companies.

Display award trophies were presented to Rob Beath (colorful USA and Canada patches), Paul Hudson (Australia sheriff patches) and Rob Brown (Canberra Police Youth Club patches and signs).

I snapped a photo of Mick Austin, Michael Sainsbery and Rob Brown wearing their collector ties that show police patches.

I received an award for being the farthest traveled.

Because the power was out during the BBQ, not many were able to look into Rod's badge room, so I took a few pictures to share with collectors. As can be seen, he has a beautiful collection of Australasia badges, patches, head gear, signs and much, much more.

He has excellent collections from New Zealand and Antarctica. No, they do not have police at the bottom of the world. His patches are for research expeditions by scientists and researchers from Australia and New Zealand. These are colorful. Most depict birds and animals native to the continent.

On a personal note, I would like to thank Rod and Linda for their hospitality. It was "fun"



Police patch collector ties were out in force at the PICAA swap meet! (Left to right) Mick Austin, Michael Sainsbery and Rob Brown wore them. Thirty-six members and five non-members attended the show annual despite oppressive heat and a windstorm before the event. *Graham Morrell photograph*



A charity auction at the 2020 PICAA Swap Meet in Seymour, New South Wales raised \$3122 for two rural fire companies. It auction was conducted by collectors, Rod Johns (left) and Bren Lodi. The show was sponsored by the police insignia collectors association. *Graham Morrell photograph*



Rob Beath, a former Police Insignia Collectors Association of Australia vice president and magazine editor, was among the display trophy winners at the Seymour swap meet. He showed two large frames of colorful emblems from the United States, Canada and other nations. *Graham Morrell photograph*



Yes, Australia has sheriffs. Paul Hudson collects their shoulder patches and epaulets and was honored for an attractive framed collection from New South Wales. Officers support the work of the courts, provide security, enforce writs, warrants and property seizure and manage juries. *Graham Morrell photograph*

Hobby Mourns Loss Of Howard Luckhardt, Jr.

PLANO, Tex. -- Howard L. Luckhardt, Jr., a longtime New York and Texas badge and patch collector, died on May 4. He was 60. The cause of death is unknown.

Luckhardt collected New York City and Dallas area insignia, as well as state police/highway patrol emblems. He attended the 2019 National Show in Dallas and was well known in the hobby.

He was born in Southampton, N.Y. and earned his criminal justice degree at the State University of New York in Brockport. He served as a police officer in Suffolk County and at SUNY Brockport.

Luckhardt relocated to Plano and married his wife, Desiree, in 2003.

As news of his death circulated on social media, many collector friends sent condolences to the family. Luckhardt was described as a "great guy," "true gentleman," and "awesome trader." He will be missed by his many hobby friends.

Seymour, N.S.W. Show ...Continued



Police Insignia Collectors Association of Australia President Rod Johns has a fun collection of police theme carvings and statues in the badge room in his Avenel home. That's him third from the left. He hosted the club's annual swap meet in Seymour on February 2. *Graham Morrell photograph*

negotiating around the house with torches. It was a holiday to remember. I obtained a few nice items for my collection and was able to help out others. Cheers!
 GRAHAM MORRELL, President, Triple One Club of New Zealand (grim.all.nz@gmail.com)



Graham Morrell stayed at Rod John's home in Avenel, New South Wales before the PICAA show and toured his extremely impressive and beautifully arranged "badge room." He has a variety of collecting interests, include Australia, New Zealand and Antarctica. *Graham Morrell photograph*



The Police Citizens Youth Club of Canberra was the theme of Rob Brown's trophy-winning display at the Seymour show. He featured patches, signs and a decal. The police supported club has supported youth in the Australia Capital Territory since it was founded in 1957. *Graham Morrell photograph*



Uxbridge, Mass. Police canine, autism awareness and Ansonia, Conn. police officer are recent creations from LJ Badge and Emblem in Monroe, Conn. Uxbridge is a subdued style, while Ansonia is a colorful custom design in the shape of the state police emblem. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*

New Styles By LJ Badge And Emblem

Police departments in Ansonia and Eastern Connecticut State University in Connecticut and Uxbridge, Massachusetts are wearing new style emblems created by LJ Badge and Emblem in Monroe, Conn. The university has three patches, patrol and autism and breast cancer awareness. Uxbridge are a canine and autism awareness emblems.

By Mike R. Bondarenko, Editor

MONROE, Conn. – LJ Badge and Emblem of Monroe, Conn. is out with six new emblem styles for police departments in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

Owners John Searle and Larry Botting announced new creations for Ansonia and Eastern Connecticut State University in Connecticut and a canine and an autism awareness for Uxbridge, Massachusetts. Searle and Botting are longtime collectors.

Ansonia is a rounded rectangle. A large full color state seal appears as the center design. The state motto appears in Latin beneath it. It has a dark blue background and white and gold inner and outer borders, respectively. "ANSONIA" appears at the top in blue letters on a gold banner bordered in white and "POLICE" in large gold letters bordered in white is seen at the bottom.

It is a remake of the current design.

Ansonia is a city of 19,000 on the Naugatuck River in New Haven County in southwest Connecticut.

Chief of Police Andrew Cota heads an agency with 42 officers and 12 civilian employees.

Eastern Connecticut State University is a oblong shield shape with a black background and gold and black lettering. "POLICE" appears in large gold letters at the top. Full color large United States and state flags and a round disc with a full color state seal and the name of the university comprise the center design. "1889," the year the university was founded, appears in black on a white banner bordered in gold.

There are also autism and breast cancer awareness emblems. The designs are identical to patrol officer. However, autism has a multicolored puzzle background. A multicolored puzzle has become the symbol for autism awareness. The breast cancer insignia has "POLICE" in pink letters at the top and pink borders.

The police patrol the 160-acre campus in Willimantic. It's part of a public safety department. The agency has 24 employees. The police chief is Jeffrey A. Garewski. Botting is a sergeant on the department.

Uxbridge Police canine is a variation of the department's patrol officer emblem. It is a shield shape with a black background and gray letters and borders. The legends read "UXBRIDGE/ MASSACHUSETTS/ POLICE/ K-9." A black and gray dog head appears in black and gray as the center design. The dog head is stitched so it appears three-dimensional. The dog, "Bear," is a Dutch shepherd.

The patrol officer insignia features the town seal over a town outline.

The autism awareness patch is the same as patrol officer, except for the multicolored



Eastern Connecticut State University in Willimantic, Conn. has three new styles made by LJ Badge and Emblem, (left to right) breast cancer awareness, patrol officer and autism awareness. The police department is part the campus public safety department. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*

puzzle background, the symbol of autism awareness. It is available for \$10 from LJ Badge and Emblem.

The police department has 25 full-time employees. The chief is Marc Montminy. The canine is "Bear" and has a Facebook page.

All five high quality emblems are fully embroidered. They are available to collectors. Please see the LJ Badge and Emblem advertisement else in this issue for ordering information.

LJ Badge and Emblem is now in its 30th year in business. It was among the first collector-owned insignia companies.

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New Chino Badge Honors Fallen Officer

The Chino, Calif. Police Department has honored the memory of Officer Russ Miller, the first city officer killed on duty in 2000 by issuing a personalized memorial badge in his honor. The handsome custom design debuted in late April and will be worn the remainder of this year and then every February.

By Mike R. Bondarenko, Editor

CHINO, Calif. – It was February 1, 2000, only a month after the world stood down from fears that the beginning of the new millennium might result in a global computer crash that would shut down all automated systems.

It was early Tuesday morning when Chino, Calif. police Officer Russ Miller stopped a pickup truck for a minor traffic violation. He was walking back toward his patrol car when a full-size Chevrolet Suburban came up behind him. It struck his car and then him. He died of internal injuries.

The driver of the Suburban fled the scene. However, the 21-year-old driver was apprehended less than 15 minutes later when he crashed the Suburban into a light pole and sign post. He again tried to flee but neighborhood residents, awakened by the crash, detained him until police arrived. The driver had a 0.17 blood alcohol concentration.

Officer Miller was the first Chino police officer killed on duty. He was 31 years old and had served the department for 12 years. He was a field training officer and member of the Mounted Enforcement Team, an assignment he particularly enjoyed. He was lifelong horse lover and planned to move to Montana ranch after his planned retirement six years away.

Ever since his death, the department has honored his memory by sponsoring an annual "Run For Russ," a five kilometer run or walk, always held on the first weekend in February. It attracts about 1000 runners every year.

Last year, Chief Wes Simmons wanted something special to commemorate the 20th anniversary of Officer Miller's tragic death. He settled on a commemorative badge.

According to department spokesperson, Sergeant Nancy Franklin, the agency chose a memorial badge to honor his memory. The custom design circled five-point star will be worn the rest of this year and then in February every year.

Chief Simmons said the five-point star matches the stars on the United States flag and documents his service as a United States Navy veteran. It also shows a likeness of Officer Miller in his mounted uniform wearing a western-style hat, his end of watch date and his employee badge number, "1114."

The legends, "CHINO POLICE" and "1114" are shown on the circle, while "RUSS MILLER SR/ END OF WATCH/ FEBRUARY 1, 2000" is seen on a small plaque between the image.

The new badge was unveiled in late April. Initially, the department wanted the badge to debut before the anniversary date but design changes delayed the implementation.

The new badge has been well received by the department. Officers are purchasing it with their own money.



Police Officer Russ Miller was only 31 years old when he became the first Chino officer killed in the line of duty on February 1, 2000. He was a field training officer and a member of the Mounted Enforcement Team. As horse lover, Officer Miller relished the assignment. *Chino Police photograph*



The new Chino Police Department Officer Russ Miller memorial badge debuted in late April. This year marks the 20th anniversary of Officer Miller's death. He was the first Chino officer killed on duty. The badge will be worn the rest of the year and then every February. *Chino Police photograph*

Chief Simmons said only about a dozen employees who worked with Officer Miller are still with the department. He believes it will make other officers more aware of the sacrifices that police officers are all too often called on to make.

He said the western-style badge honors his commitment to the Mounted Enforcement Team.

Chino is a city of 78,000 in western San Bernardino County near the Los Angeles County line. The police department has about 150 employees.

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Police Collectibles Creates Custom Challenge Coins

Jim Post of Police Collectibles in Lowell, Ark. has designed and produced handsome new challenge coins for the Missouri State Highway Patrol, Fayetteville, Ark. Police Department and the 2020 Law Enforcement Week in Branson, Mo. The Fayetteville coin honors a fallen police officer.

By Mike R. Bondarenko, Editor

LOWELL, Ark. – Police Collectibles, a collector-owned law enforcement insignia and collectibles producer, is out with four new handsome challenge coins, including two for the Missouri State Highway Patrol, one for Fayetteville, Ark. police and one for Law Enforcement Week in Branson, Mo.

Owner Jim Post said the MSHP coins are commercial motor vehicle enforcement and motorcycle patrol, while the Fayetteville honors the life of Officer Stephen Carr, who was shot and killed on duty last December 7. The fourth coin commemorates the now-canceled 2020 Law Enforcement Week.

The MSHP commercial vehicle coin shows a semi-tractor-trailer superimposed over a red, white and blue state outline and the legends, "PROTECTING MISSOURI MOTORISTS WITH PROFESSIONALISM/ SINCE 1942," on one side and CVE enforcement vehicles,



One side of the Police Collectibles challenge coins for Missouri State Highway Patrol Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division, MSHP Motorcycle Unit, Fayetteville, Ark. Police Officer Stephen Carr and Branson, Mo. 2020 Law Enforcement Week. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*

New Challenge Coins ...Continued

standard issue and CVE shoulder emblems and the legends, "MISSOURI STATE HIGHWAY PATROL" at the top and "COMMERCIAL VEHICLE ENFORCEMENT" at the bottom.

Stars on the state shape denote weigh station locations.

The coin is silver in color, while the legends are shown in silver letters on black outer rings.

Officially, the agency is the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division, and it supports the MSHP mission to promote and ensure highway safety and homeland security.

The division operates fixed and mobile weigh and inspection stations staffed by specially trained troopers. They report motor carrier inspections and violations to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration "Safety Net" to give motor carriers national safety ratings.

In 1931, 17 troopers patrolled on Harley-Davidson, Indian and Henderson motorcycles.

The Safety Squad was formed in 1940 with 13 white motorcycles, one car and a trailer.

In 1971, six troopers patrolled on motorcycles for special events, such as county fairs, parades and traffic patrol in congested areas.

The fleet was expanded to 18 in 1979 with the addition of 12 new Kawasaki 1000 cc bikes.

In 1996, the MSHP retired the last motorcycle in its fleet.

Today, the Motorcycle Unit numbers only four with bikes assigned to four troops around the state.

The gold-colored coin features an original 1932 Harley-Davidson and a trooper on one side. The legend reads, "MISSOURI STATE HIGHWAY PATROL MOTORCYCLE UNIT" at the top and "SERVING WITH PRIDE SINCE 1931."

The other side shows the MSHP patch and a traffic safety winged wheel with the legends, "MISSOURI STATE HIGHWAY PATROL MOTORCYCLE UNIT" at the top and "TROOP A, TROOP B, TROOP D, TROOP F" at the bottom.

On December 7, Fayetteville, Ark. police Officer Stephen Carr was gunned down while seated in his patrol vehicle in the police station parking lot in what officials called an "ambush and execution." His senseless killing created shock waves in the law enforcement community and beyond.

"This was personal for me and all the active and retired officers around here. The cities in Northwest Arkansas are all connected physically as they form a solid chain from the Missouri border to Fayetteville," Post said.

"But, all five departments in the chain are connected with a bond, too; a thin blue line, if you will, that I have never experienced before. When one department suffers, they all suffer. Stephen was killed about 20 miles from me, and I am still troubled," he said.

Post related a large pro-police rally to honor Officer Carr on April 13 was canceled due to the corona virus pandemic. However, by the mayor's proclamation, April 13 will always be Stephen Carr Day in Fayetteville.

One side of the gold-colored coin shows a likeness of Officer Carr in full color, his end of watch date and the legend, "OFFICER STEPHEN PAUL CARR" at the top and "FAYETTEVILLE AR POLICE DEPARTMENT" in gold lettering on a black outer ring.

The other side depicts Officer Carr's badge bisected by a thin black and blue band and the legend, "FROM DICKSON STREET TO THE STREETS OF HEAVEN, THE GENTLE GIANT STILL WALKS HIS BEAT" in gold lettering on a black outer ring.

Finally, Post created a gold-colored coin for the now-canceled 2020 Law Enforcement Week in Branson, Mo. One side shows Officer Carr's badge but with the legends "AMERICAN/ POLICE OFFICER" and number "132," which is how many law enforcement officers died on duty in 2019 at the bottom, and the legends, "WE HONOR THEIR SERVICE, WE PRAISE THEIR SACRIFICE, WE MOURN THEIR LOSS." in gold lettering on a black outer border.

Collectors interested in the MSHP coins should contact Post. They are available but in limited quantity. His address is Police Collectibles, PO Box 2156, Lowell AR 72745, or telephone (479) 253-6333, or email neatstuff@arkansas.net.

The Carr commemorative coin is not available. Post said he never sells memorial coins he makes. Instead, they only go to the families and departments. (Yes, I had to return the sample coin shown.)

Police Collectibles produces pins, patches and coins. It has been in business since 1987.

Post is a former National Police Collectors Show co-host and currently co-host of the Branson, Mo. show.

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Historical Police Events The Saint Paul Police Historical Society has announced the dates of two popular police history-related events. The Cops 'n Rodders Annual Police Memorial Car Show will be June 7 from 9 am to 3 pm at Norm's Tires, 2767 Long Lake Road, in Roseville. Vintage police vehicles will be on display. The Ninth Annual Gangster Tour will take place on October 28 at 6 pm at the Landmark Center, the former United States Courthouse, the site of criminal trials of many infamous mobsters.



The other sides of the beautiful new challenge coins for 2020 Law Enforcement Week, Fayetteville, Ark. Police Department and the Missouri State Highway Patrol Commercial Enforcement Division and Motorcycle Unit. The coins were produced by Jim Post of Police Collectibles in Lowell, Ark.. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*



One of these proposed designs will become the new Mifflin County, Penna. Sheriff Department shoulder emblem when the agency transitions from brown to black uniforms. County residents will be asked to choose their favorite. High school students created them. *Mifflin County SD photograph*

Mifflin County Asks Residents To Chose Patch

The Mifflin County, Penna. Sheriff Department will soon transition from brown to black uniforms. Sheriff James Drayer enlisted county high school graph design students to design a new shoulder patch to wear on the uniform. County residents will soon chose their favorite among four finalist designs.

By Mike R. Bondarenko, Editor

LEWISTOWN, Penna. – When Mifflin County, Penna. Sheriff James Drayer wanted a new shoulder patch to accompany a transition from brown to new black uniforms, he decided to involve the community.

While most law enforcement agencies form an in-house committee or rely on a manufacturer to develop a new design, Sheriff Drayer turned to graphic design students at the county high school to create it.

Sheriff Drayer wants his agency more involved in the community and citizens aware of its functions. The department provides courtroom security, transports prisoners, serves civil and court papers and orders, issues gun permits, conducts foreclosed or forfeited property sales and personal property levies. It does not patrol or answer calls for service.

High school students submitted a variety of designs, not hand-drawn sketches but impressive professional-looking computer-generated images. The proposed designs were submitted to the department. Initially, eight proposed patches were chosen. Now the list has been narrowed to four, which Sheriff Drayer calls the final four.

The department plans to post the final four on its social media page and ask county residents to vote on each design. The sheriff hopes the vote will generate public interest in his agency and showcase the outstanding creativity of the high school students who did the designs. The final four will soon be posted and then voting will begin.

Sheriff Drayer is hopeful many people will participate in the online vote.

In addition to the new patch, Sheriff Drayer has asked the woodworking class at the high school to design and create a wooden plaque to be placed in the Mifflin County Courthouse lobby. It will display the names of all previous sheriffs as well as a brief department history.

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The beautiful Connecticut Law Enforcement Memorial is located on the grounds of the state police academy in Meriden. It was built at the end of a walkway lined with flowers and large United States and Connecticut flags. The memorial is open to the public 365 days a year. *State Police photograph*



LJ Badge and Emblem is out with this custom-designed emblem for the Connecticut Law Enforcement Memorial. It shows the memorial, eternal flame and autism awareness puzzle, all in full color. The colorful patch is being sold as a fundraiser for the memorial foundation. Mike R. Bondarenko photograph

New Connecticut Law Enforcement Memorial Emblem

LJ Badge and Emblem is out with a new Connecticut Law Enforcement Memorial autism awareness emblem. It is available to collectors. All proceeds go to the non-profit foundation that operates and maintains the impressive memorial in Meriden.

By Mike R. Bondarenko, Editor

MERIDEN, Conn. – The stunning Connecticut Law Enforcement Memorial is located on the grounds of the State Police Academy in Meriden.

Dedicated in 1989, the memorial honors the memories all 125 federal, state and local law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty in state history

The beautiful granite structure features a marble pillar upon which appears the names of all the officers and an eternal flame with the inscription, "Never Forget."

The first state law enforcement officer killed on duty was a night watchman in 1855. The most recent was a state trooper in 2018.

The state police chief's association suggested a permanent memorial in 1985. It took four years of dedicated fundraising to finance and build the structure, which is always open to the public. It is managed by a non-profit foundation governed by a board of directors.

LJ Badge and Emblem in Monroe, Conn. has created a memorial autism awareness emblem as a fundraiser for the foundation. It is die-cut in the shape of a shield and depicts the memorial, eternal flame and a multicolored puzzle that has become the symbol of autism awareness. The gold legend at the top reads, 'CONNECTICUT POLICE MEMORIAL,' in black letters.

"We bought and paid for the patches," co-owner Josh Searle said.

The patches are available to collectors for a \$6 donation. Connecticut residents must add sales tax. Shipping is \$1 for one or two patches and \$2 for three or four emblems. The address is LJ Badge and Emblem, 5 Castlewood Drive, Monroe CT 06468-5206.

The memorial foundation also raises funds through an annual law enforcement officer run at the end of October and annual memorial dinner usually held in May. Additional information is available on the foundation Web site, CTNeverForget.Org.

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Letters To The Editor

Police Foundation Expresses Thanks

On behalf of the Dayton Police History Society, Inc., I want to thank you for providing our organization of the March-April edition of *Police Collectors News*. We cannot begin to adequately express our gratitude for the exposure you gave our organization with the two large articles, one on our exhibit and on the history of Dayton police badges.

Vic Elliott donated a rare 1890 cabinet card of Dayton Police Captain Edward Zweisler (1879-1893), who served as the interim Dayton police chief in 1890.

Your publication helps DPHF fulfill its mission to educate the wider community about the accomplished history of Dayton law enforcement and to achieve its principal goal, establishing a permanent police museum.

The first of nine components unveiled on October 28, 2019 with the opening of "Bootleggers, Bandits and Badges: From Dry Times to Hard Times in Dayton, Ohio" on the 100th anniversary of the passage of the Volstead Act. As you know, this is a Prohibition-Great Depression inside the Quinter Exhibition Gallery at Carillon Historical Park. It will remain open through 2021, if not longer.

DPFH was formed to preserve the history of Dayton police and local law enforcement. It promotes its study and advances education into Dayton's proud police past in as many ways as financially possible.

STEPHEN C. GRISMER, Secretary-Treasurer (Dayton Police History Foundation, PO Box 293157, Dayton OH 45428-9157)

The writer is the author of *Drenched Uniforms and Battered Badges*, a book about how

Dayton police emerged from a catastrophic flood in 1913. It was published in 2013 and revised in 2018. EDITOR

Church Sponsors Patch Collection

My church, Saint Justin-Saint Mary Catholic Church in Hazel Park, Mich., has a Project Blue Light service to pay tribute to all law enforcement officer and firefighters who have given their lives in the performance of their duties. This service also supports those who continue to protect and serve our communities every day.

Our Project Blue Light service is held annually on the first Tuesday in December at our Saint Justin campus..

Our pastor, Father Robert H. Williams, has set up a shrine to Saint Michael the Archangel, the patron saint of police officers. It features police patches.

We would love to add your department's patch or any patch that you would care to donate to our shrine. All patches are displayed with both honor and dignity to see throughout the year.

Father Williams is a police chaplain and a reserve lieutenant in Hazel Park.

Father Williams and the parishioners thank you for your patch donation. Patches can be mailed to Father Robert H. Williams, Saint Justin-Saint Mary Catholic Church, 50 East Annabelle Road, Hazel Park MI 48030.

Thank you.

DEAN CAMERON (okblj@aol.com)

Daughter Pleads For Stolen NYPD Badge Return

Carla Caccavale is the daughter of slain New York City police Detective George Caccavale, who was killed in 1976. A small replica of her father's badge and challenge coins presented to her sons by NYPD commissioners were stolen on April 9. She has pleaded for the safe return of the precious family mementos.

By Mike R. Bondarenko, Editor

PELHAM MANOR, N.Y. – New York City police Detective George Caccavale was shot and killed on duty in June 1976 while working an off-duty security job. He was only 33 years old.

His daughter, Carla Caccavale, was only 20 days old the day her father was gunned down.

Ms. Caccavale lives in tiny Pelham Manor in suburban Westchester County, N.Y. The population is about 5600.

On April 9, thieves broke into her car and about a dozen others in her neighborhood. Among the items stolen from her was a reduced size replica of her late father's NYPD badge displayed inside a leather badge wallet and two personalized badge-shaped challenge coins given to her sons by NYPD Commissioner Dermont Shea and former Commissioner James O'Neill.

She still has a replica of her father's full-size detective shield. Her brother has the original badge, which was presented to the family by the NYPD years ago. The smaller stolen badge was a replica made years ago.

Other than his hat, the stolen badge is her only memento of his 11-year career tragically cut short in its prime when she was a newborn. She has pleaded for the safe return of the cherished heirlooms.

Ms. Caccavale kept the smaller-size replica badge, leather wallet and challenge coins in her vehicle in case of emergency at her house. Her car was parked in her circular drive just outside her residence when it was burglarized.

She never thought her car would be broken into in Pelham Manor, which has a crime rate two-thirds lower than nearby New York City and 75 percent lower than the national average.

Local media picked up on the police report about the stolen keepsakes. The Westchester television station interviewed her and ran a story on news broadcasts. She was also interviewed by the New York Daily News, which published a story and showed



(Left) A beautiful badge-shaped full color challenge coin given to one of Carla Caccavale's sons by NYPD Commissioner Dermont Shea. (Right) Former Commissioner James O'Neill gave Carla Caccavale's other son one of his personalized challenge coins. *Carla Caccavale photograph*



(Left) Slain NYPD Detective George Caccavale was an 11-year department veteran when he was shot and killed working an off-duty security job in Queens. (Right) The small-size gold-colored replica of his shield, "894." The legends appear in gold on blue enamel. *Carla Caccavale photograph*

Stolen NYPD Badge ...Continued

photographs of the badge and challenge coins she had taken.

"The fact that these badges are out there and in the hands of someone who is clearly beneath the law makes me unable to sleep at night and sick to my stomach," she told the newspaper.

The New York Police Department has offered to replace the badge and challenge as has Commissioner O'Neill. However, the replacements would not be the same, she said.

According to the Officer Down Memorial Page, George Caccavale was working an off-duty security job at a check cashing business in Queens when he was killed. He was carrying a bag containing \$30,000 in cash into the store when three assailants robbed him. He was shot twice and died at the scene.

The Caccavales are a longtime NYPD family. Ms. Caccavale has three cousins who are NYPD officers. Another cousin is retired from the department.

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Warwick, R.I. Adopts Police Memorial Patch

The Warwick, R.I. Police Department is out with a special Law Enforcement Memorial patch to honor fallen officers. It will be worn during the month of May. It is the second of what the department calls its special patch project. The first emblem was autism awareness.

By Mike R. Bondarenko, Editor

WARWICK, R.I. – Warwick, R.I. Police Department officers are wearing a shoulder emblem in May to honor all law enforcement officers who have died on duty. The insignia is the latest in a special patch project launched by the agency.

The Law Enforcement Memorial patch is identical to the patrol officer insignia, which is a rounded gray triangle with black legends, in shape and colors. "POLICE/ DEPARTMENT" appears at the top and "CITY OF" (left) and "WARWICK" (right) along the sides. There is a black outer border.



"Law Enforcement Memorial" is a special emblem being worn by Warwick, R.I. police during May to honor fallen law enforcement officers. The center design shows the thin blue line on the United States flag and the legend, "TO PROTECT AND SERVE WITH INTEGRITY." *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*

The memorial emblem has a subdued black and white United States flag as the center design with a thin blue line on the stripe beneath the star field. There are black banners with white legends above and below the flag, respectively. "TO PROTECT AND SERVE" is lettered in the top banner and "WITH INTEGRITY" is seen on the bottom banner.

A small black vertical ribbon completes the design at the bottom.

"It's near and dear to our hearts. It's got the thin blue line and the American flag," Captain Michael Lima said.

The wearing of the special patch coincides with National Police Week, an annual event to honor the memories of fallen officers.

Sadly, 146 law enforcement officers perished on duty in 2019, according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Lima said the patches are available for \$12 each with proceeds benefiting the First Responder Children's Organization, a non-profit organization that provides financial support to children who have lost a parent on duty, as well as first responder families that have encountered hardships.

Warwick started its special patch project in April with the release of an autism awareness emblem that raised funds for the National Autism Project. Captain Lima said all 1000 patches in the department's initial order sold out quickly. An additional order has been placed to meet the demand. He hopes the memorial patch project will be equally as successful.

"I know our officers love it. I know it doesn't seem like a big thing to wear a new patch on your uniform, but it boosts morale, and everyone wants to stop and talk about it. It allows the public to have better conversations with our officers and shows us on a human level. You see that patch, and it's a springboard for conversation," Captain Lima said.

The Law Enforcement Memorial and other Warwick specialty patches are available exclusively on the department's Web site, WarwickPD.Org. Go to the Warwick Patch Store" to order.

MIKE R. BONDARENKO (2392 USH 12, Baldwin WI 54002) pcnews@baldwin-telecom.net

The Badge Beat

By Pat Olvey, Staff Writer

CINCINNATI, O. – Luck, luck and more luck describes my collection from the Canton, O. Police Department.

Some time ago, I purchased a 1961 Canton police yearbook. As I read through the book, I saw several interesting items.

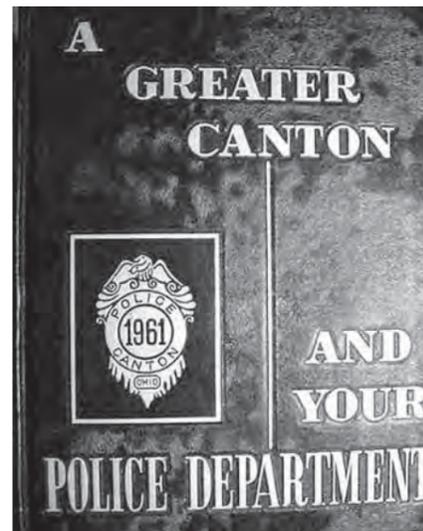
First, the second in charge of the department was the traffic commissioner, Chace E. Deervester. He was appointed as a patrolman in 1927, sergeant in 1934, lieutenant a year later, captain in 1937 and traffic commissioner in 1938.

Over the years, Commissioner Deervester was often called upon to act as the acting chief of police.

He was serving in that capacity when the two-way radio was introduced in the city and an armored car was purchased in 1937.

He installed the first parking meters in 1940.

Acting Chief Deervester organized and trained the auxiliary police corps during World War II and served as its director until the end of the war.



(Left) Canton, O. PD published a yearbook in 1961 that chronicled the agency's history and depicted officers and insignia. (Right) Chace L. Deervester had a distinguished career in Canton. Even though he was the traffic commissioner, he often served as acting chief. *Pat Olvey Collection*



Canton used this heavily-armored 1937 Studebaker car for 23 years as what would be known today as a tactical vehicle. It was always on call for emergencies, including forcing hostage takers to surrender only months after it was built. The vehicle was known as the "Bandit Car." *Pat Olvey Collection*



A traffic accident squad investigator patch being worn by a Canton police officer was shown in the 1961 department yearbook. Detail is difficult to see in the picture, but it is a triangle with a large eagle at the top. The legend appears to read, "ACCIDENT SQUAD/ C.P.D." *Pat Olvey Collection*

All street markings, signs, traffic signals, surveys, planning, designing and drafting problems came under his direction.

He was also in demand as a speaker, writer and consultant on traffic during his distinguished career.

In 1958, only three and one-half years after the yearbook was published, desperate robbers wounded a Louisville, O. policeman and then took a family hostage northeast of Canton and hid in their home. The hiding place was found, but there was no way to flush them out without chancing possible injury to the hostage family.

But the situation was quickly taken in hand, thanks to the preparedness of Canton PD. Responding to an emergency call for assistance, the department's 5400-pound bulletproof 1937 Studebaker rolled into action. It was driven through a hail of bullets to a point near the house where tear gas bombs were aimed into the basement. Moments later, with eyes smarting, the bandits surrendered.

Seldom seen in recent years, the vehicle, which cost the city a dollar a pound in July 1937, was on standby call at all times for emergency response.

In 1957, the so-called Bandit Car was modernized through installation of air ducts, interior remodeling, revamped brakes and engine improvements. It is covered with 10-gauge armor plate. Its windows are one and one-eighth inches thick and equipped with gun ports.

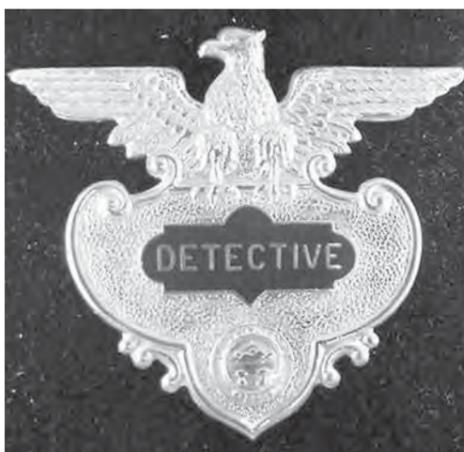
The car never suffered a disabling breakdown in 23 years of service.

A long-realized need of the department was fulfilled in 1959 when two policewomen were appointed to the force. They entered the police academy with eleven male officers and at the completion of their training, they become the first female graduates. Photographs in the yearbook show policewomen wore the same badges as male officers but no shoulder patches or hat badges.

Other photographs show patrol officers wore an eagle-topped hat badge, revolver outside the coat, patches on the sleeves and carried a wooden baton.



These are D. E. Wright's Canton police personal badges. (Top) His sergeant hat shield and his short badge. Both show the state seal. (Bottom) These are his detective sergeant hat shield and breast badge. Both also show the state seal. These badges do not depict his number. *Pat Olvey Collection*



D.W. Wright, who is shown in the 1961 department yearbook, joined Canton in 1957. He was a detective sergeant in 1961, so he was promoted after only four years. These are his police officer shirt and hat badges. Both feature his number, "189," as the center designs. *Pat Olvey Collection*



Francis F. LeMasters served the Canton police as a patrolman, detective, sergeant and captain. He spent eight years on the Accident Squad when he a patrolman. Pat Olvey has his captain of Records and Identification badge (left) and his captain retirement rank badge (right). *Pat Olvey Collection*

Motorcycle patrol officers wore the same coat badge and shoulder patches and a hat badge on their helmets.

There are also two mystery patches. A picture shows a traffic accident investigator wearing a different patch than other officers. However, the 1961 photograph makes it difficult to see it. The legend appears to read, "ACCIDENT/ SQUAD/ CP.D." Another depicts an officer wearing a round emblem which reads "CANTON/ OHIO/ POLICE." (This emblem is seen in other photographs as well.)

In late 2001, I was luckily able to purchase a retirement shadow box of Detective Sergeant Donald E. Wright. He was appointed in 1957. It has a variety of badges and memorabilia from his career.

I have his patrol officer shirt and hat badges. Both are numbered "189."

I have sets of his detective and shirt badges. The shirt badges are eagle-topped shields with full color state seals. The eagle-topped hat badges are identical except for the ranks shown in the centers. Detective has the rank in reverse letters on a dark banner, while sergeant is lettered without the banner.

I was able to find a very interesting retirement card that was issued to Detective Sergeant Wright. It is interesting because of what is shown on it:

"POLICE DEPARTMENT/ CANTON, STARK COUNTY, OHIO/ DET SGT D.E. WRIGHT HAS BEEN HONORABLY AND VOLUNTARILY RETIRED FROM THE DEPARTMENT AND IS ENTITLED TO ALL THE COURTESY AND CONSIDERATION AS THOUGH HE WERE STILL A REGULAR OFFICER AND DUE ONE WHO HAS SERVED HIS COMMUNITY SO WELL/ SO LONG/ APPOINTED AUGUST 1, 1957, RETIRED SEPT. 13, 1980/ SIGNED THOMAS W. WYATT/ CHIEF OF POLICE."

At a Detroit show I attended many years ago, I luckily found two other Canton badges and learned they were once worn by Captain Francis F. LeMasters. He joined department in 1941 but served in the United States Navy from 1943 to 1945. He was promoted to detective in 1950, sergeant in 1954 and captain in 1955. LeMasters served as a shift and morals bureau captain. Then, he headed the records and identification bureau.

LeMasters' captain badge is an eagle-topped shield with a plain state seal surrounded by an enamel ring. The legend reads, "CAPTAIN/ IDENTIFICATION/ CANTON/ OHIO."

His retirement badge is a newer style eagle-topped shield with the legends, "FRANCIS LEMASTERS/ RETIRED CAPTAIN/ CANTON POLICE/ 1992."

While I do not have the round patch in my collection, I do have the two-color, plain inverted triangle and the CHP shape that depicts the Professional Football Hall of Fame, which is located in the city. Canton has always been a hotbed of football.

Does anyone have the accident investigator (squad) patch?

PAT OLVEY (7631 Holliston Place, Cincinnati OH 45255) polvey@gmail.com.

Game Warden Column Longtime *PCNEWS* writer David Schulberg will soon debut a new column devoted to game warden insignia. "They are really hot property that many people are yet unaware of. Many people spend fortunes on collecting these," Schulberg said. He said an early California issue recently sold for \$1800 and it is not an isolated case.

\$10,000 Patch Sales The Maine State Police reports it raised \$10,000 to help fight breast cancer through the Pink Patch Project. The State Police sold pink versions of their shoulder emblem to raise money for the Maine Cancer Foundation. Colonel John Cote said his agency was pleased to participate in the project. "Anytime the Maine State Police and the Maine Cancer Foundation can partner and bring awareness to those who are serving our people in Maine so well, we're going to jump at the chance," Colonel Cote said.



Pat Olvey has the 1960's triangle-shaped department patch. It is two-color. He also has the more modern CHP shape with the unique Professional Football Hall of Fame building as the center design. A football shape protrudes from the top of the structure. It is shown in full color. *Pat Olvey Collection*



California Police Historian

The Official Publication of the California Law Enforcement Historical Society

Mike Bondarenko, Editor

CLEHS News Updates

Friday Favorites The California Law Enforcement Historical Society has created a weekly posting on the Facebook page, Friends of the California Law Enforcement Historical Society.

While Throw Back Thursday has been a mainstay of many FB accounts for years, a more focused approach was attempted. The title of Friday Favorites provides an open forum for the members to post their favorites images, primarily badges and patches.

While the open format was fine, we started a themed approach on March 13, designating "Oldies" as our focus for the week. That theme produced a posting of 50 images. Included were some very nice old badges and patches from California.

The following week, the theme was designated as "Medical or Health Related," which produced 53 postings of some very unusual and rarely seen items. It was amazing to see home many variations were available from around the state.

For the March 27 Friday Favorite, CLEHS designated "Traffic" as the theme. Traffic enforcement has been a popular topic among collectors which was reflected in the number of postings, which reached 123.

The support of the FB page was growing rapidly as a result of the interest in the page.

April 3 brought in the largest number of postings to date at 275. With the focus on "Detectives and Investigator," the number of badges and unit insignia was staggering.

The following weeks brought in 207 postings for SWAT and 124 for Dispatchers.

This posting remains an open format with very few rules. It is asked that all insignia posted be from California. There is a recognized inclusion of federal agencies that have a presence in California. We also do not allow for the posting of items for sale or trade in order to support our mission of preserving history.

One final note on rules: This is definitely not a discussion blog and/or for sharing one's opinion regarding how "ugly" a design may be or who may have copied another agency's design. We are considered a "drama free zone" where all can enjoy the insignia and history.

Our Facebook membership has grown sharply since implementing the Friday Favorites program and currently stands at 630 members. Please recommend the site to your friends.

Submitted by CLEHS President Gary Hoving

San Luis Obispo Show Canceled It is with great disappointment to announce the cancellation of the July 11 San Luis Obispo Collectors Show.

As all are aware, we are experiencing the pandemic COVID-19 virus with travel restrictions and stay at home orders.

San Luis Obispo County announced the extension of the restriction through May 15. The county also announced that they would be following the instructions of California Governor Governor Newsome, who has laid out a number of conditions necessary to be met before the lifting of health-related restrictions. Even when these benchmarks are met,

the restoration of freedoms would be phased in.

With public gatherings (such as a collectors show) likely to be the last restriction to be lifted, our fear is that it will not be completed in time and attendees need to be able to plan with some certainty.

Other factors have also come into play. The number of table reservations is unusually light based on the travel uncertainty of our regular attendees. In addition, the Livermore show was rescheduled for August due to the virus.

The members are asked to accept our apology and note that we will be back in 2021.

Submitted by CLEHS President Gary Hoving

2020 Membership Renewal Have you renewed your 2020 membership in the California Law Enforcement Historical Society? If not, please take a moment to renew your membership with a payment of \$40 for one year or \$400 for a life membership!

You can renew by sending a check to California Law Enforcement Historical Society, PO Box 254875, Sacramento CA 95865-4875. If you prefer, you can make your payment online at the CLEHS Web site. Click on the Membership page.

Submitted by CLEHS Secretary-Treasurer Brian Smith

Calling All Authors The *California Police Historian* is the official publication of the historical society and is now included in *PCNEWS*, which is sent to all CLEHS members six times a year.

The *CPH* includes interesting articles regarding the history of California peace officers, departments, collectors or events. Most are written by members or California historians. But, we need more stories!

Have you written an article on California law enforcement history and wish to share it with our members? Please send it to Mike R. Bondarenko, the editor, at pcnews@baldwin-telecom.net.

Submitted by CLEHS Secretary-Treasurer Brian Smith

2020 Police Historian of Year Announced

The California Law Enforcement Historical Society recognizes Stan Berry as the recipient of the coveted Police Historian of the Year for 2020.

Each year the society recognizes one person who has distinguished themselves through the preservation of law enforcement history. The requirements may be met through a variety of actions, including the documentation of history, collecting and preserving artifacts and the exhibition of historic materials.

This year's recipient hosts a traveling law enforcement history display which has been seen throughout Orange County. He features artifacts and images from each of the city police departments, Sheriff's Department and other related agencies.

Berry's collection contains more than 1000 patches, 500 badges and hundreds of related items, including uniforms, radios, helmets, early radar, photos and documents.

Arranged in professional modular components, each gallery can be altered to focus on a specific agency or theme as warranted. The exhibit was shared during California's largest collector show in Claremont in January, which recognized him with the first-place display award. He earned the Best Educational Display award during the 2017 National Police Collectors Show in Ontario.

His collection is featured at 10 to 15 events per year, including the NHL Law Enforcement Appreciation Night at the Anaheim Ducks stadium. With the restrictions posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, Berry has shown the display five times already this year.

Berry is also successful professionally. He began his career as a Police Explorer in 1996 and then served full-time with the Seal Beach Police Department in 1998. There was a short stint in private industry, but he returned to his chosen profession, law enforcement



(Top) When the Friday Favorites theme was Dispatchesm Debby Holman posted this Riverside County supervisor badge. (Lower left) Stan Berry an Orange County star for an investigator. ((Lower right) William Tully showed this old Kern County Sheriff Traffic Auxiliary winged wheel. *Contributed photographs*

Stan Berry is shown with a portion of his incredible collection from Orange County law enforcement agencies. He has collections from the Sheriff Office and every municipal police department. Berry worked for Seal Beach PD and now is a district attorney's investigator. *Contributed photograph*



Orange County law enforcement agencies have greatly appreciated the efforts that Stan Berry has made to preserve their histories. He poses with members of the Laguna Beach Police Department, who presented him with a flag flown above their Law Enforcement Memorial. *Contributed photograph*

in 2006. He accepted a position with the Orange County District Attorney's Office as an investigator. He was promoted to supervising investigator in 2015.

Starting at about the age of 12, Berry became interested in law enforcement by listening to his grandmother's police scanner. He was also positively influenced by a neighbor who was a police officer in Fullerton and gave him his first shoulder patch. Since then he has gravitated toward collecting and research of law enforcement history from his native Orange County.

Stan lives in South Orange County and is married with two children. He seems to have found the secret to balancing his family life, career and passion for history.

Congratulations are extended to Stan Berry as the 2020 Police Historian of the Year. *Submitted By Gary Hoving*

Jerome Selz: The Laughing Killer

His full name was Ralph Jerome Von Braun Selz, but he went by either Jerome Selz or Slipton Fell (as in slipped and fell), a bizarre alias.

Selz was a convicted murderer and a suspected serial killer but never charged with other murders from San Francisco to San Diego in the late 1930s. He was convicted of killing a woman in San Mateo County in 1936.

A narcissist, con man and womanizer who considered himself an intellectual genius, Selz craved attention. He enjoyed being interviewed and playing mind games with police and especially newspaper reporters, often asking interrogators tantalizing questions.

A San Francisco Bay Area newspaper nicknamed him "The Laughing Killer" after San Mateo County Sheriff James B. McGrath told reporters Selz giggled all the while as he revealed where he had buried the body of his first known victim in the Santa Cruz Mountains. The sheriff reported the victim had been reported missing from Woodland in Yolo County.

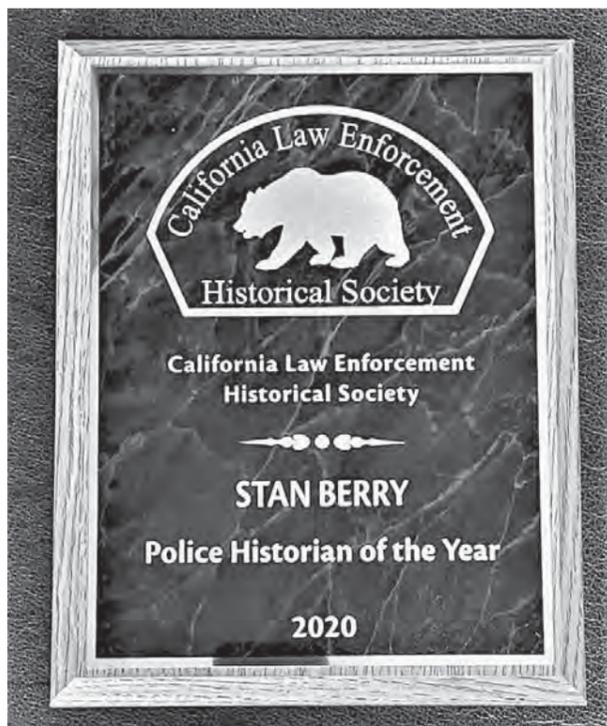
"He killed at least ten or 11 people in the Bay Area and six or seven more in other parts of California," Sheriff McGrath said.

Selz was born in San Francisco in 1909 and became a drifter. He served briefly in the U.S. Army after World War I but spent most of his time in stockades for numerous offenses. Following his release from one of his military incarcerations, he deserted. He was captured in South America, returned to California and dishonorably discharged.

He returned to the Bay Area in late 1934 or early 1935 where he was arrested for misdemeanor crimes in several jurisdictions and spent time in county jails.

Most often, Selz was arrested for stealing from employers or committing payroll fraud. Several times, he reported his paychecks lost or stolen after he had cashed them. When the unsuspecting employer issued a replacement check, he cashed it as well. Thus, he was paid twice for the same work.

In the summer of 1935, Selz was working in a car repair shop in Burlingame when he met Ada French Rice, 58, who lived in Woodland. He had done work on her car.



Stan Berry was presented with a handsome plaque commemorating his selection as the 2020 Police Historian of the Year by the California Law Enforcement Historical Society. He joins a distinguished group of outstanding collectors and historian honored with the award. *Contributed photograph*



Ralph Jerome Von Braun Selz (left) jokes around with a newspaper photographer in his San Mateo County Jail in March 1936. As the photographer tried to take his picture, he picks up another photographer's camera and pretends to take his picture. *Contributed photograph*

Rice, twice divorced, became enamored with Selz, even though he was 30 years younger. He was six-feet tall with thick black hair, handsome and charming. Almost immediately, she invited him to move into a small cottage behind her house. Soon, she deeded the cottage and two other properties she owned over to him.

In December, Selz reported his car stolen in San Mateo County. Investigators tried to contact Rice for an interview about the missing vehicle since he lived on her property. They were repeatedly unable to locate her and soon determined that Selz had been forging checks on her account and cashing them.

County deputies found the missing car in early 1936. A search revealed ammonia and rope and other items that linked Selz to Rice in it. Deputies considered her a missing person.

San Mateo County deputies brought Selz in for questioning in February after being unable to locate Rice. His story was he hadn't seen her since he had dropped her off in San Francisco the previous June because she wanted to elope with a stranger. He figured she was happy wherever she was. He was held in the county jail while the investigation continued.

Selz soon changed his story several times during other jail interviews. He said he had found Rice dead on the floor of the cottage on June 13 but then admitted he had killed her with a fireplace poker and buried her body in woods.

Later, apparently in an effort to gain additional notoriety, Selz told investigators another man, who was a former Bulgarian army officer, was Rice's lover and had blackmailed him about the murder, so he killed him, too. While officials later found a body at the bottom of San Francisco Bay, they were never able to identify it. They seriously doubted Selz had any connection to the body. But, newspaper accounts further fueled speculation that Selz was a serial killer and hadn't disclosed the man's identity.

Finally, Selz agreed to take deputies to where he had buried Rice's body as long as reporters were allowed to accompany them. The body of a woman was uncovered along a river about 20 feet off a deserted San Mateo County mountain road.

He joked with reporters as they took photographs of the grisly scene and said, "If you guys ever want a sensation, try hauling a corpse around in a car with hoot owls hooting at night."

Only hours after he was returned to the San Mateo County Jail, the sheriff allowed reporters to interview him in his cell. It was then when he giggled again as he told them where the body had been buried. He quipped he should be in a Hollywood movie.

Police around the state began pinning unsolved murders on Selz. San Diego police questioned him a killing in that city six years earlier. After a hotel clerk identified him as being with a woman murdered in San Francisco in early 1935, they questioned him about the killing. He never confessed to any additional murders.

Selz pleaded guilty to the Rice murder and was sentenced to life in San Quentin Prison. He learned five foreign languages while in custody. He filed numerous legal motions and other documents in an effort to gain his release. He was popular among inmates as a "jailhouse lawyer."

Selz escaped from San Quentin in 1940 and fled to Canada where he became a member of the Canadian Army during World War II using an assumed name and identification. Surprisingly, he served with distinction questioning European immigrants settled in a displaced persons camp in Quebec, mostly in their native tongues. He gained valuable information about conditions in Europe and earned several commendations. The FBI got a tip that Selz was in Canada. He was soon recaptured and returned to California.

Later, he moved from San Quentin to a lower security facility in Chino. He escaped



San Mateo County detectives find the body of a missing woman, Ada French Rice, along a river in the Santa Cruz Mountains in San Mateo County in March 1936. Jerome Selz would only agree to show detectives where he had buried the body if reporters were allowed. *Contributed photograph*



Jerome Selz answers investigator questions while attached to a polygraph at the San Mateo County Jail in March 1936. He became known as “The Laughing Killer” after it was revealed he giggled while confessing to the Rice murder and disclosing the location of the body. *Contributed photograph*

again in 1945 and made it as far as northern Minnesota. For a reason known only to him, he tried to get back into the U.S. Army under an assumed name and allowed himself to be fingerprinted. After his prints underwent a routine FBI check, it was learned he was Selz and a fugitive. He was found living in Canada using the name Sergeant “Tiny” Morgan. He was once again returned to California.

In 1962, Selz, now 54, escaped from the California Men’s Colony in San Luis Obispo. He was found three days later with his pockets stuffed with candy bars.

After having served only about 25 years in all for the brutal Rice murder and despite three escapes, Selz was paroled in about 1966. Even though he was returned to custody for parole violations, he was once again paroled in the early ‘70s.

He absconded from parole and has never been heard from since then. The fate of “The Laughing Killer” remains unknown to this day.

In all, Selz was a primary suspect in five unsolved California murders, all women reported missing and never found, in the early to mid 1930s.

Perhaps Selz got the last laugh.

Submitted by Mike R. Bondarenko

Wide Spot In The Road

With a name like Wheatland, you would expect a city surrounded by wheat fields. At one time, Wheatland was actually surrounded by fields of wheat and hops, but not now.

Today, the economy is primarily animal specialties, builders and contractors and professional services.

There is still a large agriculture presence in and around the city, including almond and walnut orchards and cattle and dairy operations.

Wheatland is about 120 miles northeast of San Francisco and 36 miles north of Sacramento. The city is located about 125 miles from the coast and the Nevada stateline, which places it in the middle of California in the warm Sacramento Valley.

The city is located in Yuba County on Highway 65 between Roseville and Marysville.

In the 1840s, the Johnson Ranch was well established in the area. The settlers who crossed the Sierra Nevada Mountains came to the ranch. It was considered the end of the Immigrant Trail.

After they were rescued in 1847, the Donner party (of Donner Pass fame) made the Johnson ranch their base while they recuperated from their journey and made plans for the future.

It was 1888 when Edwin P. Duplex was elected mayor of Wheatland. He had the distinct privilege to be the first African American to be elected mayor of a city in the western United States. His barber shop still stands downtown.



While these badges were not used as California law enforcement investigated Jerome Selz, Bay Area collector James Casey said similar styles wore worn in San Mateo County and San Francisco during that era. All three badges are from Casey’s California collection. *James W. Casey photographs*



(Left) The current Wheatland Police Department badge is a seven-point star with the state seal. It will soon be replaced by a numbered badge. (Right) The shoulder patch shows a custom center seal that features a shock of wheat and the city incorporation date, 1874. *Mike DeVilbiss photograph*

One of the more famous incidents in city history is referred to as the “Wheatland Hop Fields Riot.” On August 3, 1913, the citizens of Yuba County were surprised to hear news from the Durst Brothers Farm outside the city that county District Attorney Edward T. Manwell, Sheriff George H. Voss and Deputy Sheriff Thomas Riordan had been killed after going to the farm to try to calm agitated workers. It seems a couple union agitators had stirred them up.

The morning after some suspects were arrested, California National Guard Adjutant General Glen E.A. Forbes ordered Company I of Oroville, Company G and Troop B, both of Sacramento, to report to Wheatland where martial law had been activated. They were in place for only a few days.

The agitation ring leaders were found to be “Blackie” Ford and Herman D. Suhr. Ford was tracked to Nevada and Suhr to Arizona. Both were arrested and returned to Wheatland for trial. The verdict was guilty. Both were sentenced to life in prison.

When I arrived at the department, I was warmly welcomed by Sergeant Damian Sylvester. Since Chief Allyn Wightman had just retired after 39 years in law enforcement and eight years with the department, Sergeant Sylvester was the interim chief. He was waiting on one more process to be finished by the City Council before he would be sworn in as permanent chief.

I asked Sergeant Sylvester to fill me in on his career in law enforcement. His father was in law enforcement in Oregon. He started his career with Solano County Sheriff’s Department before doing 17 years with the Benicia Police Department. He transferred to Wheatland.

Sergeant Sylvester provided a summary of his department:

...The city was incorporated in 1874, the same year as the police department started.

...The agency patrols eight square miles.

...The PD has six full-time officers, including the chief. It has four reserve officers who work part-time and are paid for that time. It also has two part time non-sworn administrative assistants who work with records, code enforcement and evidence.

...There is no school resource officer. All officers are involved directly with the high school, middle school and elementary school.

...Wheatland has three Ford Explorers with the police package, a Dodge Charger and a code enforcement vehicle.

...When a canine is needed, it comes from Yuba County.

... The department functions on a \$1.1 million annual budget.

It seems nowadays, tourism is one of the biggest draws to a lot of California towns previously known for something else. Wheatland is no exception.

The city’s claim to fame is Bishops Pumpkin Farm, which is open from September 14 through November 3. It has been open since 1973 and claims it is the largest u-pick farm in the world. The farm has become an annual field trip tradition with many schools for miles around. There is a wide variety of homemade food, petting zoo, zip line, corn maze and of course hay rides.

Before I knew it, it was time for my ride-along. Each time I get into a patrol vehicle, I feel like my old bird dog, who used to run to the door when I picked up my shotgun. He knew what was about to take place.

I rode with Officer Kirk Reker, who has been with the department for 13 years. He attended the Sacramento County Sheriff’s Department Academy in 2005. We just happened to know a couple of the same people.

I asked Officer Reker what he liked about working in Wheatland. Without hesitation he said it was the people. He related that local people are “every day people” and understand why he does the job he does.

Wheatland wears a seven-point star badge. The banner between the top two points reads “OFFICER.” The center displays a large state seal. Currently, badges are unnumbered. However, Sergeant Sylvester said that will soon change. He feels the presence of numbers makes the relationship with the wearer more personal.

The shoulder patch is a LASD shape with a light blue circle highlighting a shock of wheat. Around the circle is a dark blue field with “WHEATLAND” above and “POLICE” below. There is a bright yellow border.

I was impressed to find a display case in the lobby with a progression of the department’s badges and patches, along with a couple old firearms and other equipment. I am surprised by the number of small agencies that do not preserve or display their history.



The Wheatland Police Department has an outstanding collection of its patch and badge history in the lobby. It also features firearms and restraints, as well as a door decal, jail key and other items. The badge collection is particularly impressive and virtually complete. *Mike DeVilbiss photograph*



(Top) The only sedan in the Wheatland Police Department fleet is this single-color Dodge Charger with plain door-to-door markings. (Bottom) The agency has three black and white Ford Explorer SUVs. The officers like the police package and extra equipment room. *Mike DeVilbiss photograph*

The only "car" among patrol vehicles is a Dodge Charger with the California Highway Patrol package. The department decided to forgo a lightbar, which makes the car appear streamlined. Notice the city seal in front of the word Police.

This Ford Explorer is one of three Explorers in the patrol fleet. The ever-popular police package is a hit with the officers. There is more than enough room in back for extra equipment. Many cops believe there is no such thing as carrying too much equipment into the field.

So, if you find yourself north of Sacramento, take a swing down Highway 65 to Wheatland. You will find a charming town with lots of fascinating history, good food and wonderful down-to-earth people.

Submitted by Mike DeVilbiss

Redlands Police Insignia History

Located in San Bernardino County, the Redlands Police Department was established upon incorporation in 1888.

The first known badge of the department was a pinched shield with a five-point cut out star. That badge style was displayed in a several period photographs of the officers, who appear to be proudly posing with their four Indian motorcycles.

Badge number "6" has been in the collection of the author since at least 1985. This original design was used by the Entenmann-Rovin Company to make their 100-year anniversary badge in 1988.

A variety of badge designs were used by the officers during the 1920s through the 1940s until the eagle-topped teardrop shield (LAPD Series "5") was adopted. This design has been seen with some variation, including gold-plating and applied numbers to the assistant chief badge.

In 1964, the badge design remained an eagle-topped shield, but the California state seal was replaced with a custom city seal and reversed blue enamel panels were applied. George W. Collins is credited for the city seal design. He retired as a sergeant in 1971.

Through at least the mid-1970s, the reverse enamel panels were seen on the full-time officer badges while reserve officers continued using stamped black enamel letters.

A subtle change was implemented starting in the mid-1970s by eliminating the use of policeman with the gender-neutral police officer title which continues to this day.

The current badge style was issued in 1997 in the shape of an LAPD shield with a



(Left) A handsome and very ornate special police star once worn in Redlands and one of the 1920s to 1940s badge variations. (Right) Beginning in the late 1940s, Redlands used an Los Angeles Police Department-inspired shield. It resembles LAPD Series "5." *Gary Hoving Collection*



The entire Redlands Police Department posed in front of their station in the late 1940s wearing their the-new Los Angeles-style eagle-topped shields. It appears the officers on the far left and far right wearing the different uniform styles and boots were traffic or motor officers. *Gary Hoving Collection*

facsimile of the University of Redlands Chapel in the center. It continued to use the city seal adopted in 1964. However, the city was attacked by the American Civil Liberties Union for failing to maintain a separation of church and state. One result was the elimination of the cross from the city seal and prompted the redesigned shoulder patch.

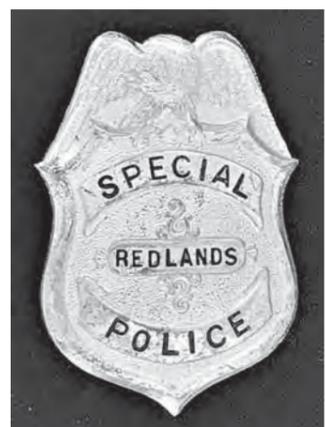
Uniform shoulder patches first appeared in Redlands in 1948. Like many agencies in California during that era, the walking bear design was used. Initially, the bear only faced to the left and the right facing bear was added after complaints by the officers. The officers desired to have the bear always facing forward when applied on each sleeve of the uniform.

In 1959, a custom patch design was adopted highlighting the Redlands Bowl which was gray against a blue sky. The bowl, sometimes referred to as the Prosellis Bowl, is an outdoor amphitheater for live performances. It was established in 1924 and still in use.

Adopted on March 1, 1970, the CHP shaped patch design with a custom city seal was adopted. There were several slight variations, including the lengthening of the patch.

The current issue shoulder patch returned to the Redlands Bowl design with oranges and mountains in the background.

Like many agencies, Redlands also used a wide variety and variations of their cloth



(Top left) The earliest known Redlands Police badge. (Top right) A centennial Celebration badge was recreated from the original badge design in 1988. (Lower left and right) A variety of styles and designs were used in Redlands during the 1920s through 1940s. *Gary Hoving Collection*

(Upper left) The use of the patrolman rank was popular through the 1960s in California. (Upper right) In 1964, Redlands adopted a new seal and applied it to the badge. Reverse enamel panels were added. (Lower left) Current and millennium badges. This style was introduced in 1997. *Gary Hoving Collection*



((Top) The first issue Redlands patch in 1948 which later added a design for both right and left facing bears. Officers wanted the bear to face forward. (Bottom) The Redlands Bowl designed patch was adopted in 1959. The bowl was built in 1924 and is still being used today. Gary Hoving Collection

insignia designs, often as a result of changing manufacturers. In addition, there were several special unit insignia, most of which have become difficult to locate.

The Redlands Police Department continues to proudly serve their community of 72,000 residents.

Submitted by CLEHS President Gary Hoving

Hoving Preserves California Agency History

I was spending some time organizing my collection and came across some old issued badges from the Valley. They are older, plain styles, which suits me just fine.

The badges are Tulare County deputy sheriff, Fresno County deputy sheriff number "40," Wood Lake Police special officer number "1," and Fresno Police captain.

Tulare County is an ornate plain, gold-colored shield with plain black capital letters, "DEPUTY/ TULARE/ COUNTY/ SHERIFF." A very small black scroll appears as the center design.

The Fresno County badge is a Old West-style shield with a cutout five-point center star. It is silver in color. The black legends read, "DEPUTY" at the top and "SHERIFF/ 40" at the bottom. "FRESNO/ CO." is seen in small black letters on the center star.

Wood Lake special officer is a gold-colored eagle-topped shield with a large plain state seal as the center design. The legends appear in blue letters and numbers, "SPECIAL OFFICER/ WOOD LAKE" on a banner above the seal and "POLICE/ 1" on small bottom banners.

Fresno is a silver-colored shield with a large applied eagle at the top. "CAPTAIN" appears in large black letters on a banner above the round center design, which features



(Top) A CHP shaped patch was used in 1970 and experienced some evolution to a longer length. (Lower left) The current issued patch is shows the bowl, oranges and mountains. (Lower right) Redlands has many special unit emblems, including this Explorert patch from 1968. Gary Hoving Collection



Gary Hoving recently shared these "old suits me" California badges from his collection. (Upper left to lower right) Tulare County deputy sheriff, Fresno County deputy sheriff, Wood Lake special officer and Fresno police captain. Each is a tribute to agency history. Gary Hoving photographs

a large, plain California seal. "POLICE OFFICER/ FRESNO, CAL." is seen in large black letters on a ring around the seal. Two small black five-point stars bisect the legends.

I have some throwback badges and patches to show.

There is a set of an old Rio Vista badge and patch. The badge is a seven-point gold-colored star with a large, plain state seal surrounded by blue legends, "CHIEF OF POLICE RIO VISTA, CAL." on a ring. The patch is a shield shape with a blue background and gold border. The center design is a large black and white jumping fish bisected by a red oval with "RIO VISTA," "POLICE" and two white five point stars. Also in the center design is a depiction of two fishermen in a boat on water near a bridge.

My throwback badge and patch set from Wood Lake is the special officer badge previously described and a CHP shape emblem, which has a thick yellow outer border. The triangular center design features mountains and evergreen trees in full color on a gray background with what appears to be a black road leading toward the trees. The legends are "WOOD LAKE" at the top and "POLICE" at the bottom in large black letters.

I have featured a dozen old and obsolete agency California styles:

...California State Police Explorers is the same shape as the patch once worn by uniformed officers of the now-defunct agency. It has a dark blue background with gold legends and inner and outer borders. The center design shows the agency's six-point star badge. "EXPLORERS" appears at the top and "CALIFORNIA/ STATE/ POLICE" on the badge. The center design is a small state shape in gold on a round blue background.

...Fresno County constable is an teardrop shape with a bright blue background, gold borders and legends and a full color state seal as the center design. The legends read,



(Top) An old badge and patch from Rio Vista. The star is gold-colored, while the multicolored patch highlights fishing, a popular local pastime. (Bottom) Wood Lake shows the previously-described special police badge and a very colorful patch with mountains and trees. Gary Hoving photographs



(Top) California State Police Explorers represents an obsolete agency which was merged into the California Highway Patrol. Fresno County is also an obsolete agency. (Bottom) Both Sacramento County Marshal and Humboldt County Marshal are obsolete agencies. Gary Hoving photographs

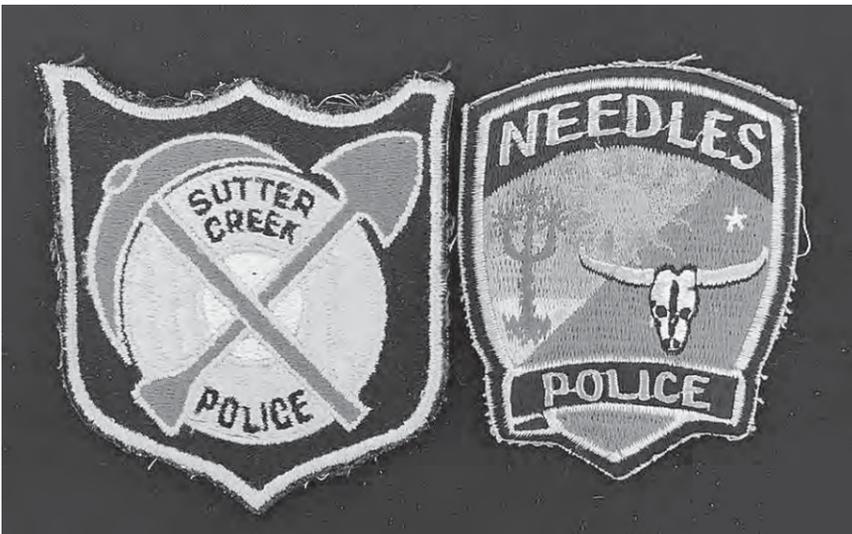
"FRESNO COUNTY" at the top and "CONSTABLE" at the bottom in large letters.

...Sacramento County Marshal and Humboldt County Marshal are LASO shapes with gold legends and borders. Sacramento has a green background, while Humboldt has a blue background. A gold five-point walking bear star badge is seen on Sacramento. A full color state seal on a seven-point star appears on Humboldt.

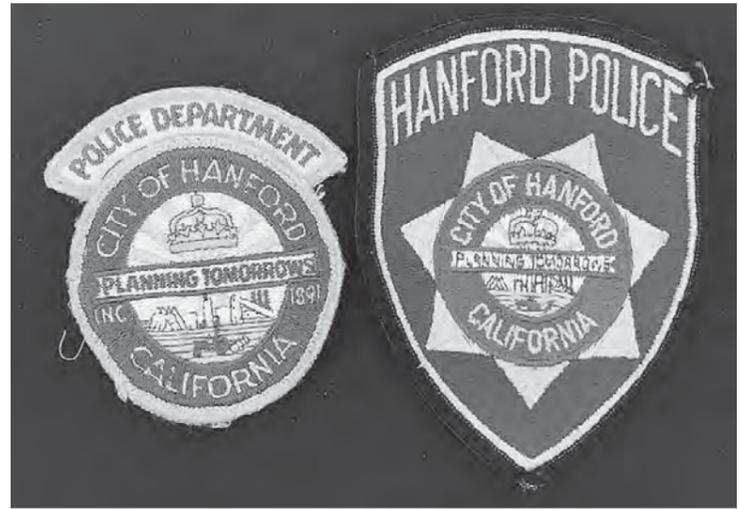
...La Mesa is a CHP shape with a black outer border, yellow inner border and blue background. "LA MESA" is lettered in blue on a gold banner at the top, while "POLICE" is seen at the bottom in gold letters. The round center design depicts a white cross atop a brown mountain and white clouds. It is surrounded with gold wreaths.

...Pinole is a unique shield shape with a black background and gold inner and black outer borders. The center design shows a Native American, three birds, sun and mountains, all in different colors. The legends, "CITY OF PINOLE 1903," appear in black on a white arc bordered in gold. "POLICE" completes the design at the bottom in white letters.

...Sutter Creek is a shield shape with a black background and a gold border. There



(Top) La Mesa was the subject of civil liberties complaints over the depiction of a cross on a police emblem. Pinole has a multicolored center design. (Bottom) Sutter Creek chronicles the area mining history. Needles depicts two desert scenes in the center design. Gary Hoving photographs



(Left) Obsolete styles from Hanford, a very old round patch and a more recent CHP shape. The center designs are identical. (Bottom) Emblems from the Tuolumne County Sheriffs Department. The colorful patch on the left shows a mine. Reserve shows the state seal. Gary Hoving photographs

is a large round disc with crossed miner pick and shovel in brown in the center design. "SUTTER/ CREEK" is lettered in black at the top and "POLICE" at the bottom.

...Needles is a CHP shape with a die-cut bottom banner. It has a black outer and gold inner border. "NEEDLES" is seen in white on a blue top banner, while "POLICE" appears in white on the blue die-cut banner bordered in white. The center design shows a green cactus and yellow sun on the left and white and black cattle skull and white star on the right. The background colors are bisected, light gray on the left and brown on the right.

...Hanford is a small round emblem with an attached top banner. "POLICE DEPARTMENT" appears in brown on the white top banner bordered in gold. A brown ring encircles the round emblem with "CITY OF HANFORD" at the top and "CALIFORNIA" at the bottom in gold letters. There is a gold outer border. "INC" is seen in small letters on the left side and "1891" in small numerals on the right side of the ring. The center design is comprised of a gold crown and sun rays at the top and a brown tractor working a gold farm field with a brown and white outline of a farm in the background, all on a white background.

...A later version of Hanford is a CHP style with a blue background with a gold inner and black outer border. The center design is identical to the previous design, except the lettering on the ring is gold and "INC 1891" no longer appears.

...Tuolumne County is a CHP shape with a very colorful multicolored design with a highly-detailed mining camp scene with trees in the foreground and mountains in the background. A lake with a sailboat on it is seen at the bottom. "TUOLUMNE COUNTY" is lettered across the top and "SHERIFF" at the bottom in gold with a gold outer border.

...Tuolumne County sheriff reserve is also a CHP shape with a blue background, gold inner and black outer border. "TUOLUMNE COUNTY/ SHERIFF-RESERVE" is seen at the top in gold letters. The center design is a full color state seal centered on a seven-point gold star.

Submitted by Gary Hoving with insignia descriptions by Editor Mike R. Bondarenko

End California Police Historian

Collecting Memories

By Dennis Beyer. Staff Writer

NAPLES, Fla. – An old Newark, N.J. police desk log book with roots dating back to the 1930's found itself serving multiple purposes in its lifetime.

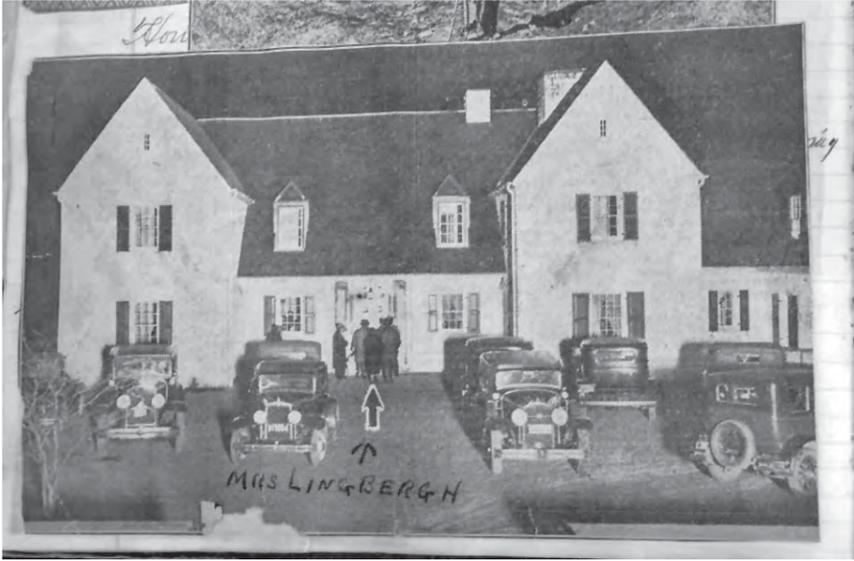
At some point, the book became Detective Morris Kirwan's personal scrapbook. I believe he took the book into retirement with him and handed it down to family members. Eventually, the book find itself being thrown out as garbage. Fortunately it was rescued from the trash in Massachusetts.

Detective Kirwan pasted news clippings of his involvement in numerous cases into his scrapbook. The collection started in 1929. I turned page after page of clippings and read his handwritten notes.

I saw multiple articles related to the kidnapping of aviator Charles Lindbergh's son, Charles Lindbergh Junior. This was an event that shocked the nation and held its interest until the execution of kidnapper Bruno Hauptmann at Trenton State Prison on April 3, 1936.

Detective Kirwan was one of several Newark police officers who were assigned to assist with the investigation into the kidnapping. Twenty-month-old Lindbergh Jr. had been taken from his nursery on March 1, 1932. The home was on an estate owned by the family in Hopewell.

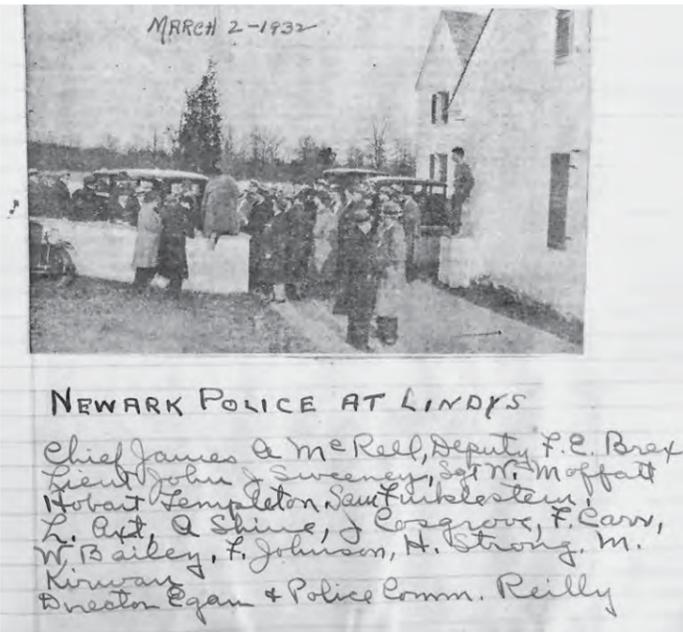
In his notes, Detective Kirwan recorded the names of Newark officers, including Chief James McRell, who responded to the Lindbergh home.



Officers from several jurisdictions responded to the kidnapping of Charles Lindbergh Jr., 20 months old, from the family home in Hopewell, N.J. on March 1, 1932. Newark Detective Morris Kirwan was among them. His scrapbook showed officers at the front door. *Dennis Beyer Collection*

Collecting Memories ...Continued

Later, a ransom of \$50,000 was asked in what was the first of 15 ransom notes. Lindbergh eventually paid the ransom. The famed aviator believed this was the only way to rescue his baby.



Detective Morris Kirwan's scrapbook features a group photograph of Newark police officers at the Charles Lindbergh home the day of the kidnapping of his son. He listed the names of all the officers in his scrapbook in cursive writing. (Remember when it was taught?) *Dennis Beyer Collection*



A detective examines the ladder Bruno Hauptmann used to kidnap Charles Lindbergh Junior from his second floor nursery at the Lindbergh estate in Hopewell, N.J. The kidnapping of the legendary aviator's son captured the attention of the entire nation for two harrowing years. *Dennis Beyer Collection*



These three law enforcement officers led the New Jersey investigation into the Lindbergh kidnapping. (Left to right) Chief of Police James A. McBell, Newark; Colonel H. Norman Schwarzkopf, New Jersey State Police and Chief of Police Thomas J Wolfe, Jersey City. *Dennis Beyer Collection*

The money was delivered by John Conlin, an intermediary, to the kidnapers on April 2, 1932 in a Bronx, N.Y. cemetery.

After the payment of the ransom, the Lindberghs were given instructions on how to locate their child. These instructions did not produce the missing baby. Searches continued around the Lindbergh Estate with no success.

On May 12, 1932, over a month after the delivery of the ransom money, truck drivers found the body of the missing child. The case now became a homicide investigation.

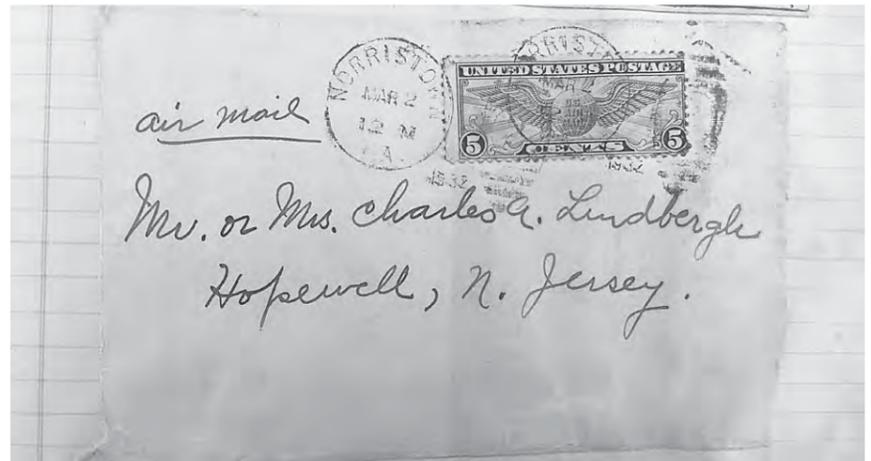
For a solid year there were no arrests. Then a series of events seemed to fall in place.

The first was actually in May 1932 when the United States went off the gold standard. Our present day currency quietly came into existence. With gold certificates no longer legal tender, it was possible for them to be rejected by banks.

Eighteen months following the discovery of the baby's body, an individual went into a gasoline station in the Bronx. He paid for his gas using a gold certificate. The station attendant feared not being able to collect on this certificate, so he wrote down the car license plate number.

The license plate belonged to Bruno Richard Hauptmann. The currency was part of the ransom money. He was arrested September 19, 1934.

The last item of note from Detective Kirwan's scrapbook is an envelope with a canceled airmail stamp. It was addressed to Charles Lindbergh. The letter went through the post office in Morristown and was canceled on March 2, the day after the kidnapping.



Kidnapper Bruno Hauptmann mailed 15 ransom notes to Charles Lindbergh and his wife demanding money for the return of their son. The Lindberghs ultimately relented and paid Hauptmann \$50,000 but the child never came home. Sadly, their son was already dead. *Dennis Beyer Collection*



Dennis Beyer was able to obtain this West Orange chief of police badge for his "Top Cop" Collection. Chief E.M. Palaroy ordered it but never took delivery from the manufacturer. It is unknown why. Its a gold eagle-topped shield with the state seal around an enamel ring. *Dennis Beyer Collection*

Many thoughts go through my mind concerning this envelope. Was it evidence from the case? Did it contain one of the 15 ransom notes? Why did Detective Kirwan keep it all these years? Yes, it was part of his memorabilia, but what did it signify to him?

I have been told there are many unanswered questions about this case, and the subsequent trial. Now I have a few of my own that I will add to the pile of memories I collect.

West Orange chief This the last (for now) of my "Top Cop" Collection series. It is for a chief of police shield from West Orange.

I have had this badge for over 20 years. I got lucky obtaining it back in the day. It was made for the chief, except he never accepted delivery of it for one reason or the other. So the maker allowed me to purchase it.

I took real good care of this beauty wondering if he would ever come looking for it. He didn't and others ascended to the office. I guess they ordered their own badges.

As you look at it, you will note it is a named badge, E.M. Palaroy. It turns out the chief was a neighbor of my in-laws. We met a couple of times. I don't think he has any idea that I have his badge.

This is what is so cool about collecting these treasures: You often obtain a story with the badge.

The shield is a sunburst with an eagle on the top. There is a name panel as well.

The bottom has a blue rank panel with "CHIEF" in gold lettering.

A ring around the state seal reads, "WEST ORANGE POLICE DEPT."

It is an impressive old style badge I kept under glass, so it remains in pristine condition. As with all my items, I see them daily and enjoy the memories they bring to my aging old mind. That I can still remember makes me quite happy and proud to have this chief badge in my collection.

DENNIS BEYER (7959 Valentina Court, Naples FL 34114)

Patches From The Road

By Rick Uland, Staff Writer

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. – This is the fifth rendition of my Patches From The Road column. My most recent column ran in the November-December 2018 issue.

In my previous columns, I presented a wide range of patches from various police departments, law enforcement agencies, public safety agencies and fire departments primarily located in Pennsylvania and Montana.

As I have continued my travels throughout this great country on the rails via Amtrak, I have added various other patches to my collection over time. Of course, I have been very lucky in scoring any number of badges as well as patches, but the badges can wait to be written about in a future column, possibly "Badges From The Road."

As I have explained in previous columns, I travel wide ranges of the United States where my primary places of time spent are in Pennsylvania, Illinois, Iowa and Montana with a few other locations thrown in as well from time to time. I have made many friends and acquaintances in the places I visit over my years of traveling.

Of course, a sizable number of these friends are current or retired members of police departments, other law enforcement agencies, fire departments and other public safety agencies located in the places and areas to which I travel. They serve in a wide range of positions ranging from chiefs, command staffers, supervisors to officers and firefighters.

This does not necessarily mean they are all collectors or even a sizable number of them are collectors. However, there are a fair number of these friends who are collectors or are at least in charge of the patch boards and display boards at their prospective departments and agencies.

These boards or displays can be located at a single station or office or at department headquarters. One thing for sure is the desire by any of these individuals to always be looking for new and increasing numbers of patches to add to whatever displays they may have on hand or be in charge of maintaining.

While traveling it is always great fun and an exciting part of the collecting hobby to make new friends at departments and agencies to which I have not previously been introduced on previous trips. It is even better to find a place that has no patch displays or very small displays. To greatly increase or help them begin a display is very satisfying indeed.

It is not necessarily required or even a necessity to receive a patch or some other collectible in trade for what I have given to be added to a display or collection. However, in



Special unit patches from Illinois. Chicago Homicide show their badge and appropriate unit motto. State Police Pipes and Drums show bagpipes and a snare drum. Lake County M.E.G. (Metropolitan Enforcement Group) features a state shape and eagle. Rick Uland photographs

most cases there is usually something given in trade from the recipient. It could be an item of even collectible value, less than even and sometimes an item above or even far above collecting return value.

But, in the end just the sheer enjoyment and thanks from the recipient or the department or agency is good enough for me, even if I receive nothing in return.

There are any number of other ways to show thanks and appreciation besides receiving a patch or badge or other item given in return or trade. Being invited to dinner or lunch at the fire station, a chat over coffee with a police chief, given a grand tour of the department, being invited for a police car or fire truck ride-along and even being asked for professional advice is reward enough.



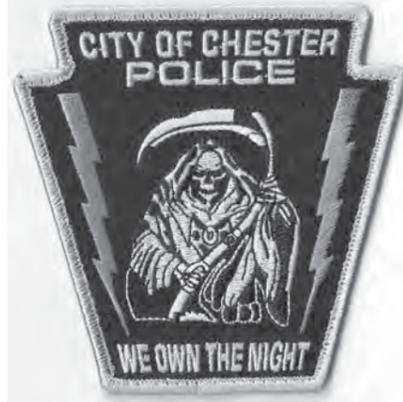
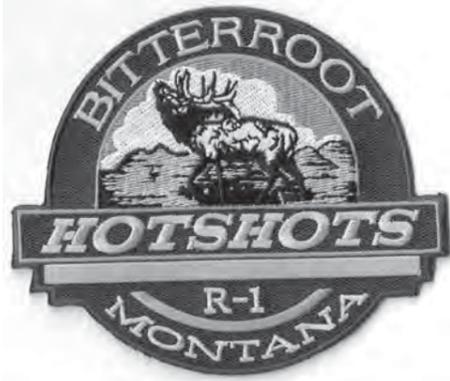
These are fire department emblems from Greensburg, Penna. The agency standard issue is shown at the top, while fire company six and eight patches are seen on the bottom. These patches have a comic theme, Mighty Mouse and Pink Panther, like a lot of fire insignia. Rick Uland photographs



Handsome Pennsylvania canine unit emblems. Ligonier Township is a keystone shape with a dog centered on an unfurled United States flag. Beaver County shows a friendly view of a canine taking five. West Conshohocken depicts a dog on a shield-shaped insignia. Rick Uland photographs



Rick Uland came home with a patch progression set from Galesburg, Ill. The current issue (bottom) shows a variety of city buildings, while the previous designs (top) are both what are often called stock eagles. There are manufacturer variations on the stock eagles. Rick Uland photographs



(Top left) Montana Bitterroot Hot Shots is a wild land firefighting crew from the U.S. Forest Service. (Top right) Chester PD has a Grim Reaper keystone shape and "We Own The Night. (Lower left and right) Wyoming and Iowa Air National Guard crash, fire and rescue patches. Rick Uland photographs

Rick Uland ...Continued

Of course, a patch or badge to add to my personal collection will always be accepted with a big smile and a gracious thank you.

I will share with you what I hope is an interesting mix of patches I have obtained during the nearly six years since I began traveling again after an extended period of time when I stopped.

RICK ULAND (PO Box 480211, San Francisco CA 94146)

Reno Will Host 2020 National Show

The National Police Collectors Show will visit Reno/ Sparks, Nev. the first weekend of October. The Nugget Hotel and Resort will host the hobby's annual convention. Co-host Margaret Daniels previews Reno and Lake Tahoe attractions of interest to show attendees.

By Margaret Daniels, Guest Writer

RENO, Nev. – If you are looking for a great early autumn getaway, you will find it in Reno/Sparks, Nev. for the 2020 National Police Collectors Show. The show will take place on October 2, 3, and 4 at the Nugget Hotel and Resort in Sparks, which is a beautiful city adjacent to Reno.

We hope collectors will take advantage of the opportunity to visit and enjoy the Reno/ Tahoe area. Autumn is comfortable with day temperatures in the 70s.

The area offers a wide variety of fun things to do.

Always wanted to ride an aerial tram? Head to Lake Tahoe where the Squaw Valley Aerial Tram will take you on a breathtaking ride up to 2000 vertical feet over the lake.

The panoramic 360-degree views above the snow-capped mountains and granite rocks are not to be missed.

The tram will take you to High Camp at 8200 feet where you can breathe fresh mountain air and take in the High Sierras. High Camp features an Olympic Museum dedicated to the 1960 Winter Games. It features a wide variety of memorabilia and artifacts.

Of course, if you are into gaming, the Nugget has a world-class 24-hour casino.

Not too far away from Sparks (about a half-hour) is historic Carson City, our state capital.

The Comstock mining boom in northern Nevada produced many millionaires in the latter half of the 1800s. The mining boom produced a need for housing, some of the likes of which were being built in San Francisco. There are many historic mansions in the area. Some are open for tours. Most are privately owned.

You may have seen the John Wayne movie, The Shootist. Many of Carson City's original homes and mansions were featured in the film. The film crew filled the streets in the historic district with sand and the 1800s came alive. Wayne lived in Carson City while filming the classic western.

In 1859, silver was discovered in the nearby area of Virginia City. Nevada became known as the Silver State. The silver strike led to a rush to the area.

In October 1864, Nevada became a state and Carson City was chosen as the capital.

The first territorial governor, James Nye, selected Orion Clements as the first secretary, which is how his brother, Samuel Clements, also known as Mark Twain, came to the area.



The Squaw Valley Aerial Tram offers breathtaking high altitude views of Lake Tahoe, the High Sierra Mountains and High Camp. Tickets cost \$49 for adults and \$29 for children. It is located in Olympic Village.. It operates year-round. Views are spectacular in autumn. Contributed photograph

He settled in Virginia City and worked as a reporter for a local newspaper.

The Capitol was built in 1870 and 1871. It is still used today. Every Nevada governor (except Nye) has had his office in the building. For more than 50 years, all three branches of state government were housed at the Capitol. It is open to the public and contains historical exhibits on the second floor.

The silver mined in the area was a primary source of funding for the Union Army during the Civil War.

With the abundance of silver from the booming Comstock Lode, it was decided that Carson City would make an ideal location for a United States Mint. It opened in 1870.

The mint mark "CC" was produced on eight coin denominations. More than \$49 million worth of silver and gold was minted at this location. The mint's formal status was withdrawn



The former United States Mint in Carson City minted \$49 million worth of silver and gold coins for 21 years between 1870 and 1899. (It was closed some years.) The historic building is now the Nevada State Museum and is a "must see" for those interested in history. Contributed photograph



The Genoa Bar in Genoa, Nev. is the oldest saloon still operating in Nevada. It has appeared in numerous movies, including productions starring such notables as Clint Eastwood and Walter Matthau. Supposedly, John Wayne was a guest while filming The Shootist. Contributed photograph

Most of the original building remains intact. It was remodeled into the Nevada State Museum in 1941. Some of the original mint equipment is displayed, including one of the original coin presses.

South of Carson City is Genoa, the first permanent settlement in Utah Territory. It had a trading post, blacksmith shop and a large corral for livestock. Originally named Mormon Station, it was renamed as Genoa in 1835 after the birthplace of Christopher Columbus.

Today, Genoa is a thriving historic community with two large museums. A popular attraction is the Genoa Bar, also known as Nevada's oldest thirst parlor. It has been used as a location for numerous films, including productions starring Clint Eastwood and Walter Matthau. Supposedly, "The Duke" crossed the threshold while filming The Shootist.

Genoa is a nice day trip from Sparks. Take advantage of this opportunity to visit the Reno/Lake Tahoe area and enjoy spending some time with us.

MARGARET DANIELS (PO Box 1197, Gardnersville NV 89410)



A local resident who asked for anonymity recently donated these large shield-shaped badges to the Elmira, N.Y. Police Department. The legends read, "MEMBER/ ELMIRA/ POLICE/ DEPT." The department is looking for any and all information on the badges from collectors. *Elmira PD photograph*

let alone own one themselves," he said.

Captain Alvernaz is intrigued by the mystery that surrounds the badges and admitted he has a great desire to learn more about them.

He welcomes any information on the badges. His telephone number is (607) 737-5611. *Courtesy of Elmira Police Department*

News Notes

Rzucidlo Makes Emergency Vehicle Presentations Longtime collector Anthony Rzucidlo made presentations on the history of motorized emergency vehicles to the Early Model Ford V-8 Club last November in Bloomfield Hills., Mich. and to the Ford and Mercury Restores Club of America in Livonia in March.

Members listened as Rzucidlo traced the history of ambulances, fire apparatus and police vehicles. His presentations covered the development of each class of emergency vehicle beginning in 1841. He also covered Detroit area history related to emergency vehicles.

There was also a slide show that showcased emergency vehicles.

Rzucidlo is an author, historian and coordinator of the annual Ferndale, Mich. Emergency Vehicle Show.

Courtesy of Anthony Rzucidlo

Impersonator Wore Fake DEA Badge When Alex E. Taylor pulled over a car for speeding last Christmas Eve in San Jose, Calif., he was wearing a gold Drug Enforcement Administration special agent badge suspended from a chain around his neck. Little did Taylor, 49, a law enforcement impersonator carrying a badge he bought on the Internet, know the driver was a real federal agent.

The real agent, who works for the Department of Transportation, told Taylor that DEA special agents don't stop cars for speeding. He told her, "We do it all the time."

When the DOT agent identified herself, Taylor told her he wouldn't write her a ticket and to have a nice day. He returned to his vehicle, made a U-turn and sped away. The agent was unable to see the license plate number of Taylor's car.

Taylor was driving a dark-colored Volkswagen Jetta sedan decked out with emergency lights and multiple antennas.

The real agent reported the incident to San Jose police who launched an investigation that ultimately identified Taylor as an impersonator who had made similar traffic stops in the San Jose area.

He was arrested at his home and faces multiple felony charges in United States District Court, including impersonating a federal agent and unlawful possession of a counterfeit DEA badge.

A search of Taylor's home and the Jetta found him in possession of a phony concealed carry badge, handcuffs, other police equipment and methamphetamine.

Courtesy of San Jose Mercury-News

Elmira Police Gifted Historical Badges The Elmira, N.Y. Police Department got an early Christmas present last November when a local resident gave the agency two previously unknown historic badges.

The shield-shaped badges are three inches wide by four inches high and made from solid brass. The raised letter legends read, "MEMBER/ ELMIRA/ POLICE/ DEPT." The badges are identical.

The donor, who asked to remain anonymous, told Captain Anthony Alvernaz he found the badges for sale at a yard sale in the Elmira area and thought they should be returned to the department.

Captain Alvernaz, who is the department historian, said the agency knows nothing about the badges. He asked for help to learn about them.

"We know that they were in use at least before 1964, but I'm thinking more in the '40s. But nothing definitive. We haven't found anybody yet that has actually seen these before,



Anthony Rzucidlo made a presentation on the history of emergency service vehicles to the Early Model Ford V-8 Club in Bloomfield Hills, Mich. on November 22. Rzucidlo traced the development of law enforcement, fire and emergency medical service vehicles. *Contributed photograph*

Hays PD Unveils Uniform Makeover The Hays, Kans., Police Department began 2020 in style, literally, as the agency unveiled a complete uniform makeover that includes a handsome new shoulder patch, according to Chief Don Scheibler.

The chief said the new style gives his department a more functional and professional uniform while retaining a traditional police look.

The new shirts and pants are dark blue. The previous uniform had been worn since the 1950s.

Although there is an outer carrier suspension system that moves equipment weight from the hips to the shoulders, the vest does not have the front pockets which makes it look like a traditional police shirt.

"We really like the crisp traditional professional police look and for a long time the external carriers had the bulky front pockets and pouches that gave us a militaristic appearance. We wanted to stick to the traditional police look," Chief Scheibler said.

The new patch is a rounded rectangle that depicts Fort Hays in full color with golden stalks of wheat on both sides. It has a dark blue background and light blue border. The white legends read, "HAYS POLICE" across the top and "KANSAS" at the bottom.

Hays is the county seat of Ellis County in northwest Kansas. The population is 20,500. *Courtesy of Hays Police Department*

New Style Columbus Police SWAT The Columbus, O. Police Department Special Weapons and Tactics Team has adopted new shoulder patch, according to Ohio collector Mike Creamer Jr.

Creamer said the insignia resembles the camouflage pattern of the new SWAT uniform. The emblem is round with black border and lettering.

The center design shows laurels centered in cross hairs.

On the outer border are the legends, "SWAT PLATOON RED TEAM GREEN TEAM GOLD TEAM."

The legends, "COLUMBUS OHIO POLICE SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS," surround the center design.

Creamer did not provide availability information.

Courtesy of Mike Creamer Jr

Badge Stays In NYSP Family When Corwin Mackney was growing up as the son of a New York State Police trooper, he always remembered his father, Walter Mackney's, shield number, "314."

Corwin Mackney used the number "314" at the end of user names and passwords. He always associated the three-digit number with his father.

When Corwin Mackney succeeded his father as a NYSP trooper last year, he knew he wanted to wear his now-retired father's badge number "314."

"When we finish out any call, we end with our shield number, so being able to say that is almost a natural since I've known my dad's shield for so long," he said.

"It is a very proud moment for me to be able to have his shield, and kind of following in his footsteps is a joy. The shield is something I've been wanting for quite a while now. As soon as I got accepted into the State Police, at some point when I graduated, I wanted to get his shield."



(Left) The Hays, Kans. Police Department has adopted a new shoulder patch that depicts Fort Hays and wheat. The colorful emblem is part of a uniform makeover. (Right) The new Columbus, O. SWAT Platoon emblem is a subdued design and names each team. *Contributed photographs*



Retired New York State Police Senior Investigator Walt Mackney (left) presents his personal badge to his son, Corwin Mackney (right), who has succeeded him as a state trooper. Corwin Mackney got permission from management to wear his father's badge. *New York State Police photograph*

Corwin Mackney got his wish in late August when his father presented him with shield number "314" as his mother, Major Brian Shortall, and First Sergeant Chad Buckley looked on. The presentation was made at Troop C headquarters in Sidney. The department approved the shield number transfer.

Walter Mackney retired as a senior investigator in 2014. *Courtesy of New York State Police*

Second Generation Collects NCHP Insignia When Hunter Simmons graduates from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte this year, he wants to succeed his grandfather as member of the North Carolina Highway Patrol.

For now, he is content to collect NCHP uniforms, badges and cloth insignia. "My grandpa served with the NCHP for 30 years and that's my main collecting focus, as well as the DMV Enforcement Section that merged with the Patrol in January 2003," Simmons said.

His already impressive new collection includes his grandfather's uniform, complete with his badge and duty belt, as well as other NCHP badges and cloth insignia. *Courtesy of Hunter Simmons*

New Rigs Rolling In Hawaii Police vehicles last a long time in Hawaii! When the Hawaii County Police Department began adding 2019 Ford Explorer Police Interceptors to its fleet late last year, the SUVs were the first new vehicles for the agency since the 2008-2009 budget year.

According to Major Robert Wagner, the county started adding one new Ford each month beginning last July. In all, the department purchased ten of the popular full-size rigs for \$61,500 each.

Hawaii County's new rides are white with blue and gold stripes, blue lettering and a full color depiction of the agency badge, which is identical to the shoulder patch.

Major Wagner said the cars are being deployed to the largest patrol districts. Hilo, Kona and Puna got the first ones.

The cars come fully equipped and wired with markings already affixed. The county bought 33 sedans and SUVs in 2008-2009 after it created a Police Fleet Implementation Group to set up a fleet vehicle program to address questions the use of mostly unmarked cars that lacked uniform paint, police emblems and other official markings. (About two dozen of the ten-year old vehicles remain in use!)

Hawaii County is also known as the Big Island. *Courtesy of Hawaii Tribune-Herald*

MUPD Patch Board Unites Agencies The Marshall University Police Department in Huntington, W. Va. has started a collection of police and sheriff emblems to honor law enforcement, according to the campus newspaper, *The Parthenon*.

Sergeant Scott Ballou, who started the collection, said the patches are displayed on a large board at police headquarters. It consists of different patches currently or previously worn by MUPD officers as well as some from throughout the country with special meaning to the department.

Sergeant Ballou explained the department wants to put up patches that have significance, such as those from officers' hometowns, friends of officers, family members, police training academies and even officers who have left the department.

"We're not just throwing any patch up there. We want patches that are relevant to our



The Marshall University Police Department in West Virginia is honoring local law enforcement with a new patch display at their headquarters on the campus in Huntington. The patches are from agencies that have "special meaning" to the department and its officers. *MUPD photograph*

university," he said.

The department also plans a display devoted to other campus police departments in Conference USA where Marshall academic and athletic teams compete with 13 other schools.

Courtesy of The Parthenon

Tulsa Deputies Get New Look The Tulsa County, Okla. Sheriff's Office is getting a new look.

Beginning on January 1, Sheriff Vic Regalado and his staff began transitioning from traditional Oklahoma sheriff's brown and tan to new navy blue and gray uniforms.

Corporal LaMont Hill said the new clothing will better suit modern technology, such body cameras, and last longer than the previous design.

"We will be wearing gray shirts and navy blue pants," he explained.

Corporal Hill said there will be no change in the six-point circled star badge and shoulder patch design. However, the patch background color will change from brown to navy blue to match the pants.

Courtesy of Oklahoma Public Radio

Panola County Sheriff Patch Tree Three years ago now, Deputy Denise Gray started a tradition at the Panola County, Tex. Sheriff's Office in Carthage, Tex. It is known as the Christmas Patch Tree.

Deputy Gray, who is a patch collector, asked Sheriff Kevin Lake if she could decorate the department's Christmas tree with law enforcement emblems rather than traditional ornaments. She got his permission.

"I asked the sheriff if I could do it to honor the memory of my late son, who was killed in 2018 just after his high school graduation. He and I collected patches together when he was younger and really enjoyed it," Deputy Gray told a local television station that did a feature on the colorful Patch Tree.

The tree has become popular, not only with employees but with people who come to the Sheriff's Office on business as well.

"Everyone seems to like it. People say things like, 'That's pretty cool!' or 'What a great idea!' when they see it," she said.

The 2019 tree was ten feet tall and featured emblems from agencies all across country and even a few from other countries.

"If the collection keeps growing, I guess we'll have to get a taller tree!" Deputy Gray said. *Courtesy of KYTX Television News, Tyler, Texas*

New Wisconsin Police Emblems Debut Police officers in Prescott



New emblem styles from Wisconsin! (Top) Sun Prairie PD shows a state outline on a full color United States flag. (Bottom) The mirror image set from Prescott PD features USA flags, an eagle, bridge and a state outline. The full color flag faces forward. *Dennis Johnson, Bruce Von Haden photographs*



The Hawaii County Police Department has ten new Ford Explorer Police Interceptor sport utility vehicles. The new rides are white with blue and gold stripes, blue lettering and a full color depiction of the city's shoulder patch. The SUVs are the first new vehicles since 2008-2009. *Hawaii County PD photograph*

and Sun Prairie, Wis. are wearing colorful new insignia designs, according to Wisconsin collectors Bruce Von Haden and Dennis Johnson. Both emblems have patriotic themes.

Prescott's new style is a mirror image set like the previous design. It is a large rounded rectangle that shows the United States and Thin Blue Line flags, a state outline, the Saint Croix River bridge and an eagle. Blue and gold are the predominant colors.

"PRESCOTT" appears on an arc at the top in large gold letters bordered in white.

The full color flags are shown beneath the city name. The mirrored image ensures the United States flag always faces forward when the emblems appear on a shirt or jacket.

The state outline is light blue and also bordered in gold and white.

The bridge, which links Prescott and Wisconsin to Hastings and Minnesota, is shown in white in white and centered on the state outline.

The full color eagle is superimposed over the bridge.

The background is dark blue, and there are black and gold outer borders.

Prescott is a city of 4250 in Piece County. It is located at the confluence of the Saint Croix and Mississippi Rivers.

Sun Prairie's patch is also a rounded rectangle. It shows a state outline superimposed over a large full color United States flag. The background color is dark blue. The legends and borders are gray.

"SUN PRAIRIE/ POLICE" appears in large letters at the top. A thin blue line separates the city and department names.

Wisconsin is depicted in light blue bordered in gray.

A small gray star denotes the city location.

"EST. 1837" at the bottom of the state outline completes the design.

Sun Prairie is a community of 29,500 in Dane County. It is a Madison suburb.

Availability to collectors of either insignia is unknown.

Courtesy of Bruce Von Haden and Dennis Johnson



Retired Ormond Beach, Fla. Officer Vincent Champion was recently denied admission to Universal Studios because he was wearing this retired police officer shirt. It took Champion more than hour to convince security officials he would not be mistaken for an on-duty police officer. *Contributed photographs*

Universal Studios: No Police Shirts Don't try to enter Universal Studios in Orlando, Fla. wearing a cop shirt. You won't be allowed in.

Vincent Champion, a retired 22-year Ormond Beach, Fla. police officer, and his girlfriend were recently denied entry into the popular theme park because he was wearing a shirt that identified him as a retired police officer.

A security guard at the main gate told Champion that Universal Studios has a policy prohibiting law enforcement officer-theme clothing. He was told he would either have to wear a different shirt or not be admitted.

The incident, which occurred on November 1, received statewide and national media attention. It sparked outrage from law enforcement officers and our supporters around the world on social media.

The front of Champion's shirt shows a small shield with the United States flag and a skull on it. The skull represents a fictional character, "The Punisher," which has been become a popular symbol for modern law enforcement and the military.

The back depicts large version of the shield with the legends, "MY TIME IN UNIFORM IS OVER" at the top and "BUT MY WATCH NEVER ENDS" at the bottom.

When Champion told the security guard he did not have another shirt to wear and offered to turn the shirt inside out, the guard said that would not be acceptable and the shirt would not be allowed inside the park.

According to multiple media accounts, people waiting in line behind Champion and his girlfriend expressed strong support for Champion. A woman gave him another shirt to wear in the park.

He changed shirts and put his retired police officer shirt in the bag that had contained the new shirt the woman had given him moments earlier.

Not good enough for Universal Studios!

When the couple began to enter the park, they were once again detained by security. Champion was told he would have to put the shirt in his car. It would not be allowed inside the park, even tucked away inside a plastic bag!

"I explained to her we could not return to our car because we used valet parking and didn't know where our car was parked," Champion said.

The retired Florida officer, who now works part-time as a reserve investigator for the Florida States Attorney's Office and as a union representative for the Florida chapter of the International Brotherhood of Police Officers, asked if the shirt could be kept in the security office and he would pick it up on his way out. He was told security can't hold property for guests and he would have to put the shirt in his car or not be admitted.

"So, I put my police shirt back on and asked for a supervisor," Champion said.

The supervisor confirmed the "no police clothing" policy and told Champion other park guests might confuse him with security or "real police" in the event of an emergency.

However, the supervisor was unable to show him a written policy and admitted there is no signage warning guests that law enforcement-theme clothing is prohibited. He also admitted a person wearing clothing with an EMS or fire theme would be admitted.

After almost an hour of discussion and several telephone calls by the supervisor to his superiors, the supervisor finally allowed Champion and his girlfriend into the park and agreed he could wear his retired police shirt.

"I think I was finally allowed in because I complained enough and other patrons were yelling at him. He looked at my shirt and said, 'Well, it really doesn't look like a badge, so you're okay,'" he said

Champion said he would have left immediately after initially being denied entry but he and his girlfriend had arranged to meet friends who were already inside the park.

However, he said he will never patronize Universal Studios again and has publicized the incident far and wide in the law enforcement community.

"Several active and retired officers have canceled their season passes to Universal, and every cop who hears about it tells me they will never go there, no matter what," Champion said.

The police union that Champion works for has canceled plans for its annual statewide convention at the theme park.

"Why can't we be proud of who we are? I was proud to be a police officer and still am, but I can't wear anything with police on it because they are bowing down to other people who may not like it. Lots of people wear shirts I don't like, but I can't do anything about it," he said.

Police Collectors News confirmed the "no police clothing" policy with Universal Studios. However, a media spokesperson declined to comment on the incident or answer any questions about it. She did say off-duty officers and their families are "always welcome" at the park.

Editor and Publisher Mike R. Bondarenko, a retired 38-year law enforcement veteran, called the incident an insult to the law enforcement profession and praised Champion for his perseverance. "He held his ground because he was right," Bondarenko said.

In a letter to the Universal Studios corporate headquarters, Bondarenko pointed out thousands of active and retired officers collect law enforcement-related clothing, mostly shirts and hats, and wear it proudly. "We are very proud of our profession and our service to our communities," he wrote.

"Florida is home to thousands and thousands of active and retired law enforcement officers. In addition, thousands of officers from around the world vacation in the Orlando area. Virtually all of them would not hesitate to come to the aid of your guests or security guards in the event of an emergency. Yet, your ridiculous, unnecessary and discriminatory policy prohibits us from showing our pride in our service for no legitimate reason," the letter said.

Bondarenko urged collectors and their families who travel to insignia shows to boycott Universal-owned properties unless or until the policy is rescinded. The company owns three

parks in Orlando, Universal Studios, Islands of Adventure and Volcano Bay, as well as theme parks and resorts in California, Japan and Singapore.

Universal is part of NBC Universal, which is owned by media conglomerate Comcast.

Courtesy of Vincent Champion and Blue Lives Matter

New North Carolina Sheriff Badges The Guilford County, N.C. Sheriffs Office is getting new badges. It is the first style change for the department since the early 1970s.

The new badge is a gold-colored, ball-tipped five-point circled star with a full color state seal as the center design. The star points extend beyond the circle.

"SHERIFF'S OFFICE" is seen in blue letters on the top of the circle, while "SHERIFF" is lettered beneath it.

"GUILFORD" and "COUNTY" are shown on small banner above and below the seal, respectively.

Raised wreaths appear on the circle.

The previous design was a six-point ball-tipped gold star.

Sheriff's spokesman Max Benbassat said the new badge is an effort to update the department and modernize its look.

Courtesy of Guilford County Sheriffs Office

Chief Honors SPPHS Members Service Saint Paul Police Chief Todd Axtell recently presented four members of the Saint Paul Police Historical Society (SPPHS) with Chief's Awards to recognize their dedication to preservation of department history.

Paul Johnson, Fred Kaphingst, Larry McDonald and Ed Steenberg were honored during a ceremony at Western District Headquarters, the site of the popular "Capital City" Police Collectors Show and SPPHS meetings.

Johnson, Kaphingst, McDonald and Steenberg are all retired Saint Paul police officers. Steenberg, who is society president, was a deputy chief.

Chief Axtell is a strong supporter of the society and the police insignia show.

A Minneapolis-Saint Paul television station reported on the awards and ceremony on its news broadcasts.

The SPPHS co-sponsors the "Capital City" show with *Police Collectors News*.

Courtesy of Saint Paul Police Historical Society

Boys Find Lost Captain's Badge Two young boys out for a walk along a Crow Wing County, Minn. trail saw something shiny partially buried in the ground.

Brothers Zeke and Rex Larson of Nisswa unearthed the object and realized it was a badge. Although well weathered, they saw it was from the Crow Wing County Sheriff's Department and had a name on it, so they returned it to the sheriff's office in Brainerd.

It turned out the badge, a seven-point star, had been lost 30 years ago by Captain Joe Meyer when he was a patrol deputy. He had the badge pinned to his coat when he responded to a vehicle in the ditch on a snowy winter day. Somehow, the badge fell off his coat as he investigated the incident and was lost.

"It was my first badge, and it was issued to me with my name on it, so I came back and looked through the deep snow for hours, but could never find it," Captain Meyer said.

Captain Meyer thanked the boys and posed with them for a photo in the local newspaper.

"I really appreciated it. This is quite remarkable," he said.

Courtesy of Crow Wing County Sheriffs Office.

Stolen Badge Recovered A badge reported stolen by a Summit, Ill. police lieutenant has been recovered by Chicago police. The gold-colored Chicago-style five-point ball-tipped star was found when officers searched a vehicle being driven by a rape suspect. It had been reported stolen last September. The suspect told the rape victim he was a police officer but did not display the badge.



The current Guilford County, N.C. Sheriffs Office six-point deputy star and seven-point star detention officer badges (left) are being replaced by a handsome new five-point circled star. The previous badge styles have been worn since the 1970s. *Guilford County SO photographs*

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AMAZING BADGECOLLECTOR.BLOGSPOT.COM offers pictures and stories regarding Police Memorabilia. Focus is N.J. The read is free, however if you have N.J. items for sale/trade contact: DENNIS BEYER, denb22@gmail.com (76)

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COLLECTORS LOOKING FOR county sheriff patches from different states, let me know. I have tons for trade after 20 years of trading, I have decided to trade them. My main interest is K9 patches. OFFICER GILBERT GONZALEZ (RET.), P.O. Box 1838, Meriden, CT 06450, semperfi545@gmail.com

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LOOKING TO BUY ANYTHING from National Geospatial Intelligence Agency: NGA, National Naval Medical Center – NMMC – Bethesda, National Institutes of Health – NIH, National Imagery and Mapping Agency – NIMA, David Taylor Model Basin – DOD Police, and badge marked DTMB with Department of Defense center seal. KEN MARSHALL, hkusp45@comcast.net, phone: (412) 554-2227. (77)

PATCH SALE: "Some" are listed under eBay user name: robertrke, but a large majority are not. Let me know your interest, and I can send list, then scans if need be. Shipping cost is reasonable and free in some cases. I also purchase collections. Contact me at: robertrke@tampabay.rr.com ROBERT (77)

RAILROAD POLICE BADGES WANTED Collector seeks any 10K, 14K and 18K gold Presentation or sterling silver engraved Railroad Police badges, any Chicago area Railroad Police "pie plate" stars and all pre 1950 Railroad Police badges. Also, looking for any early Railroad Police Department photographs, Railroad Police "Office" signs, early ID cards and Police Commissions and Railroad marked firearms. Chip Greiner, P.O. Box 125, Bogota, NJ 07603 (201) 390-7372 rrbadges@aol.com, www.railroadpolicebadges.com

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STILL NEED the Federalsburg PD, MD badge, any style. I will trade or purchase for it. I have over 2000 patches, plus over 100 badges. I have been looking for this badge since the 80's when I worked there. OFFICER GILBERT GONZALEZ (RET.), P.O. Box 1838, Meriden, CT 06450, semperfi545@gmail.com

THOSE WHO COLLECT fish & game patches. I have some old ones. I will trade for K9 patches that I could use. Let me know if you collect other states. I have many traders, over 2000 patches plus over 100 badges. OFFICER GILBERT GONZALEZ (RET.), P.O. Box 1838, Meriden, CT 06450, semperfi545@gmail.com

WANTED Massachusetts Police Badges: Hampden, Springfield Police/Fire, Springfield Armory Guard/Fireman, West Springfield, Wilbraham, East Longmeadow, Holyoke, Chicopee, Monson, Palmer, Ludlow, Northampton, Westfield, Agawam, Southwick, South Hadley, Holland, Brimfield, Wales, Westover Field MP, or any other Massachusetts badge. Please contact MICHAEL COONEY at (413) 784-3378. (80)

WANTED: Anything from the Maryland National Capital Park Police - MNCPP. The Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission - MNCPPC. The Maryland

Department of Natural Resources Police - DNR. Maryland Park Police. Looking to buy: patches, badges, pins, coins, license plates, door decals, ID's documents, etc. KEN MARSHALL, hkusp45@comcast.net, phone: (412) 554-2227. (77)

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WANTED: Boy Scout memorabilia of all types: Patches, Pins, Medals, Handbooks Pre-1936. CHRIS JENSEN, PO Box 1841, Easley, SC 29641, email CJENSEN@STREAMWOOD.NET (78)

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WANTED: I collect South Carolina police metal badges and embroidered patches. Send picture of items that you have for sale to: CHRIS JENSEN, PO Box 1841, Easley, SC 29641, email CJENSEN@STREAMWOOD.NET (78)

WANTED: West Virginia State Fire Marshal badge, Monogalia Co. WV, Deputy Sheriff badge, and Maryland State Police Detective badge. R. JOHNSON, JE, 1380 Bergsmont St., Morgantown, WV 26505.

WANTED: New Jersey badges from the following towns: Mantoloking, Bergenfield, Matawan, Green Brook, Berkeley Heights, Edison, Metuchen and New Jersey State Patrol. I also collect Lehigh Valley Railroad Police items. Email DAN at jasperdan26@optonline.net (80)

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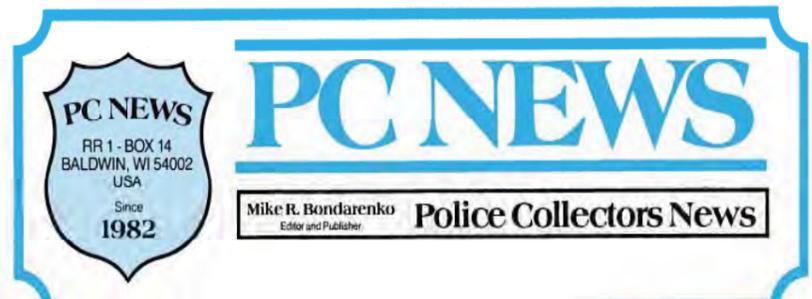
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In neighboring Sparks, Nevada



About the Show: Located in the Sierra Rooms on the 2nd floor, the show will have 252 tables, which are currently sold out, but we welcome everyone to come and walk in to see the show. General show admission is \$5.00 per day (Kids 12 and under FREE).

About the Location: The Nugget Casino Resort was the location of the 2007 Reno National. 8 minutes away from the Reno Tahoe Airport, the hotel and convention center are in the same location. There is a free airport shuttle / transport to and from Reno Tahoe Airport. Free parking is also available for hotel guests and visitors. With 24/7 on site security, the Resort Tower was recently renovated in 2018. All guest rooms have a refrigerator and free wi-fi in all hotel rooms. There is also a fitness center and pool on the 5th floor, an arcade for kids, the casino, and several dining options all under one roof.

Affordable Hotel Costs

- \$99 a night plus resort fees & taxes for Friday, October 2 & Saturday, October 3, 2020
- All other nights from Monday, September 28 through Wednesday, October 7, 2020 are \$59 a night plus taxes and resort fees
- Book by calling 1-800-648-1177. The booking code is: GNPCS20
- Or online from the link on our website at www.reno2020.us/host-hotel

Email: 2020nationalpoliceshow@gmail.com

On Facebook: "2020 National Police Collectors Show" www.facebook.com/reno2020