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2392 USH 12 BALDWIN, WI 54002

Volume 42-Number 2 March-April 2024 Issue Number 99

“Space Coast” Celebrates 37th Show Milestone

It was 37 years ago when Steve and Karen Bridges hosted the historic first “Space Coast” Badge and Patch Show in Titusville, Fla. in 1987. The veteran hosts put on another very successful swap meet on January 27 despite being forced to move to nearby Cocoa after their Titusville venue became unavailable. It didn’t matter!

By Mike R. Bondarenko, Editor

COCOA, Fla. – A new location in Cocoa was no problem for the 2024 “Space Coast” Patch, Badge and Coin Show.

After calling Titusville home for 36 years, Steve and Karen Bridges were forced to pull up stakes and move to Cocoa 12 miles away after learning last summer that their previous venue was no longer available.



Doug Sarubbi (left) accepts the “Best of Show” display award from “Space Coast” host Steve Bridges (right). With a longstanding reputation for outstanding displays, winning top honors at this show is a prestigious achievement. Sarubbi is a fellow Florida show host. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*

The 37th annual swap meet took place on Saturday, January 27 at the Walter Butler Community Center just off Highway 1, a Brevard County Parks and Recreation center. Collectors came from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Virginia and Canada for another sellout show.

“We had a really good day. Every table was sold. We could have sold more. We had 60



Doug Sarubbi brought a wide variety of top notch law enforcement artifacts and memorabilia to the show in Cocoa. He offered a great exhibit from his former department, the Orange County Sheriffs Office in Orlando. Sarubbi collects historic police gear as well. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*



A segment of Doug Sarubbi’s badge and patch sets from agencies across the United States. He likes to show an agency’s badge with its shoulder patch. Sarubbi brought 18 frames filled with these sets. They include state agencies, as well as police and sheriff departments. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*

walk-ins. Ten were first-timers. I saw several faces I hadn’t seen in awhile, which is always good,” Bridges said.



Steve Bridges (right) awards the “Best Badge Display” plaque to veteran hobbyist John Holmes (left). He didn’t win the award for Sunshine State insignia. He won it for his New York City collections. The Holmes family has strong ties to NYC law enforcement. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*

The previous venue in Titusville, which is also owned by Brevard County, has been converted into office space for parks and recreation. It will no longer be available. He was unable to find another suitable venue in the city and moved to Cocoa.



(Left) John Holmes’s display from the NYC Department of Traffic, Sanitation and Transit Police. Many of these items are now obsolete. (Right) His exhibit from the New York Housing Police, Hospital Police and Health and Hospitals Police shows badges and shoulder emblems. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*



In addition to obsolete and highly collectible New York City badges, John Holmes also has a collection of cloth emblems from a variety of agencies in the Big Apple. Although he didn't become an NYC officer like many members of his family did, he enjoys collecting the city. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*

"Space Coast" Show ...Continued

"This is a nice place, but it's all by itself. There's nothing around it. If we wouldn't have had the food truck, we would not have had anything for lunch," he said. The Bridges have hosted all 37 "Space Coast" shows by themselves going all the way back to the inaugural event in 1987 when Steve was a Titusville police officer and Karen



Kelly Coopman (left) went home with the "Best Patch Display" at the "Space Coast" show. It was presented by host Steve Bridges (right). He collects breast cancer awareness emblems. Interestingly, all of the display contest winners have interests beyond Florida. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*

worked at NASA. Both have long since retired. "I don't know how much longer we're going to be able to do this [show]," Bridges said. "I'd like to go for 40 but that's three more years. Hope we can make it!"

Seventy table sellout "Space Coast" was a 70-table sellout. Bridges said he could have sold several more on the day of the show. Sellouts are the norm for this show. While most tableholders had badges and patches, there were several others that offered only challenge coins, a red hot sub-hobby in Florida. Out of state tableholders were Ron Bartholome, Georgia; Mike R. Bondarenko,



(Top) An obsolete NYPD deputy chief inspector shield in John Holmes's collection similar to the one his grandfather carried on duty years ago. (Right) Badge and patch sets from five New York City law enforcement agencies in the award-winning Holmes Collection. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*



There were 633 different breast cancer awareness patches in Kelly Coopman's award-winning exhibit at the time of the Cocoa show. He's probably added more since then. Coopman's original goal was 500 patches. Now the former Illinois resident is going for 1000! *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*

Wisconsin; Bill Burks, Georgia; Hervey Cote, Massachusetts; Leonard Hanham, South Carolina; John Hannah, South Carolina; Rob Jackson, Tennessee; Damir Krdzalic, Iowa; Russ Penka, North Carolina, Gary Schott, Minnesota and Nancy Thompson, Alabama. Florida collectors with tables were Steve Bridges, Kelly Coopman, Howard Curry, Kimberly Elsholz, Lance Fisher, Dave Fox, Dan Grau, John Holmes, Rollin Kuch, John Koch, Kevin Lashells, Sandra Leman, Ryan Martina, David Pate, Jeff Peeler, Steve Robertson, Doug Sarubbi, Gary Scott, Bob Schreiber, Dave Teems, Nathan Yarusso, Aaron Waldo and Keith Worrell.

An overwhelming majority of walk-ins were Floridians. However, there were a few out of state hobbyists who journeyed to Cocoa. Among them were Jay Bartlett, Georgia; Steve



Nathan Yarusso (left) and Dave Teems (right) combined their Florida collections to put together a two-man display at "Space Coast." They had a museum-quality exhibit. It was the largest at the show. State agencies, police departments and sheriffs were represented. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*

Bell, Canada; John Carroll, New York; Xavier Dugardyn, Canada; Howard Friedburg, New York; Eric Gabliks, Pennsylvania; James Mann, Virginia; Tom Perrell, Maryland; Tom and David Reid; Alabama; and Eric Seene, North Carolina. Bell won the patch drop.

Sarubbi wins top honors Florida collectors with interests beyond the Sunshine State swept the "Space Coast" display contest. Bridges's show has a longstanding reputation for great displays, so winning an award here is a memorable achievement. Veteran hobbyist and Orlando show host Doug Sarubbi, a retired Orange County Sheriffs Office sergeant, won "Best of Show" honors.

Although Sarubbi collects Florida insignia, especially badges, his collecting horizon stretches from coast to coast. He brought 18 frames of badge and patch sets from all over the United States. He enjoys putting together sets of badges displayed with the agency shoulder patch.

He collects old generic badges dating back to the late 1890s and early 1990s that he has been able to acquire at shows and antique stores over the years, the older the better, of course.



Florida Marine Patrol and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission patches from the collections of Dave Teems and Nathan Yarusso. They showed emblems from other state agencies, including many obsolete styles. It was an educational exhibit. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*



A complete collection of Leon County Sheriffs Office badges displayed by Dave Teems and Nathan Yarusso at "Space Coast." The collection includes patrol and rank badges, as well as specialties. The agency is headquartered in Tallahassee, the state capital city. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*

Sarubbi is also interested in other historic law enforcement artifacts. His display included an 1880s to early 1900s police helmet, antique restraints, a handheld lantern like those once carried by night watchmen making their rounds and old wooden batons.

"I collect anything I find interesting. It doesn't have to be from Florida," he said.

"Best Badge Display" went home with John Holmes, another longtime Floridian, who has a great interest in New York City where many family members served as police officers. "My family has deep roots in the New York Police Department. A lot of them were New York City cops," he said.

Much of Holmes's award-winning exhibit was devoted to the NYPD and other New York City law enforcement agencies, such as badges and patches worn by the Housing Police (obsolete since 1995), Port Authority Police, Sanitation Police and Transit Police (obsolete since 1999). The Housing Police and Transit Police are now bureaus inside the NYPD, he explained.

A fascinating exhibit was devoted to Holmes's great uncle, James McDonnell, who joined the NYPD in 1921 and served for 40 years. He achieved the rank of deputy chief inspector, now an obsolete rank.

"My great uncle had quite a career. He was the first one in the family to join the NYPD. He was shot on duty in 1938 but survived. Then, he had to retire because he was at the retirement age. I understand he didn't want to retire," Holmes recalled.

Holmes does not have McDonnell's badge. His cousin has it. However, the collector has another deputy inspector badge in one of his display, although it did not belong to his great uncle. "I'd sure love to have his badge," he said. "Maybe someday..."

Holmes also brought an impressive array of current and obsolete NYPD patches.

"I didn't join the NYPD. I decided to go a different direction, but I've always been interested. I guess it's because of the family. I do collect other things as well," he said.

Many former New York City law enforcement officers retire in Florida and a lot of them are collectors. "Space Coast" is like an out of state New York show every year. A lot of NYPD badges, patches and memorabilia is shown and/or changes hands.

The "Pink Patch Guy," Kelly Coopman, won "Best Patch Display" for his massive collection of breast cancer awareness emblems. The Floridian is so dedicated to his new passion that he is selling off his Illinois and Florida collections to concentrate on pink patches.

"I'm up to 633 different ones right now. I was going to stop at 500, but now I'm going for 1000," he said.



(Top) Badges and patches from the Carrabelle Police Department, current and obsolete. (Center) Neptune Beach PD insignia includes the new patch style in the upper right. (Bottom) A collection of badges and other items from Havana PD, including the smoking cigar patch. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*

Coopman's exhibit covered nine large freestanding display boards with pink patches from all over the United States and beyond. A wide variety of federal, state and local agencies are represented.

"Don't really know how it [the collection] got this big. I just picked up a few pink patches at first. It just grew from there. I guess I got hooked," Coopman said.

Bridges has three local law enforcement officers who are not collectors judge the exhibits every year. The judges always remain anonymous.

Teems and Yarusso team up Dave Teems and Nathan Yarusso have outstanding Florida collections on their own, but when they team up and show them together, like they did in Cocoa, they reach the stratosphere like a rocket blasting off from Cape Canaveral.

Now partners in their patch and badge business, Naps and Donuts Designs, Teems and Yarusso collect both patches and badges and have been able to find some rare and historic pieces.

Both have several virtually complete department collections and sets of Florida sheriff badges. Their museum-quality display was the largest at the show. It was among the best Florida collections I have seen not specific to a particular agency or department.

Among the badges were department collections from the Florida Highway Patrol, Leon County Sheriffs Office, Havana Police, Carabelle Police, Liberty, Madison and Jefferson County Sheriffs Offices, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Neptune Police, Florida Marine Patrol, Florida Department of Law Enforcement and several others. There was also an exhibit of obsolete sheriffs office badges.

Leon County is particularly impressive. Teems is a sergeant on the department and runs the department museum. It is a complete set.

One of the best badges was a deputy sheriff shield shape worn in the 1880s to 1890s. It was found in a dig at the Cascades Park site of the old county jail in Tallahassee. Initially thought to be a toy, it was found to be authentic. "It was anything but a toy!" Teems said.

Several large patch collections, mostly from state agencies, were shown, each one virtually complete. Among these collections were the Highway Patrol, Marine Patrol, Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, Office of Agriculture Law Enforcement and Alcoholic Beverage and Tobacco Law Enforcement. Obsolete styles and special units are included among current styles.

Teems and Yarusso have several outstanding historic badges in their collections:

...A second issue Tampa Police Department from the early 1900s that carries the number "1." It's a unique ornate shield shape with the legends, "POLICE/ 1/ TAMPA. FLA."

...An Eighth District constable eagle-topped shield from Leon County. It has a large state seal as the center design.

...Two rare eagle-topped shields from the Florida State College for Women from the 1940s. Both show considerable wear but are in excellent condition for their age. The State College for Women is now Florida State University. FSU goes back to 1851 when it was the West Florida Seminary. The name changed to the State College for Women in 1909 and then Florida State University in 1947.

Interestingly, in years past, police at the State College for Women were not certified law enforcement officers. They were civilian university employees. However, the Tallahassee Police Department gave them commissions so they could police the campus. The collection



(Top) Insignia from the Florida Department of Agriculture includes their new styles (lower left and right) and previous designs. (Center) A mixed Florida sheriff office display. (Bottom) Current and obsolete badges from the Florida Fish and Fresh Water Commission. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*



The Florida State College for Women became Florida State University in 1947. These are badges worn by university employees in the 1940s who received identification cards from the Tallahassee PD to allow them to police the campus before FSU PD. An ID card is shown. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*

“Space Coast” Show ...Continued

includes a very rare TPD identification card issued to university employee Barry L. Stein in 1946.

Naps and Donuts update The owners of Naps and Donuts Designs, Dave Teems and Nathan Yarusso, have done well over the last year, especially among state



Three outstanding Florida badges in the Teems-Yarusso display. (Top) A old Leon County shield found in a dig near the old jail. (Left) An Eighth District constable eagle top from Leon County. (Right) A fabulous second issue shield from the Tampa Police Department. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*

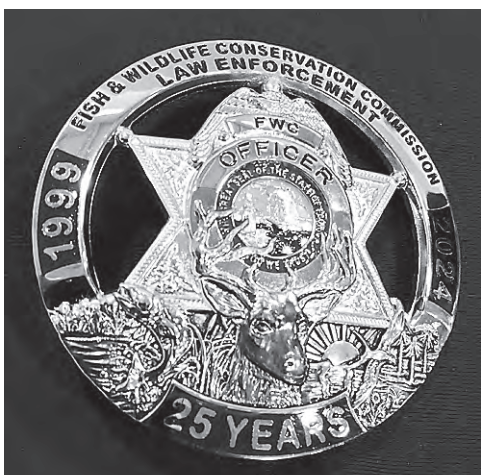
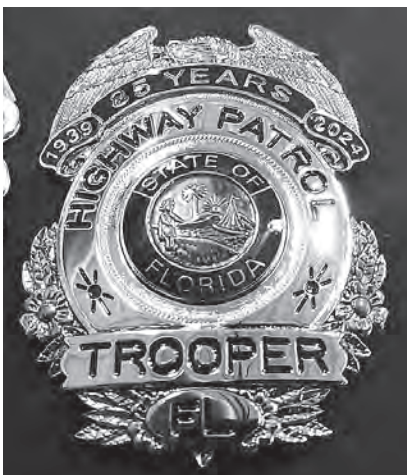
agencies. They created and produced new patches and badges for the Office of Agriculture Law Enforcement, 85th anniversary commemorative badges for the Florida Highway Patrol and Florida Highway Patrol Auxiliary and a 25th anniversary circled star for the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Each is an impressive, high-quality creation.

The Office of Agriculture Law Enforcement operates 23 stations on 19 major highways in and out of the state to inspect agricultural products. The agency also investigates crimes related to agriculture and is involved in domestic security.

“The chief wants to give the department a more law enforcement look, so we came up with these. They turned out nice,” Teems said.

Their previous patch showed a sunrise over a farm field, while the new one shows the new badge. The former badge was a typical state agency shield with the state seal. Now, it’s a custom design.

Fish and Wildlife is a circled six-point star with a superimposed eagle-topped shield representing the agency’s badge history. The legends read, “FISH & CONSERVATION COMMISSION/ LAW ENFORCEMENT/ 1989/ 2024/ 25 YEARS.” A handsome design at



Naps and Donuts Designs did these badges. (Left) Florida Highway Patrol is celebrating its 85th year. The badge is a combination of the current and Road Patrol shields. (Right) The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission turned 25 this year. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*



Jeff Peeler has the hobby’s finest overall Florida Highway Patrol collection. You name it; he’s probably got it or knows about it. The FHP Auxiliary supervisor has really gotten into challenge coins the last few years and has produced several for the agency. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*

the bottom shows an outdoor scene depicting a deer and other wildlife.

It was designed by Yarusso and made by Smith and Warren. It will be nominated for a well deserved design award by the company.

The Florida Highway Patrol is celebrating its 85th anniversary this year with a commemorative badge and patch. The designs were approved by Colonel Gary Howze.

The badge combines the current and a previous design worn by the Road Patrol with an eagle top and laurels on either side. The black legends read, “1939/ 25 YEARS/ 2024/ HIGHWAY PATROL/ TROOPER.” A black ring surrounds a plain state seal with “STATE OF FLORIDA” on it. There silver and gold versions.

The emblem is similar to the round standard issue insignia worn by troopers with an 85th anniversary logo on it.

There is a very colorful new emblem for Neptune Beach PD that has dolphins on it. There is also a redesigned badge.

Great displays galore “Space Coast” attracted many great displays in addition to the three award winners.

Florida Highway Patrol collector Jeff Peeler, who has the best department collection on the planet, featured a fine exhibit of badges, patches, challenge coins and other memorabilia. He brought complete sets of badges and patches, including rank sets. You



(Top) An awesome exhibit of Florida Highway Patrol patches and badges in Jeff Peeler’s collection. (Top center) Seventy-fifth anniversary insignia. (Bottom center) Recruit class challenge coins. (Bottom) Jeff Peeler’s FHP patch collection at “Space Coast” 2024. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*



(Left) Jeff Peeler put together this exhibit devoted to Florida Highway Patrol Communications featuring badges and patches. (Right) The FHP celebrated its 80th birthday in 2019 and came out with commemorative badges and challenge coins. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*

name it, he's got it.

Peeler has really gotten into challenge coins in recent years. His exhibit featured a complete set of FHP academy class coins and many others. He also designs and produces coins for the agency, where he serves as an auxiliary supervisor.

"Every class has a different style coin. Each one is just for that class, no others," Peeler said.

The FHP and FHP Auxiliary are celebrating their 1939 to 2024 85th anniversary this year. Peeler's collection features a set of badges and challenge coins from the 80th anniversary five years ago (2019).

It appears the agency is on track toward an anniversary celebration every five years, definitely a good thing for collectors and insignia designers and producers. Anniversary and commemorative milestone insignia has exploded in recent years among agencies large and small. Florida is no exception.

This is a positive trend for law enforcement. As a former chief of police, special milestone insignia it is good for agency morale and calls attention to department history



Floridians got a taste of Minnesota at "Space Coast," thanks to Gary Schott of Winsted, Minn. He put on a nice display of Gopher State police and sheriff patches, as well as patrol vehicle license plates. He likes to show photographs from his career as seen in the background. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*

among the rank and file. Even though most agencies don't issue it, many officers are more than willing to buy these badges and patches to wear on duty and then keep them as keepsakes and future family heirlooms.

As collectors, milestone insignia gives us additional collecting challenges and generates interest and excitement. Even though I don't collect Florida, I collect state agencies so badges and patches created for FHP milestones interest me.

Peeler featured several beautifully framed displays, such as FHP special unit patches, 75th anniversary insignia from 2014 and communications patches and badges, among several others.

Joining Paula and I during our all too brief escape from the frozen tundra of the Upper Midwest was well known Minnesota collector Gary Schott. He brought a nice display of Minnesota patches and patrol vehicle license plates.

While Florida is one of the most heavily collected states largely because of its very colorful and descriptive insignia, Minnesota is certainly making progress. Gopher State badges and patches are rapidly transitioning from traditional insignia to attractive custom designs, a very positive trend.

"Our stuff used to be pretty boring. Not anymore. We've got some really nice patches and badges now. And license plates are getting a lot better, too," Schott said.

His comments were echoed by another Minnesota native, Rollin Kuch, who had an excellent display. Now almost 92 years old, the retired federal law enforcement officer has been attending and displaying at "Space Coast" since 1988.

"He's right about Minnesota. Back years ago, most patches and patches were pretty simple. Plain. Now, Minnesota has a lot of really pretty nice patches, I think," Kuch said.

Since he retired in Florida, he has broadened his collecting interests to Florida and a few specialty collections, such patches with country names (Cuba, N.M., Denmark, S.C.,



A couple of impressive specialty collections by Rollin Kuch were on display at the "Space Coast" show in Cocoa on January 27. (Left) Emblems with country names, such as Denmark, etc. (Right) These patches are from departments in namesake foreign capitals. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*



Born and raised in Minnesota, Rollin Kuch, 91, is still going strong as a collector. He put on an excellent patch exhibit at the show. Kuch worked for the federal government before his retirement and was stationed overseas. He has a very fine Minnesota collection as well. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*



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2392 USH 12 BALDWIN, WI 54002

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Police Collectors News (USPS 001759) (ISSN 1071-1724) is published bimonthly for \$15.95 for one year (6 issues) by the Police Insignia Collectors Association (PICA) doing business as 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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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 has been published continuously since 1982.

Subscription Rates \$15.95 for one year (6 issues) periodical class mail delivery in the USA. \$30.95 for first class mail delivery in the USA. \$50 for one year (6 issues) airmail delivery worldwide. Only US funds are accepted for subscriptions.

Subscriptions must be paid in advance using a major credit card through the *PCNEWS* website, PcnewsOnline.Com. Subscriptions automatically renew each year until a cancellation notice is received.

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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.

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



Gary C. Scott brought collections from the West Virginia State Fire Marshals Office and the Kawawah County Sheriffs Office in Charleston, W. Va. A 22-year veteran firefighter, Scott retired to Florida several years ago, He still keeps up with West Virginia. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*

"Space Coast" Show ...Continued

Town of Greece, N.Y., etc.) or cities and counties named after foreign countries (Ottawa, Ill, Berlin, Mass, Havana, Fla., etc.). He has many other collections.

"I like to do something different," he said.

His son, John, who is also a collector, and his daughter in law attended the show with him and encouraged him to show off his outstanding collection. We were all glad he did.

After a 22-year career as a firefighter in West Virginia, Gary W. Scott retired and moved to Florida where he collects fire and law enforcement insignia, especially from agencies that investigate fire-related crimes, such as arson and insurance fraud.

He had an interesting exhibit from the West Virginia State Fire Marshals Office, which used to be a Department of Public Safety sub-agency but is now a separate department. It featured patches and four badges.

The agency traces its roots to 1909 following the passage of state legislation known as



Nancy Thompson, Tom Reid and David Reid (left to right) were at "Space Coast" to liquidate the late Rick Hallmark's collection. David Reid is Hallmark's son. Thompson was his partner for many years. Check out the display of Florida sheriffs office badges in the bottom frame. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*

the Fire Marshal Law. The state fire marshal department was under the state auditor and charged not only with investigating arson and other fire-related crimes, but educating the public on fire safety, among other responsibilities.

After a stint under control of the state insurance commission, the fire marshals were transferred to the then-newly created State Fire Commission in 1976. It has evolved continually since then and has become responsible for a variety of additional duties.

Members are now required to graduate from the state police academy, Scott said.

He also showed a set of insignia from the Kanawha County Sheriffs Office, which is headquartered in Charleston, the state capital.

Jeremiah Herderich is a Denver, Colo. firefighter who also collects law enforcement insignia. He opted not to attend "Porky" in California this year in favor of "Space Coast" in Florida. He said he was glad he did because he picked up three nice Florida badges for his collection at reasonable prices.

Even though he obviously loves his job as a full-time firefighter, I kid my good friend unmercifully about collecting police insignia and having so much time off. He takes it all in stride, of course. Obviously we are all have the same objective, public safety, but it sure is fun to joust back and forth about cops versus firefighters!

Nancy Thompson journeyed from Alabama to continue liquidating the collection of her partner, the late Rick Hallmark, who died last year. She brought mostly badges to the show,



Ron Bartholome of Plains, Ga. recently achieved a milestone. He obtained the last badge he needed to complete his collection of Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Police Department traditional presidential inaugurals. It is the only known complete set going back to 1937. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*



The Florida hobby lost Casimir J. Wyzgowski, 80, in May 2022. His wife only recently announced his death. He collected mostly patches and attended several shows. Wyzgowski was a United States Marine, then served for 24 years as a Washington, D.C. officer. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*

including a complete framed set of Florida county sheriff stars displayed on a state flag. If I collected the state, I would have taken it home in a heartbeat.

"I'm still going through Rick's collection. There is a lot more. I didn't even bring any of the patches," Thompson said. "It's going to take some time to get it all out."

Thompson donated about 1000 Road Champs cars that Hallmark had to Toys For Tots last December. Recently, she found five more cases (about 250 cars) and donated them to Detective James Mann of a local police department. He, in turn, gave them to school children in his community who were delighted by the surprise.

Mann is a collector and attended the show. Afterward, he saw Hallmark's collection in person and purchased a lot of it during his visit.

Steve Srozinski is a walking encyclopedia of Jacksonville law enforcement history. He specializes in the Jacksonville Sheriffs Office and has an incredible collection. Recently, he added a great piece to his collection, a complete uniform worn from 1896 to 1910, including a coat and helmet.

"I already had the badge that goes on the hat. I needed the uniform and hat and found one at an estate sale. It's a nice find," Srozinski said.

The uniform now hangs from a mannequin in his office. It's a great piece of JSO history.

It was 1968 when the Duval County Road Patrol and the Jacksonville Police Department were consolidated into the Jacksonville Sheriffs Office. The agency wears some of the nicest, most colorful insignia in the state.

Ron Bartholome, a former Orange County, Fla. law enforcement officer now living in Georgia, recently achieved a milestone when he completed his set of traditional presidential inaugural badges worn by the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Police Department.

"The last one is the second Eisenhower-Nixon badge. It was the first time they had two badges, silver and gold. It took me a long time to finally get one, like 20 years," he said.

Now, Bartholome has the only known complete set of MPD inaugurals. It includes the very rare 1945 Roosevelt-Truman badge made by Blackinton. Only 100 of these badges were made. He has number 31. The badges are sterling silver.

It's a unique badge because when President Roosevelt was inaugurated for his fourth term in January, the United States was in the midst of World War II. The presidential inaugural ceremonies were canceled out of respect for the American service men and women fighting in Europe and the Pacific. It was no time for a celebration.

The department ordered the inaugural badges even though they were not issued. Bartholome believes they went to high ranking officers and dignitaries. However, they were not issued to the rank and file.

President Roosevelt died on April 12, less than three months after he was sworn in for the fourth time. Vice President Harry S. Truman became president and guided the United States to victory over Germany and Japan.

"The badge means a lot because no president served more than two terms and there was no inauguration that year. It's pretty unique," he said.

Ironically, Bartholome, who has collected presidential inaugural badges and memorabilia for many years, now lives in Plains, Ga., the home of former President Jimmy Carter. It seems appropriate: an inaugural badge collector in the hometown of a president.

Sad news from Florida There was sad news at "Space Coast." Two longtime Sunshine State collectors have died.

Bridges said he learned only days before the show that Barry Biss of Ormond Beach



Fabulous badges from Ron Bartholome's Washington Metropolitan PD presidential inaugurals set. (Top) Clinton-Gore from 1997 (second term) and (right) Bush-Cheney from 2001 (first term). (Bottom) Eisenhower-Nixon from 1953 and 1957, first and second terms. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*

died in December. "I haven't been able to find out much else, but I'm going to work on it," he said.

Bridges maintains a loose leaf book filled with obituaries of collectors who have participated in "Space Coast" shows over the years. It's a fitting tribute to their contributions to the hobby.

Shortly before we left on our trip to Florida, I was notified of the death of Casimir J. Wyzgowski of Inverness by his wife, Evelyn. She called the PCNEWS office to notify us that his subscription would not be renewed.

Wyzgowski died on May 4, 2022 at age 80. He was a Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Police officer and retired in 1997 after 24 years on the job. He held the rank of detective.

"Casey [his nickname] truly loved his job. He worked very hard on all of his cases. He was really dedicated," Evelyn Wyzgowski said.

Originally from Cicero, Ill., Wyzgowski joined the United States Marine Corps in 1960. He served for seven years and achieved the rank of sergeant. After deployments as a guard at United States embassies on two continents, he was ordered to Washington, D.C. for an assignment on Air Force One, the presidential aircraft.

"Casey didn't want anything to do that. He hated politics and figured the job was going to be political. He knew another Marine who was interested in the job but was going to Vietnam. He didn't want to," she said.

"They had a meeting with their commanding officer. He agreed they could swap. His friend went to Washington. Casey went to Vietnam. He volunteered for it," Evelyn Wyzgowski continued.

He retired from the Marine Corps in 1967 and became a police officer.

Wyzgowski began collecting patches after moving to the Washington, D.C. area. "He had a few when we moved, but he got real interested after we moved," his wife said.

The retired officer collected emblems that interested him from across the country, including quite a few from Florida. He also had a few metal badges.

Evelyn Wyzgowski related that she donated her husband's patch collection to a local retired officers' association in Inverness. She said several members like to collect them.

"I did keep a few. I like the ones with Indians on them. I saved his badges, too, the ones he wore," she said.

Wyzgowski had two plaques with Metropolitan police presidential inaugurals on them, including one from President Clinton thanking the department for their service during his 1993 inauguration. The other one commemorated his MPD service.

The decorated Marine veteran was buried with full military honors. We salute him!

"Space Coast" notebook A few pages from my "Space Coast" notebook.

...Among the many reasons why so many out-of-state collectors, especially from the North, flock to "Space Coast" every year, in addition to the welcome break from winter, of course, is the diversity. While there is a lot of Florida insignia, the rest of the country is usually very well represented. This year was no exception.

I saw badges and patches for sale or trade from all over the country, most priced fairly, unlike the ripoffs offered on eBay and many copycat online auctions. I have picked up some very nice things at reasonable prices from Arizona, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Chicago and state agencies in Titusville over the years. Internet buying is always more expensive.

This year, there was a bag stuffed to overflowing with California patches on one of the tables for between \$3 to \$5 each. A couple were \$10 each, but they were obsolete styles. Compare those prices to prices at California shows.

There was plenty of New York City insignia available too, especially badges, probably because a lot of it makes its way to Florida through retirees.

...Several collectors asked about Keith Mackey, the North Carolina dealer who brought his mobile patch store to Titusville a few times. He covered multiple tables with large bins piled high with emblems sorted by states. His prices were very reasonable, too.

Last I heard from Mackey, he was going to put his patches in storage and live in the Philippines for a few years. He must have made the move because he hasn't been at a show for quite awhile.

I really enjoyed shopping his bins and bought a lot of patches from him. Hopefully, he will return soon.

...Food at "Space Coast" is always top notch. The hosts bring in a cop owned and operated food truck that specializes in authentic Southern barbecue. It's absolutely delicious and reasonably priced.

Real Southern BBQ is a rare treat for us Yankees! My wife and I bought a pound of it and made hot sandwiches at the hotel for a couple days. They were awesome!

...As has been written on these pages before, venues suitable for shows at affordable prices are becoming harder and harder to find. While Bridges was right that there are no hotels or restaurants around the new venue in Cocoa, I thought it was just fine.

We had everything we needed. There was plenty of free parking, easy ingress and egress, a large warm, well lit hall with plenty of room for tables and a really good food truck. Okay, there was no coffee shop or Subway nearby, but is that really all that important?

Collectors have been spoiled over the years, me included, with shows at nice hotel ballrooms with in-house restaurants and bars and all that. But, I would much rather have a show at a community center like Cocoa than not have a show at all for lack of a venue, which has happened a few times. Makes sense to me.

Remember that our hobby's first shows in the late 1970s and early 1980s were held in collector's backyards, park shelters and taverns. We've come a long, long way.

...Several collectors talked about novelty patches, for lack a better description. These are colorful emblems that use real agency names, etc. but depict cartoon-like characters. Many of these are so-called limited editions with high price tags, like \$10 to \$15 each, but are not (and ever will be) worn on duty. Are they legitimate insignia?

Collector opinions on legitimacy varied widely. Some called them "garbage" and warned they will ruin the hobby. Others thought they are collectible, but only as novelties.

"If you know up front that these are figments of someone's imagination and making big



Rollin Kuch put together these two exhibits with unusual themes. (Left) Cities with names that are also foreign capitals, such as Paris, Lisbon, etc. (Right) A collection of departments whose names are the same as foreign countries like Italy, Holland and Scotland. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*

bucks for the sellers and are okay with it, have at them," one collector told me.

A former high ranking law enforcement official who has been collecting for years hopes those making them are getting agency permission to use their names on their creations.

"If they're doing it on their own and they're working cops, they better be prepared if a sheriff or police chief calls their boss and raises hell about a patch he doesn't agree with," he said. "It could turn out to be a bad career move."

Good advice from someone in the know. You have been warned!

MIKE R. BONDARENKO (Baldwin, Wis.)

Swap Meet Calendar

© 2024 Police Insignia Collectors Association

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.

Sterling Heights, Mich.

The 39th Annual Detroit Area Police and Fire Collectors Show and Exhibit will be Sat., Mar. 23 from 9 am to 2 pm at the Mound Palace Banquet Hall, 38435 Mound Rd., Sterling Heights, Mich. Bob Blickensdorf, Mike Duvall, Todd Hansen, Bill Pace, Dave Loar and Gino Hliebav will host it.

Admission is \$5, Children under 12 will be admitted free.

All tables have been sold. The hall will open for table setup at 7 am.

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

There will be a patch drop drawing.

This is a closed show. You must be a known collector or have valid police or fire identification or accompany a known collector or valid police or fire ID holder.

Current style badges may not be bought, sold or traded at the show or on the property. Failure to comply with this policy will result in expulsion from the show and possible exclusion from future shows. Displays which contain current badges must be marked "Display Only."

For show information, contact Duvall duvalim70@yahoo.com, Hansen 2933hansen@gmail.com, Pace wpace423@aol.com, Loar cdloar@hotmail.com or Hliebav ghliebav1@comcast.net.

North Myrtle Beach, S.C.

The Second Annual North Myrtle Beach Patch Show will be Sat., Mar. 23 from 8:30 am to 2 pm at Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church, 801 11th Ave., North Myrtle Beach, S.C. Loren Finch will host it. This is the same location as last year.

Twenty-five tables are available for \$20 each. Tableholders may enter the hall and set up at 7:30 am. If set up is completed early, the hall may open early.

Police and public safety will be the mainstay. Displays are encouraged.

Coffee and snacks will be available for purchase.

Please send checks for tables to Bill Finch, 721 Prestbury Dr., Conway, SC 29526.

Collectors with questions or special requests, such as wall space, electricity, etc., can reach him on (410) 935-2878.

Southgate, Ky.

The Second Annual Northern Kentucky/Cincinnati Area Police Collectors Show will be Sat., Mar. 30 from 9 am to 3 pm at the Southgate Community Center, 301 W. Walnut, Southgate, Ky. John Christmann will host it. This is the same location as last year.

Admission is free.

Fifty-two eight-foot tables are available for \$15. each. The hall will open on Friday from 6 to 8 pm for set up only. Set up on Saturday is from 8 to 9 am. Early reservations are recommended; the 2023 show was a sellout.

Awards will be presented for the best displays.

This is a closed show. Only known collectors and first responders and their families will be admitted.

Food and drinks will be available on site.

For tables and information email the host on jchristmann23@gmail.com or telephone (859) 743-5350.

Brentwood, Md.

The 42nd Mid-Atlantic Regional Police Collectors Show will be Sat., Apr. 6 from 9 am to 3 pm at a new location, the Brentwood Volunteer Fire Department, 3716 Rhode Island Ave., Brentwood, Md. The show was previously held in Riverdale, Md. Andy Ferraro will host it.

Free admission.

Approximately 70 tables are available for \$10 each. The hall will open at 7 am for exhibitor setup. The show will be held in the banquet room on the second floor. An elevator is available.

There will be an award for the "Best Display."

Ten hotels are located within a few miles of the show along Route 485 and in College Park. The show is three minutes from Washington, D.C.

Make reservations with Andy Ferraro on (240) 723-0507. Table payments can be mailed to Andy Ferraro, PO Box 1, Brentwood MD 20722.

Swap Meet Calendar ...Continued

Hasbrouck Heights, N.J.

The Sixth Annual New York and New Jersey Metropolitan Police and Fire Collectors Show will be Sun., Apr. 7 from 9 am to 2:30 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.

Tables are \$70 each. Reservations can be made online using Pay Pal by email on uspcltd2016@gmail.com or mailing a check or money order to US Police Collectors, PO Box 53, Tappan NY10983-0053.

Displays are encouraged. Awards will be presented for the best patch, badge and overall displays.

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 is required.

The Hilton is offering discount room rates online. Please use the code "PCA." The hotel telephone number is (201) 288-6100.

Inquiries can be made by email at nynjpcs@gmail.com or posted on the show Facebook page.

Marshall, Minn.

The 2024 Marshall Area Law Enforcement Swap Meet will be Sat., Apr. 20 from 9 am to 2 pm at the Marshall Merit Center, 1001 West Erie Road, Marshall, Minn. Kyle J. Helvig will host it. This show is dedicated to the memory of the late Minnesota collector Dave "Gooz" Gislason, show founder and longtime host.

Free admission.

Tables are \$10 each. The hall will open at 8 am for exhibitor set up.

Awards will be presented for the best displays.

Food and refreshments will be available.

For tables or further information, contact Helvig on (507) 829-1569.

Havana, Fla.

The First "Southern States" Patch and Coin Show will be held on Sat., April 27 from 9 am to 4 pm at the Florida Public Safety Institute, 75 College Dr., Havana, Fla. The location is just south of Tallahassee. Nathan Yarusso and Dave Teems of Naps and Donuts Designs will host it.

Fifty tables are available for \$15 each.

Displays are encouraged. Awards will be presented for the best exhibits.

Naps and Donuts will be offering a new coin honoring Tallahassee Officer DeMarrio Bryant, who was lost in an off-duty accident. All profits from coin sales and table rentals will go to his family and cover general expenses.

Tables can be reserved on the Naps and Donuts Facebook page, emailing napsanddonuts@gmail.com or telephoning the hosts on (850) 405-5290.

Mesa, Ariz.

The Phoenix/Mesa Public Safety Badge and Patch Show will be Sat., Apr. 27 from 9 am to 4 pm at the Mesa Convention Center, 263 N. Center St., Mesa, Ariz. Mike Lucas and Brian Richardson will host it.

General admission is \$5 for adults. Children under 12 will be admitted free.

All 50 tables have been sold for \$65 each. The hall will be open from 8 am to 9 am for tableholder set up. A table waiting list is being maintained.

Awards will be presented for the best displays in three categories, Best Badge, Best Patch and Best Overall.

Richardson is curator of the Phoenix Police Museum. The museum will have an exhibit in the lobby.

Potential tableholders can email Lucas to be placed on the waiting list. His email address is mauirebel@cox.net.

Bentonville, Ark.

The 2024 Tri-State Police Collectors Show will be Sat., May 18 beginning at 8 am at the First Baptist Church of Bentonville gymnasium, 200 SW "A" St., Bentonville, Ark. Casey Kensinger will host it.

The show is a fundraiser for the Benton County Sheriffs Office Fraternal Order of Police and the "Shop With A Cop" program.

Admission is a \$2 donation. Children and spouses are admitted free.

Six-foot tables are available for \$20 each on a first come basis. The hall will open early for exhibitor setup. Reservations are final.

For more information or to reserve tables, call Casey Kensinger on (479) 418-1838.

Cleveland, O.

The 2024 Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society Police Collectors Show will be Sat., May 18 from 10 am to 3 pm at the Double Tree Hotel, 1111 Lakeside Ave., Cleveland, Ohio.

Free admission.

Tables are \$20 each. Purchase two or more tables and get one display-only table free.

Discount rooms for \$132 a night are available at the Double Tree from May 15 to May 19. Their number is (216) 241-5100.

This show is an official event of Police Week in Cleveland from May 12 to May 18. A complete listing of events is available on the GCPOMS website, PoliceMemorialSociety.Org.

Reserve tables with Tony Gorsek on (216) 287-5343 or email gorsek@att.net.

Athens, O.

The 2024 Southeast Ohio Police Collectors Show will be Sat., June 1 from 9 am to 2 pm at the Athens Community Center, 701 E. State St., Athens, O. Andy Watson and Clay Lowing will host it.

Gatlinburg, Tenn.

The first Ober Mountain First Responder Collectors Show will be Sat., June 1 from 8 am to 4 pm at the Pi Beta Phi Elementary School, 125 Cherokee Rd., Gatlinburg, Tenn. It is sponsored by the Ober Mountain First Responders. This is a new Tennessee show.

Admission and table information will be available in mid-March on the show Facebook page, Ober Mountain First Responder Collectors Show, as well as on PCNEWSOnline.Com.

This locally focused show is the fundraiser for the school, which was founded in 1912. It was originally operated by the Pi Beta Phi Fraternity. It is now part of the Sevier County School System, which is headquartered in Sevierville.

All show proceeds will be donated to the school to help local children get a great education.

School children will be helping during the show and accepting donations for their school. This is strictly a charity event.

Branson, Mo.

The Ninth Annual "Heart of the Ozarks" Police Collectors Show will be Fri., June 14 and Sat., June 15 at the Americ-Inn by Wyndham, 275 Tanger Blvd., Branson, Mo. The show will take place from 12 pm to 4 pm on Friday and 8 am to 3 pm on Saturday. Jim Post, Terry Bible and Tom Green will host it.

Free admission.

Seventy-five six-foot tables are available for \$20 each. Early reservations are recommended. Reservations can be made with Breen at mshp297@hotmail.com. Checks, major credit cards and Pay Pal accepted. Reservations can also be made by mail to Breen at 1205 Markway Mills Road, Jefferson City MO 65101.

The show is an official event of National Law Enforcement Week in Branson. Many merchants and attractions are offering deep discounts to active and retired law enforcement officers and their families.

There will be a display contest.

Lunch will be served on Saturday.

The Americ-Inn is offering discount rooms, free breakfast and WiFi and a large lobby for early or late trading. Parking is free. Please mention Law Enforcement Week when making reservations to qualify for discounts.

For more information on National Law Enforcement Week, please visit LawEnforcementWeek.org.

For show information, contact Post on kopcars@arkansas.net or (479) 253-6333.

For area information, contact Bible on terry.bible264@gmail.com.

Chicago, Ill.

The 2024 Chicago Police and Fire Collectors Show will be Sun., June 23 from 10 am to 3 pm at the Medinah Shriners Center, 550 Shriners Dr., Addison, Ill. Michael Chuchro, owner of Blue HQ LLC, will host it. This is the first show in Chicago since 2006.

Admission is \$10. Children under 12 will be admitted free. The show is open to the public.

Sixty-six six-foot and eight-foot tables are available. Six-foot tables are \$40. Eight-foot tables are \$45.

There is ample free parking.

The Hilton Garden Inn just off I-365 at Army Trail Road is the host hotel. It is located close to the show hall.

Please visit the show website, ChicagoShow.Net, for additional information, buy tickets or make table reservations.

Gettysburg, Penna.

The First Annual "Mason Dixon" Police and Fire Patch and Memorabilia Show will be held on Sat., June 29 from 9 am to 3 pm at the Gettysburg Fire Department, 35 N. Stratton St., Gettysburg, Penna. It will be hosted by Adam Reid and Lou McAlexander.

Admission is \$5 for adults. Children are admitted free. Early admission at 8 am is \$10.

Fifty-five tables are available for \$35 each. The hall will open at 7 am for exhibitor setup. The show is located downtown within walking distance from everything. There is free parking. Nearby lodging and food is easily accessible. A food truck will be on site.

For table reservations, email masondixonpatchshow@gmail.com.

The show has a Facebook page, Gettysburg PA Mason Dixon Patch Show.

San Luis Obispo, Calif.

The San Luis Obispo Police Memorabilia Show will be Sat., July 6 from 9 am to 1 pm at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 801 Grand Ave., San Luis Obispo, Calif. This show is sponsored by the California Law Enforcement Historical Society. PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE FROM THE ORIGINALLY ANNOUNCED DATE TO JULY 6.

Admission is free.

Fifty-five eight-foot tables are available for \$40 each for CLEHS members and \$50 each for non-members. Early reservations are recommended. This show is always a sellout.

Awards will be presented for Best Patch Display, Best Badge Display, Best Historical Display, Best Educational Display and Best of Show awards.

The 2024 California Police Historian of the Year will be announced.

Table reservations can be made on the CLEHS website, CalPoliceHistory.Com. Tables can also be reserved by mailing a check to Gary Hoving, President, CLEHS, PO Box 254875, Sacramento CA 95865-4875. He can be reached by telephone on (805) 441-4936 or by email through the website.

National Police Collectors Show

The 2024 National Police Collectors Show will be Fri., July 12, Sat., July 13 and Sun., July 14 at the Adler Theater and River Center, 126 E. Third St., Davenport, Iowa. It will be hosted by Damir Krdzalic and Peter Harris. Jake Bushey and Darren Nozaki are supporting hosts.

The hobby's annual convention will begin on Fri., July 12 with table setup from 9 am to 5 pm. There will be a tableholder meeting from 5:15 to 5:45 pm. It will be followed by a tableholders reception from 6 to 8 pm.

The show will be open to the public from 9 am to 6 pm on Sat., July 13 and 9 am to 3:30 pm on Sun., July 14. Tableholders only will be admitted for setup beginning at 8 am both days. Display awards will be presented at 2 pm on Sunday.

Admission is \$5. A three-day VIP Pass is available for \$40. A limited number of these

passes are available and can be purchased through the show website.

Tables are \$75 each and can be purchased through the show website.

The show Web site is www.npcsusa.com.

The primary host hotel is the Double Tree by Hilton, which is connected to the 32,400 square foot River Center by a skywalk. It is offering a special discount room rate of \$129 per night. Parking is an additional \$10 per day. Reservations can be made by calling the hotel on (563) 322-2200. Please mention the group code NPC to qualify for the special rate. Reservations can also be made by using the show Web site.

The secondary hotel is the historic, luxurious Hotel Blackhawk, a classic Four Diamond property, which has welcomed presidents and other dignitaries from around the world. It is offering a special discount room rate of \$169 per night. Parking is an additional \$12 per night. Rooms may be booked by through the show Web site.

Both hotels are connected to the River Center.

Collectors are urged by Visit Quad Cities, the local convention and visitors bureau, to consider a family vacation in the area. The discount rates at both hotels are available for four days before and two days after the National. There are a wide variety of family activities and attractions in the area. Please see VisitQuadCities.Com for complete information on Quad Cities vacations.

The closest air transportation is Quad Cities International Airport, which is 15 minutes from the show site in Moline, Ill. It is serviced by Delta, American, United and Allegiant Airlines. Neither host hotel offers airport shuttles.

Eastern Iowa Airport is 90 minutes away in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. It is serviced by Allegiant, American, Delta, Frontier and United.

O'Hare International Airport is three hours away in Chicago where nearly every major national or international carrier has flights.

The hosts are working on possible group tours of selected local attractions.

Show questions can be directed to the hosts through the Web site under the "CONTACT US" tab on the home page.

Bloomington, Ind.

The 2024 "Central Indiana" Law Enforcement Memorabilia Collectors Show will be Sat., Aug. 3 from 9 am to 2 pm EST at the Monroe County Fairgrounds Community Building, 5700 W. Airport Rd., Bloomington, Ind. Kyle Landgrebe will host it.

Admission is free.

Tables are \$25 each. The hall will open for exhibitor setup only from 5 to 7 pm on Friday and beginning at 7 am on Saturday.

Parking is free.

Food and beverages will be available on Saturday.

For table reservations and general information, contact Landgrebe on kc9agm@gmail.com or (812) 360-7641.

Columbus, O.

The 2024 Columbus, O. Public Safety Collectors Show will be Sat., Sept. 14 from 9 am to 3 pm at the Marriott Hotel, 5605 Blazer Pkwy., Dublin, O. Bill Swank, Guy Forberger, Bruce Muraco and JJ Mead will host it.

Admission is \$5. Children 16 and under are admitted free.

All 108 display tables have been sold. The hall will open at 8 am for exhibitor setup only.

Displays are encouraged. Awards will be present for the best exhibits. The judges will be a panel of Columbus area law enforcement administrators.

This show is a fundraiser for the Columbus Division of Police Junior Public Safety Cadets. Cadets will be available to assist exhibitors with display setup and take down. They will also handle admissions and sell door prize raffle tickets. Door prize donations are welcome. Please contact the hosts for information.

This show is once again expected to attract a large walk-in crowd. However, it is open only to active or honorably retired first responders with identification and known civilian collectors.

Discount lodging will be available at the Marriott. The hotel number is (614) 791-1000. The four-star full service hotel offers free parking, a bar and restaurant, indoor pool and excellent amenities. The restaurant is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

For additional information, contact Swank on (614) 638-7245 or email bill319cmh@gmail.com.

Williamstown, N.J.

The Third Annual "South Jersey" Police Collectors Show will be Sun., Sept. 29 from 9 am to 2 pm at the Williamstown Veterans of Foreign Wars, 1940 N. Black Horse Pike, Williamstown, N.J. Mike Matkowsky and Thomas Accoglio will host it.

Admission is \$5.

Fifty tables are available for \$40. The hall will open for exhibitor setup at 8 am.

There will be a patch drop box raffle.

The show is a fundraiser for the Gloucester County Sheriff K9 and the Monroe Township Police Unity Tour.

For more information, email SouthJerseyPoliceCollectors@gmail.com.

For table reservations, contact Matkowsky on (856) 404-2294 or michaelmatkowsky@aol.com or Accoglio on (609) 685-2846.

Ripon, Calif.

The 2023 Ripon Public Safety Collectors Show will be Sat., Oct. 5 from 9 am to 1 pm at the Ripon Community Center, 334 Fourth St., Ripon, Calif.

The show is a fundraiser for the California Law Enforcement Historical Society (CLEHS) and the Ripon VIPS. It is sponsored by CLEHS.

Free admission.

There are 50 eight-foot by 36 inch table tables available for \$40 each. Reserve your table early as the show sells out every year.

To reserve a table and make payment online, go to the CLEHS website, CalPoliceHistory.Com, and then click on this show's tab on the right side of the home page.

If you wish to make payment by check, please contact President Gary Hoving, CLEHS, PO Box 254875, Sacramento CA 95865-4875, (805) 441-4936 or email him through the CLEHS website.

Dorchester, Mass.

The Third Annual "Metropolitan Boston" Police and Fire Collectors Show will be Sun., Oct. 6 from 9 am to 2 pm at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 103 Hall, 256 Freeport St., Dorchester, Mass. Brian Dunn is the host.

Admission is \$10.

Tables are available for \$45 each. The hall opens at 8 am for exhibitor setup. There were 80 tables last year.

The union hall has ample room for displays, which are highly encouraged. Food and refreshments will be available onsite. There is plenty of free parking.

Displays will be presented for best badge, patch and overall displays.

For table reservations or additional information, reach out to Dunn on msp1697@hotmail.com.

Fairfax, Va.

The 2023 Fairfax Regional Badge and Patch Show will be Sat., Nov. 2 from 9 am to 3 pm at the Fairfax County Police Association Hall, 5625 Revercomb Court, Fairfax, Va. Virginia's longest-running show will be hosted by Bill Steinkuller and Kent Jefferies in memory of the late Larry Wilkins.

This show is a benefit for the Fairfax County Police Public Safety Cadets and the Fairfax County Police Association.

Admission is \$5. Spouses and children are admitted free. Admission is restricted to current or former public safety personnel and known collectors. IDs will be checked at the entrance.

Sixty eight-foot tables are available for \$20 each. The fee includes admission for the tableholder and one designated table assistant. Tableholder setup begins at 8 am. Tables are designated "first-come, first-served" with payment in advance.

Table reservation information will be released soon.

The hall features plenty of free parking with easy access.

There are numerous hotels and restaurants close to the show.

A "Best of Show" trophy will be awarded. A "Judge's Award" will also be presented.

The location is just outside of Washington, D.C. Explore our nation's capital and the famous museums and sites, such as The White House, United States Capitol, Arlington National Cemetery and the Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln Memorials. Tour FBI Headquarters exhibits, the National Law Enforcement Museum and Memorial, DEA Museum, International Spy Museum, National Museum of Crime and Punishment and others available by prior arrangement.

Guided tours of United States Secret Service headquarters and the Fairfax County Public Safety HQ featuring historic displays with lots of badges, patches and uniforms have been held before previous shows.

For further information or questions, email the hosts at fcpsashow@aol.com.

Phoenix National Show Location, Dates Announced

The 39th National Police Collectors Show will be June 13 to 15, 2025 at the Phoenix Convention Center in downtown Phoenix, Ariz. It will be sponsored and hosted by the Phoenix Police Museum. Table reservations are already being accepted.

By Mike R. Bondarenko, Editor

PHOENIX, Ariz. – The location, dates and schedule for the 2025 National Police Collectors Show have been announced by hosts Bryan Richardson and Mike Lucas.

The hobby's 39th annual convention will be held June 13 to 15 at the Phoenix Convention Center, 100 North Third Street, in downtown Phoenix, Ariz. It will be sponsored by the Phoenix Police Museum where Richardson serves as curator.

Phoenix 2025 will take place in Hall E on the third level of the North Building. It is located in the northeast corner of Washington Street and Fifth Street. There is a curved vehicle ramp on the east side of the room for unloading and loading.

The exhibit hall will open for tableholder setup only on Friday, June 13 from 9 am to 5 pm. A meeting for tableholders to consider bids for future National Shows will take place after the hall closes around 5:15 pm. There will be a tableholders reception from 6 to 8 pm.

A full day is scheduled for Saturday, June 14. The hall will open at 8 am for exhibitor setup. An opening ceremony will be held at 8:30 am. The show will be open to the public from 9 am to 6 pm. No events are scheduled for Saturday night.

The National Show concludes on Sunday, June 15. The hall will be open to tableholders only from 8 to 8:30 am, then to the public from 9 am to 3:30 pm. Display contest awards will be presented beginning at 2 pm.

Daily admission will be \$5. Children under age five and public safety personnel in uniform are admitted free.



The North Building (left) of the massive Phoenix Convention Center is located in the northeast corner of Washington Street and Fifth Street. The building has a parking garage. Hall E on the third level will be the venue for the 2025 National Police Collectors Show. *Contributed photograph*



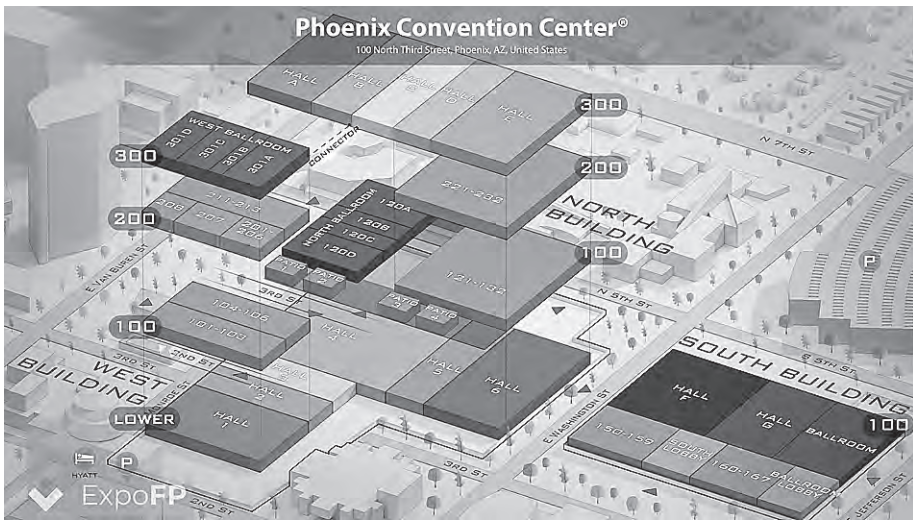
One of the street level entrances to the downtown Phoenix Convention Center shows escalators leading to the parking garages beneath the massive facility. In all, the convention center has space to park more than 8000 vehicles, all covered from the broiling Arizona summer sun. *Contributed photograph*

2025 National Show...Continued

Two hundred six-five tables are available. Tables are \$100 each. Reservations can be made on the Phoenix Police Museum website, phoenixpolicemuseum.org. Payment by credit card is required.

The convention center is an ultramodern 900,000 square foot facility in the heart of downtown Phoenix. It has several exhibit halls and large meeting rooms in two massive buildings. There are 3000 downtown hotel rooms within walking distance, as well as about 150 restaurants, bars and entertainment venues. There are covered parking garages.

It is four miles from Sky Harbor International Airport and accessible by light rail. Modern



The North Building (left) at the downtown Phoenix Convention Center is the location for the 2025 Phoenix National Show. The show will be held in Hall E on the third level (center, top). The massive hall can comfortably accommodate the 265 available tables. *Contributed photograph*

air conditioned trains are available for economical transportation to and from the airport directly to the convention center.

There is no host hotel thus far. In any event, summer rates will be in effect at all downtown hotels. Lucas pointed out that Phoenix hotels offer drastically lower rates during the off season summer months. "You can stay downtown in really nice places for some good prices when it's hot here. It'll be hot in June," he said.

The hotels closest to the convention center are the Hyatt Regency and the Renaissance, both four-star properties. Close by are the Sheraton (1003 guest rooms) and the Westin. Other options are the Hilton Garden Inn (in a 1932 Art Deco building with a rooftop bar and nightly wine hour), Hampton Inn and Suites, Residence Inn by Marriott and Courtyard by



The interior of a massive exhibit hall at the Phoenix Convention Center similar to the one which will house the 2025 National Police Collectors Show. The convention center is so big feet, that it can easily accommodate multiple shows as large as our National. *Contributed photograph*



Bryan Richardson, curator of the Phoenix Police Museum, attended the "Porky" show in Claremont, Calif. on January 20 to promote the 2025 National Police Collectors Show, which will be held in downtown Phoenix in June. He pre-sold about 20 tables during his visit. *Mike Lucas photograph*

Marriott.

Richardson told PCNEWS it is too far in advance to obtain rate commitments from hotels. "They won't promise anything while the show is still a year out. In June we should have something lined up," he said.

"Richardson took a large number of requests for table reservations at the 'Porky' show, although the website was not yet in operation. Two collectors immediately pre-purchased 19 tables," Lucas said.

The show will soon have a Facebook page.

2025 National notes ...Average daily high and low temperatures in Phoenix in June are 104 and 76 degrees. On average, there no days of rain in June. Collectors should prepare for hot, dry desert weather. Stay hydrated guys and gals!

...Technically, 2025 marks the National's 40th anniversary. The first show was held in Los Angeles in 1985. However, 2025 will be only the 39th show because the 2005 National in Houston was canceled in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

...The hosts are taking a page from the Iowa National playbook by selling three-day VIP passes for \$40 each. A VIP pass gives a collector without a table show access all three days, including the tableholders only setup day on Friday. It's an option for those who don't need or want a table but want to get in early when the show is not open to the public.

...The Phoenix Police Museum is located downtown on the first floor of Old City Hall at 17 South Second Street. It is open from 9 am to 3 pm Mondays through Thursdays. Admission is free. The museum is three-tenths of a mile from the convention center.

MIKE R. BONDARENKO (Baldwin, Wis.)

Rob Beath Recovering Well known Australian collector, show host and PCNEWS columnist Rob Beath of Wallsend, New South Wales is recovering from a stroke suffered last August. "Thanks everyone for your well wishes. (I) seem to have survived a stroke pretty well," he said. Beath spent time in rehabilitation and is now recovering at home. He said he still operating his badge, patch and challenge coin business, Hunter Insignia.

Minnesota Defunct Agencies Five small police departments in Minnesota have gone defunct since 2022, according to the state Department of Public Safety. Spring Grove, Morris, Ortonville, Wheaton and Motley are now policed by county sheriffs, the victims of budget shortfalls and recruitment issues, and Goodhue may soon be taken over as well. Minnesota is following a growing national trend among small and medium communities to disband their local police departments.

Georgia, Illinois And Kansas Collectors Shows Canceled

SPECIAL – Upcoming law enforcement collectors shows in Indiana and Kansas have been canceled, according to their hosts. In addition, a Georgia show scheduled in February was also canceled.

Pete Belos and Dan Bukala canceled the second Northwest Indiana Police Collectors Show, which had been scheduled for Saturday, March 16, due a very low number of reserved tables ad confirmed attendees.

The hosts reviewed attendees at last year's show and contacted them. Thirteen collectors from 2023 told them they would not attend this year citing a variety of reasons. Those 13 hobbyists accounted for 28 of the 50 available tables last year.

Belos and Bukala decided it would be in the best interests of the hobby to cancel. "It would not be practical or fair for attendees having to drive several hundred miles, incurring fuel and hotel expenses to attend a show with a low turnout of collectors and tables reserved," Belos said.

"Due to not having any shows in the northwest Indiana area, as well as the metro Chicago area, in over 20 years, our goal was to build this show into a larger and better show going forward and to continue to host this show," he said. "We apologize for having to cancel, and we hope that everyone understands our reasons."

Table fees will be refunded.

Kenneth LaMaster announced in mid-February that the first Leavenworth, Kans. scheduled for May 25 is canceled. He made the decision based upon low tableholder and vendor response.

"I will take this opportunity to establish a better time frame for 2025 instead of the Memorial Day weekend," he said.

The show was intended as a fundraiser to help establish the Leavenworth County Prison Historical Society. LaMaster has conducted extensive research into the histories of prisons in the county, including the famous United States Penitentiary and the United States Disciplinary Barracks at Fort Leavenworth.

Tim Shaw canceled the Fifth Annual Griffin, Ga. Patch and Badge Show set for February 11. He has not announced a new date. It was the second time the show has been canceled in five years.

Mike R. Bondarenko, Editor



Scott DeBord, Roger McLean and Gary Schott (left to right) were the award winners at the first Tri-State Police Collectors Show in Bentonville, Ark. DeBord won "Best Badge." McLean received "Best of Show." Schott went home with "Best Patch." Dustin Carlson hosted the event. *Terri Post photograph*



A miniature Benton County Sheriff's Office patrol peddle car was auctioned off at the Tri-State show. It is black and white with the agency logo on the doors. One of the Daisy BB guns awarded as prizes can be seen in the foreground. The show attracted 75 to 85 hobbyists. *Terri Post photograph*

Tri-State Police Collectors Show Was A Huge Hit

Collectors from seven states attended the first Tri-State Police Collectors Show in Bentonville, Ark. last year. Between 75 and 85 hobbyists attended. The sellout show will be repeated on May 18 with Casey Kensinger as the new host.

By Jim Post, Guest Writer

BENTONVILLE, Ark. – Savvy shoppers worldwide know everything is bigger at Wal-Mart.

Located a few blocks from Wal-Mart World Headquarters, the Tri-State Police Collectors Show in Bentonville, Ark. certainly echoed that philosophy as it was huge and offered something for everyone in the hobby, badges, patches, coins and even restored police cars.

The hosts, Benton County Sheriff Sergeant Dustin Carlton and the Benton County Sheriff Fraternal Order of Polices', first outing was an amazing accomplishment! The Tri-State name originated as a combination of three Midwestern collector shows, Northeast Oklahoma (Tulsa), Heart of the Ozarks (Branson, Mo.) and this show.

The venue was the gigantic gymnasium at the First Baptist Church of Bentonville, a beautiful historic facility a half block from the Bentonville Square. Attendees were met with neatly arranged white tables, a stage and even a Sheriff's Harley-Davidson motorcycle.

Outside, attendees were greeted by a large car show that included restored police Camaros and Mustangs, DARE cars and even a Bluesmobile replica. A large tent staffed by FOP members and their wives welcomed arrivals with the glorious smells of breakfast cooking. The smells were replaced at noon by burgers with all the fixings.

Proceeds from the show benefited the Benton County annual "Shop With A Cop" program for area children. Admission was \$2; however, law enforcement officers in uniform were treated to free admission and lunch. Several area departments were represented.

The show included some features normally not associated with these events, such as a BCSO recruiting table, a huge BCSO display assembled by the host and even a peddle-size miniature police car that was raffled off. It seemed as if the entire sheriff's office supply unit was emptied as there were huge boxes of surplus and obsolete equipment for sale, such as flashlights, leather and so on. A local Girl Scout Troop was on hand to assist tableholders moving their collections in and out.

Tables were a reasonable \$20 each and sold out.

Tableholders represented Illinois, Kansas, Minnesota, Oklahoma, Texas and several from Arkansas. Veteran collectors like Willie Herald, John Cook, Lupe Garza, Brian Harwood, Marty Augustine, Roger "Elvis" McLean, Kyle Naish and your author took tables. Tableholders received great goodie bags and tickets for door prizes.

Walk-in traffic was busy all day, estimated to be 75 to 85 strong.

Among them was a surprise visitor, Tony Perrin. He was the host of the popular Fort Smith "Hanging Judge" show in the 1980s and is a recognized law enforcement collector, historian and advisor to the United States Marshals Museum. Perrin was also a contributor to the law enforcement display at the State House Museum in Little Rock and The Last Precinct Police Museum in Eureka Springs. He brought a quantity of posters showing the State House collection of badges for the attendees and was a welcome guest as he visited every table.

Displays were judged and awards were truly remarkable. Rogers, Ark. is the home of Daisy BB Guns and the hosts had three adult versions of the famous Red Ryder BB gun engraved with the SO logo and the award category. The winners were excited to win these one-of-a-kind awards.

"Best Patch Display" was won by Gary Schott.

"Best Badge Display" went to Seth DeBord.

"Best of Show" was won by Roger McLean.

They were presented their rifles in front of a fantastic backdrop created by the FOP wives.

As the show concluded and we were packing up, everyone froze in place as an orange jumpsuited dozen SO jail trustees marched in to assist the hosts with breaking down and storing the tables! This left no doubt in anyone's mind who was in charge, the Benton County Sheriff's Office!

JIM POST (Lowell, Ark.)



The Tri-State show offered an outdoor law enforcement vehicle show. Who would ever guess that a Chevy Camaro in the livery of Escondido, Calif. Police Department would show up at a show in Arkansas! But it did, and it's a very nice traffic enforcement car with a full lightbar. *Terri Post photograph*



Tri-State show host Dustin Carlson brought his fantastic Benton County, Ark. Sheriff's Office collection. It features badges, patches, uniforms, photographs and much more. The agency is headquartered in Bentonville. Sheriff Shawn Holloway commands a modern agency. *Terri Post photograph*



The Benton County Sheriff's Office sold surplus leather gear, obsolete equipment and other items as fundraisers at the Tri-State show last year. It gave local law enforcement officers and attendees an opportunity to pick up needed gear and equipment at bargain prices. *Terri Post photograph*

Medical Awareness Patches Debut In Victoria, Texas

A unique set of 15 colorful medical awareness emblems is being offered throughout 2024 by the Victoria, Tex. Police Foundation. Patches are being sold for \$10 each to raise funds for public health awareness and research.

By Mike R. Bondarenko, Editor

VICTORIA, Tex. – The Victoria, Tex. Police Foundation has launched a year long campaign raise public awareness over key health issues by selling colorful variations of the police shoulder emblem. While many agencies have autism and breast cancer awareness patches, Victoria PD is highlighting a different condition and patch each month of 2024.

“The goal is to raise public awareness around key health issues impacting the community while demonstrating the police department’s commitment to serving and protecting citizens’ overall well being,” according to a news release posted on the foundation website.

Emblem sales began in January and will continue through December. Different styles will be offered monthly throughout the year for \$10 each. There are two patches each in September and November. There is also an additional May-June emblem.

Each patch is a variation of Victoria’s current patch, a CHP shape with a gold five-point star and the six flags that have flown over the city since it was founded in 1824. Every flag is shown in full color. Most variations involve different background and border colors.

These are 15 emblems in the complete collection:

- January was Glaucoma Awareness.
- February was Heart Awareness.
- March is National Kidney Month.
- April will be Autism Awareness Month.
- May is Mental Health Awareness.
- May-June will be Tourette Syndrome Awareness.
- June is Scoliosis Awareness.
- July will be Sarcoma Awareness.
- August is Meningitis Awareness.
- September will be Prostate Cancer Awareness and Lymphoma Awareness. Two different patches will be available.
- October is Breast Cancer Awareness.
- November will be Diabetes Awareness and Alzheimer’s Awareness and Pancreatic Cancer Awareness. Two different patches will be created.
- December will be Aplastic Anemia Awareness.

January and February patches were available when this edition was published. Texas collector Gary Gafney obtained them. “They are great,” he said.

Sale proceeds will go toward supporting future health initiatives, research and a benevolence fund for men and women of the police department.

Symbol Arts designed and produced the collection.

Ordering information is available from the foundation website, victoriapolicefoundation.org. Click on “PATCH PROGRAM” on the front page to see the entire set in color. Patches are available while supplies last.

MIKE R. BONDARENKO (Baldwin, Wisc.)

Uniform Wear Costly Nevada Governor Joseph Lombardo has been censured and fined \$20,000 for wearing his Carson County sheriff’s badge and uniform during a campaign commercial and on social media posts promoting his 2019 election campaign. The Nevada Ethics Committee voted to censure and fine the Republican governor for his actions. However, Lombardo has filed suit contesting the ruling, claiming sheriff is a constitutional office and he has a right to wear his badge and uniform as he sees fit. His lawsuit is pending in state courts.

Chief’s Patch Offer A United Kingdom chief constable has offered to buy thin blue line patches for his officers to wear on duty. Northamptonshire Chief Constable Nick Adderley encourages his department to wear the patch as a show of respect for fallen officers. The London Metropolitan Police and other UK agencies now prohibit officers from wearing it on duty after public complaints that it symbolizes hard-right groups. Adderley said he will personally pay for thin blue line emblems for any constable who wishes to wear them. “I am determined not to let a minority twist the meaning of this patch,” he posted on social media.



(Left) The National Kidney Month patch from the Victoria, Tex. Police Foundation has a much lighter background (gold) than the duty issue (black). (Right) The April emblem is dedicated to Autism Awareness and shows puzzle pieces which have been become an awareness symbol. *Symbol Arts creations*

Rosser Planning Southeast Regional Show In Early 2025

FORSYTH, Ga. – Elton Rosser has announced the Georgia-Southeast Patch and Challenge Coin Show will be revived in early 2025. He is planning to host the event in Forsythe after a seven-year hiatus.

“We haven’t held a show since 2018 as another show was being held in Georgia, but after many requests and much consideration, we are going to proceed again, starting in early 2025,” Rosser said.

The host described Forsythe, which is centrally located in Monroe County, as the state public safety capital because the small city is home to the Georgia Public Safety Training Center and the Georgia Department of Corrections.

Rosser said the show is still being planned. “As soon as details are in and the first half of the money is paid to the venue to guarantee it, we will announce it,” he said. “Then around the end of summer, we will start advertising it pretty heavily.”

The host intends to avoid conflicts with long-established shows.

Although the population is only 4500, the city offers at least ten hotels and restaurants, as well as a wide variety of restaurants and bars. It is about an hour south of Atlanta along Interstate 75.

The show was founded by Jeremy Henry in tiny Norman Park. When Henry retired as host, Rosser took over and moved the popular swap meet to Forsythe.

Mike R. Bondarenko, Editor



Russ Penka plans to eventually donate this 1950s-'60s Connecticut State Police bumper shield to the agency museum. He obtained it from an automotive collector. Penka learned these shields were issued to major state contractors and considered courtesy badges. *Russ Penka photographs*

Collector Discovers Historic Connecticut Bumper Shield

SPECIAL – A historic Connecticut State Police bumper badge recently obtained by law enforcement vehicle license plate collector Russ Penka will eventually go to the agency’s museum.

Penka obtained the two-sided shield from an automotive collector in Connecticut. “After some serious negotiations, I am now the proud owner of this historical item,” he said.

The bumper badge is red with white legends “STATE/ POLICE” and a white border on one side. The other side is blue with yellow legends, “STATE/ SPECIAL/ POLICE,” and a yellow border.

Penka contacted the CSP Museum to find out more about the bumper shield. “Considered rare, the shields were considered ‘juice badges’ provided by the CSP to large government contractors in Connecticut in the early 1950’s and ‘60s,” he said.

He said the shield’s next home will be the CSP Museum. “It is not often items of this importance are made available to us in the collectors’ market,” he added.

Mike R. Bondarenko, Editor

Post Alerts Hobby To Missing Coin Shipment

LOWELL, Ark. – A shipment of 375 new Missouri State Highway Patrol challenge coins is missing. Jim Post of Police Collectibles is asking collectors to be on the lookout for them.

“The wonderful folks at the United States Postal Service lost the contents of the shipment to the MSHP Marine Division,” Post said. “I have attached the artwork. If you all can watch the Facebook groups you frequent, I’ll put out a watch for them on Ebay.”

The coin is round and mostly black, white and gray.

On the front is a state outline showing the MSHP patrol districts and the state’s three major rivers. The legend reads, “EDUCATION/ ENFORCEMENT/ EMPATHY.” The MSHP and Dive Team emblems are depicted in full color.

The back has a red, white and blue tri-color background depicting a patrol truck, patrol boat and a small inflatable water craft, all in full color. The legend reads, “MISSOURI STATE HIGHWAY PATROL/ WATER PATROL DIVISION.”

Post has reordered the coins and has to file a lost shipment claim at the Post Office.

“Obviously, they aren’t as dangerous as a badge order and likely the postal worker won’t even know what they are, but I know the Patrol wouldn’t want them floating around somewhere,” he said.

Post can be contacted on (479) 253-6333 with any information.

Mike R. Bondarenko, Editor



Police Collectibles owner Jim Post of Lowell, Ark. reports a shipment of 375 new Missouri State Highway Patrol Water Patrol Division challenge coins has been lost by the United States Postal Service. The collector and designer is asking collectors to be on the lookout for them. *Jim Post photograph*



The patch collection at the Beatrice, Nebr. Police Department is a popular stop for visiting civilians and outside agency law enforcement officers alike. Jay Murphy started the collection in the early 1990s when he was a patrol officer. Now chief of police, he still supports the hobby. *Contributed photograph*

Patches Are The Universal Language At Nebraska PD

A patch collection prominently displayed at the Beatrice, Nebr. Police Department brings visiting officers and civilians together like a universal language. It was started by recently named Police Chief Jay Murphy when he was a patrolman in the 1990s.

By Blake Edwards, Guest Writer

BEATRICE, Nebr. – The large law enforcement patch display at police headquarters in Beatrice, Nebr. is more than a collection. It's the universal language among officers and the public alike.

Patches cover administrative area walls. The collection was assembled by Chief of Police Jay Murphy, who has been collecting since the 1990s. There are patches from a wide variety of law enforcement agencies in the United States and foreign countries.

A local news channel recently featured the collection. Chief Murphy told the reporter that whenever civilians or officers from other agencies visit the department, they are attracted to the colorful patches. The display has been photographed countless times.

Chief Murphy began collecting patches while attending training courses as a patrolman. "We go to training and everyone wants to exchange patches. That's how it started," he said. He has since branched out to challenge coins.

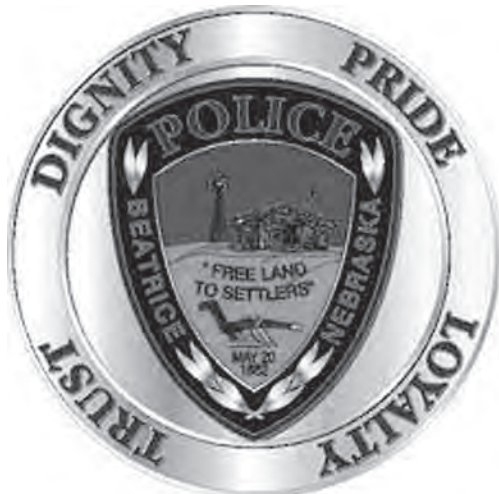
The collection also shows the strong bond between law enforcement agencies worldwide.

"We're one big family. We are proud to display our patch. It tells about the community you live in and that's why I think it's important that departments do it," Chief Murphy said.

Best of all, patches are the universal language among officers and police and the people they serve.

BLAKE EDWARDS (Lincoln, Nebr.)

New Police Department Texas has a new campus law enforcement agency, the Eanes Independent School District Police. Eleven armed security officers will form the new agency, according to district officials. Superintendent Jeff Arnett said \$1.7 million will be spent to create the PD. There has already been controversy surrounding it after Arnett announced it will be equipped with nine Tesla electric cruisers for \$42,000 each, which has not gone over well in the community. Eanes is located in the Austin area.



(Left) Blue and green dominate the handsome current Beatrice, Nebr. police emblem. It shows a historic farmstead from when settlers got free land from the government and a Native American peace pipe. (Right) The department's attractive challenge coin is shown. *Contributed photographs*



(Left) The new Minnesota state seal went into effect on January 1. It features a loon (the state bird), wild rice, a lake, evergreen trees and the North Star. (Right) The previous state seal was traditional. It depicted a settler tilling land and a Native American horseman. *Official Minnesota photographs*

New State Seal Means Minnesota Insignia Changes

Dozens of Minnesota state and local law enforcement agencies face the challenge of changing their insignia to comply with a state law requiring use of the new state seal. State seals are especially common on metal badges.

By Josie Albertson-Grove, Guest Writer

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. – For many law enforcement departments across Minnesota, the state's new flag and seal will mean changes to their current badges, patches, squad car decals and assorted emblems as the old symbols are phased out.

The new seal and flag became effective on January 1 now that the State Emblems Redesign Committee has finished its work. But the old seal and flag appear on dozens of public safety agency emblems statewide, and officials are starting to think through those changes.

Minnesota's former seal, showing a white settler plowing a field while a Native American man on horseback rides into the sunset, is "on every single shirt," said Roseville Deputy Chief Joe Adams. "It's on our badge, and on all of our squad cars, and all of our random insignia around the police department. Flags and brochures and business cards, and so on."

The badge for Burnsville police officers features the former state seal.

Though some departments worry about the cost of swapping out their state seal-emblazoned emblems, a single police badge can cost more than \$100, Adams sees new police insignia as an opportunity to make a new connection with residents through a redesign process with community input. He likes the idea of using more city-specific images on the department's uniforms and cars, like the sailboat on Minneapolis's police patches or the State Capital building on Saint Paul's.

Rice County Sheriff Jesse Thomas is looking around at everything in his department that displays the old state seal, from business cards to a carving in its memorial wall.

"I don't think people think of what all needs to change when they change something else," he said.

Thomas estimated that new patches for officers' uniforms could cost about \$6600. Replacing their badges, he said, could run as high as \$10,000. "It's going to be very costly," he said. "I don't see that the state is giving us any money."

Some departments are talking with badge-making companies about what it would take to swap out the old seal for the new one on existing badges, which is potentially less-costly option, said Sartell Police Chief Brandon Silgjord. He guesses the cost of switching everything in the 25-person department just outside Saint Cloud could cost \$20,000 to \$30,000.

"We want to be as compliant with the new seal as we can be, but also be cognizant of budgets," he said.

The statute establishing the new seal does include guidance on phasing out the old one, said Patrick Hogan, a spokesman for Minnesota Management and Budget. For



The former Minnesota state seal is shown on badges, patches, door decals, etc. used by dozens of law enforcement agencies across the state, such as on the Benton County Sheriffs Office patch or the badge worn by the Sherburne County Sheriffs Office. The seal is now obsolete. *Contributed photograph*

New Minnesota Seal...Continued

example, the law says disposable items such as stationery with the old state seal can be used up before ordering the updated version, he said. More permanent displays, such as a monument carved with the old seal, may remain until they need to be replaced.

While there will be a cost attached to replacing the old seal and flag with the new ones, Hogan said he thought it would be spread out over a few years. "It's not like all of the expenditures would happen at once," he said.

Maple Grove Police Commander Jonathan Wetternach said his department will start looking at what might need to be changed right away, and what can be phased in over time. How much to change immediately is uncertain, he said.

"Is it a chance to rebrand everything, or do we swap out one seal with the other?" Wetternach said. "I guess we haven't made that decision yet."

In Roseville, Adams said consistent badging across the department is important. "We don't want some of our officers wearing one patch and some officers wearing another," he said.

The \$35,000 for the State Emblems Redesign Commission's work seemed reasonable, Silgjord said, but he wondered how much legislators considered the cost to local governments of switching out the old emblems for the new. He hopes lawmakers will provide funding to make the changes or give them time enough to retire the old symbols so annual budget adjustments are incremental.

But waiting until gear and equipment bearing the old seal wear out could drag out the switch of insignia over years, perhaps even decades, he said.

"If you're kind to your equipment, the badge can last you your entire career. So it could be a 30-year attrition process," Silgjord said.

JOSE ALBERTSON-GROVE (Minneapolis, Minn.)

This article was reprinted from the Minneapolis Star-Tribune. EDITOR

County Of Kauai Marks 80 Years Of Police Service

The Kauai Police Department celebrated its 80th anniversary last year. In January, the agency began wearing a custom-designed badge that commemorates the circled stars once worn by sheriffs officers in 1943.

By County of Kauai Police

LIHUE, Hawaii – The Kauai Police Department celebrated its 80th anniversary in July 2023. This January, officers were issued a redesigned commemorative badge in honor of the legacy of law enforcement on Kauai.

The unique special edition shield was minted in recognition of the dedication of KPD's staff and sworn officers over the years. The redesign pays homage to the 1943 original County of Kauai sheriff's badge.

It is a circled five-point cutout star with a full color county seal depicted as the center design. "KAUAI POLICE" is lettered at the top of the circle, while "80TH ANNIVERSARY" appears at the bottom. "1843" and "2023" are seen on the circle on either side of the star. All legends are black enamel. The wearer's rank is shown on a panel across the top two star points.

The county seal is round with green laurels surrounding a yellow inner ring circled by a brown outer border. The colorful three-part center design shows the Sleeping Giant landmark at the top, a Mokiha plant at the right and ring and stirrup poi pounders used by ancient Hawaiians only on Kauai.

This is the first time that KPD has issued an anniversary badge to employees and retirees. Officers who choose to purchase the commemorative badge may wear it throughout the anniversary year ending this August.

Officer Shimama says the anniversary badge is more than just a keepsake. "I believe it's important to remember our organization's history and the men and women that have worked to keep Kauai safe over the years," he shared.

"Officers have given a lot of themselves both physically and emotionally to protect our community. I like to have a physical reminder of that legacy they passed on; I am proud to be a member of the Kauai Police Department and continue that commitment."

Although KPD has been in operation for 80 years, law enforcement on the Garden Isle predates its establishment by a considerable period. It was in 1851, 92 years prior, that the Office of the Sheriff was established. However, Act 64 of the 1943 Session Laws of Hawaii eliminated the office and established the Kauai Police Department.

Edwin K. Corwell was appointed as the first police chief by the Kauai Police Commission



A Kauai police captain shows the agency's 80th anniversary commemorative badge, a throwback to the style worn by the island sheriff's office in 1943. The captain's circled star is gold-colored with black legends. The center design shows of the County of Kauai seal. *Kauai Police photograph*

on July 1, 1943. At that time, the department employed 15 officers and five deputies.

The department has evolved since its humble beginnings. Today, the KPD employees number 141 sworn officers and 55 civilian staff to protect and serve Kauai's growing population of 73, 298.

Police Chief Todd Raybuck says the department aims to start a new KPD tradition by adopting commemorative badges to mark major anniversaries.

Courtesy of Kauai Police Department

Virginia Officer Preserves Local Police History

Ron Stowe is researching the 70-year histories of long defunct police departments in Stanleytown, Bassett and Fieldale in Henry County, Va. His father was the last police chief in Stanleytown where he served for 27 years. All three departments were partially funded by private industries but served the public.

By Mike R. Bondarenko, Editor

STANLEYTOWN, Va. – Preservation of law enforcement history is why most of us not only collect insignia but agency histories as well. While the law enforcement history of most major cities and large departments is well documented, most small cities, villages and towns have not preserved their past.

Ron Stowe, a retired High Point, N.C. police captain, is trying to do something about it for a small agency that hasn't existed in more nearly a quarter century. He is researching and collecting the defunct Stanleytown, Va. Police Department where his father, Melvin Stowe, served as chief of police.

The historian is working toward a book on former police agencies in Henry County, Va. In addition to Stanleytown, he is also documenting Bassett and Fieldale for inclusion in his book. Both departments are also long defunct.

Interestingly, all three departments were partially funded for about 70 years by their town's major employers, Stanley Furniture, Bassett Furniture and Fieldcrest Mills. Henry County also provided funding.

Stanley Furniture was headquartered in Stanleytown, while Bassett Furniture is located in Bassett. Fieldale was home to Fieldcrest Mills. Stanley Furniture and Fieldcrest Mills are out of business and permanently closed. Bassett Furniture is still in business, but the community is policed by the county sheriff.

Melvin Stowe was Stanleytown's last police chief. It was a two-man department when it closed in June 1980. Stowe had 27 years, while the other officer had 16 years on the job. Interestingly, both former officers went to work for Stanley Furniture after the department was shut down. Stowe became chief of security and the other officer was his assistant.

Ron Stowe followed in his father's footsteps and became a Henry County sheriff's deputy in 1975. He stayed for five years, then moved on to High Point where he stayed for the rest of his law enforcement career, retiring as a captain.

When his father died, Stowe inherited his police memorabilia and information. Now that he has retired, he has time to do something with it. Last year, he decided on the history book and added Bassett and Fieldale to his interests.

Stowe has collected most of his information by contacting former officers and their families and doing interviews with them. All three departments were small; he estimates only about 50 people ever worked for them and ten to 12 are still alive.

He also is combing through local newspapers for stories about all three agencies.

"A lot of people who were involved with those [agencies] weren't around anymore, [they] had passed away," Stowe told a reporter for the *Martinsville Bulletin*. "Basically, you're talking about 70 years of history that would soon be forgotten, so I started looking into it. I wanted to do something to preserve that history."

Stowe said the departments were unique because they were created in the 1920s to police the communities that sprang up to support the then-booming furniture manufacturing and textile industries in Henry County.

Marshall Fields, a national department store chain, built Fieldale around its textile plant, which once employed as many as 4500 people, to support the plant. It sold Fieldcrest towels, sheets and other textiles made in Fieldale in its stores nationwide.

All three departments came about following agreements with the Henry County sheriff to make their personnel "special officers" who worked closely with sheriff's deputies, especially on serious crimes. Basically, they were employed mostly by the private companies but were sworn in as special officers so they could police their communities.

"I have talked to all but a few who are still living," Stowe said.

His research shows Stanleytown PD was the first to shut down in June 1980. Bassett began downsizing in the mid-to late 1980s and closed shortly thereafter. Fieldale kept one officer into the 1990s before it, too, shut down.



Melvin Stowe (right) was the last police chief in Stanleytown, Va. in Henry County. He had been with the department for 27 years when it went defunct in June 1980. (The other officer is unidentified.) His son, Ron Stowe, is compiling a history of the former department. *Ron Stowe Collection*

Having grown up in Stanleytown and attending high school in Bassett, he knew some of the police officers and their relatives and has been able to find and talk to them. Of course, his father was very well known, which has helped his research.

Stowe said his biggest task will be to put all the information he has gathered together in a book.

What motivates him? "I grew up looking up to a lot of these guys and then worked with some of them. I feel like I'm doing it all for them. A lot of those guys helped shape me and my future."

Once the book is written, three long defunct police departments in Virginia will never be forgotten, thanks to the son of the last Stanleytown police chief.

MIKE R. BONDARENKO (Baldwin Wisc.)



(Left) The new Sturbridge, Mass. badge debuted last year. It is reminiscent of a shoulder patch and has a full color state outline and seal. (Right) The former Sturbridge shield has a more traditional Massachusetts shape with the state seal as the center design. *Hervey Cote and SPD photographs*

New Insignia Debuts Across The United States

Law enforcement agencies across the United States have debuted new badges and patches. Many celebrate agency milestones, while others are outstanding style changes. All represent new challenges for collectors.

By Mike R. Bondarenko, Editor

SPECIAL – New law enforcement insignia debuted across the United States in late 2023 and early 2024. The growing trend toward commemorative agency milestone badges has continued, as well as insignia honoring fallen officers and the Armed Forces.

Sturbridge Adopts New Badge Style In a departure from traditional New England badges, the Sturbridge, Mass. Police Department has adopted a new style.



(Top) A patriotic theme adorns the current Florence County, Wis. sheriff's emblem. It also depicts the United States flag and the current badge style. (Left and right) Previous agency emblems carried outdoor scenes showing water, evergreens and wildlife. *Mike R. Bondarenko photographs*



When Duval County, Fla. School Police Chief Greg Burton wanted a personal challenge coin, he ordered it from Damir Krdzalic at Code 4. The front (left) shows his badge in great detail. The back (right) carries Chief Burton's signature and two gold stars, his insignia. *Code 4 photographs*

Looking more like a small shoulder patch than a badge, it is shield shape with a gold-colored background and silver and black outer borders. "POLICE" is seen across the top in silver-colored letters bordered in black. The officer's rank is shown on a silver-colored banner with black lettering beneath "POLICE." "STURBRIDGE/ MA" is seen at the bottom.

The unique center design shows a red, white and blue Massachusetts state outline and small commonwealth seal in full color.

The new shield was made by Symbol Arts.

Longtime Massachusetts collector Hervey Cote first saw the badge last year.

Chief Earl Dessert heads the 21-sworn officer agency. He has 14 full-time patrol officers under his command.

The previous style was typical Massachusetts style with the commonwealth seal.

Courtesy of Hervey Cote and Sturbridge Police Department

Tiny Wisconsin County Updates Emblem There isn't a lot of area (495 square miles), and there aren't many people (5088), but that hasn't stopped the Florence County, Wis. Sheriff's Office from wearing some of the nicest-looking insignia among Badger State counties.

Last year, the tiny agency introduced a new CHP-shaped emblem depicting a large full color United States flag on a black background surrounded by a thick black outer border.

"FLORENCE COUNTY/ SHERIFF'S OFFICE" is seen in large white letters bordered in black across the top.

The center design depicts the agency's six-point ball-tipped star badge, only with a black background and thick blue inner borders outlined in white. A full color state seal is centered between the star points.

"EST. 1881," the year the county was created, appears in small black legends on a concave white banner bordered in black across the bottom star point.

Sheriff Dan Miller said the agency wanted a "more patriotic patch" after wearing emblems featuring outdoor scenes for many years. "It was also time for a change. Everyone really likes the new one," he said.

The two previous styles were also CHP shapes and showed outdoor scenes. Both had gray backgrounds.

The most recent design had a gold border. The large center design depicted a bright blue river, three evergreen trees, a small fish and whitetail deer. There was also a small gold-colored six-point ball-tipped star with "1881" in black numerals.

"FLORENCE COUNTY/ SHERIFF'S OFFICE" is lettered in black across the top with "WISCONSIN" in small letters at the bottom.

Its predecessor had a similar look with a "Y"-shaped confluence of two rivers, three small pine trees, a colorful trout fish and a whitetail deer head peering out behind bushes.

The black legends are all at the top, "FLORENCE COUNTY/ SHERIFF'S/ OFFICE/ EST. 1881."

Sheriff Miller's agency has 12 deputies.

Florence is the second smallest county in the state. There are no incorporated cities or villages, only eight townships. More than 40 percent of the land in the tiny county is publicly owned. Eighty percent of the county is forest. It is located in far northeastern Wisconsin and borders the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Courtesy of Florence County Sheriff's Office

Code 4 Creates Chief's Coin Code 4 Public Safety Emblems recently created a handsome personal challenge coin for Duval County, Fla. School District Chief of Police Greg Burton.

"We at Code 4 Public Safety Emblems get phone calls every day from all ranks, including chiefs and sheriffs, to make coins for their respective agencies, but when one of those administrators wants their personal coin to be given out for exemplary service, we knew we had to create something to honor those receiving this coin. Instead of something that was flashy and ostentatious, we went classic," owner Damir Krdzalic said.

The coin is gold-colored with black round centers on both sides.

The front features a three-dimensional rendering of the chief's badge on the black background. It is an eagle-topped shield with the school district logo centered on a seven



The Gregg County, Tex. Sheriff's Office celebrated its 150th anniversary last year with an Old West "Gunsmoke"-style shield with a six-point star in the center. Chief Deputy Craig Harrington said the agency wanted "something special" for the historic milestone in the county. *Gregg County SO photograph*



(Left) Winthrop, Mass. police officers will honor the United State Armed Forces every May and November by wearing a camouflage version of their shield. (Right) Sheriffs Office in Bossier Parish, La. is wearing this handsome new emblem style that shows their badge. *Contributed photographs*

New Insignia ...Continued

point star as the center design. The badge legends read, "CHIEF/ SCHOOL POLICE/ DUVAL COUNTY/ FL."

On the edge is lettered, "DUVAL COUNTY" at the top and "SCHOOL POLICE" on the bottom inside a large black-bordered circle.

The reverse center design depicts two large stars representing the rank of chief with his signature in gold. Above it in smaller legends is "JOSHUA 1:9," and beneath it is "LOVE PEACE WISDOM."

Joshua 1:9 is a Bible verse, "I have commanded you. Be strong and courageous! Don't tremble or be terrified, because the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

On the edge is lettered, "PRESENTED BY CHIEF OF POLICE" at the top and "GREG BURTON" at the bottom.

"A special thanks to Chief Burton for entrusting us to design this coin especially for you," Krdzalic said.

Chief Burton has held the office since July 2021. He commands one of the largest school police forces in Florida with 11 divisions, Administration, Operations, Patrol, Investigations, K-9, Honor Guard, Traffic, Recruitment and Selection, Community Engagement, Communications and Explorers.

Courtesy of Damir Krdzalic and Duval County School Police

Commemorative Badge For Gregg County Gregg County sheriff's deputies wore a commemorative badge during 2023 as the Northeast Texas county celebrated it's 150th anniversary, according to Chief Deputy Craig Harrington.

The Old West-style shield was retired on December 31 and the department has gone back to its traditional six-point stars showing the county seal. It was a silver-colored or gold-colored pinched shield with the cutout six point star as the center design. The legends read, "SHERIFF/ 150TH ANNIVERSARY/ 1873-2023." Deputies wore silver, command staff wore gold.

"We got a lot of nice comments on the badge. It was very well received. Everyone seems to like it," Chief Deputy Harrington said.

The agency researched the badges it has worn during its long history and opted to show the star as the center of a pinched shield. Although Gregg County has had mostly six point stars, deputies did wear shields for a number of years.

Two anonymous benefactors paid for the commemorative, so deputies were allowed to keep their badges after December 31, Chief Deputy Harrington said.

Courtesy of Chief Deputy Craig Harrington

Winthrop PD Honors Service Members Police officers in Winthrop, Mass. now wear camouflaged badges in May and November to honor and support members of the Armed Forces. Memorial Day is May 27 this year, while Veterans Day is November 11.

Chief Terence Delehanty said the military badge is a camouflage version of his department's Boston-style shield. The legends read, "WINTHROP/ POLICE/ (RANK)/ (NUMBER)."

The badges will be worn throughout the months of May and November each year.

"The Winthrop Police Department is grateful to the many men and women who have served our country. The new badge serves as a reminder for all of us of the service and sacrifice of so many to uphold our liberties in conflicts throughout the world," Chief Delehanty said.

Courtesy of Town of Winthrop, Mass. Police Department

New Style Bossier Parish Emblem Bossier Parish, La. Sheriff Julian Whittington announced his department has introduced a new shoulder patch style. The agency transitioned to the insignia last year and retired an emblem that had been worn



A Mineola, Tex. officer models his department's classy oval meant to celebrate the agency's 150th anniversary, 1873 to 2023. Chief Chuck Bittner approved the creation of the badge by one of his officers, Trent Wellborn, for the milestone. It features the anniversary logo. *Trent Wellborn photograph*



These are Lowell, Mass. Police Motorcycle Unit anniversary badges. They come in two versions, one for patrol officers and the other for sergeants. A traditional traffic winged wheel appears as the center design. The unit is part of the agency's Special Operations Division. *Hervey Cote photograph*

since 1992.

The patch is a large rounded triangle with a black background and outer border. The legends are gold. There is a gold inner border. The agency's blue-on-gold six point ball-tipped star badge appears as the center design. The legends are "SHERIFF" at the top and "COURTEOUS/ PROFESSIONAL/ RESPONSIVE," the agency motto, at the bottom.

"We are thrilled to introduce the new uniform patches for our department. Not only do these patches look great, but they also encapsulate the core values of the Bossier Sheriff's Office," Sheriff Whittington said in a news release.

"They are a reminder to our deputies and the public of the standards we hold ourselves to, and our commitment to be a courteous, professional, and responsive department."

Courtesy of Bossier Parish Sheriffs Office

Texas City Celebrates 150 Years Mineola, a city of 5000 in Wood County in east Texas, celebrated a milestone in 2023, the 150th anniversary of its founding in 1873. The Police Department joined the festivities by wearing a unique shield.

Chief Chuck Bittner approved the badge created by Trent Wellborn, a Texas badge collector. It is a copper color oval with gold legends on black banners. The center design depicts the colorful city 150th anniversary logo that features a steam locomotive and historic railroad station.

"I approached the chief about the possibility of us being able to design a badge to embrace Mineola's anniversary. He said yes and together we went to work designing it. The chief chose the oval shape with the cooper-bronze color and black panels," Wellborn said.

"Together we chose what wording to apply, and I suggested we put badge numbers on these since our normal badges don't have them. I also added two crosses to the badges. Each cross represents the two officers who have been killed in the line of duty serving the city, City Marshal Marcus Tillman (1903) and Chief Wesley Taylor (1950)."

"Chief Bittner originally commissioned me to design something in the center of the badge using things that were iconic to Mineola, such as our history as a railroad town. However, when he saw the 150th anniversary logo, he knew there was no point in designing something new.

"I'm very proud of this badge and thankful that the Chief was onboard with it and that the city was okay with the purchase," Wellborn said.

Marked patrol vehicles were also outfitted with the anniversary logo.

Courtesy of Trent Wellborn

Lowell, Mass. Motorcycle Unit Badges The Lowell, Mass. Police Department Motorcycle Unit went retro for a badge commemorating their first century of service to the community. The shields replicate a style worn in the city 100 years ago.

According to Massachusetts collector and historian Hervey Cote, the shield comes in silver (officers) and gold (supervisors) versions. The center design shows a winged wheel, a common symbol for traffic, surrounded by top and bottom banners. "LOWELL" and "POLICE" appear on the banners. "1923-1933" is seen above the center design and "MOTORCYCLE UNIT" appears beneath it.

Motorcycles are part of Lowell's Special Operations Division. Several officers are trained



Recent style changes from California. (Top) San Pablo PD went to this style with a seven-point star filled with city symbolism, including a mission bell. (Bottom) Hercules PD is now wearing a patriotic theme (right) instead of the city logo as the center design (left). *Contributed photographs*



The Richland County, N.D. celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2023. Sheriff Gary Ruhl said his agency will be wearing a special anniversary badge throughout 2024. It's a five-point circled star badge with the anniversary dates (1873-2023) prominently displayed on it. *Richland County SO photograph*

in their operation.

"I don't think people realize the number of events we do with the motorcycles. Whether it's patrol operations, dignitary escorts, funeral, special events or parades, the list goes on and on," said Police Superintendent Greg Hudson.

Courtesy of Hervey Cote and Lowell Police Department

Styles Change In California Cities Hercules and San Pablo are among late 2023 patch style changes reported by California collectors. Both agencies are in Contra Costa County.

Hercules PD spent more than a year planning and conceptualizing their new emblem, a rounded triangle with a combination historic and patriotic theme.

The center design depicts the Pacific Refinery Company water tower, a local landmark, and Hercules, a character in Roman and Greek mythology, both in gray and white. It is shown on a large red, white and blue United States flag. Otherwise the background is black with a gray border and lettering, "HERCULES/ POLICE," at the top.

The new style replaces a blue and yellow emblem with the city seal as the center design. It is the third style since the police department has worn since its inception in 1978.

"The Hercules Police Department is proud to wear a patch that represents our community and the amazing men and women at the police department who continue to serve our community with honor," Chief Joseph Vasquez said.

San Pablo also considered its style change for a year, according to a news release. The department formed a committee to design one that would best reflect the department and community and technological advances.

The new patch is a CHP shape like the previous design. However, it has a dark blue background and gold border.

"SAN PABLO/ POLICE" appears in dark gold letters at the top.

A traditional seven point star still appears but with new symbolism. The agency described the changes in the news release.

"The new police patch features the North Star, which is a beacon of inspiration and hope and helps guide the department's moral compass.

"A mission bell is prominent as the community of Manzanillo, Mexico, a sister city to San Pablo, gifted the city a bronze bell in 1968 that was displayed within the Adobe Wall at Kennedy Plaza. Mission bells have been a staple of San Pablo since the 1800s.

"A tree makes an appearance on the patch because there are 48 different species of trees in San Pablo, most notably western sycamores, coast live oaks, evergreens, willows and blue elderberry. Tree roots symbolize the SPPD's deep connection and history with the community.

"A creek is depicted on the patch since Wildcat Creek and San Pablo Creek flow through San Pablo. The San Pablo Watershed played an important role in the early history of the city.

"Morse Code appears in the creek on the patch since it helped pave the way to the advancement of today's modern technology. Morse Code symbolizes the police department's commitment to technology and community engagement."

Courtesy of Hercules PD and San Pablo PD

North Dakota Sheriff Marks Anniversary Richland County, N.D. Sheriff Gary Ruhl and his deputies marked the agency's 150th anniversary with a special badge. The insignia will be worn until the end of 2024.

The commemorative badge is a silver and gold-colored five point circled star with blue legends and a full color state seal. The legends read "DEPUTY SHERIFF" on top and "RICHLAND COUNTY" on the bottom and on the star, "150 YEARS/ ANNIVERSARY/ 1873-2023."

The badges are based on the two most common styles that department has worn during its history.

Sheriff Ruhl issued the badges on November 25, the official anniversary date. Deputies will be able to keep them as mementos in appreciation for their service once the badges are decommissioned.

The department serves about 16,500 people in the far southeastern North Dakota. It is headquartered in Wahpeton.



(Top) The police chief in Dalton, Ga. liked an old style emblem the department wore in the 1970s so much that it's been adopted as their new style, only refreshed a bit from the original. (Bottom) Caroline County, Md. went all out with this beautiful badge for their 250th anniversary. *Contributed photographs*

Courtesy of Richland County Sheriffs Office

IMPD Special Badges Ordered Late Better late than never?

Special badges to be worn by Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD) officers during Black History Month in February were ordered late and won't arrive until about early March, according to Indianapolis media. Chief Chris Bailey confirmed the reports.

More than 100 Black officers and others ordered and paid for the commemorative badge, which is a variation of the agency's eagle-topped shield. It has a tri-color background, red at the top, black in the middle and green on the bottom.

The center design is identical to the current badge and features the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in downtown Indianapolis and the former Marion County Sheriffs Department badge, a five-pointed star. It was designed by local members of the National Minority Police Officers Association and others.

Former Chief of Police Randal Taylor approved the Black History Month badge on December 21 at the request of the MOPA. However, the order was not placed until mid-January.

Some Black officers and community members expressed disappointment over the ordering delay. The was intended the badge be worn throughout the month as a show of support for contributions made by Black and minority officers to city law enforcement.

"It's about respect," said Lionel Rush, president of the Interdenominational Ministerial Association. "You're talking about a department with a fraught and difficult history. So this badge is symbolic and reminds officers of that history."

Chief Bailey told news outlets the delay occurred because the IMPD Human Resources agency took until mid-January to insure each ordering officer's rank and badge number were correct.

"With any process, things sometimes get off-kilter," he said. "And to my knowledge, there was no bad intent in this process, and we are still 100 percent supportive celebrating the contributions of our officers in February and beyond that because African American history is our history."

Ordering and wearing the badge is voluntary.

It has not been determined whether the badge will debut immediately after delivery or later this year, perhaps in June to celebrate June Thirteenth.

IMPD has about 1700 sworn officers.

Courtesy of WHTR News and IMPD Public Affairs

Carbondale PD Marks 150 Years The Carbondale, Ill. Police Department celebrated its 150-year anniversary and honored the memory of the only city police officer killed in the line of duty with a unique commemorative badge.

Chief of Police Stan Reno announced the badge debuted last August 21, the official 150th anniversary, and will be worn an entire year until this August 21. "We're excited about. It's a very fitting tribute to our history and a fallen officer," he said. "It turned out very well."

The commemorative is an old fashioned style virtually identical to the eagle-topped



(Left) Indianapolis Metropolitan PD Chris Bailey approved a special badge for Black History Month but the order was delayed and not delivered until March. (Right) Carbondale, Ill. PD went retro for its sesquicentennial badge. It will be worn until August 21, 2024. *Contributed photographs*



(Left) The new Carlisle, Mass. emblem is a triangle with the colorful township seal as the center design. Otherwise, it's gold-on-blue. (Right) The long patch controversy in Mount Prospect, Ill. is over after two years. The agency has adopted this improved retro design. *Contributed photographs*

New Insignia ...Continued

badge once worn by Officer Lenard "Len" Sizemore, who was shot and killed on August 20, 1933. It's a large gold-on-silver shield with a five-point star as the center design. Sun rays radiate outward from the star, which is shown in high relief.

The eagle carries a black banner with "150TH ANNIVERSARY" in gold letters.

Top gold panels show the officer's rank followed by "POLICE" in black letters, while bottom panels are lettered with "CARBONDALE/ IL," also in black letters.

Beneath the star is a small black panel with "1875-2023" in gold letters.

It was designed by a lieutenant on the department and approved by Chief Reno.

Officer Sizemore was killed attempting to arrest a disorderly customer at a "bootlegging joint" at about 2:20 am when the man produced a handgun and shot the officer, who was wearing plainclothes with his badge prominently displayed. He was killed instantly.

The perpetrator was located by the Jackson County sheriff and his deputies in Carbondale. When he started shooting at them, deputies returned fire and killed the gunman.

Chief Reno commands an agency of about 65 sworn officers.

Carbondale is located about 95 miles southeast of Saint Louis in far southern Illinois.

The population is about 22,000.

Courtesy of Carbondale Police Department

Dalton Police Adopt New Patch What is old is new again for the Dalton Police Department. The far northeastern Georgia agency began wearing its new shoulder emblem on New Years Day. The design was inspired by an older patch worn in the 1970s.

"It's just a matter of freshening things up a bit," said Assistant Chief Chris Crossen. "We've been wearing the current patch for close to 20 years and Chief Cliff Cason was looking at different designs and really liked the nostalgia of one of our old patches that the police department used to wear, so we took that as our guide."

Assistant Chief Crossen said a retired captain, Howard Walthour, provided one of the old patches that he had, and it was decided to use it as a template to create the new style. "It was refreshed just a bit. The top rocker panel on it was boiled down to just saying 'Police' instead of 'City of Dalton Police' like the previous version, but for those older city employees who remember the old patch, it just provides that blast from the past that we previously had."

The new emblem is a smaller CHP shape with a dark blue background. There are gold borders and lettering.

"POLICE" is seen in large letters on an arc across the top bordered in gold.

A thick round gold ring in the center carries "THE CITY OF DALTON GEORGIA" and three stars, all in dark blue.

The design is a gold-colored depiction of a steam locomotive. While the city has been known as the "Carpet Capital of the World" for many years, the community's history as a railroad hub for shipping and transportation is rooted even more deeply in its history.

Carpet rolls were shown in red, gold and blue on the long obsolete emblem that succeeded the 1970s railroad theme.

In the early 2000s, the department adopted a gold-on-black modified LASD shape with depiction of a train on tracks with the city in the background. Chief Cason wanted a simpler, less colorful design. Blue and gold are more traditional agency colors in Georgia.

"It's one of the those things were I felt the previous patch that we had didn't really reflect the history of the Dalton Police Department and who we are at this point in time," Assistant Chief Crossen said. "I thought it was good to reflect the historic patch of the police department as we are a major railway hub, and we were a major railway hub even before we were a major carpet and flooring manufacturing hub."

Dalton is a city of about 35,000 in Whitfield County.

Courtesy of City of Dalton

Caroline County 250th Anniversary Badges In Maryland, the Caroline County Sheriffs Office is wearing a beautiful commemorative badge to celebrate its 250th anniversary. It is authorized for wear until this November after being introduced last November.

According to Sheriff Donald Baker, the badge and an accompanying challenge coin were meticulously designed and crafted to encapsulate the tapestry of Colonial Maryland.

"Badges are significant in the realm of the sheriff's office, and we wanted them not only to represent the authority vested in our deputies but also tell the story of the past 250 years," he said.

The gold and blue circled five-point star carries the legends, "SHERIFF'S OFFICE," on the top of the circle with "CAROLINE/ COUNTY/ MD" on the sides and bottom of the circle.

The large five-point star is blue bordered in gold. Each star point depicts a symbol. At the top is a colonial sheriff holding a musket. On either side are the original and current sheriff's office buildings. The original and current county courthouses are portrayed on the bottom star points. The design is meant as a visual journey through the evolution of Caroline County's legal infrastructure.

The agency will retire the commemorative when the year-long celebration ends.

Caroline County is located on the shores of eastern Maryland. It's mostly rural with a population of about 33,500.

Courtesy of Caroline County Sheriff's Office

New Style Patch In Carlisle It's a new look for the Town of Carlisle, Mass. Police Department. The style change was recently announced by Chief of Police Andrew Amendola. It's a throwback to a previous design.

The new style is a mostly blue and gold triangle. There is a gold border and lettering on a blue background. The legends read, "CARLISLE/ POLICE" at the top and "1754" at the bottom.

The town seal appears as the center design. It is shown in full color surrounded by a small blue ring inside a large white ring bordered in gold that carries the legends, "TOWN OF CARLISLE/ MASSACHUSETTS," in black letters.

Chief Amendola, who was appointed last year after a long career in Brookline, Mass. said the emblem is being transitioned as uniform garments are changed

"It combines elements of previous designs. Our previous emblem was a rounded triangle with the town seal as the centerpiece," he said.

The agency has 12 full-time and six full-time officers.

Courtesy of Town of Carlisle Police Department

Eagle Replaces Decommissioned Illinois Emblem The Mount Prospect, Ill. Police Department has finally selected a new shoulder patch after decommissioning its previous thin blue line emblem in the aftermath of a controversy which received national attention.

Chief Michael Eterno said his department has adopted a bald eagle and shield theme similar to a design worn in Mount Prospect in the 1980s and 1990s. He did not seek approval from employees since it was his decision to choose a new design. "I did go to shift meetings and shared the idea, but there was no debating it," he said.



(Left) Johnstown, O. PD's new insignia shows a Mastodon as the center design. An almost intact Mastodon skeleton was found near the city in 1926 and is now in a museum. (Right) An officer on the department designed the new Nelsonville, O. PD patch and badge. *Contributed photographs*

The emblem is a large CHP shape with a black background with blue (inner) and silver (outer) borders. The colorful center design is almost identical to the so called "federal eagle" as depicted on the United States official seal. Three blue stars appear on either side.

Legends are "POLICE" at the top in large silver letters with "MOUNT/ PROSPECT" beneath it in smaller silver letters. "ILLINOIS" and "1917" are lettered beneath the design. "1917" is the year the city was founded and shown in a small blue banner.

Supervisors wear the same patch except with gold letters and borders.

The thin blue line emblem was removed from police uniforms in August 2021 by order of village trustees following citizen complaints about a year after the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Minn.

Chief Eterno, who opposed the trustee's decision, said the patch transition cost the city nearly \$14,000, including \$2900 to remove the previous design and \$11,000 for the new insignia. It will cost about \$7 each to sew the new emblems on uniforms and jackets.

The thin blue line emblem was very popular among officers.

Mount Prospect did not have an official patch for nearly two years, according to the chief.

Courtesy of Mount Prospect Police Department

Mastodon, Seal Highlight Ohio Emblems Recent emblem style changes in Ohio include Johnstown and Nelsonville. Johnstown now features a Mastodon, while Nelsonville is sporting the town seal, according to the departments.

A nearly intact Mastodon skeleton was uncovered near the Licking County city in 1926. Known as the Johnstown Mastodon, the bones were reassembled and put on permanent display at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. The skeleton is the most complete ever found of the prehistoric creature.

"It's our claim to fame," a city police officer told *PCNEWS*. "It's kind of unique, so it was decided to show the Mastodon on our patch. Only the whole animal, not just the skeleton!"

The white, black and orange patch is a rounded rectangle with an orange state outline and a superimposed brown, black and white depiction of a Mastodon as the center design. The background is black. There is an orange border.

"JOHNSTOWN/ OHIO" appears at the top in white letters bordered in orange. Beneath the center design is "POLICE/ 1813" in the same style.

Chief Rusty Smart commands a nine-officer agency. The city also has a four-officer auxiliary. They protect and serve a city of about 5200.

Nelsonville has an entirely new look with patches and badges designed by a local officer and approved by Chief of Police Devon Tolliver.

A CHP shape is used for the patch which is done in subdued mostly white on black colors. A thin blue line flag appears as the center design. Superimposed is the round four-part city seal featuring an Ohio flag, star brick design, a steam locomotive and outdoor scene. A small state outline appears at the bottom.

The legends read "POLICE" at the top in white letters on a black banner, while "OHIO" appears on the state outline. Surrounding the city seal is a white ring upon which is lettered "CITY OF NELSONVILLE/ FOUNDED 1814" in black.

Star bricks used mostly for sidewalks were first produced in Nelsonville in the 1850s. The area is known for its abundance of clay deposits. Bricks manufactured in the city had mostly five point star designs on them, although there were many other styles. The Nelsonville clay brick industry thrived until the mid-1920s.

The badge is a modern eagle-topped shield with a black background and silver eagle and panels. A full color state seal appears as the center design. Panels carry the legends, "OFFICER/ NELSONVILLE/ EST. 1838/ POLICE/ OHIO," in black letters.

Nelsonville was founded in 1838 but did not become a city until 1914.

The Athens County city of 5300 has nine sworn officers. It is located in far southeastern Ohio about 60 miles southeast of Columbus.

Courtesy of Johnstown and Nelsonville Police Departments

Ligonier Valley Police Undergo Makeover The Ligonier Valley Police Department, a five-year-old regional agency in Westmoreland County, Penna. is undergoing a makeover with new patches and patrol vehicle graphics.

The new emblem is a rounded rectangle with a bottom point. It has a black background, red borders and white legends. Canons at Fort Ligonier and a mountain background comprise the center design, which is mostly red, gray, yellow and black. There is a red and



(Left) The new style Ligonier Valley, Penna. police patch features local landmarks. The regional law enforcement agency was established in 2019. (Right) The San Luis Obispo County, Calif. Bomb Task Force is a new style. The task force is a county-wide organization. *Contributed photographs*

white stripe with three stars beneath the design.

Legends are "LIGONIER VALLEY/ POLICE/ EST. 2019," all in white.

The previous design was round with an attached rocker and mostly green, black and gold.

LVPD patrol vehicles are white. The new marking scheme shows wheel-to-wheel gray and black mountains with superimposed legends, "LIGONIER VALLEY" in small black letters and "POLICE" in large red letters across both doors.

The agency has undergone the makeover under the direction of new Chief of Police Mike Matrunics, who was appointed last summer after John Berger, the previous chief, was fired. Berger had been the target of a raid on his office and home by the Department of Homeland Security and Pennsylvania State Police which led to his demise.

The joint agency was created by the Borough of Ligonier and the Township of Ligonier in 2018. It was founded on January 1, 2019 to patrol the borough and surrounding township.

Courtesy of Ligonier Valley Police Department

New Patch For Bomb Squad The San Luis Obispo County, Calif. Bomb Task Force (BTF) introduced a new patch in January, the first style change since the 1980s.

According to longtime California collector Gary Hoving, the task force is a countywide agency. Hoving is a former chief deputy for the sheriff's office.

The emblem is round. It has an attached bottom rocker. It is mostly white-on-black with a gray center design. A round black and gray bomb with a sinister face is shown. It has a yellow fuse with a red flame sparking at the end.

"SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY/ BOMB TASK FORCE" is lettered in white on a black outer ring bordered in white.

"MAKING BIG THINGS SMALL SINCE 1982" is shown in black cursive mixed case letters on the white rocker bordered in black.

BTF was created as a multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional entity 42 years ago to provide a professional pool response to bomb threats and explosive ordinance disposal calls throughout the county. Headed by the Sheriff's Office, it includes the police departments in the cities of Arroyo Grande, Atascadero, Cal Poly University, Grover Beach, Morro Bay, Paso Robles, Pismo Beach and San Luis Obispo.

Courtesy of Gary Hoving

Geneva Police Honor Fallen Officer This is a year of remembrance for the Geneva, N.Y. Police Department. Officers are wearing a commemorative shield honoring fallen officer Aeneas McDonnell, who was killed on duty on February 19, 1924.

The silver-colored eagle-topped shield features an oversize plain New York state seal as the center design. The legends are blue, "PATROL OFFICER" on a small banner on the eagle, "AENEAS MC DONNELL/ EOW FEB. 19TH 1924" and "GENEVA" above the seal and "POLICE" and "4" beneath it.

Officer McDonnell joined the department in 1898. On the day of his death during his 26th year as a patrol officer, he responded to a reported burglary in progress at the New York Central Railroad Station. A gun battle ensued between the burglars and railroad and Geneva officers. The officer was killed.

A badge worn by an officer who served alongside Officer McDonnell was used as a mold for the commemorative.

Geneva is located in the Finger Lakes Region of western New York. The police department serves 12,500 city residents.

Courtesy of Geneva Police Department

New Idaho Badge In Meridian Police in Meridian, Id. are wearing a handsome new oval. The badge debuted on January 1.

According to an agency social media post, the new badge incorporates parts of past badges centered around the historical image of the Meridian Creamery where city hall sits today.

The new design also incorporates unique badge numbers which is very traditional in policing but new to the department. The badge number is assigned to an officer once they have completed their training and will stay with them throughout their career and will never be reissued.

The agency used records going back to 1903 to develop the numbers. Today, the agency has 149 sworn positions.

"The assigning of badge numbers will help connect past, current and future generations of MPD officers," the agency posted.

Meridian has a display of historical photographs, uniforms and badges on display at the Public Safety Training Center.

Courtesy of Meridian, Id. Police Department

Big Bend Dissolves Big Bend has become the eighth Waukesha County, Wis. community to disband its police department. The village voted to contract with the county sheriff to share two full-time deputies with the neighboring village of Vernon. Big Bend had three full-time and nine part-time officers. The contract will save the village about \$200,000 a year, officials said. Big Bend had its own police department for 82 years.



(Left) Geneva, N.Y. is honoring the memory of an officer killed in 1924 by wearing this ceremonial badge throughout 2024. Officer Aeneas McDonnell died on February 19, 1924. (Right) Code 4 did this beautiful badge for the Meridian, Id. Police Department. *Contributed photographs*



Greg Hatzis is on a mission to rid the hobby of defective emblems. He once again urges collectors to destroy defective cloth insignia by cutting it up with a scissors and tossing it into the trash. Hatzis believes the hobby would be better off as a result. It's hard to disagree. *Greg Hatzis photograph*

The Grumpy Collector

By Greg Hatzis, Staff Writer

NEW YORK, N.Y. – I'm going to spill more ink about eBay sellers. So many of them are such a rich source of aggravation for me.

I've ranted in past columns over unnecessary verbiage being used to clutter up item descriptions. One word got into my craw as I was compiling my notes for this issue: "rare," no, no, wait...make that "RARE." As if by using the caps lock, the potential buyer is made to understand that the patch isn't just rare; it's RARE.

What got me stuck on this was that when doing a recent sweep through eBay for stuff that my saved searches may have missed, I spotted what this particular seller described as a "Rare XXX PVC Patch" and noticed that he or she had "10+ Available."

So how RARE could this patch possibly be? You've got almost a dozen of them. And here's the kicker: they were all defective. The word "OFFICER" was misspelled. You know what that means in my book. (More on that topic later.)

Then there is "rare's" cousin, "HTF," short for "Hard to Find." By whom? I especially get a kick out of "Hard to Get." I would show you hard to get, but this is a family newspaper.

While we're at it, does anybody actually search for and buy "Nice" shoulder patches?

You know what term I've ever seen in a description that is apropos in so many instances of police collectibles being offered for sale on eBay? "Overpriced." Wouldn't that be a refreshingly honest bit of extraneous verbiage to read in an item description?

Back to defectives Getting back to defectives, you may recall that in issue 98 I granted permission to the patch collecting community, seller, buyers and trades, all of the above, for the betterment of the hobby as a whole, to go through inventories, pick out those pieces that are damaged or otherwise defective, then with a pair of scissors (blunt tip if appropriate) proceed to cut them up and dispose of them. In compliance with your local recycling and garbage laws, of course.

I suggested four reasons as to why a patch should be purged from a collection. They were: damage during the UTO process, being soiled or damaged in use, improper storage and being mis-manufactured. I was given a great example of what a patch ends up looking like once it falls victim to water damage from a leak in a garage.

Fellow collectors came forward with another reason that I completely missed; the patch was damaged by how it was displayed. Display damage can happen one of two ways, intentionally and unintentionally.

Let's look at intentional first.

I'm not counting staple or pushpin holes as damage to a patch. I know these holes drive some collectors nuts, but as far as I am concerned, they aren't much different than the pattern of holes created on a patch when it's attached onto a garment.

On the other hand, I'm not too fond of finding glue dot or tack putty residue on the backs of patches that come in the mail after I won them on eBay, but at least it's on the back.

I've been told, "You can learn something new every other day." Well, the day before yesterday, I learned that paint can be used as a glue to stick things together. It seems that one can coat the backs of patches with artist-grade acrylic paint and then affix them to a display board. That, folks, is commitment.

My scissor hand started to twitch when I was shown a patch after such a technique was applied to it, and, oddly enough, there was no damage to the *front* of the patch. There is obviously no way to now readily determine the vintage of the patch by looking at the back of it (cheesecloth, plastic backed, etc.) since it is covered in dried paint. I'll let you decide what to do with those patches in your collection.

Now on to unintentional damage:

During a late 2023 patch procurement mission, I was introduced by a fellow collector to Richard Sweeney, an associate at Frames By You/ Crooked Halo in beautiful downtown Park Ridge, N.J. He has a small collection of police patches. He also collects sports memorabilia. But his passion is whatever people collect; whether it's badges, photos or patches, by securely framing them for safe mounting to a wall.

Somehow we got to discussing issue 98's column. He went on to relate how ultraviolet light, particularly from the sun, and fluorescent lights can damage items exposed to them for lengthy periods of time. If a display case is hung in such a position as to expose the items inside to direct or poorly filtered sunlight or sustained fluorescent lighting (say in an internal hallway where lights are on around the clock), the coloring of the items in that display will fade over time.

As Ray and I talked, I began to recall seeing in my travels patches affixed to corkboards that I remember didn't look quite right. I began to realize that it's because their proper colors were faded due to 24/7 exposure to office lights always on overhead.

Our discussion led to what steps could be taken to prevent such fading from taking place. The simplest suggestion he gave was to relocate the display to a wall that doesn't get exposed to sunlight or constant artificial light. Next he offered the idea of rotating the items being displayed in the case, thus limiting the possibility that, say, a patch will sustain any serious damage since it isn't left up for more than a couple weeks at a time. This, of course, presumes that one has enough pieces in a collection to rotate out the items displayed for ones that aren't and has the time available to tend to such a chore.

There is one more suggestion that he offered: to protect patches, badges, coins, etc.,

Grumpy Collector ...Continued

by displaying them under museum glass, a product that filters out harmful ultraviolet rays from reaching them, yet allows the items mounted underneath to be clearly visible by also eliminating glare. A second option is to mount displayables under conservation clear glass. It offers the same UV protection as museum glass (99 percent) but doesn't cut glare the same way as museum glass does.

Sweeney showed me side-by-side samples of what museum and conservation clear glass look like with patches underneath them. The difference was remarkable.

As one would expect, these options were pricier when compared to using a typical pane of Plexiglass, but if one is serious about protecting what they've invested considerable time and treasure in obtaining and wants to proudly display the fruit of their labor, it is an option to consider, especially if at some point, those patches are going to come down from that display. I hope they won't need to be cut up and thrown away because they've been ruined by where and how they were displayed.

Patch procurement missions A patch procurement mission or PPM occurs when (1) when two or more collectors get together and act in concert to enhance theirs or another's collection of patches.

These acts may include, but are not limited to: (a) a field trip (typically over the road but can involve a flight, say to a distant swap meet) or (b) by the combining of efforts, such as designating a specific local collector's mailbox to serve as a drop-off point to gather patches when word is received that, say, a child with a terminal illness somewhere has as a hobby of the collecting of patches.

Note that additional swag (coins, model cars, plates, garments, etc) is encouraged to be sought after as well.

Specific patch procurement missions are identified by the two-digit year number followed by the next consecutive number. As an example, the first mission performed in 2024 is

designated PPM 24-1.

Field trips usually involve at least two scheduled stops, such as all the firehouses within a particular battalion for those who also collect fire paraphernalia, or frequently more spontaneous ones.

Mission logistical expenses (fuel, tolls, road sodas, postage to send gathered patches to the child's hospital or home, etc.) are as a matter of course routinely shared among the participants.

While not mandatory, due to such things as work shifts getting in the way, missions also often conclude with a meal period. Depending on the duration of the mission, other meal breaks may be incorporated.

While breaking bread and sharing camaraderie, the participants will review mission accomplishments, clarify objectives for and the scheduling of future missions and share miscellaneous intelligence information gathered since the last PPM, oftentimes not related to collecting, such as who's about to get suspended at work and why, etc.

During the meal break it is acceptable to use assorted electronic means to share reviews and accomplishments of the mission, both among participants and especially non-participants.


The division of meal expenses, such as each pay their tab vs. a consolidated check, should be determined prior to orders being placed, but it obligatory that generous tips be left for the waitress if she is schmoozed in way, shape, manner or form and deriguer if her and her fellow co-workers are forced by restaurant policy to gather around your table and sing "Happy Birthday" to someone at said table unexpectedly having a birthday on that given day.

PPMs are not to be confused with SPPs (solo patch procurements) where a collector acts alone and not as part of a team.

The selection of the acronyms PPM and SPP, along with the numbering system used to distinguish specific procurements, can be locally modified in cases where conflicts are present with an existing coding system using similar lettering and numbering sequences to hide what you're really going to do during a particular day on your family's master calendar. PPM 24-2, etc., would lead others to believe an overtime shift is scheduled on an off day.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at my PPM 24-5, the New York-New Jersey Police Collectors Show in Hasbrouck Heights, N.J. on Sunday, April 7.

GREG HATZIS (New York, N.Y.)



California Police Historian

The Official Publication of the California Law Enforcement Historical Society

Mike Bondarenko, Editor



"Best of Show" honors at the 2024 "Porky" Police Memorabilia Show in Claremont, Calif. went to Chris Villegas for his outstanding Calaveras County Sheriffs Office collection. It features badges, emblems and much, much more. Villegas is the county chief deputy. *Arthur Fox photograph*



Mark Bray went home with the award for "Best Badge Display" at the "Porky" show on January 20. He specializes in Fresno County insignia and memorabilia, including the sheriff's department and municipal agencies. He has a knack for creating museum-quality exhibits. *Arthur Fox photograph*

"Porky" 2024 A Success Despite Adverse Weather

"Porky's" 2024 extravaganza was a success despite heavy rain, wind and cold on January 20.

Law enforcement memorabilia collectors from across the country arrived early for setup hoping to be ahead of the projected rain at the 42nd annual show in Claremont.

The host hotel was once again the Double Tree in Claremont. I had missed a few years of "Porky" because of COVID and my own health issues. It was exciting to return after my



"Best Patch Display" went to William Tully. He brought a very impressive collection of obsolete insignia from throughout California. Tully is shown holding his award. His was among three outstanding collections recognized for excellence at the 42nd annual "Porky" show. *Arthur Fox photograph*

long absence.

Friday afternoon in the hotel lobby was the time for collectors to have a small mini-meet and greet and offer some of their collections, but not this year. Unfortunately, two of the heavy hitters in our hobby who always participate were unable to make it this year, West Coast collector Jim Casey and East Coast hobbyist Chip Greiner.

Another esteemed collector who was sorely missed and always participated in the lobby show was Al Mize, who passed away last year.



A better look at Mark Bray's massive incredible Fresno County law enforcement exhibit, a deserving display contest award winner at the 42nd annual "Porky" show in Claremont. If it's from Fresno County law enforcement, chances are good it could be found here. *Arthur Fox photograph*



Gary Teragawa has been a "Porky" show regular from the very beginning. Although he now lives across the country in Georgia, he makes an annual trip to California for the show. Teragawa has outstanding collections from the California Highway Patrol and several other agencies. *Arthur Fox photograph*

California was cold and wet for this year's show. I was glad I came out a week early, although I missed all the snow falling in Colorado, and I was able to spend some time at the San Diego Police Museum before traveling to Claremont for "Porky."

Even though there was no lobby mini-show, I was able to see and chat with a lot of my fellow collectors that I hadn't seen for awhile.

On Saturday, I decided to drive to Taylor Hall early. It's the site for the annual show. It was still dark outside when I arrived. Some collectors were already there. We awaited the arrival of the Claremont Police Explorers to check us in.



Jake Bushey (left) brought a wide variety of badges, helmets, badge holders and holsters to "Porky." The second generation collector is a lieutenant at the Azusa Police Department after a long career at the Los Angeles Police Department. He is also a longtime "Porky" tableholder. *Arthur Fox photograph*

holders and helmets for sale. Willard is the author of a book on the San Diego Police Department. He also provided me with valuable information for a story on the museum that will appear in the next newsletter.

Before long all the tables were covered with badges, patches and miscellaneous law enforcement and fire memorabilia. Collectors were busy trading or buying and selling their wares.

Ron Burkey was seen beaming over a purchase he made of a nice framed old LAPD badge and photo.



Two well known California hobby celebrities, Gary Hoving (left) and Mark Hall-Patton (right), made the trip to Claremont for the "Porky" show. Hoving is president of the California Law Enforcement Historical Society, while Hall-Patton is often seen on the popular *Pawn Stars* show. *Arthur Fox photograph*

Darryl Lindsay began setting up his tables outdoors outside the entrance to Taylor Hall. This ended in a big disappointment for him because the rain began a short time later.

Several members of the Explorer Post 411 began checking in tableholders. Once checked in, tableholders were free to set up their tables with items for sale or display. All proceeds from entry and table fees went directly to the post.

Even if you didn't want to buy anything, there were great displays throughout Taylor Hall. Gary Hoving brought his newly constructed San Luis Obispo Sheriffs display, along with the book he wrote on this department.

Mark Bray was seen hauling in his massive Fresno County law enforcement display, while Jake Bushey and author Steve Willard brought massive amounts of holsters, badge



Darryl Lindsay always brings a big load of law enforcement vehicle-related collectibles to "Porky" and other shows. After he set up outdoors and made a few sales, it began to rain heavily. Weather was undoubtedly a factor because there were several tableholder no shows. *Arthur Fox photograph*

Arizona collector Scott Boren and Jerrod Nunes were seen smiling over a deal they were working on.

Stan Berry was very happy over sales he was making on badges and patches. I noticed a nice sterling silver Oakland badge on his table, so I purchased it.

Mark Hall-Patton was seen scouring the hall for oddities and taking pictures with his fans. He has gained fame (and fans) from the TV show, *Pawn Stars*.

The only disappointment that was evident was there were a lot of no show tableholders, translating to a lot empty tables. It's unknown whether the heavy rain was the reason for the no shows and how many prospective buyers chose to pass this year because of the weather.

But I can tell you that some of the happiest people were the Police Explorers because the show raised over \$5000 for their post. They kept everyone well fed with giant doughnuts in the morning, sub sandwiches for lunch and snacks and drinks all day.

There were a lot of great badges, some sterling silver, and hundreds of vintage patches for sale. I couldn't resist a nice San Francisco sterling silver patrol badge and a great old vintage Colorado patch. By the end of the day, I didn't see any unhappy sellers or buyers.

I was able to photograph the three collectors who won awards.

The first award went to William Tully for "Best Patch Display."



R. Tod Ruse featured some of his Stockton Police Department collection featuring historic badges, photographs, documents and other artifacts and memorabilia. Ruse served as the historian at Stockton PD. Now, he is the historian at the San Joaquin County Sheriffs Office. *Arthur Fox photograph*



Keith Bushey defends his table covered with badges from all over the country at "Porky." He has been collecting badges for as long as anyone in California and is also a nationally known law enforcement trainer. Bushey has written three books on his life and police career. *Arthur Fox photograph*

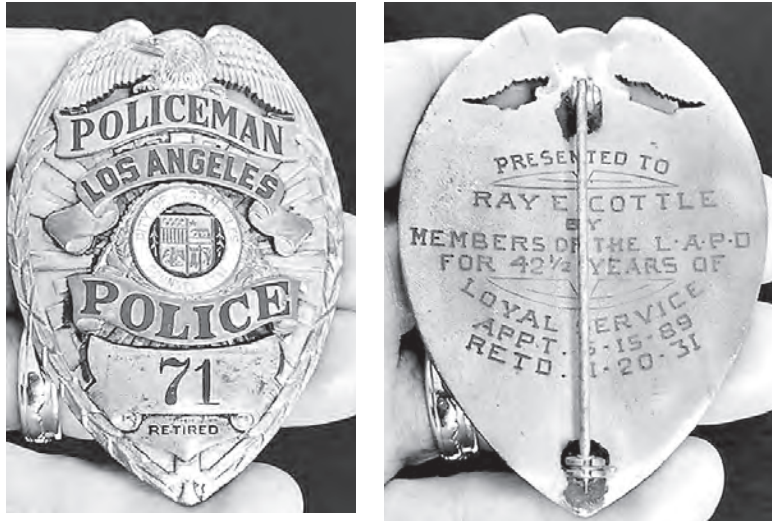
The award for "Best Badge Display" went to Mark Bray.

The "Best of Show" award went to Chris Villegas for his incredible Calaveras County exhibit. Congratulations to the winners.

You might want to get your name on the waiting list for 2025 because the show is already sold out. Why is this show already sold out? It's because of the hosts, Dennis Smith and Nick Carderas. Thanks for all the work you do to make "Porky" a great success year after year.

ARTHUR FOX (Montrose, Colo.)

The California Police Historian thanks Art Fox for an outstanding job of covering the "Porky" show for CLEHS and providing the photographs shown with his story. EDITOR



"Porky" is always a good LAPD badge show. A historic Los Angeles Police Department Series Five policeman retired shield inscribed "PRESENTED TO/ RAY E. COTTLE/ BY MEMBERS OF THE L.A.P.D./ FOR 49 YEARS OF/ LOYAL SERVICE/ APPT. 5-15-89/ RETD. 1-20-31." Arthur Fox photograph



Gary Hoving has revamped his fine San Luis Obispo County badge collection inside a couple of new display cases. When it comes to patches, badges and other insignia from SLO County, Hoving is the "go-to" guy. He was county chief deputy and Guadalupe police chief. Arthur Fox photograph

2024 Membership Renewal Thank you to all those members who have renewed their CLEHS membership for 2024! If you have not renewed your 2024 membership, you still can.

You renew online at the CLEHS website, calpolicehistory.com. Go to the "Membership." If you prefer, you can renew by sending a check to California Law Enforcement Historical Society, PO Box 254875, Sacramento CA 95865-4875.

2024 California Police Historian of the Year Nominations are open for the 2024 California Police Historian of the Year.

The selected candidate will have distinguished themselves through dedication and action in preserving law enforcement history, publishing material, service to the society or other contribution for the good of the order.

Nominations should be emailed to President Gary Hoving no later than April 1.

The presentation of the prestigious award will be made at the annual show in San Luis Obispo on July 6.

2024 San Luis Obispo Police Memorabilia Show The San Luis Obispo Police Memorabilia Show will be held on Saturday, July 6 from 9 am to 1 pm. The show will be held at the Veterans Hall, 801 Grand Ave., San Luis Obispo and is sponsored by the California Law Enforcement Historical Society.

Awards are presented for the Best Patch Display, Best Badge Display, Best Historical Display, Best Educational Display and Best of Show.

To reserve a table make payment online, go to CalPoliceHistory.Com. Click on the "Collector's Show" tab.

If you wish to reserve a table and pay by check, please send payment to Gary Hoving, President, California Police Historical Society, PO Box 254875, Sacramento CA 95865. His telephone number is (805) 441-4936. He can be reached by email through the website.

Check out CLEHS website and the Facebook page "Friends of the CLEHS" for show updates.

On Friday, July 5, the California Law Enforcement Historical Society will hold its annual corporate meeting at new headquarters in Arroyo Grande from 5 pm to 6 pm. The address will be released as we get closer to the meeting.

2024 Ripon, Calif. Show The 2024 Ripon Public Safety Collectors Show will be Saturday, October 5 from 9 am to 1 pm at the Ripon Community Center, 334 Fourth St., Ripon, California.

The show is a fundraiser for the California Law Enforcement Historical Society.

There are 50 eight-foot by 36-inch tables. Seller tables are \$40 each. Display tables are \$20 each. Reserve your table early as the show sells out every year!

Free admission.

To reserve a table and pay by check, please contact President Gary Hoving, California Law Enforcement Historical Society, PO Box 254875, Sacramento CA 95865-4875. His number is (805) 441-4936. He can be contacted by email through the CLEHS website, CalPoliceHistory.Com.

Submitted by Secretary-Treasurer Brian Smith

President Hoving Recaps CLEHS 2023 Achievements

The California Law Enforcement Historical Society is celebrating another successful year of operation. We provide many opportunities for participation by our members, either in person or virtually. We continue to provide services and benefits to our members first and friends second. Membership remains inexpensive at \$40, and we hope to continue increasing our role.

There are also plenty of opportunities to serve the society. We always need assistance during the museum exhibitions and have a firearms collection that needs volunteers to clean and photograph. Please reach out if you are interested in becoming more active in the society.

Thank you for all of your support and we are excited about the opportunities during 2024.

Historian of the Year The Historian of the Year program singles out the individual who made significant impact on preserving the history of our great profession and through support of the CLEHS. It was a true honor to present the Historian of the Year award to Doug Brimmer, San Bernardino Sheriff's Office.

Host Collectors Shows The California Law Enforcement Historical Society



It was badges galore at "Porky." (Upper left) San Francisco Traffic Control with an applied seal. (Upper right) A generic old police officer star. (Lower left) A very old special badge from San Diego County. (Lower right) A hard to find California Livestock Identification inspector's shield. Arthur Fox photograph



Among 2023 California Law Enforcement Historical Society accomplishments is production of this California Police Museum badge made by Ed Jones. The gold seven-point star features the state seal as the center design. Twenty-eight members bought them for their collections. Gary Hoving photograph



The mobile California Police Museum appeared at four venues in 2023, including the National Police Collectors Show in San Bernardino. The four dates drew 2394 visitors. Since it opened, an incredible 32,183 visitors have toured the museum fully loaded with great artifacts. *Gary Hoving photograph*

hosts two collector shows per year. One show in San Luis Obispo in the summer and one in October in Ripon. Both shows are well attended, but we are capable of expanding the number of tables when necessary. Our shows provide very nice plaques to the exhibitors and we continue to encourage displays with an educational or historic theme.

Annual Board of Directors Meeting California law requires all corporations to conduct an annual business meeting. In the recent past, these have been held electronically due to the COVID pandemic but for 2023 were back in person. Our meeting was held in July at our headquarters building in Arroyo Grande. We thank the Board of Directors for their support and participation. It is important to note that all directors serve without compensation or stipend.

Host Virtual Collectors Show During COVID, we implemented several virtual collectors show permitting the sale and trade from our Facebook page which is typically prohibited. The shows are a free benefit of CLEHS membership. All of our Facebook friends are welcome to purchase items during the events but may not list items for sale. There is no cost but we ask for a donation, primarily by the sellers. We will continue the virtual shows as long as there is an interest from the membership.

Friday Favorites Our Friday Favorites has provided an opportunity to share our collections online at the Friends of the California Law Enforcement Historical Society. A theme is selected for each week and participants receive an Award of Excellence for their best pieces. Based on the number of comments per posting, the one with the highest number of positive comments is awarded the Fan Favorites Award. While just symbolic, the awards have been well received by the participants as it is nice to receive recognition for our collecting efforts.

This program is posted every Friday from 7 am to 7 pm. However, we are typically dark on Fridays preceding a collector show and close to Thanksgiving and Christmas. At this point, the program is a free experience for our 1000 Facebook friends. We will continue to encourage participants to join the CLEHS.

The volume of posts per week varies widely dependent on the selected theme. However, during 2023 we collectively posted a staggering total of 15,198 images during Friday Favorites.

Museum Exhibitions The California Police Museum conducted four exhibitions this year. In May, we displayed at the Lompoc Police Food Truck Rodeo, in June at the National Police Collectors Show in San Bernardino, in September at the San Luis Obispo Sheriff's Family Day and in November at the Cops 'N Kids Field Day in Arroyo Grande. The four exhibitions hosted a total of 2394 visitors through the museum. To date the California Police Museum has received 32,183 visitors.

Membership Membership in the California Law Enforcement Historical Society continues to grow. Through membership, we are able to financially support the operation by leasing a headquarters office which also contains our collection of artifacts, pay for insurance on the museum and show and manage our existing assets. A chart of the members by year: 2019 98, 2023 121, 2021 147, 2022 148 and 2023 158.

Benefits to Members The CLEHS produced a beautiful California Police Museum seven-point star badge from the Ed Jones Company. The badges are numbered and available exclusively to the members of the California Law Enforcement Society. At a



The California Police Museum has its own patch! It's a very colorful CHP shape with the state seal and the motto, "Honoring the past, present and future." The patch is available through the CLEHS website, CalPoliceHistory.Com. It was designed by member William Tully. *Gary Hoving photograph*

price of \$250, each purchase provides \$100 in profit which is specifically designated as a donation and funds programs within the society. The initial order sold 28 California Police Museum badges.

A new CLEHS/California Police Museum challenge coin was produced this year. The coins are available to anyone, but they are offered at a discount to members.

One of the biggest impacts to the members has been the greatly improved newsletter. We have combined our newsletter with PCNEWS, the leading publication in the hobby, with remarkable results. In addition to the improved coverage, each member receives a PCNEWS electronic subscription at no cost. We are grateful to PCNEWS Editor Mike R. Bondarenko for his professionalism and support to the CLEHS.

While the costs are increasing for almost everything, we are holding our membership at \$40 as long as possible. At the upcoming annual corporation meeting, we will consider raising the life membership to \$500 based on the number of folks retaining membership for longer than 10 years. We are very happy for their longevity but attempting to remain fiscally responsible.

We greatly appreciate each and every member of the society and supporting the efforts of preserving our rich professional history. At 11 cents per day, supporting the CLEHS is one of the best bargains and truly entertaining.

Submitted by CLEHS President Gary Hoving



"Best Display" (Second Place) went to Jess Tovar for an outstanding exhibit of Stanislaus County Sheriffs Office crime scene investigation insignia and memorabilia. Tovar is a Stanislaus County deputy and specializes in his department. He is a longtime collector. *CLEHS photograph*

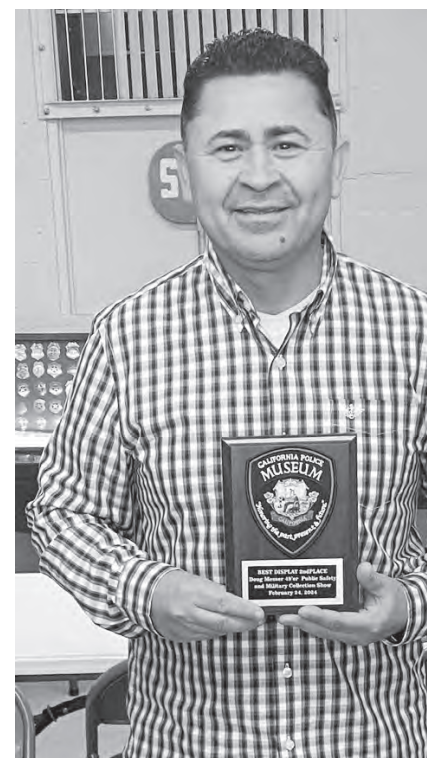
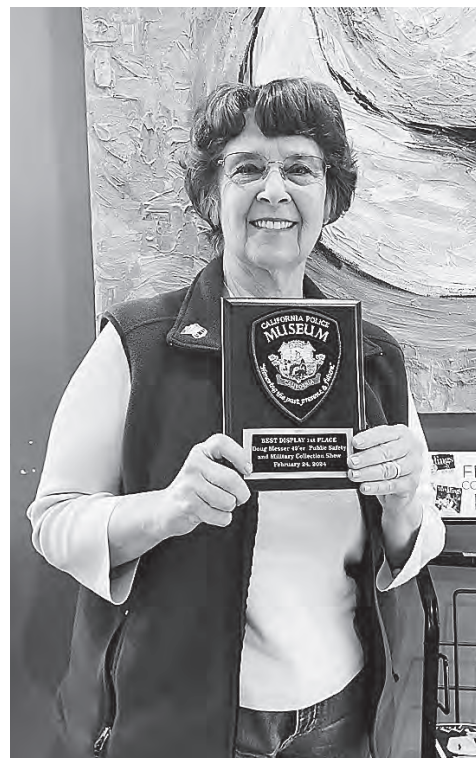
Roseville Show Overcomes Adversity

The 28th Annual Doug Messer "49'er" Public Safety and Military Collectors Show was held on Saturday, February 24 at the Roseville Veterans Memorial Hall. The show was sponsored by the International Police Association Region 29 and the Roseville American Legion Alyn W. Butler Post 169.

Due to a scheduling conflict that we found out about on the morning of the show, we had to move the entire event to the veterans' building. Fortunately, we were able to accommodate most tableholders in a smaller room in the basement.

The Boy Scouts from Troop 11 did an excellent job of changing course and quickly moving tables and chairs to our new location. It was a cozy situation but everyone seemed to adjust with only a few complaints.

The show raised a total of \$1300 distributed to the California Ranger Foundation, the California Law Enforcement Historical Society and Boy Scout Troop 11.



Meet two of the four award winners at the Roseville show. (Left) First place for "Best Display" went to Carol Johnson, widow of USMS collector Budd Johnson. (Right) Jess Tovar, a Stanislaus County deputy sheriff, won "Best Display" second place for his crime scene investigation exhibit. *CLEHS photographs*



Carol Johnson won an award at the Roseville show for the outstanding United States Marshals Service badge and artifacts collection that she helped her late husband, Budd Johnson, acquire during their years together. Sadly, he died last year not long after the National Show in San Bernardino. *CLEHS photograph*

We presented four awards:

Best Display (Third Place) Chris Villegas

Best Display (Second Place) Jess Tovar

Best Display (First Place) Carol Johnson

Best Historical Display Rob Kohlstedt

We also presented four "Best of Show Grand Masters" Awards in recognition of four longtime California collectors who consistently bring museum-quality badge and patch displays. Awards were presented to Jim Casey, Mike DeVilbiss, Mike McCarthy and Phil Colonnelli.



Mike DeVilbiss specializes in the Sacramento County Sheriffs Office and has assembled a world class collection of badges, emblems, photographs, artifacts and memorabilia. He was awarded coveted Grand Master recognition at the Roseville show in February 24. It was well deserved. *CLEHS photograph*

Show hosts Mike Lynch and I would like to thank every who set up beautiful badge and patch displays and those who attended for their continued support.

Submitted by Brian Smith, Secretary-Treasurer

I must commend the work of Brian Smith and Mike Lynch for hosting a super event. However, they were dealt a last-minute blow discovering that the Veterans Hall had been taken over as a polling place without any warning.

The hosts then acquired a smaller meeting room in the basement of the hall and set up the tables with the help of the Boy Scouts. Ideal? Probably not, but at the end of the day everything had worked out fine.

Congratulations to Brian and Mike for yet another successful show. It is my commendation that the Roseville show adopt an official patch of "Improvise, Adapt and Overcome." Great job, gentlemen.



Chris Villegas (right) won the "Best Display" (Third Place) for his outstanding collection from the Calaveras County Sheriffs Office where he serves as the chief deputy. Rob Kohlstedt (right), a student of California law enforcement history, received the "Best Historical Display" award. *CLEHS photograph*



Rob Kohlstedt's award winning exhibit at the Roseville show featured outstanding displays of historic weapons and badges carried by California lawman. He has done an outstanding job of documenting and researching these collections. He won "Best Educational Display." *CLEHS photograph*

The show saw a tremendous level of activity. I re-homed a significant number of pieces and even added a few for my collection.

I am looking forward to next year's event.

Submitted by President Gary Hoving

San Francisco Patrol Specials Suspended

The future of the longstanding San Francisco Patrol Special Police is unclear after the owner of the last remaining police beats suspended the program on February 29.

Officer Alan Byard, the last remaining Patrol Special officer in the city, announced the suspension in an email to customers and officers on January 20. He cited a rules and regulations revision required by the city police commission as the primary reason for his decision, as well as his desire for more time off after 47 years on the job. He told local media he intends to retire soon.

Patrol special officers are commissioned by the San Francisco Police Department to provide police services to private businesses and individuals willing to pay for them. The officers are assigned to specific patrol beats and work for the beat owner. Officer Byard owns the last remaining beats.

"I have attended dozens of meetings trying to get the program out into the public light so more people will demand more patrol specials. Everyone involved in SFPD as well as supervisors are onboard with the program and want to see it expanded, but no one will push to get my applicants appointed," he wrote.

Officer Byard has been unable to sell his beats because the Police Commission wants rules and regulations that govern the program revised before any movement on the patrol special program. While the review process has begun, he believes it will take a year or longer.

"I feel leaving all of you without having a patrol special to protect and watch over all of you makes me sad, as well as angry because it is a major failing of this city," he wrote.

The Patrol Special Police has been officially part of the city since 1856. There were once as many as 450 patrol specials in the city.

Officer Byard is a badge collector and member of the San Francisco City and County



San Francisco Patrol Special Police Officer Alan Byard (center) is the last remaining officer on the force that has served since 1856. He announced he suspended his service on February 29. Officer Byard is shown with two former members of the historic Patrol Special Police. *Contributed photograph*



A San Francisco Police Patrol Special star. The badge is nearly identical to the one worn by regular officers except for the addition of "PATROL SPECIAL" between the city name and the star number. Alan Byard, the last remaining patrol special, has suspended the service. *Contributed photograph*

Police Badges Facebook group.
Compiled by Editor Mike R. Bondarenko

San Joaquin Sheriffs Foundation Funds Department Historian SUV

California county sheriffs preserve their histories in varying degrees, some by the department, others through a historical society and some not at all. However, few agencies go all out like San Joaquin County.

Veteran California collector and CLEHS member R. Tod Ruse, who has one of



The San Joaquin County Sheriffs Foundation purchased a new Ford Explorer for R. Tod Ruse, the department historian since 1992. It was delivered in January. It's white with black and gold official agency markings with the title, 'HISTORIAN,' across both doors. *R. Tod Ruse photograph*

finest collections of San Joaquin County sheriff's artifacts and memorabilia known, was appointed department historian by former Sheriff Baxter Dunn in 1992. He was given the title "historian" with a badge and access to agency records, documents, photographs and insignia. A historical committee was formed.



The recently-opened history room at the San Joaquin County Sheriffs Office contains the agency's collection of historic artifacts and memorabilia. Former Sheriff Baxter Dunn appointed R. Tod Ruse as historian and authorized a historical committee beginning in 1992. *R. Tod Ruse photograph*



R. Tod Ruse was named San Joaquin County Sheriffs Office historian in 1992. After serving as an unpaid volunteer for 20 years under previous administrations, Sheriff Patrick Withrow made Ruse a part-time employee paid for his time. He was also provided with a uniform. *Department photograph*

He served as a volunteer and devoted countless hours to assembling displays and exhibits, traveling around the county making presentations to civic groups and public events and conducting extensive research into department history.

"It's a labor of love, that's for sure," Ruse said in an interview with *California Police Historian* during a show a few years ago. "But, I really enjoy doing it because I love history,



Imagine being a motorist following the San Joaquin County Sheriffs Office historian vehicle and wondering, "If I pass him, can a historian give me a ticket?" It probably happens all the time. R. Tod Ruse was given the keys to this new Ford Explorer to use on duty...as historian! *R. Tod Ruse photograph*

especially San Joaquin County. It's rough sometimes to separate my collection from the county's, but I do it."

While previous sheriffs supported Ruse and helped him and the historical committee preserve department history, none has been as supportive as Sheriff Patrick Withrow, who took office in 2019. He has emphasized it ever since, including providing a room for department history at headquarters in French Camp.

In late 2023, Sheriff Withrow made department historian a paid position. Ruse is now compensated for his time working at the museum, making presentations, conducting agency history classes for trainees and interviewing retirees.

"I never asked to be paid. I never discussed it with any sheriff, including Sheriff Withrow. One day he called me into his office and out of the clear blue, he told me I was now a paid part-time employee. Now, I turn in a time sheet like everyone else. It came as a complete surprise," Ruse said. "It shows his dedication to preserving our history. I've been



San Joaquin County Sheriff Patrick Withrow has emphasized department history ever since he took office. Working with his Historical Committee and Historian R. Tod Ruse, the sheriff has authorized historical displays throughout agency headquarters, including these in a hallway waiting area. *R. Tod Ruse photograph*

overwhelmed by the support.”

Early this year, Ruse got another surprise. He was given a take home vehicle, a new Ford Explorer with department markings in the rank of Historian. It was paid for by the Sheriffs Foundation at no cost to taxpayers. The foundation is a privately funded non-profit organization.

Ruse is now using the vehicle to carry out his historian duties. “It’s the last thing I ever expected. No one told me about it. He told me to pick out a car and it would be marked. I picked it up about two weeks later,” he said. “I know they got the idea somewhere, but it didn’t come from me.”

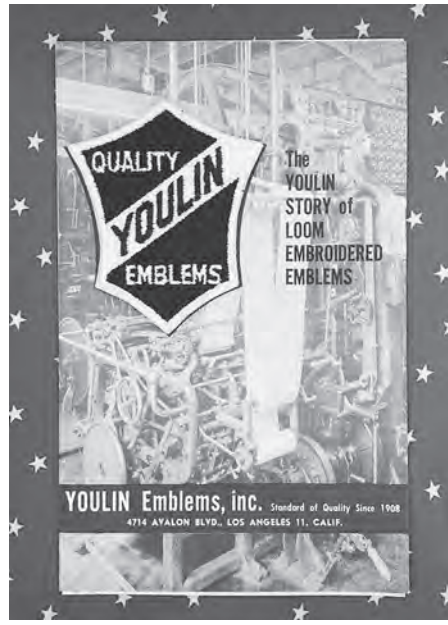
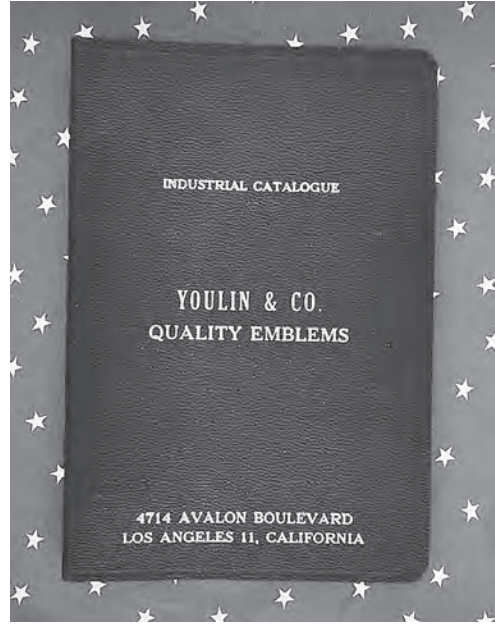
The Explorer is large enough for Ruse to transport displays to presentations throughout the county, as well as pick up artifacts and memorabilia from families that wish to donate items to the history room. He also drives to retired deputy’s homes to conduct interviews about their careers.

Ruse never mentioned it during our most recent interview, but Sheriff Withrow probably wanted to reward him for his 32 years of dedication toward preserving department history. It’s even more proof of San Joaquin County’s strong desire to preserve its history.

Submitted by Editor Mike R. Bondarenko with special thanks to John Basalto



The new style Napa Police Department emblem features the United States flag and the Grape Crusher statue that greets visitors to the city. The new insignia has a black background and white legends and border. Shown is the CSO rocker and sergeant chevrons. Contributed photograph



(Left) The Youlin and Company catalog was not distributed to the public. This circa 1956 book was carried by their salesmen when they called on customers. (Right) A sales brochure for Youlin and Company Emblems, 4714 Avalon Boulevard, Los Angeles, Calif. Gary Hoving photograph

Napa Police Update Emblem, Historical Society Shares History

The Napa Police Department officially changed its shoulder patch in December 2023 marking the fifth version in the history of the department. The police historical society presented the emblem history of the Napa County department.

The department’s first patch was introduced in the late 1940s. It was a simple half-moon shape with a black background and yellow text.

In 1952, Captain Art Corbett created the patch version that would endure, with minor modifications, until 2023. It featured a farmer in a wheat field with a sheep with the Napa Foothills in the background. It mostly yellow on blue.

The latest style change was designed with input from an employee committee. It shows a United States flag background with the iconic Grape Crusher statue that greets tourists as they enter the city from the south.

Community service officers will wear the same patch with a tab above it designating their rank.

The department had transitioned to the new insignia by January 20, according to the historical society.

Submitted by Napa Police Historical Society

Early California Patch Provider

One of the early California law enforcement patch providers was the Youlin Emblem Company. Youlin began making patches in 1908 and were located at 4714 Avalon Boulevard in Los Angeles.

In the CLEHS collection is a box of photographic negatives, brochure, salesman book and even a sample patch from the Youlin company. The small binder used was a salesman catalog and it contains dividers for the various types of customers, including automotive, gas and oil, tire and battery, farm machinery and, finally, police, state and municipal emblems.

While automotive, gas and oil and tires were their largest markets, the police section was very interesting to our readers. Illustrated in the catalog was the standard CHP style patch available in any color. They were all custom ordered so the client had the option of ordering a loom run product or one with hand embroidery.

Another interesting thing found in their sales flier was a notation that they do not send out catalogs or give samples. That appears to be partially true, except that the brochure itself contained a Youlin company embroidered patch glued on the front. Since each piece is custom made, they clearly wanted a salesman to meet with you to assist in the design and color choices.

A significant amount of information is available regarding the manufacturers of badges and their designs through catalogs. I found it uncommon to discover the information on the early purchase of law enforcement insignia. Images of the company patch, brochure and several pages of the catalog are shown. It is circa 1956.

This material is found in the collection of the California Law Enforcement Historical Society.

Veteran California Lawman Asks CLEHS Members For Help

Charles Moorman, a 67-year veteran of California law enforcement, has asked the California Law Enforcement Historical Society for help in locating two stolen mementos from his long career.

Now 86 years old, Moorman’s memorabilia was stolen during a burglary of his residence in the late 1990s. A police report was filed, but the stolen items have never been recovered. He asks California collectors to look in their displays and return them if they can be found. He speculated the mementos eventually made their way to the collector market and the



A Napa Police Department patch progression. (Upper left) The original emblem was introduced in the late 1940s. (Upper right, lower left and lower right) This patch design was first worn in 1952 and modified twice. It was worn for 71 years until the latest emblem was adopted. Contributed photograph



(Left and right) Youlin and Company Emblems offered California emblems, such as Department of Fish and Game, Department of Agriculture, Los Angeles County Sheriff, etc., in a variety of colors. This catalog is circa 1956. The emblems are shown in black and white. Gary Hoving photographs

buyer(s) purchased not knowing they are stolen property.

He is missing his 1960 Fullerton Police Department patrolman badge numbered "129." It was given to him the day he was sworn in and worn throughout his career. Fullerton badges are now in the 1000 series, he said.

Moorman is missing his California Highway Patrol gold cap piece with a winged wheel with a spoke motorcycle wheel as the center design.

His 67 years of law enforcement experience was with the United States Marine Corps, Fullerton PD and the CHP. He served as a field training officer in Fullerton and the CHP. Later, he became a college professor and state law enforcement training chief.

"Most of my law enforcement students in the 1970s, '80s and '90s have succumbed to old age or met their demise," he said. He has helped train no less than 18,000 California law enforcement officers.

Moorman partnered with retired Los Angeles Police Department captain Richard Wemmer to research every felonious homicide of a California law enforcement officer since January 1, 1960. They have documented about 430 deaths and plan to publish a complete summary in 2025.

He is a volunteer docent at the Central California Veterans Memorial Museum in San Luis Obispo on Saturdays. It is located in Veterans Hall, the building where the CLEHS show is held every year.

"I attended your meeting upstairs in Veterans Hall last July seeing the amazing collections and hob-nobbing with former law enforcement officers for a couple hours," Moorman said.

He can be contacted at 1999 Tapadero, Los Oso CA 93402 or by email to moochuck38@gmail.com.

Submitted by Charles Moorman

California Walking Bear Makes A Comeback

A California grizzly bear has appeared on all sorts of law enforcement badges and emblems across the state for many years. Collectors routinely refer to "walking bear" badges or patches.

The extinct species has appeared on the state flag since 1846 as a symbol of strength and unyielding resistance. However, gradually agencies got away from walking bear insignia to more modern designs, especially cloth emblems.

Walking bears are making a comeback in San Joaquin County where the sheriff's office stopped using the symbol long ago. Sheriff Patrick Withrow authorized wearing of walking bear patches and badges as "alternative insignia," meaning his department is using two different badges and patches.

California Police Historian previously reported the sheriff was considering a walking bear badge and patch that deputies could wear on duty if they purchase it. It's an alternative to the agency's current insignia. Both have now been created and the alternative insignia is a reality.

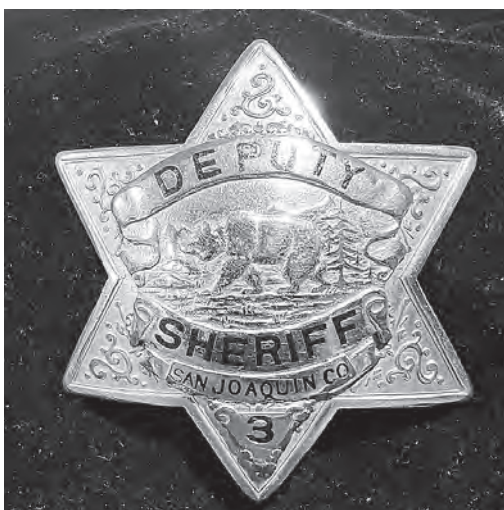
Department historian R. Tod Ruse reports more than 600 deputies are wearing the walking bear badge, while the patch will be worn in April, the month the agency was founded in 1850. Ruse designed the insignia and Sheriff Withrow approved it. It appears on department publications as well as their website and Facebook page.

The badge is a throwback to a style last worn in 1947 when Sheriff Carlos Sousa introduced the current badge, which has been worn ever since. It's a gold-colored seven-point star with the state seal as the center design. Deputies who opt not to buy the alternative badge can continue to wear it. (The very popular new walking bear badge costs them \$124.)

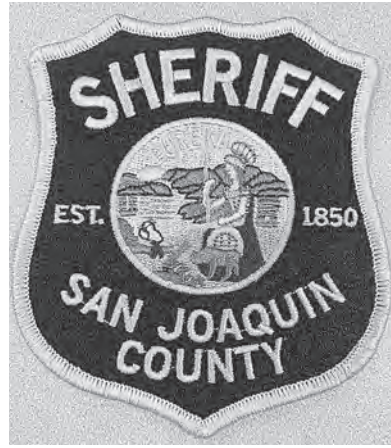
The current emblem is a gold-on-black shield with gold-colored legends and borders. A full color state seal appears as the center design. The walking bear patch is the same size and colors. However, a brown California grizzly bear replaces the state seal and legend beneath it is "EST. 1850."

When Sheriff Harvey Odell took office in 1931, he wanted to standardize San Joaquin County badges and created the walking bear design. It was smaller than subsequent insignia because the sheriff and his deputies did not wear uniforms. The smaller size was more suitable for plainclothes. It had the walking bear as the center design. In 1947, Sheriff Sousa authorized the larger seven-point star worn yet today although not by most deputies. Welcome back, California grizzly. Obviously, San Joaquin County missed you!

Submitted by R. Tod Ruse



(Top) About 600 San Joaquin County deputies are wearing the new walking bear badge created by R. Tod Ruse. (Left) Sheriff Harvey Odell introduced this small size gold-colored walking bear star in 1931. (Right) Sheriff Crawford C. Hitchcock wore this custom personalized badge. R. Tod Ruse photograph



(Left) The current department issue emblem of the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Office. It's a gold-on-black shield shape with a full color state seal in the center design. (Right) Deputies can wear this alternative shoulder patch marking the agency's creation in April of 1850. Contributed photograph

"Tuesdays With Tod" Debuts On You Tube

It's called "Tuesdays With Tod," and it's on You Tube.

The San Joaquin County Sheriff's Office is now offering a video production on its history starring department historian R. Tod Ruse. The first episode debuted in December, while the second was posted in early February. Third and fourth programs are in the works.

The Public Affairs Office produces the programs and posts them on You Tube.

California Police Historian has reviewed the first and second episodes. In the first video, Ruse discusses his interest in history and how he became historian. It is six minutes long. The second focuses on early county history and the formation of the department. It runs 15 minutes. The online series has been viewed nearly 1100 times so far.

The sheriff has three public affairs officers. One of them was a local television news reporter who came up with the idea for "Tuesdays With Tod" after she watched a presentation that Ruse made to the Sheriff's Citizen Academy. He was onboard after she approached him with her idea.

"I'm going to talk about something different every time and try to show as much of our history collection as I can. It's a lot of fun doing it because it's a good way to tell people about our history," he said.

"Tuesdays With Tod" can easily be found by searching for it on You Tube. Check it out! Compiled by Editor Mike R. Bondarenko with special thanks to John Basalto

CLEHS Hosting Virtual Show On April 20

The California Law Enforcement Historical Society will host another online virtual insignia show on Saturday, April 20 from 8 am to 1 pm on the CLEHS Facebook page, Friends of the California Law Enforcement Historical Society.

The event gives California badge and patch collectors an opportunity to post items for sale or trade and/or purchase badges and patches or make trades for their collections. Previous events have offered numerous premium collectibles and many items have changed hands.

Participants must pre-register as a Facebook site member in order to participate. All new member questions must be answered by the applicant. Referrals are not accepted.

While anyone can view the items posted for sale and make purchases by going online during the event, only current CLEHS members may post insignia. "Please join the CLEHS as soon as possible so you can enjoy the benefits of membership," he said. Membership can be made online through the CLEHS site, calpolicehistory.com.

According to President Hoving, while there are no fees for posting or commissions for sellers, sellers are highly encouraged to donate a portion of their sales to the organization.

There are additional rules that will be made clear to all online participants before the virtual show begins.

CLEHS initiated virtual shows during the pandemic. While in-person shows have returned in California, the society has continued online virtual shows as a benefit of membership and fundraiser. These events are scheduled so as to not interfere with in-person law enforcement insignia shows.

Contributed by President Gary Hoving



California Law Enforcement Historical Society will host an online virtual insignia show on Saturday, April 20 from 8 am to 1 pm on the CLEHS Facebook site. Members and friends can sell or buy California insignia and collectibles, but only members can post items for sale. CLEHS photograph



Among the more than 5000 items recently donated to the California Police Museum are many old photographs and documents from California law enforcement. This picture shows a collection of pictures of San Francisco city marshals and police chiefs from 1849 to 1910. *CLEHS photograph*

Large Museum Donation Received

The California Law Enforcement Historical Society has received an extensive collection donation for the California Police Museum.

Gifted by Doug Gist, previous curator and director of the Nevada Police Museum, the collection includes many previously exhibited items. Of particular interest is the document collection including wanted postcards, posters, photographs of law enforcement professionals in California, books, manuals, impact weapons and vintage duty gear.

"Gist, a longtime member and supporter of the California Law Enforcement Historical Society, is considered a serial contributor to our organization in both artifacts and funds," President Gary Hoving said. "He has demonstrated his commitment to preserving these items from the most honorable profession."

With the accessioning of the items is about to begin, it is safe to say that the donation contains upwards of 5000 individual pieces.

Each item must be photographed or scanned and cataloged in the CLEHS Past Perfect Museum software program. Volunteers are needed to assist in the process to be conducted at the CLEHS headquarters. Also, additional donations are needed to purchase the appropriate acid free sleeves and binders to preserve the holdings.

A big thank you is tended to Doug Gist for his generosity and dedication to preserving our history.

It is important to note and commend his father, Walt Gist, who had the foresight to start preserving law enforcement artifacts before many of us were born.

Submitted by President Gary Hoving

San Francisco And San Jose Celebrating 175th Anniversaries

San Francisco and San Jose police are celebrating the 175th anniversaries of their departments in 2024 with beautiful custom commemorative badges. San Jose also has a anniversary patch.

According to the departments, wearing the commemorative insignia is optional and officers were required to purchase it on their own. Only active San Francisco officers are allowed to purchase and wear the star, but in San Jose, active, retired and reserve officers are all eligible.

The handsome stars can be worn on duty throughout 2024 in both cities. San Francisco's was made by Irvine and Jachens, the department's star vendor, while Ed Jones manufactured San Jose. Both are very high quality lifetime keepsakes made by two of California's leading manufacturers.

SFPD maintains the traditional seven-point star and incorporates the words, "175 YEARS" and "1849-2024" with the city and county seal in gold as the center design. The legends appear in black, "SAN FRANCISCO/ 175 YEARS/ 1849/ 2024/ POLICE/ (NUMBER)." Sergeants and command staff stars show their ranks on a banner across the top two stars points; sergeant banners are silver, while command rank banners are gold.

The police department began operations on August 13, 1849 under the command of Captain Malachi Fallon. He had a force of a deputy captain, three sergeants and 30 officers.

San Francisco was in the midst of the Gold Rush and lawlessness was rampant in 1849, so much so that the Board of Alderman authorized establishment of a police force. Initially, the city also had a marshal but that office was abolished in 1856 in favor of a chief of police.

The agency underwent a lengthy anniversary badge approval process which began in late 2022 when Chief of Police William Scott initially authorized their purchase. The stars



San Francisco Police Department's authorized 175th anniversary badge is handsome silver-colored star with the city and county seal as the center design. The legend on this example reads, "SERGEANT/ SAN FRANCISCO/ 175 YEARS/ 1849/ 2024/ POLICE/ (NUMBER)." *Contributed photograph*



San Jose's 2024 175th anniversary commemorative badges will be worn throughout the year, lieutenant, sergeant, officer, police data services, radio dispatcher and community service officer. Officers wear gold and others wear chrome. Ed Jones Company made them. *San Jose PD photograph*

were approved by the chief and released to the officers who bought them in early January. How many badges were ordered is unknown.

In San Jose, the anniversary badge pays tribute to the department's stars from the mid-1800s and the early 1900s with a smooth surface seven-point star with black enamel and blends together a badge from the 1950s with the rank in the center and a number on the bottom point. An additional top rocker displays "175 YEARS" with "1849-2024" shown below the rank.

Community service officers, communications and operations support services division personnel anniversary badges featuring a modified anniversary star affixed to their current designs. Each member's badge number also appears when applicable.

The shoulder emblem is the same size and color as the agency's first patch, but the design has been modified to celebrate the anniversary. It is gold-on-blue with a black border. A six-point gold star with the seal city appears as the center design. Beneath is a white banner with black lettering, "175TH ANNIVERSARY." On either side are "1849" and "2024," respectively.

Chief Anthony Mata authorized the badge and patch for uniform wear throughout 2024.

Officer and sergeant badges come in two versions, chrome and hand-engraved sterling silver.

There are three versions of command staff stars, 24-karat gold-plated, hand-engraved 24-karat gold-plated sterling silver and hand-engraved 10-karat gold-filled.

Community service officers and communications and operations support serves personnel purchased either chrome or Permatone badges. Supervisors could get gold-color tone.

Costs ranged from \$151.68 for chrome badges to \$817.35 for a hand-engraved 10-karat gold-filled star for a command officer.

Dating back to the late 1800s, the department's badges were five-, six- and seven-point stars. From the 1900s to 1976, officers wore a seven-point star with a smooth surface. The badges read, "SAN JOSE POLICE," and had a one- to three-digit number in the center, all in black enamel.

The seven points on the badge represent departmental core values, integrity, service, courage, innovation, respect, excellence and diversity.

In the mid-1970s, San Jose changed to a four-digit numbering system, and, at the same time, changed the badge style to the current version. The contract went to Ed Jones Company. It is a seven-point star with a rank ribbon, detailed leafing and blue enamel text.

The department's shoulder patch was designed in 1956. Sworn personnel did not wear it until the following year. It was blue with yellow lettering and contains the city seal inside a seven-point star. The seal is a bushel of wheat with a grape vine beneath it. From the late 1800s to the mid-1900s, San Jose was a large producer of wheat and grapes.

The department website, SJPD.Org, features an extensive San Jose badge and patch history. It shows many obsolete badge styles. The site is an excellent reference tool for California collectors and historians.

It was on September 25, 1849 that the City Council appointed the first 12 officers. Vagrancy and public drunkenness were the most common violations. The office of chief of police was created in 1860. The chief was also put in charge of the city jail as the superintendent.



San Jose went retro for its 175th anniversary patch, which is approved for wear throughout the year. Chief Anthony Mata said it is based on the initial 1956 patch, but the anniversary dates and "175TH ANNIVERSARY" have been added. Otherwise, it is mostly yellow on blue. *San Jose PD photograph*

Letters To The Editor

Unsung Hero In Pennsylvania

Chief Michael McNeal of the Salem Township, Penna. Police Department does a great job of protecting and serving his community. His department sponsors fundraisers for several charities by selling patches and challenge coins, such as autism awareness and breast cancer research.

Their two latest patches and coins were for Halloween 2023 and Christmas 2023.

All of their patches are worn on uniforms by the officers. They attach them with Velcro so they can be removed.

You can shop for Salem Township patches and coins on the department website, SalemTwpPolice.Com. Some styles are sold out, but most are still available.

THOMAS J. DORAN (Winston Salem, N.C.)



Longtime Michigan collector Tom Herring is on the mend after suffering a stroke. He has gifted his Michigan badge collection to his friend, Todd Hansen, who will soon be offering some of it for sale at the upcoming Michigan show. Herring specialized in several agencies. *Contributed photograph*

New Jersey Highway Patrol

Thanks to my dear friend, Thomas Mathews, who gifted me three old New Jersey Highway Patrol items for my collection.

First is a wallet badge Tom had made after graduating from the 12th Motor Vehicle Inspector class in 1966. The legends read, "INSPECTOR/ DIV. OF MTR. VEHICLES/ HIGHWAY PATROL/ 109."

Second is a few Highway Patrol patches which included a woven felt thread patch and solid gold background that was produced during the name change from department to division.

Third was a set of collar pins. These are slightly smaller than others that I have, "N.J." and "H.P."

Thanks again, Tom!

ALAN ATTANASIO (Mountside, N.J.)

Help Out The Hobby!

Please help out the hobby and flood your congressmen and senators' mailboxes with letters complaining about poor service by the United States Postal Service.

While the politicians argue back and forth about things no one but them care about, almost all collectors rely on patch and badge delivery by mail. Prices keep going up, but service keeps going down. It's getting worse every year.

I paid \$6.40 to mail a package of six patches and two coins to another collector. It took ten days to get from my post office to his mailbox. I sent it first class mail. I got the tracking number and checked it every day. I have no clue why it took so long or why my package went to so many different places before it was finally delivered.

How many collectors do you know who have sent patches and badges that were never delivered, or were waiting for patches and badges that never arrived? I know quite a few. It's a big problem for our hobby that needs to be fixed.

It doesn't do any good to complain to your local postmaster. They can't do anything about anything outside their immediate area. Only Congress can fix the USPS, which why complaining often to your congressman and senators is so important.

Please help out the hobby. Complain about poor service by the United States Postal Service to your representatives in Congress. Do it today.

Thank you for publishing this letter.

TRAVIS KELLEN (San Antonio, Tex.)

Tom Herring Getting Better

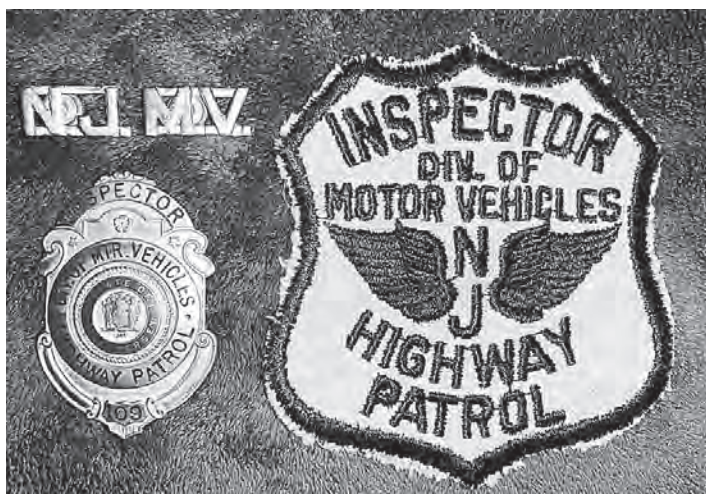
I want to inform you of some bad news. My friend of over 40 years, Tom Herring, has had a stroke. He spent several weeks in the hospital, but is now recuperating. Unfortunately, he will have a long recovery ahead of him with a long stint in rehab.

At this time, if you have any questions, please reach out to me directly. It is extremely difficult and physically taxing for him to use the computer or telephone. I will provide updates as I can when there are changes to his health.

Regarding Tom's police collection, he has given his entire collection to me. At some point, I will be selling some of his badges to help pay for his medical bills. This will be done as needed.

I will have part of his collection with me for sale at the Detroit show on March 23.

TODD HANSEN (Detroit, Mich.)



Alan Attanasio, who specializes in the now defunct New Jersey Highway Patrol, recently added this 1960s era agency insignia to his outstanding collection. (Upper left) A collar brass set. (Left) A 1966 wallet badge. (Right) A very old felt DMV Inspector patch. *Alan Attanasio photograph*

Canadian Collector Nears 100

I write today to let you know of my dad, John Malyna's, 100th birthday on May 23. As he turns 100, he continues to collect police and other law enforcement patches. I'm thinking this might make him the oldest patch collector. Well, he's certainly in the top three anyway!

Patch collecting still provides him with the joy that it always has, even though his other sources of joy are becoming fewer as time goes by.

Dad is currently in a senior residence after living on his own until age 98. He tells me he plans to return to live in his home. I applaud his determination, and my sister keeps the home fires burning, just in case. In addition to receiving *PCNEWS*, he also receives patches from around the world regularly.

You may know that in addition to your Capital City show in Saint Paul, Minn., my dad and I attended the National Show in Indianapolis, as well as shows in Altona and Winnipeg, Man.

When he traveled in earlier years, he would have patch trading stock with him and never passed up a chance to stop at a police station or engage in a conversation with an officer on the street to make a patch request.

In addition to our Canadian prime minister and the Manitoba premier, we are expecting to receive commemoration of his birthday milestone from King Charles III as Canada's constitutional head of state.

Readers who would be interested in sending him a birthday card or anything for his collection are welcome to write to John Malyna, 927 Atlantic Ave., Winnipeg MB R2X 1L5, Canada.

My sister will ensure that he receives and personally opens everything that people may choose to send. I know he would be pleased and honored.

JOHN R. MALYNA (Winnipeg, Man.)

PICA-GB AGM Scheduled The annual general meeting (AGM) of the Insignia Collectors Association of Great Britain will be Sunday, May 26 at Bestwood Miner's Welfare and Village Hall in Bestwood Village, Nottingham. The venue is a new one for the AGM and more centrally located than last year. The business meeting will be followed by a swap meet. Dale Sinclair and Mike Regrave are the organizers.

Elmira Police Department Drops New Agency Flag

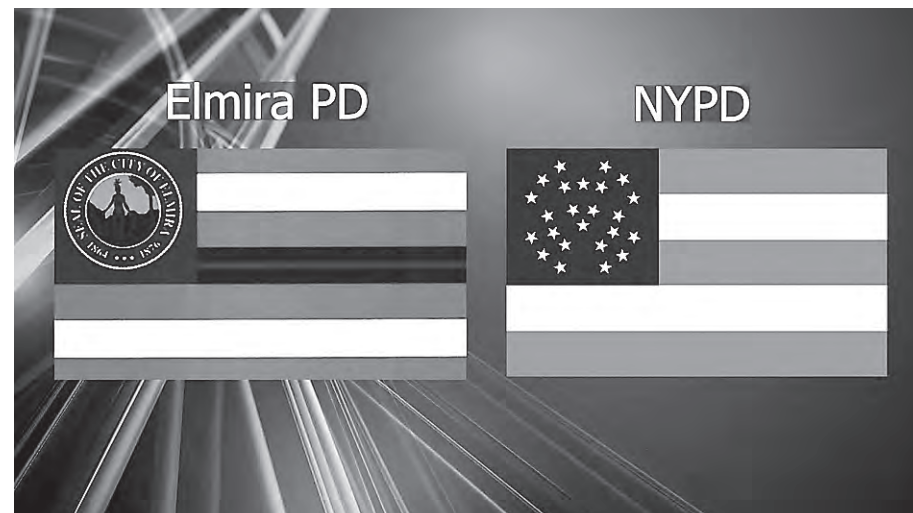
ELMIRA, N.Y. – The Elmira, N.Y. Police Department's new flag, adopted less than two years ago, has been discontinued. The City Council voted unanimously late last year to approve a request by the police union to withdraw its endorsement of the flag.

Former Chief Anthony Alvernaz introduced the banner in April 2022. It is patterned after the New York Police Department flag. The flag is green and white with a black and blue stripe across the center and the city seal in the upper left on a blue field. It was the first time in the 147-year of the department that it had a flag.

The Elmira Police Benevolent Association objected to it, citing lack of proper input from officers for the design and its strong resemblance to the NYPD flag.

Earlier, before his dismissal last December, Chief Alvernaz ordered a new checker pattern design for police cruisers. It resembled the Chicago Police. The agency later changed to a different marking scheme.

Mike R. Bondarenko, Editor



The first Elmira, N.Y. police flag (left) in the agency's 147-year history has been discontinued by order of the City Council. The police union objected to the banner. Former Chief Anthony Alvernaz introduced the design in April 2022. It was patterned after the NYPD flag (right). *Contributed photograph*



Dennis Beyer (center) poses with two Royal Falkland Police Force constables who were patrolling the dock where the cruise ship ferrying the Beyers made land. Like most United Kingdom police officers, Falkland Islands officers are unarmed and wear British uniforms. *Dennis Beyer photograph*



Dennis Beyer was gifted a Royal Falkland Islands Police Force shoulder emblem during his visit to the department. It's a light blue elongated oval with the force crest as the center design. There is a Queen's Crown at the top. The emblem doubles as a door decal. *Dennis Beyer photograph*

Collecting Memories

By Dennis Beyer. Staff Writer

STANLEY, Falkland Islands – I guess I won't complain about driving to Orlando or Titusville from Naples anymore. I certainly can't express sorrow over Florida roads after traveling to Stanley, F.I. The travel distance, as the crow flies, was 5518 miles.

F.I. is the abbreviation for the Falkland Islands. In order to get there, I had to take my wife on a cruise around Cape Horn at the end of South America. Naturally, when I saw a one day visit to Stanley, the capital city, I caved in and agreed to go. After all, this cruise stop was on the way!

Mrs. and I used a shuttle craft to touch soil in Stanley. It was a 20-minute ride from the cruise ship. Once ashore, I looked for help to find police headquarters on Ross Road. All I had to do was snap my fingers and help was there. Two officers patrolling the dock were pleased to direct me to the station house. They even took a picture with me.

Once I entered HQ, I spoke with the desk officer, Chris Leat. I explained to him that I was looking for Chief Michael Luke. I quickly learned that Chief Luke had called it a career and was on his way back to London, U.K.

Police Constable Wendy Van Rensburg was the officer in charge when I visited. She made me feel at home immediately. When I told her that I am a collector of law enforcement memorabilia, she said departed Chief Luke was also a collector. I sure wish I could have spent some time with him.

I explained to her that I would like some information on the bombing of police headquarters during the Falkland Islands War in 1982. That was no problem as she had the historical picture which revealed a damaged roof.

I learned the attack took place on June 12, 1982 when a British AS-12 missile came in low and erroneously hit the police building. The correct target was the Falklands Town Hall captured by Argentinian forces. (Argentina claimed the Falklands and other surrounding islands were their territory and attempted to oust the British who colonized them in 1841. The war lasted ten days. The British prevailed.)

Inside headquarters I found a tribute to all the chiefs in the history of the Falkland Island Police Force. The first was F. Parry who served for 33 years, 1846 to 1879. The last chief listed was J. McMahon, who served from 2018 to 2022. Not listed was Chief Luke.

The current command of the police has been placed in the hands of Barry Thacker, who is the chief of police. We caught up on email. He was sorry to have missed my visit, but was glad that I was well looked after.

I gained some knowledge of Chief Thacker's background primarily through a publication by Faith Spear, the United Kingdom criminal justice advocate. She writes a criminal justice blog and knew that Thacker was a 17-year-old still living in the U.K. when the war broke out in 1982. He was among a half-dozen kids who came together to study news reports of the horror of war that summer. Eventually, they went their separate ways.

When the war ended, Thacker entered British law enforcement at age 18. He trained at the Ryton on Dunsmore Police College and received a Commandant's Silver Baton for being the most outstanding student in the class.

Forty years later, following a distinguished career in the United Kingdom, he took a position with the Royal Falkland Islands Police. He was soon appointed as the acting chief of this distant island police force.

I have shown police headquarters as it look today. It is the same structure that was hit by the British missile in 1982. The police flag is unfurled above a window.

Falkland Islands police vehicles are a very colorful blue and yellow checkerboard design. "POLICE" is painted in red across the rear.

I was presented with one of their patches and have shown it with this column.

Police also gave me directions to a fine British pub where I treated my wife to some mighty fine fish and chips at the local favorite Globe Tavern.

Certainly my visit to the Royal Falkland Island Police Force made wonderful memories for me. I will cherish them among the memories I have collected over the last 50 years.

DENNIS BEYER (Naples, Fla.)



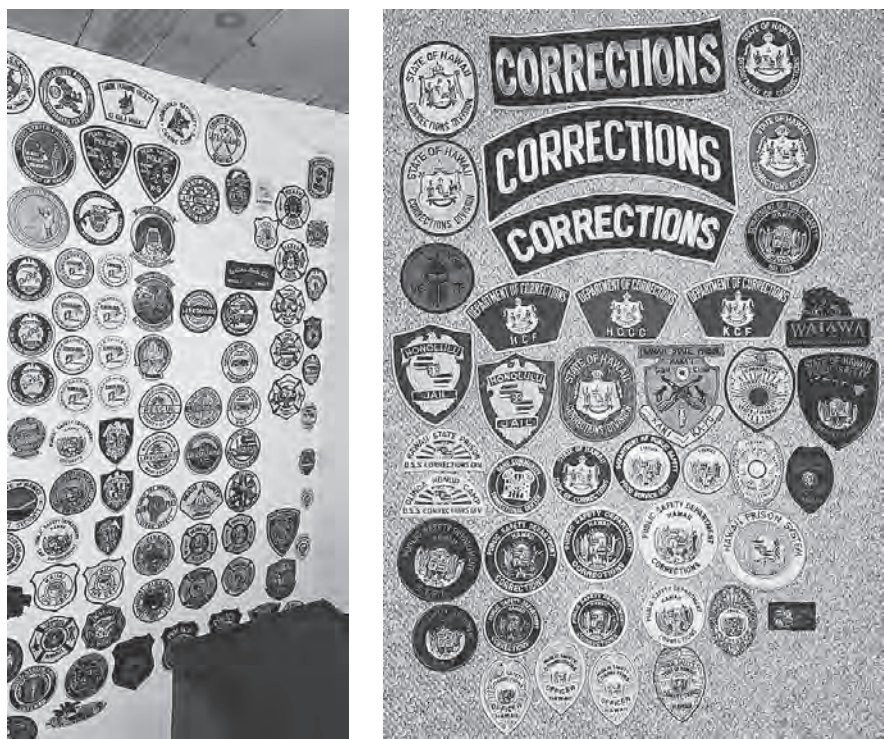
Royal Islands Police Force patrol vehicles are a traditional blue and yellow checkerboard design with the force crest as door decal and a blue overhead lightbar. This is a Landover Defender and joined the department fleet in 2018. "POLICE" is shown in large red letters on the back. *Dennis Beyer photograph*



Headquarters of the Royal Falkland Islands Police Force in Stanley is a historic white building adorned with the agency flag above a window by the main entrance. The building was built in 1873. The agency was founded in 1846 with the appointment of a chief constable. *Dennis Beyer photograph*



Kerwin Bode (right) poses with his father on the day he became a Department of Corrections officer. He worked at the Maui Community Correctional Facility, where his father also worked until his retirement. Bode is a dedicated collector of Hawaii public safety insignia. *Mike Lucas photograph*



Only a segment of Kerwin Bode's outstanding Hawaii Department of Corrections cloth insignia, both current and obsolete styles. He specializes in his former department. Bode is a third generation officer at the Maui Community Corrections Center. He is still on the job. *Mike Lucas photograph*



An old uniform shirt from the Hawaii Department of Corrections in Kerwin Bode's extensive collection. It is khaki-colored. Today, most officer uniforms are blue or gray. DOC operates four jails and four state prisons on the islands. There is also a contract facility in Atlanta, Ga. *Mike Lucas photograph*

Preserving Hawaii Public Safety History Through Insignia

By Mike Lucas, Staff Writer

MESA, Ariz. – During a trip to Hawaii last December, I met with Officer Kerwin Bode, a Department of Corrections officer at the Maui Community Correctional Center. He is an avid collector of Hawaii public safety insignia. Bode has created a true personal public safety museum.

Bode is a dedicated third generation Hawaii public safety officer following in the footsteps of his grandfather and father who both retired from the Department of Corrections.

He led me into his inner sanctum where he keeps his prized extensive collections. I knew immediately when seeing hundreds of uniform patches mounted on the walls that he is a very serious collector.

Bode pointed out the dates each insignia was issued and worn and when design changes were made for each generation. He also pointed out emblems made but rejected by the agencies, yet still considered as good collectibles.

He led me to a second room where he displays different generations of corrections uniforms, such as those worn by his uncle, Kenneth Bode, also a former Maui corrections officer, as well as uniform garments worn by his grandfather.

There is a wall of several personal training and award certificates and treasured father and grandfather retirement commemoratives.

Lastly, there is a proudly displayed photograph of Bode and his father in uniform taken at the time Kerwin became an officer.

It is without a doubt that Bode is a true historian of Hawaii public safety memorabilia and the "go to" guy who has a grasp on authentication.

MIKE LUCAS (Mesa, Ariz.)

Eric Wollman Recognized Longtime New York City collector Eric Wollman was recognized for an incredible 50 years of service to the NYPD Auxiliary during a mid-January ceremony at One Police Plaza. An Auxiliary Police supervisor, Wollman received a service plaque during the ceremony. The NYPD has been recognizing officers for longevity and perfect attendance since 1989. Wollman has no plans to retire. "It will be repeated five years from now," he said.

2024 National Insignia Commemorative badges and patches are a longstanding National Police Collectors Show tradition. The 2024 hosts in Davenport, Iowa have announced creation of their badge, a six point star pie plate with the QC (Quad Cities) logo as the center design. The badge sells for \$85 and \$10 shipping. It is now available for pre-order through the show website. There is also an accompanying show patch that also features the show logo.

Real Uncle Sam There really was an Uncle Sam! His name was Samuel Wilson. He was born and raised in Arlington, Mass. As a young boy, Wilson watched British Army troops march past his home on their way to Lexington. His characteristic red, white and blue stovepipe hat is depicted on the Troy, N.Y. PD patch. Many years ago, collector Gary Provenzano designed an emblem for Arlington PD depicting Uncle Sam and the motto, "Birthplace of Uncle Sam." However, his colorful design was rejected by the chief of police.

Missing Federal Badge A current United States Capitol Police shield was stolen from an officer on vacation in New Orleans, La. in mid-December. Badge number 4286 was taken from the officer while he visited the tourist district on Bourbon Street. It was enclosed in a badge wallet. New Orleans police believe a pickpocket was responsible. The shield has been entered as stolen. Anyone with information is asked to contact Eighth District detectives on (504) 822-1111.

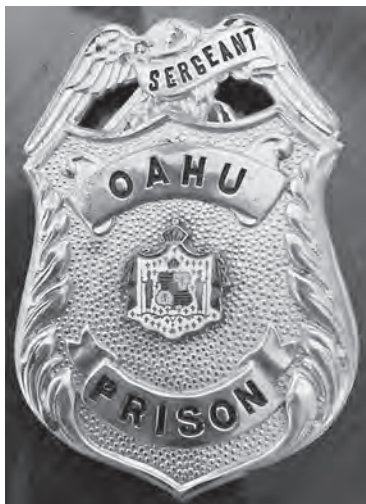
Wilmington's Beehive Patch Why do Wilmington, Del. police wear a patch with a beehive on it? It's not because the city is known for beekeeping. According to the department historian, the beehive represents a busy port city buzzing with activity. The emblem has been worn since 1974. The hive is shown atop a dock, surrounded by marshland and water. The beehive is best known as a symbol of Freemasonry and appears on several other law enforcement agency emblems, including the Utah Highway Patrol.

Wisconsin PD Dissolved The Star Prairie, Wis. Police Department is no more. The village board voted to disband the longtime law enforcement agency on December 31, 2023 and contract with the Saint Croix County Sheriffs Office for police services. Although county deputies have always handled emergency calls for the part-time department, the contract will call for an increased presence, including village ordinance enforcement. Among former village police chiefs is Scott Knudson, the current county sheriff. The agreement must be ratified by the County Board, which is expected to approve it.

Scottsdale Riding Bandwagon Scottsdale, Ariz. is the latest agency to jump on the novelty patch bandwagon. The agency commissioned a Saint Patrick's Day emblem with an Irish Claddagh as a fundraiser for the Honor Guard and Copper Buttons, a local charity. The patches sell for \$15 each for the first and \$13 each for second and additional emblems. Only 200 patches are being sold and can be purchased online by searching "Tortilla Vado" on Facebook.

Minutillo Receives Appointment Longtime New Jersey collector and retired police officer Patrick Munitillo has been appointed as a commissioner of the Morris County Crime Stoppers. "I am truly humbled and honored to have been presented this opportunity," Munitillo said. "I would like to specifically extend my gratitude to Morris County Sheriff James Gannon and Crime Stoppers Chairman John Sette for their support and confidence in my abilities to meet the demands of this prestigious appointment."

Thomas Edison Honored The current Milan, O. Police Department patch and badge honor the memory of Thomas Alva Edison, inventor of the electric lightbulb, phonograph, motion picture camera and improvements to the telephone and telegraph, among others. The colorful emblem includes the legend, "Birthplace of America's Greatest Inventor-Thomas A. Edison."



(Top) A full color Hawaii state seal appears as the center design on this fine eagle-topped shield from Waiawa Correctional Facility. (Left) Oahu Prison sergeant shows an old seal in the center. (Right) A prison guard hat badge from Kerwin Bode's fine Hawaii collection. *Mike Lucas photographs*

USMS Badges Among Leading National Displays

The unparalleled collections of long retired United States Marshals Service deputy marshals George and Peggy Stumpf and Budd and Carol Johnson were exhibited at the 2023 National Police Collectors Show. The couples have collected the USMS for an incredible combined 115 years.

By Mike R. Bondarenko, Editor

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. – While the official opening of the United States Marshals Museum in Fort Smith, Ark. was then a month away, the 2023 National Police Collectors Show offered its own USMS museum from two of the finest, most inclusive collections of historic agency badges and artifacts.

The incredible, one-of-a-kind collections of George and Peggy Stumpf of Cheyenne, Wyo. and Budd and Carol Johnson of Carmichael, Calif. are not in the official museum, but it is highly unlikely it will ever match their badge collections.

The Stumpfs and the Johnsons are among the top USMS badge collectors. They shared their fabulous displays in San Bernardino. While neither won awards, perhaps because the judges were unable to choose between them, their efforts certainly did not escape notice by many highly appreciative attendees.

"I've never seen such awesome collections. I collect some Marshals things, but never have I seen anything like this. All I can say is, 'Wow!' Makes me want to get into badges!" said Robert Lawrence of San Jose, a retired law enforcement officer.

"Isn't this just amazing? Talk about beautiful collections!" said show host Dennis Houser.

It was the first time that Stumpf and Johnson, who have won multiple display contests between them, have both exhibited at the same National Show or any other show. Their exhibits were not to be missed.

Stumpf, Johnson document history Stumpf and Johnson, as well as their wives, Peggy and Carol, were longtime USMS employees. All four are now retired deputy marshals. They have known each other for more than 50 years, not as competitors, but as colleagues.

"Between us, we probably have pretty much every type of USMS badge covered, going back as far as we can, which is the mid-1800s," Johnson said.

"We're both always looking for badges we don't have, but it's a friendly competition. We've both done pretty well and help each other out. If I don't have something, he's probably got it, and if he doesn't have something, I've probably got it. That's how it's worked out," said Stumpf.

Both hobbyists credited their wives with working on their displays with them and helping them find badges.

Stumpf and the late Ray Sherrard collaborated to publish the classic, definitive reference work, *Badges of the United States Marshals*, in 1991.

An excerpt from the book chronicled the formation of USMS in 1789. It is relevant to the hobby because it documents the history that Stumpf and Johnson have relentlessly pursued for a combined 115 years!

"The offices of U.S. Marshal and Deputy Marshal were created in the first Congress in the Judiciary Act of 1789, the same legislation that established the Supreme Court and the federal judicial system. The marshals were given extensive authority to support the federal courts within their judicial districts and to carry out all lawful orders issued by judges, Congress, or the president..."

"Their primary function was to support the federal courts. The marshals and their deputies serve the subpoenas, summonses, writs, warrants, and other processes issued



George Stumpf of Cheyenne, Wyo. has been seriously collecting and researching United States Marshals Service history for nearly 60 years. He and his wife, Peggy, brought a phenomenal exhibit of beautifully-framed badges documenting USMS history. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*

by the courts, made all arrests, and handled all the prisoners. They also disbursed the money. The marshals paid the fees and expenses of the court clerks, U.S. Attorneys, jurors and witnesses. They rented the courtrooms and jail space, and hired the bailiffs, criers and janitors. In effect, they ensured that the courts functioned properly...

"But this was only a part of what the marshals did. When George Washington set up his first administration, and the first Congress began passing laws, both quickly discovered an inconvenient gap in the Constitutional design of the government. It had no provision for a regional administrative structure stretching throughout the country. Both the Congress and the executive were housed at the national capital. No agency was established or designated to represent the federal government's interests at the local level. The need for a regional organization across the country quickly became apparent... Thus, the marshals also provided local representation within their districts..."

This is why marshals and deputies policed the American frontier; there were no other agencies to do so, at least initially. Thus, the USMS literally enforced the law, especially west of the Mississippi River, in the 1800s as the United States expanded westward. Marshals and deputy marshals had no jurisdictional issues; they are empowered to enforce laws in all states, territories and possessions.

In addition, early marshals functioned as customs inspectors, collected taxes, took the census every ten years until 1880, distributed presidential proclamations, gathered statistical information on commerce and manufacturing and performed a variety of other duties, mostly prior to the creation of other federal law enforcement agencies.

Stumpf's timeless collection Stumpf's exhibit was truly once again quality over quantity.

Although he has post-1941 standard issues, his specialty has always been antique, historic issues from the era when marshals and their deputies chose their own badges. He has a particularly impressive collection worn by noteworthy marshals, mostly from the West.

He also featured identification cards, armbands and other USMS artifacts and memorabilia, including some vintage photographs.

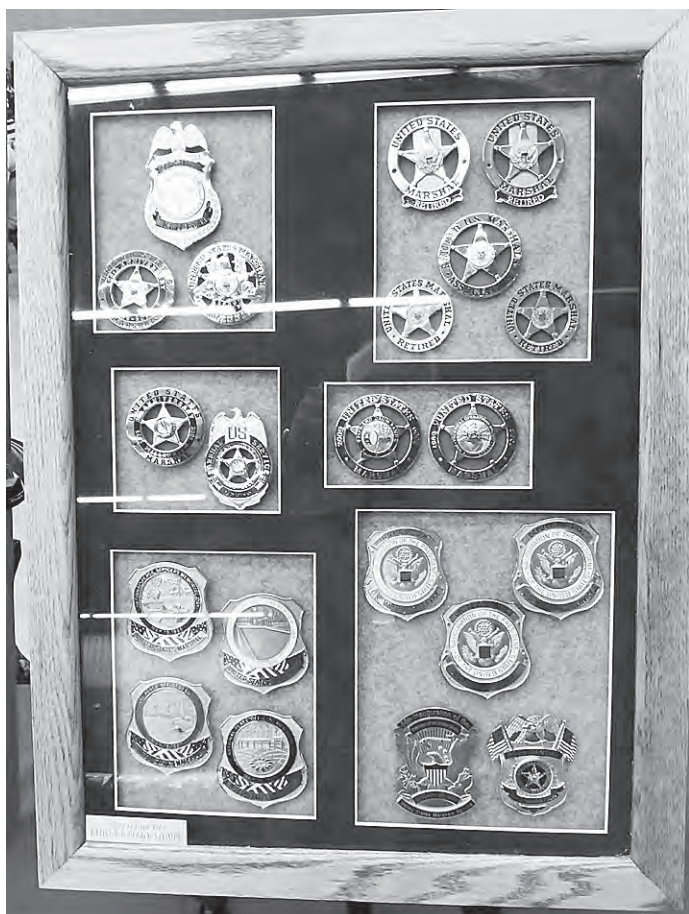
Stumpf's collection is beautifully framed and presented in groups by eras or specialties, such as inaugurals or special deputies.

"I try to show as many different badges as I can, the older the better. We've had hundreds of different badges over the years. Every one has a story behind it," he said.

Among the most impressive segments is his collection of USMS presidential inaugurals. Interestingly, these shields are a departure from the agency's current five point circled stars. Instead, they are large, very colorful presentation-type shields featuring the presidential seal.

He has pre-standardization badges from particular states or jurisdictions, such as Wyoming, the First Division District of Alaska, a fugitive task force from Denver and personalized marshals and deputy marshals badges. Many marshals opted for solid gold badges, some adorned with precious stones.

Another highly educational display showed a variety of 20th century USMS badges from



George and Peggy Stumpf brought a wide variety of badges to the National Police Collectors Show. Among them were retired circled stars (upper right), anniversary and millennium badges (center left and right), memorials and presidential inaugurals (lower left and right). *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*



George Stumpf groups his historic United States Marshals Service badges often by types or eras but sometimes by specialties. The longtime deputy marshal in Wyoming, whose wife, Peggy, was also a deputy marshal, has dozens of rarities and unique pieces. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*



Carol and Budd Johnson spent a combined 66 years with the United States Marshals Service and have put together a massive collection of vintage badges and other historic artifacts. It was the first time they have displayed at the National Show. They were appreciated. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*

throughout the country individually presented either by years or eras. It shows that, quite literally, marshals and their deputies wore a galaxy of different stars and shields before the agency finally standardized badges in 1941, although it appears many earlier styles were worn for years beyond standardization in some jurisdictions. Some were plain, while others were colorful, especially personalized variations worn by marshals, who are appointed by presidents and confirmed by the United States Senate.

Stumpf has taken a deep, personal interest in fallen marshals and deputies. He assisted noted Old West historian, researcher and author Robert Ernst with the 2006 book, *Deadly Affairs*, which chronicles the violent deaths of marshals and deputy marshals going back as far as the mid-1800s.

Very few collectors and historians have supported the National Show more the Stumpfs. Although they have missed a few, like most of us, when they attend, they always feature a world class, educational and entertaining exhibit of USMS history.

Sixty-six years experience Budd and Carol Johnson share 66 years of sworn USMS experience between them. He was an inspector, while she served as a supervisory marshal. They began collecting together after they met in the late 1990s during preparations for the Unibomber Trial in Sacramento, Calif.

The Johnson Collection is relatively small, 177 badges, but recently took a giant leap forward when they obtained the USMS collection of the late Patrick Lynch, one of the early deans of our hobby. He had a phenomenal USMS collection.

"I bought all of it last month. There are some incredible pieces. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity; I just couldn't pass it up," Johnson said.

"We don't want every USMS badge. We want the good ones, the historic ones, the ones that stand out," he added. Their incredible collection certainly reflects that desire.

It is augmented with a variety of non-badge exhibits, such as riot helmets worn in the '60s, bumper badges, commissions, historic photographs and even a few cloth patches.

Like the Stumpfs, the Johnsons present their badges beautifully in large, freestanding display cases. Their general badge collection is four frames, arranged to spell "U, S and "M" and a star, which gives it a unique look.

There were six specialty displays, so-called Patty Hearst badges (the national issue made famous by Hearst Trial television coverage), the career badges of the Johnsons, court security pocket badges, the eagle-topped "Ike" badges (1937-1970) made famous during the Civil Rights era, commemorative badges and gold marshal badges. Most are well documented and augmented with photographs.

Their USMS commissions displays are very impressive. One is the signed commission and personal badge of Deputy Marshal N.S. Hamlin for the Northern District of California. He was commissioned on March 1, 1924 in San Francisco. He wore a nice eagle-topped silver-colored shield with blue enamel and silver letters. A red, white and blue shield appears as the center design.

Johnson pointed out a few of the more interesting and historic pieces in his collection:

...A well-worn, silver-colored New Orleans-style crescent star that's not from Louisiana. Instead, it was worn in Indian Territory in the Midwest in the 1800s. The legend reads, "DEPUTY MARSHAL" on the crescent and "UNITED/ STATES. I.T." on the star.

...A unique old eagle-topped shield with a crossed center design shows a sword and a boat paddle. Deputy is abbreviated by "DEP'T." The legends read, "DEP'T/ U.S./ MARSHAL." Why a crossed sword and boat paddle? No one knows, according to Johnson. Nevertheless, it is unique piece.

...United States Marshal custodians were not janitors or building maintenance employees. They were in charge of official record keeping. There is a large five-point ball-tipped star with the title, "U.S MARSHAL/ CUSTODIAN."

...He has a very old badge from the Eastern District of Missouri that has him stumped. It's a large, ornate six-point silver-colored star with a unique center design, an acorn. Yes, an acorn.

"I've never seen another one with an acorn. I've been researching it but haven't been able to come up with anything. If anyone can help me out with any information, it would be greatly appreciated." he said.

Johnson can be reached on (916) 203-6378, either voice or text, or by email at unclebuidd@comcast.net.

In 1934, Chester J. Todd was confirmed as the United States marshal for the Third Division of Alaska Territory headquartered in Valdez. Johnson has his fabulous, personalized badge made by Irvine and Jachens in San Francisco. It is a presentation piece with the hand-engraved legends, "PRESENTED TO/ CHESTER J. TODD/ BY/ HIS MANY FRIENDS/ VALDEZ, ALASKA/ 1933."

The Johnsons brought several other outstanding pieces of USMS history.

There was a framed blank pre-Civil War process service certificate from the Confederate States America that would have been served by a CSA marshal or a deputy.

According to *Badges of the United States Marshals*, Southern states that seceded from the USA before the Civil War created a very similar federal government and judicial system with its own marshals and deputy marshals.

Longtime badge historian and collector, the late John J. Connors of Toledo, O., believed that while no CSA marshal or deputy marshal badges have been found, he would not be surprised if they existed. "It seems logical because they had a judicial system much like the Union. Union marshals and deputies had badges, so why wouldn't the CSA have had them? It makes sense," he said.

Johnson showed a massive copper-colored 1937 court badge personalized to Marshal Joe Ballard in Oklahoma. It has an eagle with widespread wings attached at the top. It is too large and too heavy to wear, so Ballard must have displayed it in the courtrooms he worked or had jurisdiction over.

They had a framed copy of the Harrell McCullough book about Deputy Marshal Selden Lindsey, his personalized baton and a photograph of him wearing a suit and holding a rifle.

Finally, there were two surplus military helmets worn by marshals and deputies during the historic integration of the University of Mississippi by Black student James Meredith in 1962. One hundred fifty federal law enforcement officers were injured during disturbances related to the enforcement of a federal court order allowing Meredith, who became a Civil Rights icon, to register for classes. While he was admitted to the university, it required a massive federal law enforcement effort to prevent segregationists from stopping him.

"The marshals flew into the Millington Naval Base in Tennessee to prepare for deployment to Ole Miss. They expected violence, but they didn't have helmets. They got military surplus green combat helmets. But, supervisors didn't want the marshals to look like the military, so they painted the helmets white and stenciled 'U.S. Marshal' on them in black paint," Johnson said.

"Not all the helmets got painted though. I found one still green but with 'U.S. Marshal' on it in white letters. It's the only green one I've ever seen. White helmets are hard to find these days, but green ones are really rare," he explained.

Will Fort Smith top this? The official USMS Museum in Fort Smith, Ark. opened on July 1. While there are exhibits devoted to badges, according to pre-opening publicity, can their badge collection top what Stumpf and Johnson showed us in San Bernardino?

The jury is out, because I haven't seen the museum, nor have any collectors reported on its badge collection for us as yet. However, it would take a really, really awesome exhibit to match the Stumpf and Johnson collections.

With all due respect to what is undoubtedly a world class museum that I can't wait to experience, if I were a betting man, I'd wager it doesn't have a badge collection like these hobbyists. My money would be on the Stumpfs and the Johnsons.

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

Sadly, about three weeks after this story was written after the 2023 National, Budd Johnson died. However, Carol Johnson is carrying on with the collection and showing it in California. EDITOR



Two vintage military surplus helmets that United States deputy marshals wore during the bloody integration of the University of Mississippi in 1962. One hundred fifty federal officers were injured, many by thrown bottles and rocks. Both of these are very rare pieces. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*



Budd and Carol Johnson showed their general collection of old United States Marshals Service badges in this creative exhibit that spells "U," "S," "M" and a star. Budd Johnson has been collecting his agency's history since the 1970s. He has built a top quality collection. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*



The Johnson Collection is far more than badges, although badges are certainly prominent. They also featured framed commissions, car bumper badges, historic photographs (including one of James Meredith at Ole Miss) and riot helmets from the '60s. *Mike R. Bondarenko photograph*



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AMAZING: "BADGECOLLECTOR.BLOGSPOT.COM" offers pictures and stories regarding Police Memorabilia with a focus on Newark, N.J. The view of this blog is free, however if you have New Jersey items for sale or trade contact: DENNIS BEYER, email: jerseychief@gmail.com (104)

BUYING OR TRADING patches, coins, pins, badges, etc. from /depicting the U.S. Federal Protective Service (FPS, FPSD, or FPSP), U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) and Dartmouth, Massachusetts Police. Contact: RICH PONTES, 8 Cedar Crest Road, Dartmouth, MA 02747 or email: tyall@comcast.net (102)

I'M LOOKING FOR: 1970 issue United Postal Service jacket button. I want only the jacket button with eagle, U.S. Mail only please. VINCENT J. PAPE, 19 Valley Forge Drive, Bohemia, NY 11716-4023 (631)-307-2767 (102)

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 (103)

WANTED: Fish and Wildlife and Conservation Agency badges. I am also buying Idaho, Washington, and Oregon police and sheriff's badges. Older badges preferred and top prices paid for quality items. DEAN TRESCH, P.O. Box 30054, Spokane, WA 99223 Ph. (509) 939-1296 email: militarycollector7711@gmail.com (103)

WANTED: I collect Police Explorer (Boy Scout) metal badges or embroidered patches. Send picture of items that you have for sale to: CHRIS JENSEN, PO Box 1841, Easley, SC 29641, email: CJENSEN@STREAMWOOD.NET (103)

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 (103)

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/AFB MP/AP/SP, or any other Massachusetts badge. Please contact MICHAEL COONEY at (413) 784-3378 (104)

WANTED: New Jersey badges from the following towns: Mantoloking, Bergenfield, Matawan, Green Brook, Berkeley Heights, Edison, Metuchen and New Jersey State Police. I also collect Lehigh Valley Railroad Police items. Email DAN at email: jasperdan26@gmail.com (732) 452-0322 (104)

WANTED: Oregon and Washington badges, one badge or a whole collection, and no collection too large. I have some badges to trade from my over 50 years of collecting. FRED MILES, 10350 N. Vancouver Way, Suite 273, Portland, OR 97217-7530 (103)

WANTED: Railroad police badges and artifacts, early badges, office signs, marked guns, old uniforms, RR police commissions, etc. Highest prices paid for 10K, 14K and 18K solid gold badges, early custom die badges, hand engraved sterling silver badges and any railroad "pie plate" stars. See my website for updated "Wanted" list: www.railroadpolicebadges.com CHIP GREINER, P.O. Box 125, Bogota, NJ 07603 (201) 390-7372 or rrbadges@aol.com (99)

WANTED: MN, IA, SD, and WI city and county patches. County: generic style and most current preferred. Sub-interests: security and postal. I will purchase or trade. Contact: ADAM WETZEL on facebook: "Minnesota Patch Loon" or email: disc_satis2020@outlook.com (100)

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PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURAL BADGES FOR SALE

1937 F.D.R. TO 2020 BIDEN (COMPLETE SET)

Only known complete collection.

Guaranteed Authentic department issues.




\$25,000.00

Serious Inquiries, Please

RON BARTHOLOME

(321) 229-8169



FOR SALE

158 U.S. Law Enforcement pins, includes many Federal, K-9 and Special Units. The pins are framed. I can email or text photos. **Asking \$750.00 postage not included.**

116 Canadian and International Law Enforcement pins, includes many Federal, K-9 and Special Units. The pins are framed. I can email or text photos. **Asking \$550.00 postage not included.**

Downsizing my collection of Police Uniform hats, 32 in total, includes many defunct Police Departments collected over the past 40 years. I can email or text lists and photos. **Asking \$1600.00 postage not included.**

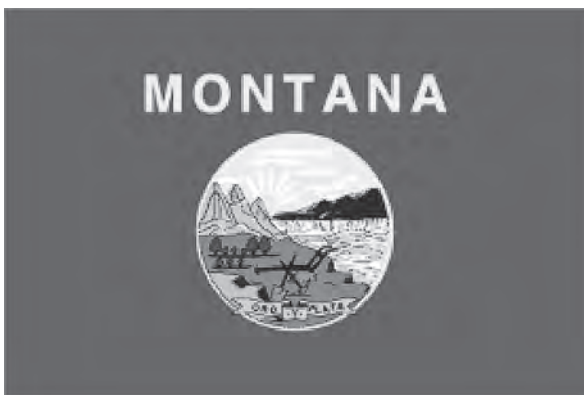
Retired VPD and long time collector:

hellomurray@shaw.ca

Or Text at (604) 202-1859

WANTED

MONTANA



MONTANA Law Enforcement Patches
MONTANA Search & Rescue Team Patches

Will buy or trade

Contact : JOSH at (562) 248-6055 or joshg21908@gmail.com

CHALLENGE COINS FOR COPS

Designed by Retired Police Sergeant
COINS, PATCHES, PINS SINCE 1987

SATISFIED CUSTOMERS INCLUDE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
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| Arkansas Crime Info Ctr | Missouri Narcotics Offi |
| Arkansas Army Reserve | Missouri Troopers Assn |
| Kansas Highway Patrol | Missouri State Parks |
| Michigan State Police | MISSOURI STATE |
| Minnesota State Patrol | HIGHWAY PATROL : |
| FBI Terrorism Task Force | 75/85/90 Anniversaries |
| Nat Troopers Coalition | SWAT Team |
| Nat Homicide Seminars | Bomb Squad |
| Nat LE Week | Aircraft Division |
| Nat Child Protection TF | Marine Division |
| Southern Police Institute | Motorcycle Units |
| NW Univ Safety Center | MU Football Detail |
| MADD | Captain's Award |
| Joplin Tornado Responder | Academy Range Award |
| Mustang 50 th Anniv | Drug & Crime Division |
| Route 66 90 th Anniv | Commercial Vehicle |
| LE M/C Clubs | Communications |
| Blue Knights M/C | Crime Info Center |
| LE LOD/KIA Memorials | Dive Team |
| City Police Depts | Drug Recognition Xpert |
| County Sheriff Depts | Research & Develop |
| Swat Mod Vehicle Co | Breast Cancer Patch |
| Private Security | Governors Security |

No Artwork/Set-up/Die Charges or Color Limits

kopkars@arkansas.net 479-253-6333

BUY • SELL • TRADE

Police Collectors Show
Patches, Badges, Coins & More

Saturday
May 18, 2024

Double Tree Hotel
1111 Lakeside Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44114
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Free admission. All are welcome!

Table Holder Information

Set-up 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. day of show \$20 per table

Purchase 2 or more tables get 1 display-only table free

Contact Tony Gorsek at 216-287-5343 or gorsek@att.net

...Police Week in Cleveland, May 12-18, 2024...

Go to GCPOMS website for week's activities

www.policememorialsociety.org

TRI-STATE POLICE COLLECTOR'S SHOW

To benefit the Benton County Sheriff's Office Fraternal Order of Police and shop with a cop program.

Challenge coins, patches, badges, lights, photos and everything else law enforcement related.

\$2 DONATION ADMISSION
Children & spouses FREE

Law enforcement in uniform get free admission and free breakfast/lunch

SHOW DATE & TIME
SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024 @8AM

SHOW LOCATION
FBC Bentonville gym:
200 SW A st, Bentonville AR.


Table info:
6' tables are \$20 on a first come first served basis. Early set-up and trading before show for table holders. RESERVATIONS ARE FINAL.

MORE INFO 479-418-1838


HOST: Casey Kensinger 479-418-1838

COLLECTORS' CLASSIFIED

PO Box W-347, Holbrook, MA 02343 USA
781-961-1463 ccmay1975@aol.com
collectors-classified.com



1975-2024



1975-2024

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Bill Margolin, Founder, Editor & Publisher



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Old style El Cajon patches \$5.00
San Diego Sheriff patches \$5.00



California patches (many) \$10.00 each
Las Vegas Metro 25th Anniversary \$15.00
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El Cajon P. D. badge \$150.00
San Diego Sheriff Anniversary badge \$200.00

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Las Vegas, NV 89183

Mark Your Calendar!

THE NINTH ANNUAL HEART OF THE OZARKS POLICE COLLECTOR'S SHOW

-In Conjunction With-
National LE Week
Branson, Missouri

Friday, June 14, 2024 Noon - 4 pm
Saturday, June 15, 2024 8am - 3 pm
AmericInn By Wyndham, Branson, Missouri

AmericInn By Wyndham, 275 Tanger Blvd, Branson, MO 417-334-8404
Free breakfast, Pool & Wi-Fi, Large lobby for trading
Must mention LE Week for discounts

★ Free Admission - Guests & Table Watchers ★
★ Display Contest & Awards ★
★ Big Discounts at Branson Restaurants & Attractions
for Active & Retired LE and Family ★
★ Lunch on Site, Level loading from parking lot ★

75 6' Tables Available @\$20.00 each (Reserve Early)
Checks, PayPal, Major Credit Cards Accepted
email: mshp297@hotmail.com
Mail: Tom Breen, 1205 Markway Mills Road, Jefferson City, MO 65101

SHOW HOSTS

SHOW INFO:	JIM POST (KCPD retired) kopkars@arkansas.net	479-253-6333
AREA INFO:	TERRY BIBLE (MOSHP) terry.bible264@gmail.com	417-527-1598
TABLES:	TOM BREEN (MOSHP Retired) mshp297@hotmail.com	573-864-4736

Branson Airport: 888-359-2541
LE Week info: 844-529-9335 or www.lawenforcementweek.org

WANTED!

BY JERSEY COLLECTOR

Looking for Badges, Handcuffs, Whistles or Pictures from Municipal Police or County Probation Departments with a particular interest in all items from Newark, N.J.

DENNIS BEYER
(Collecting N.J. For 50 Years)

Producer: badgecollector.blogspot.com
email denb22@GMAIL.COM

WANTED



**IKE & PATTY HEARST ERA
U.S. MARSHAL BADGES**

NEEDED TO FILL VOIDS IN MY COLLECTION

SHAWN SPOHN
HANCUFF911@GMAIL.COM
TEXT BEFORE CALLING: (440) 339-6737
CHAGRIN FALLS, OHIO



**ALSO COLLECTING: VINTAGE KNUCKLES (BRASS, IRON, ALUMINUM),
HANDCUFFS, UNUSUAL NIGHTSTICKS**



2024

NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY POLICE COLLECTORS SHOW



SUNDAY APRIL 7TH

TABLE HOLDER SET UP 8:00AM

DOORS OPEN TO PUBLIC 9:00AM

USE SHOW CODE "PCA"
FOR ROOM RATES
Hilton Hasbrouck Heights
650 Terrace Ave
Hasbrouck Heights, NJ 07604
201-288-6100

TABLES **\$70** EACH
Or send a check or MO to:
US Polce Collectors
Mail to:
USPC
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Tappan, NY 10983 0053

IDENTIFICATION IS A MUST.

IDS will be checked prior to entering the show
Police- Public Safety- Fire & EMT & Bonafide Collectors

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website now online!!!*

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Mike R. Bondarenko, Editor and Publisher
2392 USH 12 BALDWIN, WI 54002



JULY 12-14, 2024

RiverCenter 136 E 3rd St, Davenport, IA 52801

Friday, July 12, 2024

0900-1700 Hours	Set Up
1715-1745 Hours	Table Holder Meeting
1800-2000 Hours	Table Holder Reception

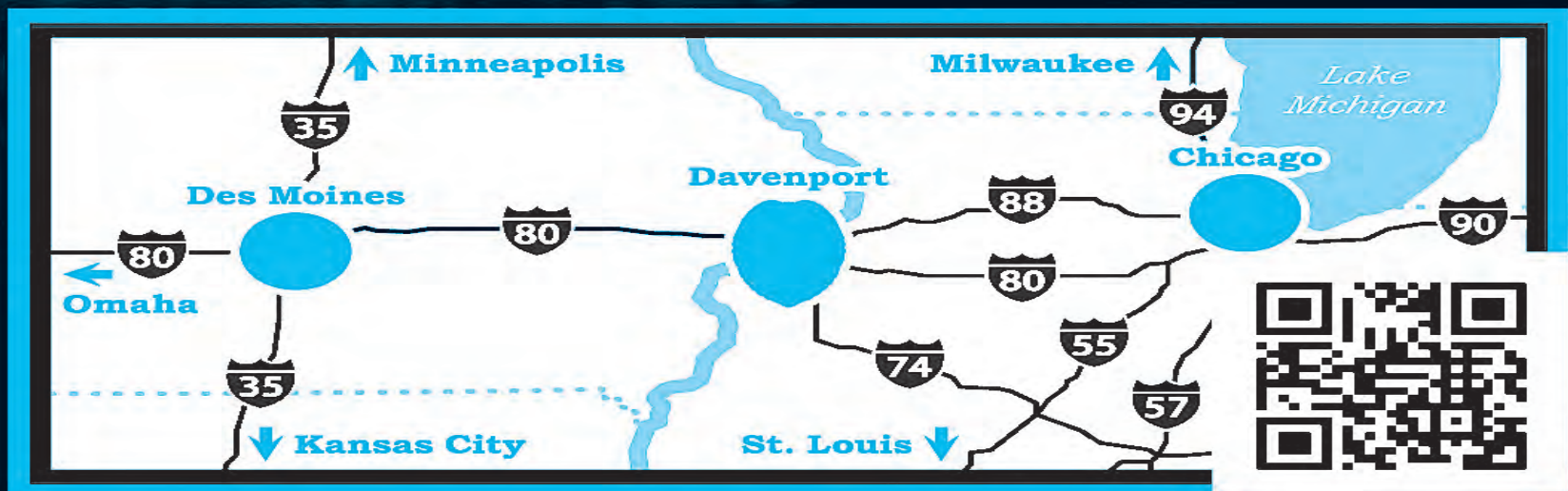
Saturday, July 13, 2024

0800 Hours	Open to Table Holders
0830 Hours	Opening Ceremonies
0900 Hours	Doors Open to Public
1800 Hours	Doors Close

Sunday, July 14, 2024

0800 Hours	Open to Table Holders
0830 Hours	Doors Open to Public
1400 Hours	Awards Presentation
1530 Hours	Doors Close

**\$5 Entry Fee / \$40 3-Day VIP Pass / \$75 Vendor Table Fee
On Duty / In Uniform Public Safety Personnel - FREE
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