



Stars and Bars



Sheriff Jim Frank

A Quarterly Publication of the Washington County Sheriff's Office

Winter 2005

Message from the Sheriff



On March 23, 1970, I reported to the St. Paul Police Academy and began the first chapter in my 35 year career in law enforcement. That new blue uniform sure was something! Times were different then but in many ways nothing has changed. The job is what you make it, but the people I have worked with are really what has made it a great life. There has never been a day when I wasn't proud to say I was a cop.

I have had a storybook career. I hit the streets at the ripe old age of 21. I had all the answers and was out to save the world from crime and destruction. It was an uneasy time for police officers in St. Paul and all around the nation for that matter. We were routinely referred to as "pigs". In an effort to defend ourselves we decided it stood for Pride, Integrity, and Guts! In May of my first year, Officer Jim Sackett was assassinated while responding to a bogus call for help. Two long time suspects were indicted last month for murder and await trial. My first call was a dog barking complaint. Reality had set in. The job would be a journey of emotional ups and downs with a lot of routine in between.

My time in St. Paul took a scenic route. The first five years I was assigned to the patrol division and enjoyed working the late evening and early morning hours. The calls were many and the action was plenty. We always worked in two man cars back then. I do mean "man" cars because at that time there wasn't one woman police officer in the department. I was street educated by submersion into cultures and life styles I had never come across before. It was a changing time in the police culture as well. The crusty old beat cop was reluctantly moving over for the "just the facts" wave of young formally trained professional model officers. Being called a "good cop" by your contemporaries remained the best complement you could get.

I obtained the rank of sergeant and my first assignment was to undercover narcotics work. By this time my wife and I had been blessed with three wonderful daughters. Our family pictures were doomed with the likes of a scruffy long haired guy holding little cherubs with pigtails and white dresses. In those days possession of a marijuana "joint" was a felony. Today 50 pounds is most likely probation for the first timer. I worked on a highly successful sting operation that resulted in prison sentences for a number of career criminals. My time in Homicide/Sex Crimes was both fascinating and depressing. When you get up close and personal with those types of cases you witness the inhumanity of mankind, which still exists today.

The rank of lieutenant presented the first real challenge of charting the activity for a unit of police work. I was fortunate to command, at various times, the Sex Crimes and Child Abuse, Street Crimes, Vice and Narcotics units. The dedicated people I worked with made my job easy. Together we did good police work and made a difference. Uniform assignments as both a sergeant and lieutenant were sprinkled in there as well. In August of my last year with St. Paul, Officers Ron Ryan Jr. and Tim Jones were assassinated while following up on a "routine call". The city, its police department, and many of us will never fully recover from that tragic and emotion filled incident.

On January 3, 1995, I took on the biggest challenge of my career. I had worked for 25 years in a large city police department. Brown uniforms, jail cells, water patrol and court security were not part of my life until that point. I was as unsure of what I was getting into as were the employees of the sheriff's office unsure of me. I wasn't one of them and

the rumors were I was going to turn their world upside down or worse yet into "St. Paul East". Today we are still known as the Washington County Sheriff's Office.

The last ten years have flown by for me. I have witnessed the counties tremendous growth in population and complexity. No longer does everyone know everyone else. There are major roads and shopping centers where cows used to graze. E-mails have taken the place of good conversation over a cup of coffee. Rewarding employees for a job well done is now considered by the state auditor as a "bad practice". The river bridge still is in the discussion stage.

With very few exceptions, the people I have had a chance to work with are some of the finest I have ever met. The dedication, professionalism, work ethic, and pride in who we are at the Washington County Sheriff's Office is unsurpassed. We have been recognized and received many awards as an organization and individually for the excellent work we have done. Most importantly, we are embraced by the citizens we serve. There is a trust and respect level unmatched by most in our business. What a great honor to be allowed the title of Sheriff of Washington County and serve such a fine community.

The final chapter in my law enforcement career has been written. On April 16, 2005 I will be retiring. It has been a great run. I never would have imagined such a great story 35 years ago. Every chapter has been an adventure. The best part however, has been what I so humbly will call the "characters" in my story who have extended their kindness, understanding and best of all, friendship. The list is too long to mention here. Cops never die, they just lose their beat! I look forward to the rest of my life. I bid you adieu.

Coordinated Narcotics Task Force Receives Award

By Commander Scott Malinosky

On Tuesday, February 8th, Sheriff Jim Frank presented the Washington County Coordinated Narcotics Task Force with a Unit Citation. The award was based on a narcotics case begun in 2002 involving the suspect Luke Keller. Keller, a resident of Denmark Township at the time, was a multi-state, large volume narcotics dealer who, besides drug trafficking, was also involved in two kidnappings. Keller received one of the longest sentences ever handed down by a federal court to a Washington County narcotics criminal, when he was sentenced to 36 ½ years in prison. The award is in recognition of the cooperative and dangerous work conducted to bring Keller to justice.



Deputies and Officers receiving the citation were: Washington County Deputies Sgt. Patrick Olson, Sgt. Brian Mueller, Deputy Marvin Stutz, Office Specialist Kristine Crosby, Cottage Grove Police Detective James Neuenfeldt, Oakdale Police Detective Brian Stroshane, Stillwater Police Detective Carla Cincotta, Woodbury Police Officer Chris Ployhart along with Drug Enforcement Administration Special Agents William Murphy and Terry Olstad. Congratulations to all of the recipients.

Marv Stutz, Pat Olson, James Neuenfeldt, Chris Ployhart, Kristine Crosby and Brian Stroshane.

Patrol Division News

By Commander Tim Tuthill

The Patrol Division continues to grow with new staff, retirements and promotional opportunities. Sergeant Dave Heuer retired from the Sheriff's Office on January 15, 2005, after serving 24 plus years of service. He has since returned as a 67 Day Temporary Employee, conducting background investigations for new hires. Sgt. Heuer had served in a number of capacities during his tenure, of which his service is greatly appreciated.

With Sergeant Heuer's departure, comes opportunity for Deputy Dan Starry, who was promoted to Sergeant on January 21, 2005. Sergeant Starry now shares 2nd shift Patrol Supervisory duties with Sergeant Dean Tilley. Congratulations to Dan! It should also be noted that Sergeant Starry was recently awarded Region 18's "Patrol Dog" of the quarter for



successful actions taken during the recent apprehension / K-9 tracking of a burglary suspect in West Lakeland Twp. with his partner "Smokey".

Deputy Matt Wieland has recently taken on new K-9 handler duties, after patrolling in the Lake Elmo contract area for approximately 4 years. Deputy Wieland started his 12 week K-9 training program with Ramsey County Sheriff's Office on March 7, 2005, and is anticipated to graduate in early June. Deputy Wieland will be replacing Sergeant Dan Starry's role as K-9 handler after Sergeant Starry's 5 years of dedicated K-9 handling services.

Sheriff Frank presented Dan with his Sgt badge.

New hires include Deputy Paul Stenglein and Deputy Andy Loehr. Deputy Stenglein comes into the organization as this being his first peace officer job while Deputy Loehr has crossed over to Patrol from our Jail Division. Both deputies are currently training and are anticipated to be on solo patrol over the next two months.



Two "Life Saving" Awards were recently presented to Sergeant Brad Marquardt and Deputy Lee Bloomquist in recognition of their selfless actions in rescuing an accident victim from a burning car in Hugo on September 26, 2004. Congratulations to both Brad and Lee as they continue to exhibit their "Commitment to Excellence". I'm sure that all would agree that team efforts make up the majority of our successes within our organization and branch out to include our Communications Center as well as other Patrol Deputies and Divisions within the Washington County Sheriff's Office. I recognize and appreciate the team work which all personnel have exhibited in meeting the public's expectations for service. Thank You!

Sheriff Frank presented Lee with his award.



Crime Prevention Takes Aim on Firearms SAFETY



Crime Prevention Unit/Voice Mail – 651/430-7889

The Washington County Sheriff's Office is one of hundreds of Law Enforcement agencies through out the United States that is participating in Project ChildSafe. This is a nationwide program whose purpose is to promote safe firearms handling and storage practices among all firearms owners through the distribution of key safety education messages and **FREE** gun locking devices. The program is supported by a U.S. Department of Justice grant (DOJ), the National Shooting Sports Foundation, and is a component of Project Safe Neighborhoods.

To obtain your FREE firearms locking device, stop by one for the following distribution points:

Washington County Sheriff's Office
15015 62nd Street North
Stillwater, MN 55082
Records Unit, M-F 8:00 – 4:00

New Scandia Town Hall
14727 209th Street North
New Scandia MN, 55073
M – F 9:00-12:00 & 1:00-4:00

Hugo City Hall
14669 Fitzgerald Avenue North
Hugo, MN 55038
M-F 8:00-4:00

Mahtomedi City Hall
600 Stillwater Road
Mahtomedi, MN 55115
M-F 8:00-5:00

Lake Elmo City Hall
3800 Laverne Avenue North
Lake Elmo MN, 55042
M-F 8:00-4:30

Afton City Hall
3033 St. Croix Trail South
Afton, MN 55001
M-Th 8:30-5:00 & F 8:30-1:00

Ask any Washington County Deputy, we will be happy to assist you.

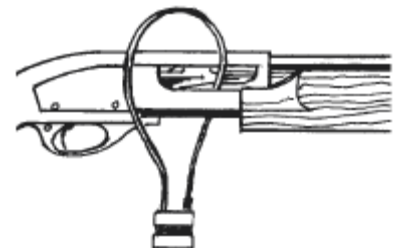
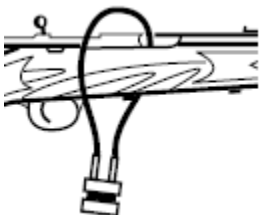
Web Sites with further information and links to other educational sites:

www.projectchilddsafe.org

www.projectsafeneighborhoods.org

www.nssf.org

**Treat every firearm as though it is loaded, because
One mistake can cost a life time**



People on the Move

By Jill Strong

The Washington County Sheriff's Office has had some changes in 2004 and the early months of 2005. We have promoted employees, transferred employees and added some new employees in several divisions. Some of the new employees and retired employees were mentioned in the fall/winter edition of Stars and Bars, and the others are listed below:

NEW EMPLOYEES:

<u>COMMUNICATION CENTER:</u>	<u>CLASSIFICATION:</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE:</u>
Kim Garvey	911 Public Safety Dispatcher	05-28-2004
Michelle Dunham	911 Public Safety Dispatcher	06-01-2004
Shannon Scherz	911 Public Safety Dispatcher	06-07-2004
Breana Fry	911 Public Safety Dispatcher	07-19-2004
Jill Werner	911 Public Safety Dispatcher	07-26-2004
Suzanne Ursino	911 Public Safety Dispatcher	08-02-2004

PATROL DIVISION:

Jason Jensen	Deputy Sheriff	03-30-2004
Michelle Folendorf	Deputy Sheriff	04-13-2004
Lee Bloomquist	Deputy Sheriff	05-17-2004
Gretchen Bloss	Deputy Sheriff	05-18-2004
Kurt Kowarsch	Deputy Sheriff	09-27-2004
Paul Stenglein	Deputy Sheriff	01-24-2005

<u>PROMOTIONS:</u>	<u>TO:</u>	<u>FROM:</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Angela Hanson	Deputy Sheriff	CO II	04-12-2004
Melissa Ferguson	911 Dispatcher	911 Call Taker	05-26-2004
Christina Richert	Admin. Technician	Admin. Supervisor	08-15-2004
Charles Aldean	Deputy Sheriff	CO II	09-05-2004
Brian Mueller	Deputy Sheriff / Sgt.	Deputy Sheriff	09-12-2004
Andy Loehr	Deputy Sheriff	CO II	12-05-2004
Dan Starry	Deputy Sheriff / Sgt.	Deputy Sheriff	01-16-2005

<u>TRANSFERS:</u>	<u>TO:</u>	<u>FROM:</u>	<u>DATE:</u>
Roger Heinen	Oper.Sgt. Jail Admin.	Jail Sgt.	01-04-2004
Jerry Lannon	Court Security	Patrol	05-30-2004
Amy Sprague	Investigations	Patrol	06-20-2004
Mike Benson	Investigations	Patrol	08-22-2004
Sara Peulen	Court Security	Patrol	08-22-2004
Craig Cilley	Court Security	Patrol	08-29-2004
Amy Sprague	Inv. - Welfare / Fraud	General Invest.	08-29-2004
Craig Olson	General Inv.	Inv. - Welfare Fraud	08-29-2004
Mike Benson	Inv. - Welfare Fraud	Gen. Inv	09-12-2004
Mark Lombardi	Investigations	Patrol	09-12-2004
Rick Gruber	Inv. - Narcotics	Inv. - Welfare Fraud	09-12-2004
Tom Stafford	Inv. - Narcotics	Patrol	01-02-2005
Pat Olson	Volunteers	Inv.-Narcotics	01-02-2005
Cheri Dexter	Patrol	Volunteers	01-02-2005
Doug Flory	Patrol	Civil Process	01-02-2005

Mike Bonn	Civil Process	Patrol	01-02-2005
Randy Zenner	Adult Detention	Supp. Svcs. Sgt.	01-02-2005
Dave Frantsi	Supp.Svcs.Sgt.	Adult Detention	01-02-2005
Brad Marquardt	Investigations	Patrol	01-23-2005

RETIREMENTS:	FROM:	Date:
Dave Heuer	Deputy Sheriff / Sgt. – Patrol	01-15-2005
Joan Simonson-Whipps	Communication Center	01-31-2005
Delton Knutson	Court Security – Bailiff	03-25-2005
Warren Ackerson	Deputy Sheriff	03-26-2005
Jeff Klarich	Deputy Sheriff	04-01-2005



Sgt. Warren Ackerson:
Hired - 7/24/1989
Patrol Officer - 7/24/1989 – 9/8/1996
Investigations – 9/8/1996 – 3/9/1997
Promoted to Patrol Sergeant - 3/9/1997 – 1/2/2001
Civil/Court Security Sergeant – 1/2/2001-11/23/2003
Investigations Sergeant – 11/23/2003 – 3/26/2005
Retired - 3/26/2005

Sgt. David Heuer
Hired 7/30/1980
Patrol Officer 7/30/1980 – 11/29/1987
Promoted to Patrol Sergeant – 11/29/1987 – 8/4/1992
Captain Investigations – 8/4/1992 – 7/9/1995
Captain Patrol – 7/9/1995 – 9/20/1998
Captain Special Services – 9/20/1998 – 2/6/2000
Sergeant – Patrol 2/6/2000 – 1/15/2005
Retired – 1/15/2005



Jeff Klarich
Hired – 7/31/1980
Patrol Officer – 7/31/1980 – 4/15/1993
Investigations – 4/15/1993 – 11/14/1999
Patrol Officer – 11/14/1999 – 4/1/2005
Retired – 4/1/2005

Bailiff Delton Knutson Retires

By Sgt. Richard Peterson

Delton Knutson, better known to all as Del, retired from the Washington County Sheriff's Office on March 25, 2005. His retirement celebration was held in courtroom #1 at the Washington County Government Center. There was a huge turnout from both Court Administration staff and from the Sheriff's Office. Sheriff Frank gave his last retirement plaque and well wishes to Del as his own retirement soon approaches.

Del started his law enforcement career with the Stillwater Police Department as a part-time officer in 1971. Wally Abrahamson was the Chief of Police at the time, and Del's starting wage was around \$6.00 an hour. In November of 1975, Del took a job with the Ford Motor Company, working in their remanufactured parts plant. The Ford Company was offering Del \$1600.00 a month. In comparison, the Stillwater Police Department was only paying their senior patrol officers around \$900.00 a month, so the decision became somewhat easy. Del knew his love for policing would always be a part of his life so he decided to take a part-time police officer with the City of Oak Park Heights. Del worked just about every Thursday through Sunday from 1975-1988 for Oak Park Heights.

In 1988, Del then became the manager for St. Paul Harley Davidson and worked through 1992. He then took the Sheriff's Office test for bailiff/dispatcher and made it into the top ten on the list. Sgt. Ray Peterson stopped by Routson Motors, where Del had taken on a sales position, and offered him a job. He had a choice of becoming a dispatcher or a bailiff. Del took the preferable schedule and started as bailiff in the fall of 1992. Then Captain Don McGlothlin officially offered Del the job at the starting pay of \$9.80 per hour. Del can remember the times when court security was less than secure and remembers the days when in-custody prisoners were placed into conference rooms to await their court appearances.



Del said that he thinks the Sheriff's Office is fortunate to have the employees we do and that he is going to miss his fellow staff members the most.

Sheriff Frank presented a plaque to Del for his years of service.

Joan Simonson-Whipps Retires

By Sgt Ryan Meverden



Joan Simonson-Whipps celebrated 30 years of service with the Washington County Sheriff's Office on November 6, 2004. She started her career as a clerk/typist in the Warrants Division. She transferred to the Communications Center in February, 2002, as a Call Taker.

It is a unique and talented person who can do the call taker's job well. Joan has succeeded in every area and does so with a smile. She has become an essential and critical link between the callers and the dispatchers. She has the ability to calm callers and retrieve pertinent information quickly. She also has repeatedly demonstrated knowledge, patience, wisdom, humor, energy, faith, endurance, interviewing and investigative skills, gentleness with callers, answers, and compassion. Above all, Joanie has been an absolute pleasure to work with.

Joan is one of a kind and we wanted to take a moment to honor her for her years of service and say thanks for being such an enjoyable person to know and be around. Best wishes from all of us at the Sheriff's Office!

Jail Chemical Dependency Program Coordinator

Dave Gallagher Retires

By Assistant Jail Administrator John Haugen

Ever since the Washington County Jail opened in June of 1993, Dave Gallagher has been a familiar face as the facilitator of the Chemical Dependency Treatment Program for jail inmates. Before the jail opened, Dave had already begun providing treatment to Washington County Inmates who were being boarded at the Scott County Jail Annex in Jordan, Minnesota because of jail overcrowding in Washington County. Judges and probation officers were impressed with the reports provided by Dave and it became apparent that chemical dependency treatment would be a necessary addition to program offerings in the “new jail” that was then in the early planning stages.



Sheriff Frank congratulating Dave Gallagher

When options for chemical dependency treatment were being discussed with Human Services Incorporated (H.S.I.), they were asked to provide a program similar to what was being offered at the Scott County Jail Annex. This became somewhat easier than expected when it was learned that Abbott Hospital was cutting the funding for the Scott County Program and Dave Gallagher might consider coming to the Washington County Jail.

After much effort by Dave along with Robert McDonough, H.S.I. Senior Division Director and Frank Hall, H.S.I. Senior Counselor, the Washington County Out-Patient Chemical Dependency Program was licensed and ready to begin accepting clients. For the next ten and a half years, Dave met with inmates during the day to screen them for admission and he led groups every Monday through Thursday evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Dave rarely missed a group, even though he drove to and from New Prague, Minnesota each day. Dave did however always have his vacation planned each summer to “sit on his rock” overlooking Lake Superior where he could keep a close eye on the ore boats coming and going from Duluth.

Dave officially retired on December 16, 2004 and the Sheriff’s Office hosted a cake and coffee reception for him on that day. John Koska has now taken over the reins of the treatment program, but Dave hasn’t really left us altogether. You will still see Dave on Wednesdays as he leads self-help groups for inmates as a contract employee. Thanks for the years of service Dave and we all hope that you have a great retirement!

Investigation Division News

By Commander Scott Malinosky

In February, a number of investigators from the Sheriff’s Office attended a training session hosted by the Hennepin County Attorney’s Office, regarding blind-sequential lineup procedures. In brief, the sequential lineup procedure differs from the previous lineup procedure, in that the witness is allowed to view only one photo at a time and not the usual standard of six photos (six-pack) all at once. Professors from Ohio State University and Augsburg College presented research findings demonstrating the increased reliability of sequential lineups over the six-pack method.

Since there is little evidence in favor of the six-pack method and since witness reliability is paramount in all cases, we will be instituting the new sequential lineup procedures. Training in the new method for the remainder of the deputies will be taking place in the near future.

Special Services News

By Commander Bernie Morency

The recent courthouse shooting in Atlanta has generated a great deal of discussion and reflection by those of us who are charged with providing a safe and secure environment for every person who works in or conducts business in the courts of Washington County. Nearly every day the Court Security staff deals with people who are angry, upset or in crisis. To effectively maintain the security of the courts and the courtroom areas requires both preparation and, when necessary, action.

The most high profile security measure we have in the courts area is metal detection and bag scanning. Each person, and their belongings, entering the courts area is screened before being allowed to proceed. The Court Security staff has discovered many weapons during this process. In addition, early morning sweeps of the courtrooms and all public areas reduce the risk of a weapon being hidden for use at a later time.

All Court Security staff have been trained to respond to physical threats. They are trained in the use of defensive tactics and handcuffing. Every member of the Court Security Unit is also trained in the use of chemical agents, impact weapons and Tasers. In addition, armed personnel are trained in weapons retention.

This preparation and training is only the first line of defense. The actions of the Court Security staff are what bring these security measures together for a comprehensive security plan for the court area. As a unit, we have discussed each others role in a physical confrontation. We believe we are providing a safe and secure environment for the courts area. However, should a violent situation arise, we are prepared.

Volunteer Services News

By Sgt Pat Olson

Volunteer Services began 2005 with several significant events which included the beginning of the 2005 Reserve Academy. Classes are proceeding smoothly and are being met with very positive comments regarding content and instructors. Graduation will be during the 2nd quarter of 2005 and will significantly enhance the abilities of the reserve unit.

During the 1st quarter of 2005, the Explorers have been training for the Annual State Conference at Breezy Point which will take place in April 2005. The Chaplain Corps has been called upon on eight separate occasions for their valuable assistance. The Water Recovery Unit has continued to train with ice dives and sharing information with local fire departments in order to enhance the abilities of water recovery missions.

The Annual Volunteers Appreciation Dinner will be held at Camp Lakamaga on April 26, 2005, social hour beginning at 5:30 p.m., ending at 6:30 p.m., and dinner being served at 6:30 p.m. All volunteers and spouses or significant others are invited.

During the 1st quarter 2005, a program involving e-Bay auctions was instituted for seized and forfeited properties. This program is proceeding very well with the assistance of Amy Larsen, Dean Marlette and Kim Shelafoe. Their continued efforts are stream-lining this process, making it possible to clear property from the property room in a timely fashion. Their efforts are greatly appreciated.

Being newly assigned to the Volunteer Services Unit, I have observed an extremely high level of dedication from the men and women volunteering their talents and services to the Volunteer Services Unit and for that, their efforts are greatly appreciated.

Washington County Sheriff's Office
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P.O. Box 3801
Stillwater, Minnesota 55082-3801