



The Call Box

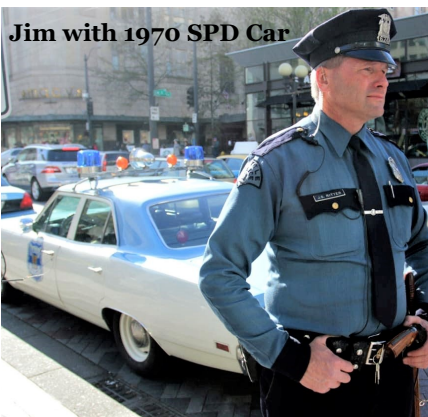


Official Publication of the Retired Seattle Police Officers Association

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The Ongoing Journey of the Seattle Metropolitan Police Museum

By Officer Jim Ritter, SPD Retired, #4710, President: Seattle Metropolitan Police Museum



Jim with 1970 SPD Car

As you are all painfully aware, the last five years for law enforcement in this country, especially in Seattle, has been particularly challenging. Throughout the recent anti-police movements, and defunding efforts, the associated rhetoric by activists and politicians has had a historically negative impact on our profession that will likely take decades to recover from, if ever. For those who find the stamina to remain in this profession, and to those of us who are retired, it is critically important to take note of the historical changes that have occurred throughout our respective law enforcement generations. Equally as important, is paying particular attention to current events and how they impact the future of law enforcement.

In 1980, I began to recognize the importance of preserving our police history and sharing that history with our members and the public. When I was hired by the SPD in 1983, it became obvious to me the City of Seattle did not care about its past, because it was considered irrelevant. In efforts to recover whatever SPD history remained, I spent the next 15 years placing ads in the SPD Guardian and other publications requesting interviews with retired officers. I asked what their lives had been like throughout SPD history and to see if they had retained any police relics or photographs from their

past. These retirees were more than happy to hear that someone cared about their service to the city and the contributions their generation made to the SPD's culture and progression. During this same time, I began purchasing SPD artifacts, not only from retirees, but from the families of deceased SPD officers, some of whom had served during the 1880's. It was a fascinating journey into SPD's past and resulted in amassing an enormous collection of police artifacts, all of which was acquired through my personal time, and expense. When I asked these retired officers how they obtained some of these artifacts, their answer was universal. They advised me that they salvaged most of these artifacts from dumpsters over the years because the SPD was throwing it all away.

By 1996, the collection had grown. I continually responded to numerous requests from the Legislature and other entities to bring my collection to Olympia to commemorate Law Enforcement Day and other special events. It was the first time much of the public had ever seen police artifacts or read stories about police history. Unfortunately, moving vintage artifacts long distances can damage them and is an enormous, time-consuming task. I eventually realized these efforts were not sustainable and that it was time to have a permanent facility to display these items. It is for these reasons that I founded the Seattle Metropolitan Police Museum (SMPM). Established in 1997 as a private, 501c-3 non-profit organization, the mission of the SMPM was historic preservation and public education regarding the vast historic changes that have occurred in policing in this region since the 1860's. I chose to keep the museum concept private and separate from the City's bureaucratic egos, interference, and manipulation. It was

The Call Box



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President's Message

By Jerry Taylor, President, RSPOA



I joined SPD in January 1966. We had about 1100 officers and a population of under 500,000. That was 56 years ago. Today there are under 900 deployable officers and a population of 740,000. That is a bad situation for the citizens of Seattle and an embarrassment for those of us who dedicated our career to providing for the safety of the city.

The situation is a lot worse than those numbers suggest. Back in 2000, Seattle's population was 563,374 and SPD employed 1,264 officers—2.24 officers for every 1,000 Seattleites. Ten years later (2010), Seattle had 617,334 residents and 1,338 officers, or 2.17 officers per thousand residents. "We can't sustain safe and vibrant neighborhoods with a shrinking police force relative to the overall size of the city," wrote Downtown Seattle Association representatives.

Jump ahead another 12 years to today. The downward spiral just continues with no apparent plan to fix it. It is difficult to get good numbers, but the trend is clear. We use the term "deployable officers" because of the high number of people currently counted as an officer but on extended sick leave or vacation while they burn up time before quitting or retiring. The idea of just 500 to 800 deployable officers seems more accurate and maybe even be a bit generous.

The impact of this situation is becoming clearer every day. We just had extensive coverage of the lack of detectives in the Sex Crimes Unit and how that lack of staffing is causing cases to not be investigated. Unfortunately, that situation exists throughout the department.

Seattle cannot endure this understaffing. Officers are being forced to work overtime and important functions are not being staffed. We are even hearing reports of serious understaffing of patrol watches. One precinct was reported to have only three (3) officers report for roll call one day. Those reports say that is more common than imagined. Such staffing puts citizens lives at risk and they multiply the risk to the officers.

Doing something about this is a challenge. We need to hire at least 400 officers to return to a reasonable staffing level. That cannot be done overnight. Seattle gets only a few slots in each academy class and the recruiting and hiring process is long and complicated. Once trained in the academy, the new officers must have field training and a considerable amount of work with senior officers to become competent. In reality, we know it is at least a three-year period before an officer becomes truly competent.

Complicating this is the status of SPD with the City Council and a large section of the progressive community. Many folks dislike the

police in any form and are convinced that we are all abusive and racist. I severely disagree and think we are all kind and wonderful. Unfortunately, that does not solve the problem. As retired Seattle Police Officers, we remember when relations with the City Council were better—a time when the police force was venerated and supported. When we worked for SPD we understood that Seattle was and had always been a liberal city, politically. That was not a bad thing in those days when even a liberal city council believed in and supported their police. Turning things around will take herculean effort and a lot of time.

Seattle must fix this problem and return to providing for the safety of its citizens. It cannot happen soon enough, but will probably take a generation to correct.

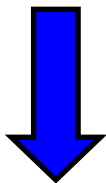
RSPOA CALENDAR

Meeting July 13 11:30 @ Nile

Meeting Aug 10 11:30 @ Nile

RAP Meets Every Thursday at
11am at The Nile

RETIRED BANQUET



Wed Oct 12

5pm

@ The Nile

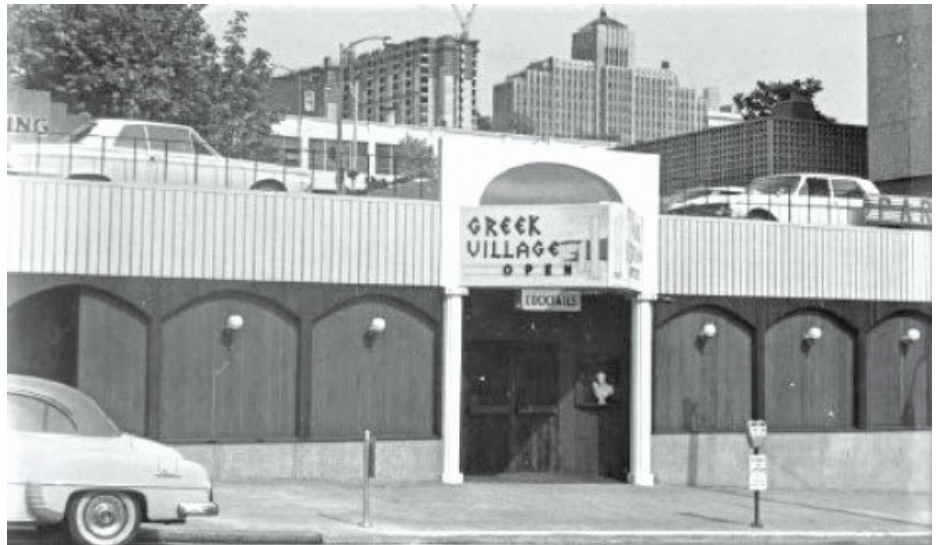
Watch RSPOA emails for
how to order tickets.

A Million Stories

By Dick Rovig, RSPOA, Guardian Editor Emeritus

“The naked city has a million stories. This is one of them.” That was the Lead-In to the mid 60’s TV show, The Naked City. Through the years, Seattle has been the home to several famous and in some cases, infamous restaurants and bars that have become legendary in cop lore. Most are notable because of their appearance, location, clientele and most importantly, “the pour,” and those serving it. And, oh yeah, the food. Thanks to Google and my oft-times failing memory, we have amassed several photos of unique joints in the City of Seattle, which, back in the day, (had to get that one in) had cop relationships. We will feature more locations in future issues of the Call Box. Readers are urged to contribute their reminiscences and memories of their favorite sites. Suggestions for other locations and one’s recollections of them will be welcomed.

Where to start this endeavor? The Greek Village, of course! 700 4th Ave, with a parking lot on the roof!



One of the first and most popular Seattle restaurants to feature Greek food, music, including a belly dancer, who was daughter of a local District Court judge, was operated from 1966 to 1979 by Pete and Colleen Farmasonis. Among other interesting amenities, there were separate menus: blue for men with prices and pink, without prices for women. Pete still has kind recollections of his SPD clientele. The restaurant was kitty corner across Fourth Avenue from SPD headquarters. Besides the blue and pink menus, it had a hell of a cop bar, whence came the concept of a million stories.

Fights, love affairs, etc. and most important, the recounting of war stories that would make Joseph Wambaugh envious. Space precludes me from being more edifying in this article, but you get the gist. Let’s hear one of your one million stories about Pete’s place. I think I’ve got that many myself.



Jim restoring a WSP Car.

clearly the right decision. After locating a 3,500 square foot storefront at 317 Third Avenue South, in Pioneer Square, I donated over \$5,000 for the first month's rent and associated renovation costs. Several SPD volunteers and I began remodeling the neglected building over the following six months and hosted the grand opening in the fall of that year. As with all small non-profits, operational expenses, rent, insurance, utilities, etc. cost a great deal of money. It became apparent I could not continue to fund the museum personally. As a remedy, I began addressing every SPD roll call during the membership drive. Much

to my surprise, a vast majority of SPD officers liked the idea and began paying \$2.50 from each paycheck. Having a museum facility open to the public also required us to abandon the idea of a volunteer staff. I soon hired our beloved museum manager, Judy Thomson, who remained with the museum for nearly 20 years, until her death in 2016. For over 20 years, the police museum hosted thousands of visitors every year, including school children, tourists, government officials as well as current & retired police officers, their families, and the media from throughout the world. In 2004, the police museum's popularity grew considerably with the addition of our first historic police vehicle; an original 1967 King County Sheriff's Plymouth Fury. This vehicle was fully restored with the assistance of multiple businesses and individuals who donated their time and money to accomplish this goal. It was a true community effort that grew over time. As of today, the police museum's vintage police vehicle collection consists of 35 original police vehicles, including our latest addition, SPD's original 1948 Dodge paddy wagon. The Police Museum entity is divided into four categories: The Public Educational Facility, Archives, Vintage Police Car Fleet, and the Fleet Maintenance Facility. Since the Museum's Pioneer Square educational facility was forced to close in 2017, (due to structural damage resulting from the Nisqually earthquake, and ground settling from tunnel boring), the museum moved its contents, the archives, fleet, and fleet maintenance facility to Ellensburg.

Although the closure of the museum was an unexpected occurrence, the costs in the Seattle real estate mar-



ket, rising crime rate, and anti-police activism makes it ill-advisable to consider Seattle as a safe location to re-establish the police museum. Based on the city's lack of political and financial support of the police, the dangers to the police museum's building and its irreplaceable artifacts, and visitor safety, a new location outside the city to properly preserve these artifacts is necessary. To ensure the police museum's continuation in a physical and social climate more conducive with historic preservation and law enforcement appreciation, I commenced a significant retirement project. I personally funding the purchase of sixteen acres in Ellensburg's commercial zone, in June of 2021. This is an amazing site, only 2 minutes from Interstate 90 (exit 106), with beautiful rural views, and a large year-round creek running through it.

This \$1,000,000 land acquisition is a perfect location to build my vision of the law enforcement-friendly Silver Star Event Center, where weddings, meetings, car shows, and special events can be held. Inside the event center will be the police museum's collection, for all to see. Since the police museum's budget is so small, I am planning on leasing a portion of event center to the police museum for \$1 per year. All admission fees, gift shop proceeds, and special museum related events will be retained by the museum. The only practical way that a small, non-profit museum can exist is if there is an income-generating facility that serves as its host. I will soon be personally investing another \$1,000,000 to build this facility that will likely take 3-5 years to complete. The Silver Star Event Center will be a 2-hour drive east of Seattle, where members of law enforcement and their families can take comfort in knowing the local community supports their profession. This land is the site of the historic Ellensburg Stockyards, that will also be restored to preserve the vintage barns, corrals, feed lots and scale house that remain. In May 2022, the event center building site was cleared and utilities installation completed. Periodic updates will be posted as progress occurs. I would like to eternally thank our sworn and civilian members, volunteers and citizens who continue to support the police museum and its mission to demystify the police and preserve our history for future generations to enjoy.

If you have additional questions regarding future developments of the police museum, please feel free to contact me at: jamesSritter@gmail.com or #206-949-9143.

WAR STORIES

By Cloyd Steiger,
SPD Retired Detective, #4313

In April of 2004, my partner, Jason Kasner, and I were assigned a murder near Judkins Park. It was a typical gang-bang murder. Not particularly interesting and no one wanted to tell what they knew. After a week or so, we finally developed probable cause to arrest a suspect and made an arrest. Though we had enough to arrest the suspect, the case needed to be firmed up to get a conviction. The suspect was a juvenile but was charged as an adult. Because of that, he was housed at the RJC in Kent.

I had a prolific snitch. People in jail always told him about murders they committed. He kept copious notes. When he had enough, he would call me. I checked and found out that my snitch was currently in custody in the downtown jail. Perfect. I called the jail.

"I need you to transfer [my snitch] to the RJC. I need him to be housed near Master (the suspect's name). They agreed.

A couple of hours later, I got a call from my snitch.

"I'm being transferred to RJC!" he said. "Did you do that?"

"Why would I do that?" I asked. I couldn't tell him what I was doing. He would become my agent if I did, and nothing he learned would be admissible. I just wanted to provide the opportunity for the conversation to take place.

"Why would they transfer me?" He was astonished.

"I have no idea," I said.

A few days later, he went to RJC.

He called a few days later.

"A guy named Master told me he killed someone."

"I'll be right down."

There was no trial. Master pled guilty.

FROM THE PENSION OFFICE

1. There are a few members that have not sent in their 2022 Reporting form packets yet. If you are one of them please mail it in ASAP.

2. The SPMA has just settled its contract with the city. The Pension Office is waiting to get the new salary schedule for lieutenants and captains to do a comparison of benefits between the LEOFF COLAs for 2020, 2021 and 2022 and the contract increases for the same years to determine the effect on RCW 41.20 "excess benefits." Stephanie and Lisa will be working on this as soon as the information is received. Our expectation is for any retro and new guaranteed rates of pay to be determined and paid to you in the August (potentially September) payroll, depending on the length of time it takes for us to receive the Final Salary Schedule.

3. The RAP Picnic will be on August 25, 2022 the start time around 10:00 AM for Bocce Ball at the Nile picnic area just south of the club house.

4. REMINDER! the Retired Officers' Banquet had to be moved to October 12, 2022, the second Wednesday, due to scheduling conflicts at the NILE. Doors open at 5:00PM.

5. After almost 12 years as the Police Pension Board Executive Secretary and 42 years with SPD, Dan Oliver has decided to retire. The Board voted unanimously to appoint Stephanie as the Executive Secretary when he retires in July. We wish Dan the best in his new endeavors and we welcome Stephanie in this new role.

6. By the time you receive the July Call Box the election for one of the elected Board Trustees will be over. Joe Bouffiou is running unopposed. Ballots will be coming in until the end of June so the ballot count will be announced in early July.

7. No information regarding SPOG contract negotiations. The two sides are in formal talks.

8. Reminder about Hearing Aids: You are required by the Pension Office, to see and receive your hearing aids by a Licensed Audiologist. A Licensed Audiologist will have "Dr." in front of their name. A Licensed Hearing Aid Specialist alone is NOT an Audiologist. Please clarify before you purchase your Hearing Aids. The Everett

Clinic, Providence, Swedish and Virginia Mason all have licensed Audiologists on staff. Currently, your Hearing Aid benefit is \$6,000 every 3 years. No pre-Auth is required and all claims go directly to UMR (your Audiologist does not have to bill Medicare first). The Audiologist must send the claim, warranty information and the audiogram to UMR when they bill the claim. You should keep a copy of the warranty information for yourself. If you need help finding an Audiologist, call Jan at the Pension Office. If you do not follow the guidelines, your reimbursement or claim will not be paid.

9. Reimbursements to UMR: Please remember that the mail is taking a lot longer to arrive than normal. If you send in a Reimbursement to UMR, please make sure you are using a current Simple Reimbursement form- it will have this address on it:

UMR

Attn: Plan Advisor Team for Police Pension

P.O. Box 546

Bothell, WA 98041

You may also fax your reimbursement to UMR 1-866-859-1112. **UMR is experiencing staffing shortages-like everyone these days. Please be patient when calling UMR and let Jan know if your issue was not resolved. Be sure to note who you spoke with, the date and time of your call. This is helpful when we have to follow up on a claim issue.



Last Ring



Steve O'Leary #4333, retired Seattle Police Homicide Detective, passed away on November 2, 2021, at the age of 68. Steve was born in Libby, Montana. He graduated from Sammamish High in 1971. He joined the department in 1979 and was in academy class #119. Steve worked 2nd watch West Precinct and walked a beat. He later became a detective and worked Burglary/Theft, Sex Crimes and then his dream assignment in Homicide. Steve partnered with Jay Mooney #4383 and worked the Pang Fire case, where he ended up going to Rio de Janeiro to arrest Martin Pang. He also worked the murder of Mayme Jeanne

Lui with Cloyd Steiger #4313. His final assignment was Special Deployment working for Joe Kessler #4601. Steve was the units' cook during large events. Steve retired on July 10, 2006, to enjoy his hobbies: golfing, fly fishing, bird hunting and bow hunting. He hired on at the Sauk-Suiattle Tribe in the North Cascades as its Chief of Police. Steve is survived by his sister Tara Rispoli, nephew Daniel and nieces Ali, Jackie, Jerrie and Marla.

Barry Newsom #2987, retired Seattle Police Canine Officer, passed away on December 5, 2021, at the age of 73. Barry was born in Breerton, Washington. He attended Nathan Hale High and graduated in 1966. Right after graduation he enlisted in the Navy for two years. Barry was an SPD cadet before being hired as a sworn officer on January 2, 1970. He attended Academy Class 62. After graduation, Barry worked patrol and was involved in several shootings. Barry was one of the first K-9 officers and worked with police dog, Veus, for 3 years. Barry returned to patrol and in 1974, he had a cameo part in the movie "McQ". Barry retired with a line of duty retirement on March 11, 1981, due to injuries sustained on the job. In 1984, Barry took a job with Prudential Insurance Company, where he met his future wife, Valerie. In 1994, he went to work for the Swinomish Tribal Casino as a gaming agent and he worked there until 2013. Barry and Valerie enjoyed travel and lived in Michoacan, Mexico for a year before returning to Anacortes, Washington. He became a big supporter and contributor to the startup Anacortes Police Canine Unit. Barry is survived by Valerie, his wife of 35 years, two adult sons Barry Gordon "BG" and Dave who is a deputy prosecutor for the Lummi Tribe.

Bob Caruth #2244, Seattle Police Patrol Sergeant, passed away on December 12, 2021, at the age of 82. Bob was born in St. Paul, Minnesota. The family moved to Seattle and he attended Lincoln High and Queen Anne HS. He graduated in 1958 and enlisted in the U.S. Marine Reserves. He worked for Boeing in 1959 in the inventory department. He married his wife, Jacqueline, in 1959. He worked at Boeing until being hired by SPD on March 13, 1962. He was immediately assigned to the Seattle Center to work patrolling

the World's Fair site for the rest of the year. He attended academy class #45. After the academy, he was assigned to Patrol in the Central Precinct working both East and West for the next 10 years. He joined the Marching Drill Team/Honor Guard rising to team lieutenant. He also played on the Department's softball team. In 1967, Bob partnered up with a young officer, Ken Baggen #2523. They worked "The Hill" and later Bell Town for the next three years on 3rd watch. Bob then worked parking enforcement and was again assigned to the Seattle Center. On April 1, 1981, Bob was promoted to sergeant and assigned to the North Precinct for the next thirteen years. Bob retired on April 4, 1993, with 31 years of service. In retirement, he worked as a Seattle Municipal Court Marshall. He and Jackie moved to Orting and built their dream house and lived there for 19 years. Finally, they moved to Idaho to be closer to their four daughters and thirteen grandchildren. He continued to fish, bowl, woodwork, and restore furniture. His favorite activity was being with his wife and spending time with their daughters and their grandchildren. Bob is survived by his wife of 62 years, Jackie, four daughters Pam, Christina, Gayle and Jill, thirteen grandchildren and fifteen great grandchildren.

Mike Scott #2557, retired Seattle Police Motorcycle Officer, passed away on December 19, 2021, at the age of 82. Mike was born in Vallejo, California before his family moved to Lake Forest Park. Mike graduated from Roosevelt HS in 1958. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy for three years and then the U.S. Army. When his tour was up, he returned to Seattle and was hired by SPD on March 6, 1966. He attended Academy Class 51. Mike worked both East & West Precinct patrol. In 1969, he married Shirley. In 1971, Mike transferred to Traffic Enforcement. Three years later he moved to solos. After a couple of years, he joined the Motorcycle Drill Team. One of his partners on bikes was Dick Gagnon #3145. Dick and Mike weren't just bike partners, they were neighbors who socialized and raised their children together. Mike was Dick's daughter, Lisa's godfather. Mike stayed in traffic until 1989. Then he returned to patrol in the North Precinct where he partnered up with Fred Kilmer, his old academy mate. Mike's hearing deteriorated due to the noise on bikes and detonation of rounds in the military and the department. He retired in 1992 after 26 years of service. In retirement, Mike and Shirley rode around the states on their motorcycle. In 2002, their special needs granddaughter, McKinsey, was born. Mike and Shirley raised her until she died in 2018. While caring for their granddaughter,

they met Melissa who helped Mike and Shirley tend to McKinsey. Shirley passed in 2019 and Melissa took care of Mike until his passing. Mike was preceded in death by his wife of 50 years, Shirley, his daughter Michelle, son Joey and granddaughter McKinsey. He is survived by his daughter Angela, four grandchildren and good friend and caretaker Melissa.

Steve Stokke #3209, retired Seattle Police Patrolman passed away on January 20, 2022, at the age of 74. Steve was raised in Seattle and graduated from Ballard High in 1965. Immediately afterward he enlisted in the Army. Steve was hired by SPD on July 22, 1969 and was assigned to Academy Class 61. After graduation, he was assigned to East Central Relief and worked Charlie Sector. He attended North Seattle Community College earning an AA degree in Police Science. Steve stayed in Patrol his entire career and endured several injuries. On March 6, 1999, after almost 30 years of service, Steve retired. During retirement, Steve stayed in contact with good friends from the Department, such as Ken Jakobsen, Ken Zarko #3312 and Dan McFadden #3470. In 2005, Steve and his wife moved to Yakima. Steve continued to golf about three times a week with his wife, Rebecca. Steve is survived by his wife of 20 years Becky, daughter Tina, sons Phil, Steve and Michael, six grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Donna Brazel #1618, retired Seattle Policewoman/Officer Detective, passed away on January 29, 2022, at the age of 94. Donna was born in Tacoma and graduated from Roosevelt High in Port Angeles. She enrolled in WSU, graduating in 1950. She was hired by SPD as a "Provisional Policewoman" immediately after the oral interview on March 1, 1955. In late 1958, her employment status changed to regular Policewoman. Six months later on January 5, 1959, she was assigned to Academy Class 39. Some of her academy mates were Joe Sanford #1896, Frank Jones #1885, Joe Tolliver #1901, Joe Cordas #1878, Lynn Coney #1858 and Beryl Thompson #1833. Four years before the academy and nine years after, Donna enjoyed working in the Women's Bureau. After an IACP study, the Women's Bureau was disbanded and she was assigned to the Investigation Bureau's detective units. Donna was known as a good interrogator. She was able to build a rapport with interviewees. She stayed in the Morals Unit when it was retitled to Sex Crimes. One of her partners was Pat

Lamphere #2687. In the 1970's Donna was loaned to Research and Development to work with Noreen Skagen #1990 to design a Class A uniform for women assigned to Patrol. This effort lasted for years before resulting in a uniform that finally matched the male officers. Donna was often temporarily assigned to VICE as a decoy. She was very successful. Donna retired on March 28, 1980, after twenty-five years of service. In retirement, she traveled frequently to Europe, China, Canada, across the US and Mexico. She also volunteered at the Opera Association and volunteered to escort tours of the "China Exhibit – Son of Heaven" in 1988. She helped Mary Stowe #1330 organize a reunion of veterans of the Women's Bureau. Donna is survived by her nephew, Steve Brazel and niece, Holly Brazel.

Joel Hayes #2247, retired Seattle Police Patrolman passed away on February 5, 2022, at the age of 84, two days shy of his 85th birthday. Joel was born and raised in Ellensburg and graduated from Kittitas High School. He was drafted into the military and served for two years. He got a job at the Monroe Penitentiary and worked with fellow guard, Roy Skagen #2204. Joel was hired by SPD on March 21, 1962 and assigned to Academy Class 45. Upon graduating, he was assigned to patrol the Worlds' Fair on the Seattle Center grounds. When the fair was over, he was sent to Central Precinct to work both East and West districts. In late 1965, Joel returned to the Seattle Center for the next seven years. He developed hearing difficulties and was assigned to the Property Room at the Public Safety Building. Next, he was sent to "Water and Air Patrol" and then he was assigned back to the Evidence Unit. He worked in the Evidence Unit from 1974, until he had to retire on September 14, 1979, after almost seventeen years of service. After leaving the Department he worked for the Postal Service Processing Center for the next 16 years. Joel's wife, of 49 years, Alberta, preceded him in death, passing away in 2017. He is survived by three daughters – Kathy, Carrie and Kelly, four granddaughters and one great grandson.

Jerry Bickford #3693, retired Seattle Police Detective Sergeant passed away on February 21, 2022, at the age of 74. Jerry was born and raised in Ballard and he graduated from Ballard High in 1965. He enlisted in the Army for three years. After the Army, Jerry worked for Boeing. He was hired by SPD on October 23, 1972, as a 23-year-old recruit. He at-

tended the 6-month Academy Class #69. After the academy he worked 2nd Watch out of Wallingford. His next assignment was Traffic Enforcement. Jerry became a detective and in 1980, he was assigned to Burglary and Theft. Six months later, he was promoted to Sergeant and went back to Traffic Enforcement and later supervised the PEOS. He worked in Communications and then in IIS. In 1993, he escaped from IIS to East Burglary. Jerry retired on February 3, 1995 after 23 years of service. Jerry was an active member of the Blue Knight Motorcycle Club all through his career and into retirement. In 2008, Jerry married Donna and they traveled to Norway, Hawaii, Mexico and Canada. Jerry is survived by his wife of fourteen years, Donna, son Jeff, a retired police officer, three daughters, Kristine, Karen and Stacy, seven grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

WIDOWS:

Carolyn Porter, surviving spouse of deceased retired Seattle Police Detective Sergeant Archie Porter #1359, passed away on April 20, 2022, at the age of 89.

Edwina Moran, surviving spouse of deceased retired Seattle Police Detective Roy Moran #811, passed away on May 5, 2022, at the age of 94.

Due to space constraints and the number of Last Ring announcements this month, the obituaries had to be edited. Please go to **www.rspoa.org** for a more detailed obituary for each officer.

*And Until We Meet Again,
May God Hold You in The
Palm Of His Hand.*

WHERE ARE THEY NOW

LEE LIBBY #3437, Hired July 1970, Class 65

Retired: October 20, 1994

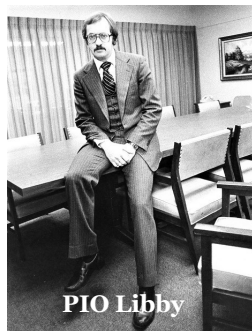
What were some of your memorable assignments and why?

Right out of the academy, I was assigned to 3rd watch in my FTO program, where I was partnered up with Mike Brasfield. We worked together for about 6 weeks and then I worked with Paul McCloud. Those were two totally different styles of police work for sure and I learned a great deal from both. Paul and I ended up assigned as regular partners as 3-K-3. When he transferred, I worked with Joe Parks for the next 4 years. They were some of the best years, as I look back. Having been raised a country boy in rural Alabama, Maine and New York, it was an eye-opening experience not only moving to a big city like Seattle, but working in one as a street cop. In November of '76 I was accepted into the old TAC Squad, where I stayed for nearly a year. I enjoyed the freedom that job offered and particularly enjoyed decoy duty. I would dress up as a bum, then lay around and stumble around Pioneer Square as a target for strong-arm robbers. Tom Blair and his Kel-Lite saved my butt one night when a guy was sitting on my chest about to stab me with his 5" long switchblade knife. The FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin did a cover story article about us and our decoy work. It was during that CSS assignment, while on a surveillance stakeout one night, that Terry Augerson and I had a memorable encounter with the serial killer Ted Bundy. In October '77, I moved



SPECIAL ASSAULT UNIT, 1988

on to the Public Information Office, where I stayed for the next three years. That was a great job and taught me that there are some really good people working in the media; people like Dave Birkland, Steve Pool, Bryan Johnson, Mike Nesteroff, Joni Balter and so many others. After being promoted to Sergeant in 1980, I worked in Patrol, Inspectional Services, and Crime Prevention. I recall one night as a Patrol Sergeant backing up Ken Davis on a traffic stop in what turned out to be a stolen car. The two guys in the car were fugitives with murder warrants and as I was cuffing one of them, he tried to reach down into the front of his pants where, after getting him cuffed, I discovered a sawed off shotgun. It was hanging from a rope, tied to his belt buckle. The last of my "real police work" was 5 years in the Special Assault Unit, where I worked with an absolutely outstanding group of detectives. They did absolutely amazing work. I finished up the last 4 years of my SPD career working as Administrative Liaison to Assistant Chief Mike Brasfield.



What do you miss most about SPD?

I know it sounds trite and cliché because I think all of us retirees say it, but it's the people, not the job, that I miss. Policing was and still is an honorable and noble calling, but it has fallen on hard times (I hear all the time from younger officers how lucky I was to be a street cop when I was). However, the men and women with whom I worked for 25 years were the best of the best, both as cops and simply, as people. While there is no way I could be an officer today, I don't regret a single moment of my career. And as Sgt. Tanner told us on the first day of the academy, we would have stories to last a lifetime!

LIFE AFTER SPD: What did you do, where do you live?

I wasn't necessarily ready to retire, but I was recruited by Shoreline Community College and taught a full academic load for 6 years. In 2000, I took over as the director of the Criminal Justice Program and finally retired in 2006. During those 12 years I also did con-


sulting work as an expert witness in police liability cases. My wife, Diane, and I have made our home in Lake Forest Park, since we were married in 1977.


Hobbies & Activities?

I don't really have "hobbies", but I do still draw and paint on occasion, an old skill from my youth. I have somewhat of an interest in genealogy and have traced my paternal ancestors back 11 generations to Maine, where John Libby immigrated in 1636. I'm working on a photo book to pass on to my children, in case they have questions like I do, but never asked when the people were alive who could answer them. I own 6 guitars and I try to play at least a few minutes every day. I play golf as much as I can and play every year in the Seattle Police Golf League. The activity I enjoy the most is travel with Diane. We've visited 35 countries and all 50 states. Absolutely our most memorable trip of all was a private wildlife safari in Tanzania in 2015. The last thing I want to say is to encourage all the younger generation of officers to attend the annual retired officers' banquet, when they can.




I never did as a young cop, but I can see in hindsight why I should have. An occasional visit to the past can provide wonderful insight to the present. I go as frequently as I can, for in many cases, it is the last time I get to see some of the "best of the best" that I referred to earlier.





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Equal Housing Opportunity



Fallen SPD Officers who made the ultimate sacrifice in the months of June and July.

JUNE

William H. Cunliffe	6-17-1911
James M. Forbes	6-21-1974
James H. St. Delore	6-21-1974
Antonio Terry	6-14-1994
Alexandra Harris	6-13-2021

JULY

Enoch E. Breece	7-31-1902
Henry L. Harris	7-04-1911
John F. Weedon	7-24-1916
Robert R. Wiley	7-30-1916
Amos J. Cormer	7-05-1924
Harry W. Vosper	7-21-1949
James C. Brizendine	7-21-1955

Editor's Corner

Rich O'Neill #4451, SPD Retired

During my career, I was directly involved in negotiating three separate SPOG contracts with the city. The process is long and tedious and can last years from the start, until you get the handshake that signals a deal has been reached. Both sides agree on the rules of negotiation and none is more important than confidentiality. The city's negotiation team and SPOG's team demand confidentiality. That is why I was amazed that the

SPD Community Police Commission published eight recommendations to change the negotiation process on the police contract. The bottom line is this group wants the process to be more open to the public. They want SPOG to fully accept the Accountability Ordinance, which contains things that violate labor law. They want the opening offer to be made public. At the end of the process, they want the city to explain what they "gave up" and what they "received" BEFORE the city council votes on approving the contract. I can tell you from my experience, that this is totally unworkable. If adopted, this will drag out the already lengthy process and make "getting the handshake" almost impossible. Contracts will no longer be negotiated in good faith, with a final deal that both sides accept. Contracts will end up in arbitration, where no one is usually happy with the outcome. The affect this idea would have on recruitment and retention would not be good! This community police commission is "advisory" in nature and has no authority to implement their recommendations. Hopefully, the mayor understands the chaos that would unfold and these recommendations will never be implemented.


As we read in the Pension News this month, Dan Oliver is retiring from the Pension Office after 54 years of service (12 with Pension Board, 42 with SPD). Dan and John Patrick Sullivan were the two biggest mentors to me when I was SPOG President. Dan helped me to understand the contract negotiation process and the vital role that maintaining good relationships with city hall has on the job of SPOG president. Dan also helped me when taking an officer up to the Chief's office for a pending discipline decision. "Sometimes you fight and sometimes you just fall on the sword!" Most of his insight was passed on to me over a "working lunch," for which I always picked up the tab. Anyone who knows Dan Oliver knows this to be a fact of life! (HA!) Seriously, he is one of "the great ones" who will not be easy to replace. Enjoy your well-deserved retirement, Dan, and thank you for all you did for me and thousands of other police officers and their families.

The Nile had a conflict in September so the Retired Officer's Banquet will be held on October 12 this year, 5pm at the Nile. Make plans to attend, as it is truly a fun night! Enjoy your summer and The Call Box will be back again in September!


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Retired SPD Officer, SPF Board Member
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