



The Call Box



Official Publication of the Retired Seattle Police Officers Association

September, 2021 Volume 2, Issue 5

OFFICER ALEXANDRA HARRIS

EOW: 6-13-2021



SPD Officer Alexandra "Lexi" Harris became the first female officer and the 59th Seattle Police Officer killed in the line of duty in the early morning hours of June 13, 2021.

Officer Harris had just completed her shift and was heading home on I-5 when she encountered a multi car collision. While out of her car rendering assistance to those involved in the collision, Lexi was tragically struck by another passing motorist and killed.

Originally from Seattle, Lexi served her community out of SPD's West Precinct, Wellness Unit and in the Community Response Group. Her passion revolved around martial arts, spending time with friends, family, and improving community relations whether on or off-duty. Lexi leaves behind a fiancé, his two daughters and her parents.

A memorial service, attended by thousands, was held on Thursday, August 1 at T-Mobile Park. Citizens and officers from across the country gathered to pay their respects to this fallen hero.

Officer Lexi Harris had served the citizens of Seattle for five years. A memorial fund has been established and 100% of every dollar raised will go to her family so they can help carry on Lexi's mission of community service. Those interested in making a contribution can go to any BECU Credit Union and make the donation to the Officer Lexi Harris Benevolent Account.

Officer Harris is gone, but Never Forgotten!



The Call Box



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President's Message

By Jerry Taylor, President, RSPOA



As I write this article we still do not know if our annual Retired Officers' Banquet will be permitted. I hope we will be able to carry it off but, if not, we will continue to look for the opportunity to renew this tradition—it is an event that is important for us all.

As I look at the chaos of the last couple of years and see the impact of the rapid changes on our profession, I am reminded of earlier times. I joined the Seattle Police Department in 1966. The 1960s were different. The City of Seattle honored and supported the department and its officers. During this period, Seattle police officers, using rudimentary equipment, placed themselves in harm's way and relied on raw courage and cunning to combat the violence of the times. The city backed them up. Officers worked without body armor, speed loaders, and semi-automatic pistols with extra rounds in reserve clips. They were without radios clipped to their shoulders, high tech computers in their cars and SWAT teams should they encounter a barricaded suspect or be required to serve a search warrant. They were fortunate to have a car, a heater that worked, an old Motorola radio, a six shot .38-caliber revolver that carried 158-grain bullets, and a 12-gauge shotgun. Above all, they were fortunate to have a partner who could be trusted. The cops during this decade considered police work a career, not a job, so every night when they pinned on their badge and strapped on their gun belt, they entered the field carrying with them Pride, not only in who they were, but the fact that they represented the Seattle Police Department. They also carried their Integrity, a remembrance of the oath taken when they were sworn in as police officers and their Guts, which were tested nightly. They did all this for \$524.00 a month. In the back of their mind, each knew they could be killed or injured at any time.

Like today, this decade also saw anarchy raise up its brutish head and attempt to destroy all that was held sacred by these men and women. Riots erupted, cities burned, political conventions spun wildly out of control, Hippies flooded mainstream America, street drugs and free love permeated every level of society and threatened to destroy an entire generation. Militant organizations tried in vain to destroy the democratic system upon which this nation was founded. They robbed banks, killed cops, and kidnapped socialites. The Vietnam War saw over 53,000 American youth give their lives, staining foreign soil with their precious blood while anarchists and antiwar advocates did all they could to destabilize the government. Amid this chaos, police officers were expected not only to contend with these situations, but were also required to handle the more mundane routines of police work.

These brave heroes didn't land at Normandy or fight at Utah Beach, nor did they liberate Paris or bring about the fall of Berlin. They weren't seen raising the flag at Iwo Jima or fighting at Guadalcanal, but not unlike the generation before them, they were committed to give all they had. They served, fell, and some sacrificed no differently than those who lost their lives on foreign shores for the sole purpose of providing others the blessings of freedom.

Getting to Know Chaplain Charlie Scoma



Q. Where were you born and where did you grow up?

I was born in Los Angeles, CA. We moved to Seattle when I was 2 years old. My father, after being laid off in the big Boeing layoff, moved us to the Tri-Cities where I lived until I was 25.

Q. Tell us about your family as you grew up?

I grew up as the oldest, with two siblings. My sister, brother and I are 4 years apart and didn't really hangout much. I was busy playing sports. Baseball ended up being my favorite and the sport I was really good at. My

dad had an eighth-grade education and was an only child. So, we didn't take any vacations. My father was often forced to work swing shift or graveyard and so he missed many of my activities. My dad though, loved to go fishing, so every weekend we were fishing the local lakes for trout or in Lake Washington for Sockeye salmon. My mom insured all the kids got to their practices and games. My dad was also a volunteer firefighter in McMicken Heights/Angle Lake. I grew up in the fire station and loved climbing on the fire trucks and sliding down the fire pole. In fact, retired SPD officer Rich Pruitt was a resident firefighter when my dad was there.

Q. Where did you go to school and to college?

I went to high school at Hanford High in Richland, WA. I was an okay student but it was clear college was not in the immediate future. This became real when I broke my right leg right before my sophomore baseball season and lost a year of playing. I felt a call to ministry and left for Toccoa Falls College, in Georgia to pursue a youth ministry degree when I was 25. I also was able to play baseball. I had a great time and I was the first male in my family to complete college. I entered ministry and soon discovered I should think about getting a masters degree. Crazy to think about now, but Princeton Theological Seminary in Princeton, NJ offered me a full scholarship. I then was accepted into Rutgers University where I completed a Masters in Social Work. I earned two Masters degrees in four years. Not bad for a kid whose dad didn't complete high school and a teenager who wasn't ready for college after high school.

Q. When did you feel called to go into ministry and how did that come about?

I had been feeling a call when I was 19 to serve in the church. I volunteered for three years as a camp counselor and loved it. I spent a summer as an intern at Westside Church in Richland and again I really enjoyed it. The moment I felt a call to leave the fire service (I was a full-time fire Captain at age 20 for Benton County Fire District #4) was on a return flight from Haiti. I was in Haiti for ten days with a team that installed a chlorinated water well in an orphanage. I saw real poverty and real pain. I knew I would leave the fire service and enter the ministry at some point in my life.

Q. What denominational background were you raised in?

We were not raised in a very religious family. My father was a Catholic and he ran away from home at 16 and entered the military. He did not hold a value to going to church. My mom grew up in a Lutheran home and she would take us to church occasionally. When I was 14 though, some friends invited me to their youth group in a Presbyterian Church and that is where I grew up in the faith. I'm an ordained Presbyterian Minister now.

Q. What jobs/positions did you hold before you came to be the SPD Chaplain?

I have held several different jobs and one of the things my father instilled in me was to always find work. From age 13 on I have had a job. I worked in a lumber yard right out of high school, at the age of 20 I was hired to be a fire Captain in a small eastern Washington volunteer fire department (I was my dad's boss), I

FROM THE PENSION OFFICE

1. SPMA is in mediation. So far it has had several sessions with the City in front of the mediator.
2. Still no word regarding SPOG negotiations.
3. The RAP picnic was on August 19th. Forty attendees enjoyed good food, great fellowship and undesirable white elephant prizes. Greg and Patty Pote took first place in Bocce Ball. The runner up team was Nick Bulpin and John Nordlund.
4. As former City Councilman Sam Smith would say, "in the near distant future" you will be mailed the Annual Reporting Form packet.
5. As of 8/24/2021, 240 guests have signed up for the Retired Officers' Banquet
6. If you have not called your old department friends or old partners in a long time, now is the time because our membership is shrinking.
7. Important! Important!! The State of Washington has started a new program titled Washington Cares. Basically it is a 0.58% (a little over 1/2 of 1 %) tax starting January 1, 2022 on workers that receive a W2 income reporting form and do not have long term care insurance. If you do NOT work this new law does NOT apply to you. Only a few of our retirees continue to work and get a W2. For those few that are working, the Pension Office is trying to get, as soon as possible, the state approved opt out form that you will need to provide to your employer to avoid the tax. The state opt out form is supposedly to be available starting October 1, 2021 and must be filed and filed prior to the end of December 31, 2021. If this applies to you call the Pension office so we can get you the opt out form when it is released by the state. Just telling your employer that you have long term care through the Pension Office will not suffice. You must supply proof with/on the opt out form.
8. Military Veterans that were stationed at Camp Lejeune between August 1, 1953 and December 31, 1987 for 30 or more days may qualify for special health care status for VA treatment. There are 8 diseases that are presumptive service connected from the drinking water on the base. For more information go to <http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/camp-Lejeune/> or call (877)222-8387 or (800)827-1000.



Last Ring



James "JD" Nicholson #2622, retired Seattle Police Detective passed away on May 21st, 2021 at the age of 78. JD was born and raised in Lake City until he was eight years old. Then the family moved to Spokane. He participated in sports at an early age. He was all league football at Central Valley High. He played third base varsity baseball all three years of high school. After graduation in 1961, he enrolled at Boise Junior College. There he played football for two years. J.D. left college to enlist in the Air Force and he saw duty in Vietnam. JD was hired on October 10th, 1966. He served in patrol to start and then transferred to the Special Patrol Squad where he was injured in a head on collision with a fleeing felon.

His next assignment was Research and Development where he and Sonny Davis #3057 developed the department M.I.R. Code system. J.D. then worked installing VARDA alarms for Sergeant Charles Scheufele #1864, in the Pawn Shop Property Recovery Squad. Due to his excellent work installing the VARDA systems, he was offered a position in Robbery. He worked for Joe Sanford #1896. Joe teamed JD with Larry Stewart #2420. After five years, JD transferred to Vice and his partner was Gene Birkeland #2539. In 1989, he transferred to Narcotics and worked with Mike Ciesynski #4749. J.D. remained in the unit until he retired after 26 years and four months of service in 1993. He moved to Gilbert, Arizona where he golfed almost every morning getting his handicap down to an eight. JD became an avid reader. He had over 3,000 hardcover books in his library causing him to remodel rooms and build bookshelves to store all of the reading material. His parents and his sister Sue preceded him in death. He is survived by his older sister Penny and three brothers Jay #2770, Kim and Van.

Bert Richards #1693, retired Seattle Police Detective passed away on May 21, 2021 at the age of 93. Bert was raised in Edmonds, Washington. Immediately after graduation from Edmonds High he joined the US Navy and served during the closing months of World War II. He was discharged in early 1948. Bert landed a job at the Bar-B Lumbermill and worked there seven years until he applied to the SPD. He was hired on the department on March 13, 1956. His first assignment before going to the academy was walking a beat in Georgetown. After the academy he was assigned to 2nd watch West Central working Car 114 with Robert M. Davis #1758 on lower Queen Anne and Belltown. One evening they stopped Municipal Court Judge Simmons for suspicious driving.



Last Ring



This is the judge that later had to leave the bench. As the old furniture store window on Sixth Avenue declared "try our Simmons mattress then you be the judge." Bert's next assignment was working the special squad (now SWAT) with Don Vert #2168 in the early 1960s. After a couple of years, Bert returned to West Central Patrol to work Car 123 with Tom Caldwell #1845. All his partner comment's - what a great guy to work alongside.

On January 1, 1970, Bert transferred to the detectives, South Burglary. Bert also worked on the Bingo Parlor Investigations while in Vice. After Vice he returned to Burglary. He had a good rapport with the patrol officers and was adept at developing informants. He retired on March 17, 1984, after 28 years of service. After retiring he got a job at Long Acres Race Track where he worked for seven years. Bert and his wife, Mirna, enjoyed bowling and square dancing. Bert was the first Secretary/Treasurer of RAP at the old Elks Lodge in Lake City. Mirna passed in 2012. Bert is survived by his son Dale, daughter Catherine Doeleman, two grandchildren, eight great grandchildren and two great great grandchildren.

Glenn Gilbert #2511, retired Seattle Police Detective passed away on July 1st, 2021, at the age of 83. Glenn was born and raised in Des Moines, Iowa. After high school, he joined the Air Force and served in Germany as an aircraft mechanic. He competed in the Junior Olympics in platform diving for the service team. After the Air Force, Glenn landed a job with Boeing in 1962. Glenn was hired by SPD on August 23rd, 1965. His first assignment was Patrol, Central Precinct for three years. In 1968 he transferred to traffic to ride motorcycles and did this for the next nine years. Glenn was a member of the Motorcycle Drill Team. Glenn met the love of his life, PEO Patty Abrams, in the mid-1970s. Glenn went to the Canine Unit in 1977 for two years. Then in early 1979, he transferred to North Patrol Third Watch. One night in 1979 he came upon felons escaping from the KC Courthouse. Glenn was instrumental in their capture.

Two months later Glenn went to Burglary and Theft. He and Jack Kriney #2990 worked cases together. Glenn retired one year later on September 14th, 1990, after 25 years of service. In retirement, Glenn kept busy. He got a job as a Municipal Court Marshall and served as a Port Commissioner for the City of Poulsbo. He golfed, fished and his favorite activity was going to time shares with his wife of 43 years, Patty. Together they helped raise their grandson when his father died unexpectedly. Incidentally Patty #3773 was one of the first PEO's hired by the department in 1973. She left Parking Enforcement in 1999 to supervise the crossing guards in the school

safety detail until 2001. Glenn is survived by his wife Patty, adult children Michelle, Norman, Russell, Ron, Josie and Michael, eleven grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Tom "TC" Miller #3023, retired Seattle Police Homicide Sergeant passed away on July 13th, 2021, at the age of 76.

TC went to school in the Bay Area of San Francisco. After high school, he entered into the US Army. After discharge, he settled in Seattle working for Seattle Transit. TC was hired by SPD on January 20th, 1969. After the three-day orientation, he was assigned to patrol for several months. He was then assigned to Academy Class #58. Frank Kampsen #2769 was one of TC's academy mates. TC worked with Mike Burke #3140, for 3 months during the UO season.

TC worked patrol for the first 15 years of his career, both South and North. In the 1970s, he and Mike Donnelly #3129 worked 3 Union 4. TC got an opportunity to go to K9 and was very in tune with his partner, Police Dog Mitch. In fact, he was so in tune with all dogs that he was made the Unit Training Officer. The department sent TC to Bleckede, Germany to attend Zollhundeschule - dog training school for police dogs. Mitch and TC gave many demonstrations at the U of W Basketball games and interviews on TV and radio programs about the department's canine program. TC made Sergeant in 1988. Two years later, he transferred to the Detectives. In 1991, he was assigned to Homicide. He retired from the Department on August 2nd, 1997. He had 30 years total service with the city. His favorite duty was working with Mitch. In retirement, he was the Northwest Regional Security Consultant for ARCO Corp from 1997 to 2007. Then he spent his time camping with his wife of 26 years, Reva, visiting friends and occasionally training a dog.

TC is survived by his wife, Reva, who was a department Administrative Specialist in Vehicle Crimes, his three sons TJ, Andy and Jake.

SPOUSES

Lois Patrick, spouse of Retired Police Officer Mike Patrick #2516, passed away on July 8, 2021, at 77 years of age.

Kaye Stewart, survivor of Wendell Stewart #1900, passed away on July 1, 2021, at 81 years of age.

Jacqueline Lawson, survivor of deceased Retired Seattle Police Lieutenant Walter Lawson #1109, passed away on Thursday, July 15, 2021, at 93 years of age.

Rosemary Long-Carroll, the surviving spouse to Retired Lieutenant Wally Long #1097 who passed in 1998 and later married Retired Major Ray Carroll #1230 who passed away in 2013, died on Friday, August 6, 2021, at the age of 94.

For Complete Obituaries, go to:

www.rspoa.org

From the Police Museum

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



Retired Detective Dan Melton with the 'Black Mariah.'

Pictured here is Seattle PD's original 1949 prisoner transport wagon otherwise known as the "Wagon" or "Black Mariah". On July 15, 2021, the Seattle Metropolitan Police Museum obtained this wonderful piece of SPD history thanks to the generosity of the Seattle Nile Temple's Shurtah Unit.

The story of this vehicle is nothing short of amazing. It was placed into service in early 1949 as one of SPD's two "paddy wagons" used to transport prisoners from the field to the city jail and driven by officers from the "hole crew". These wagons operated 24 -7 throughout the city and were the most well-known police vehicles in the city during that time in history. These "paddy wagons" were well known by criminals and officers alike and were easily spotted due to the large white "Seattle Police" letters painted on both side panels. This particular SPD wagon was in service for over 22 years and finally taken out of service in the early 1970's! From a historical perspective, the mere existence of this relic is rare enough, however, the fact that it still has the same emergency equipment, custom bumpers and wooden prisoner compartment as it did when it was in service is nothing short of unbelievable.

This vehicle is already in the process of restoration by the Police Museum and will likely be on public display within the next three years. If not for the fact that the Nile Shurtah Unit preserved this vehicle over the past fifty years, its existence would be nothing more than a distant memory of a bygone era.

If you have any historical information and/or artifacts you would like to share with or donate to the Police Museum please contact me at jamesSritter@gmail.com, or at 206-949-9143.

War Stories

By Detective Cloyd Steiger, SPD Retired, #4313

In the summer of 2001, Mike Ciesynski and I were partners. We were called to the scene of a body found on the side of the road in a wooded area, up the hill from Salty's on Alki. The victim, a Hispanic male in his twenties, was shot once in the head. An anonymous call came into 911 reporting the body. It came from a payphone at a Safeway store at the top of the hill.

A couple days after we were at the scene, I got an anonymous call. He saw one of the victim's friends at three in the morning, the night of the shooting, at one of those self-service car washes, where you put quarters in the machine, and a pressure sprayer operates until the time runs out. I told Mike about the call. "That proves nothing," Mike said. "Just because he washed his car at three in the morning."

"He was spraying the inside of the car."

"Oh." Mike replied.

The guy we were looking for worked for a fish processing company at Fisherman's Terminal, where the Alaskan commercial fishing boats are based. Mike and I drove there and talked to the supervisor. "We need to talk to Jose."

He called Jose to the office. When Jose came in, we introduced ourselves, showing him our badges. He had that deer in the headlight stare.

This should be tough, I thought to myself.

"Jose, what do you know about Fernando's death?"

"Nothing" he said.

"Do you have a car here?"

"Yes. It's in the parking lot."

"Do you mind if we go have a look at it?"

"Okay,".

He led us to his car. I opened the driver's door, and then went to the passenger side and opened the back door. There was a hunk of brain between the door and the back seat.

I looked at Jose. "Luuuuccccyy. You've got some 'splainin' to do!"

Where Are They Now?

Michele Vallor Serial #4980

Date of Hire: 12-3-85 Date of Retirement: 5-17-2016

What were some of your memorable SPD assignments and why?

My favorite assignment was patrol. I enjoyed the feeling of knowing every day was different. The ability to help people at their time of need was satisfying. I was fortunate to work in squads for some wonderful sergeants and with incredible officers. The most rewarding assignment I had was being the drug court liaison. I witnessed people rebuild their lives, reunite with family and become employed, productive, and happy. It was heartbreaking as well. Not everyone was able to achieve a drug-free life or overcome the traumas they had experienced in their lifetime. Domestic Violence was a place where detectives could see the cases where lives were saved. And it was in that unit that I met my husband, Bob (4695).



What do you miss most about SPD?

For much of my career with SPD, our agency was recognized as a model police department locally, nationally and internationally. I was truly proud to be not only a police officer, but a Seattle Police Officer. I miss the dedicated, intelligent, ethical, hard-working, diverse men and women I was blessed to work around. I hurt for the difficult times that current officers are going through.

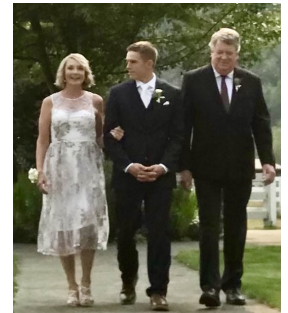
LIFE AFTER SPD:

What did you do, where do you live?

A few months after our retirement, Bob and I moved to Leavenworth and rented a condo. We had planned to build a home on a small lot we owned in the Bavarian village, but we became active in summer and winter sports. We found it hard to slow down and focus on getting our home building off the ground. We decided one day to look at a few places. We found a home on a couple acres that fits our family lifestyle in the little town of Plain. It is across the street from the cross-country ski trails and in the heart of many great hiking and skiing areas. In January of 2020, we went to Austria for the World Masters Winter Games in Seefeld where Bob was one of the U.S. team coaches at the Biathlon competitions. We also explored cities and the countryside in Germany and Austria. We count ourselves lucky that we made the trip before the news of Covid 19 hit and restricted travel. We have made many friends in the Plain area, not only all the retired SPD people who live there, but many others. We enjoy frequent visits from our



five adult children, their families and four grandsons, and their dogs. Grandpa Bob takes the grandsons on tractor rides and they love it! In June, we adopted a dog of our own. I was looking for a hiking and swimming buddy and Bob had hoped for a husky. We found Belle on-line at a rescue shelter in southwest Washington. She is a Husky/Lab mix and we love her!



Hobbies and Activities?

In winter, I "work". I teach and coach cross country skiing. I started at Stevens Pass Nordic Center and obtained PSIA certification. More recently I teach and coach at Plain Valley Nordic. This past winter, I started downhill skiing again and get a kick out of the speed! I do a lot of hiking in the Cascades when the snow goes away. I love paddleboarding and kayaking on Lake Wenatchee and on the Wenatchee River and riding my bicycle on the country roads in the area. I joined a knitting group and cannot knit much yet; joined the garden club too, and most of my plants barely survive. I am having fun trying though and get to hang out with fun friends while doing it. We have guestrooms and we want to let our SPD family know that we would love to have you visit!



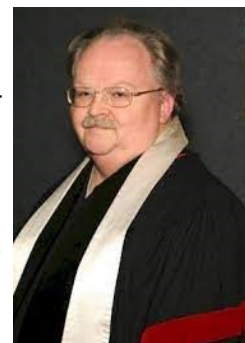
then worked as an assistant security director in college, I was a boarding school counselor, youth ministry director, executive director for a non-profit, and an associate pastor at University Presbyterian Church here in Seattle.

Q. What got you interested in being a Police Chaplain?

I always knew I didn't just want to be a pastor in a church, but I wanted to be engaged in the community I lived in as well. With my background as a volunteer firefighter, career firefighter and my dad's value of giving to the community, chaplaincy became a very real option for me. At University Presbyterian Church we had several officers that worked there on Sundays helping with traffic control and safety issues. Officer Brain Thomas and Retired Captain Dan Oliver had been asking me to consider being a police chaplain. In 2008 I entered into the Chaplain Academy and completed the course thinking I would volunteer for Chaplain John Oas or Seattle Fire.

Q. You were hired after the legendary Chaplain John Oas passed away. Did you know Chaplain Oas and was it difficult succeeding him as the SPD chaplain?

I knew Chaplain Oas briefly. In fact, when I was at the chaplain academy John recognized my last name and he asked to meet with me. It turns out he knew my father from McMicken Heights fire department. I had no idea any religious person knew my father. That was 30 years before I met John at the academy. I wouldn't say, "it's been difficult" following John. It's clear we are very different people. I love that many people have fond memories of Chaplain John Oas. He served for over 35 years and I can absolutely tell you that he will be the longest serving chaplain in Seattle. When I was hired and we were assigning radio call signs, the Seattle Police Chaplain Association Board decided to always keep "Chaplain One" for John Oas. What a great gesture for a man who started something he had no idea would continue after he passed away. Times have changed rapidly and I'm grateful for my acceptance by the department and for the opportunity to serve alongside some of the finest people I have ever been around.



Chaplain John Oas

Q. You have served the SPD family, both active and retired, in so many ways. Counseling, Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms, and you have also responded to critical incidents like officer involved shootings. What do you find to be the most difficult event to be part of?

The biggest difficulty is having to do a death notification to a family member who isn't expecting the news. To know that we are about to bring news that will lead to someone's darkest day is tough. The challenge is then to provide a glimmer of hope that we will work through the initial stages of grief together. I will always say a close second is any officer involved shooting given the unfortunate scrutiny officers are facing. I'm not an officer and finding a way to let the involved officers know that they can trust me and I support them can be difficult. The look of the unknown in the faces of the officers is also difficult because none of us has an answer in that moment. I have had to tell family members that an SPD officer has used lethal force and their loved one is dead. The minute they see my SPD patches sometimes I'm the last one they want to see. The job is a difficult as ever for all of us right now.

Q. What are the challenges of being a modern-day police chaplain?

Being associated with SPD has made my work in the greater church challenging around race and social justice issues. I also find it difficult to be everywhere I'd like to be. The emotional challenges facing officers has led to more phone calls and counseling. I know there are people hurting and I just can't be there to help (not that there's an expectation that I am) but I have a huge heart and I really want to be a resource for the well being of our officers and their families. The family unit is also a place of stress right now. I have very little opportunities to connect to families and you can almost forget any SPD officer and their family coming to Seattle to meet with me.



With SPD Retired Myrle Carner

Q. SPD is a very diverse department. How do you navigate serving the wide range of faith beliefs and maybe some who have no faith in God?

It's not been difficult for me to not judge people for their beliefs. It's about building relationships. I have a lot to learn still and I'd rather find common ground and try to understand the other person's values than preach mine. I'm fairly well connected to many local religious leaders and my role is to connect people to the right resource they need. I understand I may not be the best person to minister to someone and that is okay. It's more important to me that someone finds the right person to be with them in a moment of need. I also enjoy conversation with others so I can learn about the different beliefs. I have read books on the different beliefs and ceremonies around death and it's fascinating to me. We all have some belief system centered around our significant life events.

Q. What do you enjoy doing away from the job?

Many know that I like to hack away at the golf ball. I have thoroughly enjoyed playing in the Seattle Police Golf Association. I have met some amazing officers on the golf course and heard many stories. I also coach baseball at Ingraham High School. I spent years coaching my son and teams through select ball. I fly fish and camp when I can. I love spending time with my fiancée, Leah. We are getting married in Chelan September 19th. Chelan has become our vacation place as we love to be on the water and to visit all the wineries. I watch my daughter play volleyball for Roosevelt, my soon to be step-son play soccer at Kennedy High School, and my soon to be step-daughter play volleyball as well. You can find me socializing at a pub or having an Old Fashion in the back yard.



Charlie & Fiancée Leah.

Q. Some may not know that the SPD Chaplain is not paid by the City of Seattle. So, the Chaplains Association relies solely on donations.

If there are retired members who would like to contribute to the Chaplains Association, what is the easiest way to do that?

Yes, there's often confusion on who I work for and who pays me. I receive most of my funds from pay roll deductions which, as you know, with many officers leaving the department, has put a serious conversation in place about how long I can remain the full-time chaplain. The Guild is the next largest contributor to the Chaplain Association and the Seattle Police Foundation will assist with some funding requests. The SPD Retiree Association has also been a long-time and committed partner in my ministry. Individuals who want to contribute can email me at Charlie.Scoma@seattle.gov and I will send them the form to fill out and mail to the SPD Chaplain Association.

Q. If a retired member wanted to reach you what is the best way to get in contact with you?

There are two ways to reach me. My cell number is 206 637-3136 or email me at Charlie.scoma@seattle.gov. You can also email me at my personal email scoma71@gmail.com. Thank you so much for the opportunity to serve and for supporting the work I do. Be well and may you all enjoy life to the fullest.



With R. Guppy & Dave Reichert

"Charlie's Angels"

With Chief Carmen Best

(From President Message, Page 2)

Today this cycle of crime, violence, and attacks on the very fabric of society continues. The same militants with new names and others like them continue their attack on the democratic foundations of the country. New laws are invented to weaken the ability to combat the attack. Experienced officers are driven from service to the cause to which they dedicated their honor and careers.

Hopefully this cycle will once again be broken, and society will once again recognize the importance of maintaining that thin blue line that protects society from the evil that resides in our midst.

(I would like to honor Richard Whitaker who wrote Conflict In Blue Behind the Badge about the 1960's in Los Angeles. His observations served as the inspiration for these comments.)

Remembering 9-11-2001 20th Anniversary



The Twin Towers



The cross at Ground Zero!





RE/MAX
Northwest REALTORS

Rich Lamb
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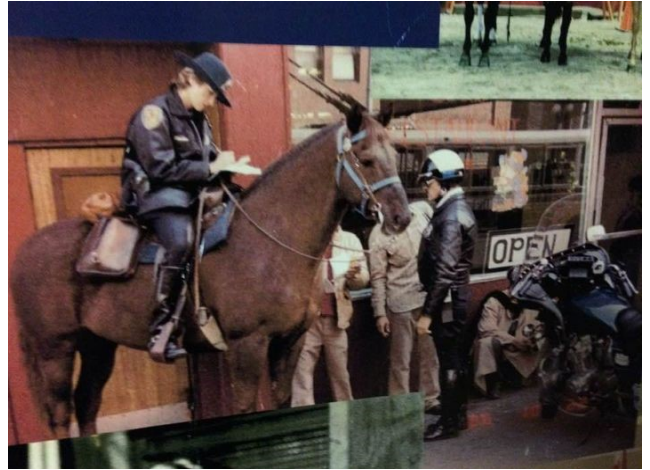
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Picture Quiz

Can you guess who these 2 officers are from the 1980's? Answer is at the bottom, upside down.



RSPOA CALENDAR

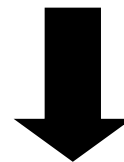
Retired Banquet	Sept 8	4:30	Nile
Monthly Meeting	Oct 13	11:30	Nile
Monthly Meeting	Nov 10	1130	Nile

RAP meets every Thursday at the Nile, 11am.



SPMA President, Lt. Scott Bachler, spoke to the RSPOA August Meeting.

Picture Quiz Answer



Mounted Officer Terri MacMillan & Motor
Officer Tommy Knight



Fallen SPD Officers who made the ultimate sacrifice in the months of August and September.



AUGUST

Harold E.S. Williams	8-21-1931
Joselito A. Barber	8-13-2006

SEPTEMBER

Albert C. Shaneman	9-14-1913
Matthias H. Rude	9-24-1910
Edwin Wilson	9-24-1919
Robert L. Litsey	9-25-1924
Lyle F. Tracy	9-8-1928
Emory R. Sherard	9-15-1928
Eugene W. Perry	9-12-1930
Walter G. Cottle	9-29-1930
Ralph H. Ahner	9-13-1932
David P. Richards	9-1-1967
Dorian L. Halvorson	9-24-1976

Editor's Corner

By Rich O'Neill
SPD Retired #4451

We all remember where we were on the morning of September 11, 2001. I had just entered a park and ride lot and I listened to the radio in disbelief. Our great nation was under attack! We all watched the non-stop news coverage in the hours following. Seeing the incredible bravery by the police officers and firefighters who rushed into the towers in an attempt to help complete strangers. They ran towards the danger when everyone else was running away. Former SPD Chief Patrick Fitzsimons lost his brother, Richard, who served as a Fire Safety Inspector in the Twin Towers. 23 NYPD Officers, 37 Port Authority Police Officers and 343 New York City Firefighters lost their lives that day. Dozens more have passed away since 9-11 as a direct result of illnesses contracted while working in the hazardous conditions of Ground Zero.

This month is the twentieth anniversary of that dreadful day. That day showed the world the resolve of the American people! It showed the world the true character of police officers and firefighters who sacrificed their lives to help others! Politicians from both sides cheered the first responders and rightfully saluted them as heroes! Unfortunately, that sentiment didn't last too long.




Today, the police profession is under assault and many officers have had enough. Seattle has lost over 300 officers in the last two years. Some retired and some left for other departments. The Washington State Legislature passed and Governor Inslee signed into law some of the most ridiculous and dangerous new laws under the banner of "police reform." The laws handcuff officers from doing their jobs. Police pursuits are mostly prohibited and officers must have "probable cause" rather than "reasonable suspicion" before they can use force. The new laws make everyone, especially the public, less safe. In Seattle, the voters will be electing a new mayor and finally a new city attorney. One of the city attorney candidates believes in abolishing the police and the jails and she led with the most votes in the primary!

Despite the current dire conditions for the police profession, I have no doubt that officers will still run towards the danger and risk their lives for complete strangers. It is what makes our profession a noble one and a profession that I am proud to have been part of.


RSPOA

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Mike Burns
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Retired SPD Officer, SPF Board Member
Crime Stoppers Law Enforcement Liaison

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