



The Call Box



Official Publication of the Retired Seattle Police Officers Association

May 2022 Volume 3, Issue 3

A Look Back in History

Written by Nick Bulpin, RSPOA Sec-Treasurer & Former SPOG Sec-Treasurer

(This is a first in a series of articles about the history of the various properties that were purchased and sold by SPOG & the Seattle Police Relief Association throughout the years.)



SPRAG (Seattle Police Relief Association & Guild) began a partnership in 1968, when the organizations joined together and purchased the Bitterman property at 407 Jefferson St. The intent was to move the Relief and Guild offices to an “owned” building from their then rented locations in the Lyon building across from SPD headquarters. There was a delay at 407 until the present King County Credit Union could

relocate and then allow SPRAG occupants access in 1970. (This will be addressed in detail with later issues)

The SPRAG building at 2517 Eastlake Ave E. was built in 1957 and was the original home of Advance Marine Sales & Service for several years. Eventually, the building was converted to office spaces with a variety of tenants. The north ground floor area was occupied by the Ron Bailey School of Broadcast. When the school closed, that area had been divided up into several broadcast booths. Any future occupants of that space would require major development and as a result was left vacant. Commercial property is valued based on per square foot rental income and the value of this property was impacted by the vacancy. Eastlake Ave is a very desirable location between South Lake Union and the UW. The SPRAG Investment Corporation saw the opportunity to relocate their offices to a new centralized location, that would provide additional space and parking to meet the needs of both the SPOG & SPRA.

In 1989 the building was purchased and renovation was begun by Turner Construction. In 1990, the offices to house the Relief, Hospital Plan, Guild and Management Association, along with reception area, board room and kitchen area was completed and ready for occupancy. In 1992, the management of the SPRAG properties went commercial and the rent structures were revised to be more in line with industry standards. This resulted in an increase in rental fees for all tenants. This presented a hardship for the Guild, along with other issues.

The Guild sought their own building and then left the SPRAG building. The Guild vacancy caused the Relief to downsize to the western portion of the 1st floor. The former offices were now available to new tenants. In 2018 SPOG & Relief sold the building to a real estate developer. The SPRAG Building was demolished at the beginning of this year to make way for a 7 story multi-use apartment/retail building. The 200-unit building required demolishing the SPRAG building and strip mall directly to the south in order to have the necessary footprint for the proposed project.

The Call Box



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President's Message

By Jerry Taylor, President, RSPOA



A Legislative Victory!

HB 1701 and SB 5791 were passed in the last session of the legislature and signed into law on March 24, 2022. HB 1701 applies to LEOFF 2 and SB 5791 applies to LEOFF 1. Both bills provide essentially the same benefit to retired officers, but HB 1701 does provide some additional options for active members. So far as retired officers are concerned, these bills award a benefit enhancement amounting to the one-time payment of \$100 per month of service. The minimum benefit to be paid will be \$20,000. For a typical retiree with 25 years of service, it will amount to \$30,000. This payment will be distributed on January 31, 2023 and will be paid from surplus funds in the pension system.

In the way of history, this bill arose from SB 5453 that was introduced in the previous session but did not pass. The LEOFF 2 portion of that bill was essentially the same as HB 1701 from this session. In contrast, that bill would have merged LEOFF 1 and TRS 1 and used the LEOFF 1 surplus to reduce the deficit in the TRS 1 system. We were able to kill that bill and protect LEOFF 1. We became aware that the LEOFF 2 retirement board was going to have a bill introduced, HB 1701. It was very similar to SB 5453 that was introduced last year but did not pass. SB 5453 provided a \$20,000.00 defined benefit to both LEOFF 1 and LEOFF 2 members and transferred the remaining LEOFF 1 surplus to the teachers TRS 1 fund. HB1701 provided a larger defined benefit for LEOFF 2 based on total months of service X \$100, the same as in SSB 5791 just signed by the Governor.

LEOFF 1 was not included in HB 1701. We contacted Senator Schoesler to offer an amendment to HB 1701 when the bill was being considered in the Senate Ways & Means Committee. The Washington State Council of Firefighters (WSCFF) and Washington Council of Police Officers (WACOPS) were lobbying HB 1701 for LEOFF 2 and were opposed to the amendment even though they now have LEOFF 1 members in their associations. Even though the legislators are aware of the differences between LEOFF 1 and LEOFF 2, when we lobby from opposite positions, we looked unorganized in the eyes of the legislators. Senators Steve Conway and Mark Schoesler suggested we have a meeting to form a consensus on this issue. We had a meeting hosted by Dennis Lawson, President of the WSCFF where the RFFOW, Coalition and Ken Crowder agreed to our intent and the WSCFF agreed to support if we had a new stand alone bill drafted and introduced. We contacted Senator Schoesler and a new bill was drafted, SSB 5791 introduced and sponsored by Senator Mark Schoesler and Senator Shelly Short. The defined benefit in SSB 5791 as previously reported is computed as follows:

Years of service x 12 months for total months of service x \$100.00

- The minimum payment is \$20,000.00.
- The payment will be in January 2023.

- The benefit will be paid to all LEOFF I members, active, retired on a service or disability pension and surviving spouses.

I want to thank all of you who called, emailed or sent letters to the various legislators asking for their support for SSB 5791 and HB 1701. We need to remember that the efforts of Senators Mark Schoesler, Steve Conway and John Lovick were essential in securing passage of these bills. Remember them when you are making out your campaign donations. Even with this distribution, we anticipate the surplus will remain in excess of \$2 billion. We are currently working to develop further benefit enhancements.

One additional piece of good news, the TRS 1 deficit has been retired. That should keep that goblin away from our door for a while.

From Page 1,- History

The Relief Association has now relocated to the SPAA Range. SPOG remains at their own building at 2949 4th Ave S. The Seattle Police Relief Association Guild Investment Corporation was dissolved, along with the SPRAG Building.



An artist rendering of the new building being built on the old SPRAG building site.

From the Police Museum

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

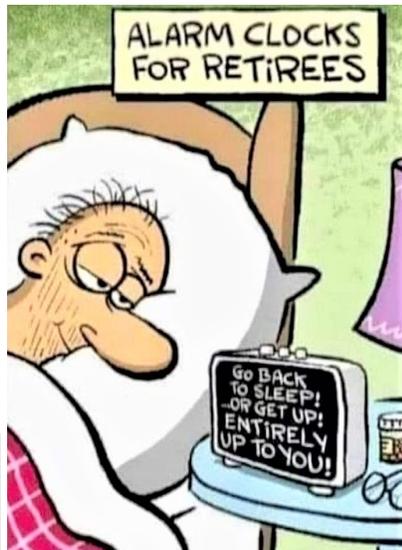


THE FLEET IS IN!

This photo was taken in 1921, on the south side of the King County Courthouse. It features ten Dodge Brothers sedans, which were the Seattle Police Department's entire fleet of police cars at that time. Unlike now, few patrolmen were allowed to drive, because most of them did not know how. These vehicles were primarily used by Sergeants, to transport patrolmen to their beats, and detectives, who used them for trying to catch the mechanized criminals of the era.

Patrol cars were not generally driven by Seattle patrol officers until the U.S. entry into World War II, in 1941. Although foot beats had been the norm since the SPD's inception in 1861, they were no match for increasingly mobile criminals.

If you have any historical artifacts, photos, or unique police equipment that you would like featured in these articles, please contact me at jamesSritter@gmail.com, or at #206-949-9143.



RSPOA CALENDAR

- May Meeting @ Nile May 11 11:30am
- Memorial Day May 30
- June Meeting @ Nile June 8 11:30am

RAP Meets every Thursday 11am at the Nile!

FROM THE PENSION OFFICE

PENSION



NEWS

1. The SPMA has signed a tentative agreement with the city regarding contract negotiations. The membership has ratified the agreement. The next step is the full City Council approval of the tentative contract. The council's hearing date is in late May.
2. No word about SPOG negotiations.
3. Get your Medicare Part B Reimbursement Request in if you are one of the 88 retirees that have not done so yet.
4. If you have not heard, the LEOFF I April COLA is 4.75% payable at the end of the month.
5. The nomination period for one of the elected Pension Board Trustee positions ends at the close of business hours – 4:00pm on May 23, 2022. The actual election will be via US Mail during June.
6. Now is the time for the biannual (December and May) medical premium sharing reimbursement for those few (about 8 members) that have an active employer provided healthcare coverage. You must request this reimbursement in writing with proof of sharing costs. If you have any questions, call Jan at (206) 386-1286 option 1.



LAST RING



Dick Carr #3323, retired Seattle Police Patrolman and Station Master, passed away on October 8, 2021, at the age of 80. Dick was born in Seattle and raised in the Capitol Hill neighborhood. He attended Seattle Prep. He played football there. In his sophomore year he met his lifelong sweetheart, Mary, at one of his mother's beauty salons in Burien. After graduating in 1961, Dick enrolled in the UW. In his junior year, Uncle Sam caught up with him. He was drafted in 1964 and stationed in Georgia his entire tour. Mary and Dick

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got married in July of 1964. When his tour was up in 1965, they returned to Seattle with baby Alan. Dick landed a job with Boeing for a year before a long union strike caused him to look for another line of work. He became a new car salesman at a Chrysler dealership. He eventually worked his way up to sales manager. After three years, he decided to change occupations and applied to the Seattle Police Department.

Dick joined the police department on July 6, 1970. He spent his entire 31-year career in south end patrol. He was a member of the department's early attempts to form a SWAT unit made up of volunteers from Georgetown first watch. The teams' Sergeant was Don Cameron #2192. Dick was a Field Training Officer for many years. During this time, Dick attended UPS on LEEP and VA funding to finish his B.A. in political science and earned a Master's Degree in public administration. He was also very active in SPOG politics and held the position of secretary/treasurer. During his free hours, he played soccer on the department's team. He worked off-duty for the King County Housing Authority as well as sporting events and rock concerts. In the 1980's, Dick and another man, co-coached an all-girls soccer team for eight years. In 1989, he was approached by a group of Croatian immigrants to form a semi-pro soccer team. The players were not paid, but got to tour Canada and the USA, including Hawaii. Dick did this for ten years.

Dick retired as an officer in 2001 and served as a Station Master for seven years at the South Precinct, Southwest Precinct and West Precinct. Dick also organized the feeding logistics for large scale police events. In 2008, Dick and Mary motor coached all across Canada and the U.S. Dick was also secretary/treasurer of the Eagles Aerie #1.

Dick was preceded in death by his son, Steve. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Mary, sons Alan and Jeff, daughter in law Jonny (surviving spouse of Steve), three grandsons and four granddaughters. Dick was the uncle of retired Seattle Police Detective Pilar (Portugal) Curtis #4733 and former Police Explorer Mark Portugal.



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Tom Helms #3561, retired Seattle Police Detective, passed away on October 25, 2021, at the age of 74. Tom was born in Moline, Illinois. His family moved to West Seattle when he was two years old. Tom attended Chief Sealth High and graduated in 1967. His first job right out of high school was as a warehouseman. He entered the army in 1968 and served one year in Vietnam. He was discharged in 1970. He returned to his old employer at the warehouse for a little over a year while attending night school to earn an A.A. degree. Tom was hired by SPD on April 4, 1971. After completing Academy Class 69, he was assigned to the Georgetown Precinct where he worked patrol for six years. He attended the University of Puget Sound, earning his Bachelor's Degree and then a Master's Degree in Public Administration. Tom moved to the Tac squad for three years. During a training exercise, he fractured his forearm's radial bone, just below the elbow. This injury haunted Tom the rest of his career. Tom served in Juvenile, Narcotics and then Intelligence. He applied for a DEA/SPD task force position and worked as an undercover agent for over two years. He never told his wife Julie what his job was on the task force. She thought he was a Grizzly Adams fan with his beard and long hair. In 1992, he decided he needed a normal day shift assignment. He transferred to CID in Auto Theft, working for Gordy Vanrooy #3065. Tom worked Auto Theft for four years. He retired on January 1, 1997, after 25 years and 9 months of service. In retirement, he went to work for State Farm Insurance as an investigator of casualty claims until 2010. Tom and his wife Julie then did some traveling across the US, Hawaii and Europe. Tom also enjoyed hunting, gardening and refinishing furniture. Tom was a family man. He loved taking care of all of them. Tom is survived by Julie, his wife of 35 years, two adult daughters Kim and Chrystal, two adult sons, Eric and Thomas and six granddaughters.

Keith McGehe #2893, retired Seattle Police Patrolman/Chief Dispatcher, passed away on December 1, 2021, at the age of 77.

Keith was born in Dubuque, Iowa. He lived there until he was twelve. His family then moved to Champaign, Illinois and he attended Champaign Central High. He participated in student construction pro-

jects. Keith graduated from the program and high school in 1962. He enlisted in the Navy and served on the USS Sierra, rising to the rank of Boatswain Mate. He was discharged in 1965. He arrived in Seattle after securing a job at Boeing. He worked two weeks at Boeing and was laid off due to a strike. He then started working at the Continental Can Company as a machinist. There he met Don Blair #6000R, the senior Seattle Police Reserve Officer who led the SPD Reserve Unit. Keith became a Police Reserve in 1966. He loved the work, so he applied to be a regular officer.

He was hired on April 16, 1968 and assigned to Academy Class 56. One of his classmates was John Nordlund #2909. Keith's first assignment was Traffic Enforcement. In January of 1973, he was recruited by sergeant Harold Anderson #1515 to come to the Seattle Center Detail and run the Police Reserve Unit. Keith did this for the next four years. During this time, in his off-duty hours, he built his own log cabin home on a vacant lot he cleared in the greater Fall City area. He used all the training he got in his two-year high school building course. He also moonlighted at the Seattle Center's rock shows and at all the Kingdome events, where he was the log clerk and incident dispatcher for incidents inside the Dome. In 1974, he was also assigned to the Police Explorer Program. He became a member of the Police Combat Shooting Team. In late 1977, he returned to patrol at the West Central Precinct for Mark Baily #2182. Over the next five years, he was involved in two traffic accidents. He was rammed by drivers ignoring his emergency equipment and disobeying traffic signals. He also had a serious physical confrontation with a combative suspect. These three incidents resulted in back, neck and hand injuries. Keith applied to Communications to become a dispatcher. His experience at the Kingdome helped him get the assignment. He was a good dispatcher. In 1991, he was promoted to Police Officer Chief Dispatcher. When this position was civilianized in 1995, he retired with 27 years and 7 months of service.

Due to his organizational skills and coordinating experience with the reserves and explorers, he got a position with a company organizing teachers workshop training throughout the country. When he got



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tired of doing this, he became a full-time transit driver for the Mount Si Community Shuttle. Later in life, he did so much volunteer repair work at his house of worship that the Snoqualmie Valley Alliance Church offered him a full-time job as Facility and Maintenance Director. His nickname there was “MacGyver” because he could repair anything with minimal materials and tools. Keith is survived by his wife of 27 years, Julie, two daughters Mindy and Kim, four sons Josh, Jakob, Justin and Lindy and three grandchildren.

WIDOWS:

Evelyn Ahl-Johnson, surviving spouse of deceased retired Seattle Police Detective Karl Aul #2572, passed away on January 23, 2022, at the age of 92.

Donna Jaspersen, surviving spouse of deceased retired Seattle Police Sergeant Paul Jaspersen #2082, passed away on March 25, 2022, at the age of 84.

Juanita Mayhle, surviving spouse of deceased retired Seattle Police Officer/Diver Bernie Mayhle #2165, passed away on April 11, 2022, at the age of 82.

Ruth Armstrong, surviving spouse of deceased retired Seattle Police Detective Jim Armstrong #2468, passed away on April 18, 2022, at the age of 79.

Editor’s Correction from the March Call Box.

WIFE:

Janice Henderson, wife of 38 years to retired Seattle Police Officer, Merv Henderson #4221, passed away on February 6, 2022 at the age of 67.

War Stories

By Detective Cloyd Steiger, SPD Retired, #4313

In early 2008, my partner and I were investigating a particularly nasty murder. A young woman was walking to her Capitol Hill apartment one evening, when a stranger followed her at random. As she tried to enter her building, he attacked her, stabbing her multiple times, killing her. The case was high-profile. An innocent girl murdered on the streets was a big deal. The victim’s parents lived in Florida. They were devastated by her murder and flew to Seattle to meet with us.

Gil Kerlikowske was the Chief of Police at the time. When he heard the parents were coming to meet with us, he wanted to be there. Meeting with the family of a murder victim is always hard. When the victim is truly innocent, it’s exponentially more difficult. When the parents arrived, along with the victim’s sister, we met in the conference room near the Homicide office on the seventh floor of the headquarters building. Kerlikowske came and sat in as my partner, and I spoke to the victim’s family. We promised we’d do everything we could to find the person who did this. Kerlikowske was obviously emotionally affected by the meeting.

When the victim’s family left, he approached me.

“Cloyd,” he said. “If you solve this murder, I’ll get you a car.”

A week later, Kerlikowske was in Boston. I emailed him. We’d made an arrest in the case and got a confession. “Do you want me to tell you what kind of car I want?” I asked. He was delighted the case had been closed. “Okay,” he said. Of course, I didn’t get the car.

A couple of years later, my partner and I were in Fresno, California, when a murder suspect was arrested by the US Marshals there. We were speaking with the Marshal in charge of the Fresno office when the subject of the Drug Czar came up. At that time, Kerlikowske was the Drug Czar in the Obama administration. The Marshal told me that they provide security for the Drug Czar.

“Does he come to Fresno?” I asked. “All the time,” he said.

“The next time he comes here, tell him Cloyd still wants that car.”
“Oh, I couldn’t do that,” he said.

A couple of months later, I was in the Homicide office. I heard a commotion coming down the hall. “Where is he?”

Kerlikowske came up to my desk.

“I was in Fresno,” he said. “The US Marshal in charge came up to me and said, “Cloyd still wants that car! I can’t get away from you!”

I called the US Marshal. He’s the man.

By the way, in the end, I just took a car.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

MICHAEL R. CHAMNESS #3245 ACADEMY CLASS #65

HIRED: 6-9-70 RETIRED 7-17-2000



What were some of your memorable SPD assignments and why?

My first assignment was out of the Old Wallingford Precinct at 45th and Densmore. My FTO, T.C Miller and I were the original 3-Boy-3, Phinney Ridge area. In 1974, I transferred to David Sector until making Detective in 1977. I worked the Juvenile Division out of the Youth Service Center, in the decentralized unit out of the old Georgetown Precinct and eventually the new East Precinct. I transferred to the original gang unit under Sgt. Al Gerdes, then to the Special Assault Unit. One case I investigated led to the arrest of a Washington State Ferry Captain for sexual misconduct with several ferry system employees. That arrest exposed an ongoing pattern of sexual harassment within the system. That eventually led to significant changes in policy for the ferry system. When I was working in the Sexual Assault Unit, I was investigating a serial child rapist in the north end. Forensic DNA was in its infancy in its use as an investigative tool. The local media picked up on the subject and subsequently the BBC sent a crew to interview me. Scotland Yard was so far ahead of us in the use of DNA, that they agreed to take the evidence to be processed in the UK. Unfortunately, due to financial restraints from the Prosecutor's Office and the lack of a system in place here in the US, the help was declined. The evidence was sent to a New York lab but was cross-contaminated. The lab had been used to establish paternity but not forensically for criminal matters. It was within a few years that DNA was recognized as a vital investigative tool and protocols were put in place. I finished my career in the Domestic Violence Unit, then housed in the Arctic Building. I am fortunate to be able to say I enjoyed every assignment I had during my career.

What do you miss most about SPD?

Simply, the great teams I had the privilege to work with. I was lucky enough to work under great leadership and talented professional colleagues.

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

After retiring, I was fortunate enough to serve with the United Nations Police in post-war Kosovo. I supervised an international team of investigators, including members of the new Kosovo Police Service, interdicting in the Human Trafficking trade being run by Albanian and Russian organized crime gangs. Back state side, I worked at WAJAC at the FBI in Seattle for 3 years. My last overseas assignment was as an International Police Instructor to the Internal Security Forces of Lebanon. I was part of a mobile team instructing in self-defense tactics and firearms training. When I returned home, I retired for good. I now reside in Bend, Oregon with my wife of 31 years, **former Seattle Police and retired Bainbridge Island, Detective Mo Stich**. Our son and his family live in Idaho and our daughter resides in Leavenworth, WA.



Hobbies and Activities?

I am a tenor drummer with the Cascade Highlanders Pipe Band here in Bend. Additionally, our passion is international travel having just returned from 3 weeks in Spain. We've traveled to much of Europe and also to New Zealand. We are now planning our next European adventure for this fall, Covid permitting. In Bend, we ski, snow shoe, mountain bike, kayak and hike, depending on the season. We also travel in our 23' trailer when we're not traveling abroad.



A Stroll Down Memory Lane

With Harvey Olson #1893, Academy Class #40

Q. Where were you born and where were you raised?

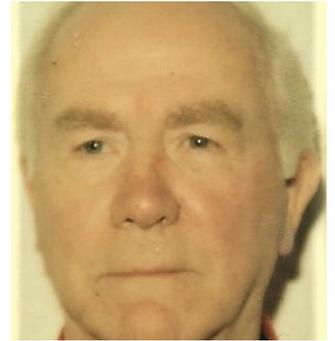
I was born in a midwifery, 7309 26th N.W., Seattle where John Hoberg #1302 was born 6 years before me. I was raised in the greater Ballard area.

Q. Where did you go to High School?

Ballard High.

Q. What did you do before SPD hired you?

Worked as laborer, bank clerk, U.S. Air Force, Seattle Fireman.

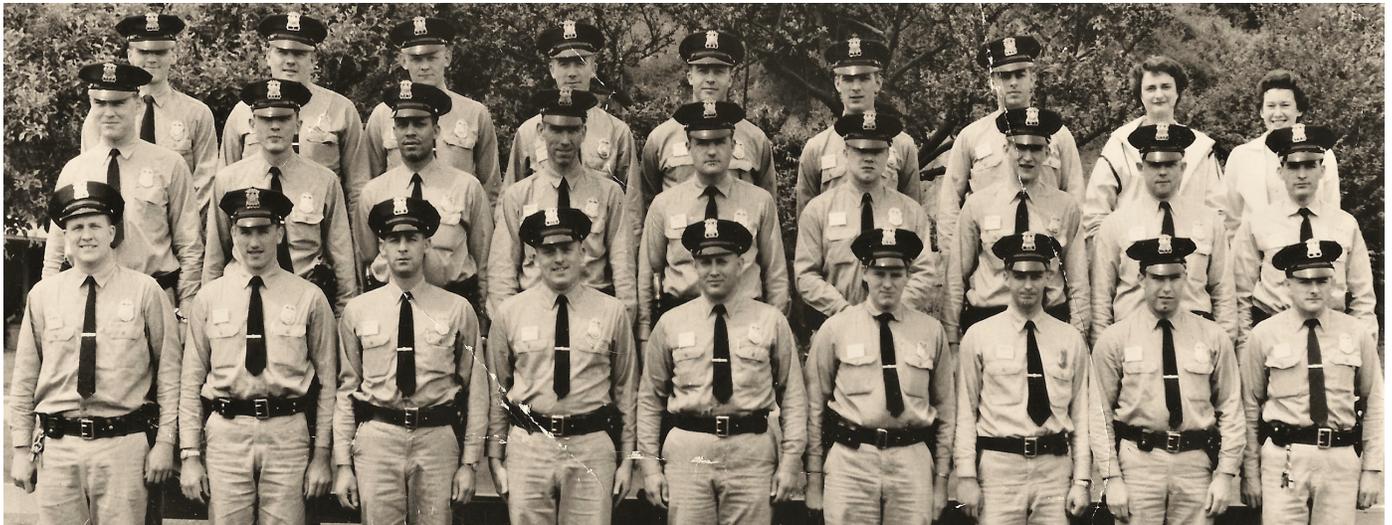


What made you want to be a police officer?

The administration in the Seattle Fire Dept. was so bad, that in a 3 year period, over 50 fireman passed the test for police officer, me included. It was the best of the two departments.

Q. What year were you hired and what was your academy class number?

1959 and Class #40



Q. Who were some of the officers in your academy?

Harold "Dean" Olson (who could write and spell left to right and right to left faster than I could write left to right.) Vic Hinds (class president), John Bartlett, Kay Kemmis, Bob Johnson and Don Daniels were part of a total of 25 policemen and 2 police women.

Q. What was your first assignment out of the academy?

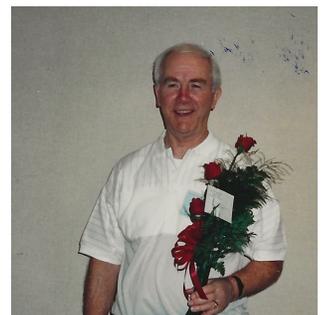
Pct. 2 (before the academy I worked 3 months in patrol at Pct. 3 and 2).

Q. What was the make/model of the first police car you drove?

Maybe a 1958 Ford?

Q. Tell us about some of your other assignments?

2 years as jailer, 4 years in the new Safety Unit that lowered the police accident rate in half in four years, using a program designed by Sgt. Frank Jones. School Safety Unit where John Hoberg and I, who when dis-



cussing our birth places, became friends.

Q. Who were some of your supervisors? Who was your favorite and why?

Sgt. Frank Moore, Kenny Myers, Abe Jenkins, Don Kelsey, Walt Drake. Frank Moore was the best. (See Best Chief).

Q. Who were some of your partners?

Benny Johanson, Don Augdahl, Bill McConnell, Dick Rayburn (best eyesight of all I worked with), Al Fridell (6'5" 290 pounds and all muscle).

Q. Who was your favorite police chief and why?

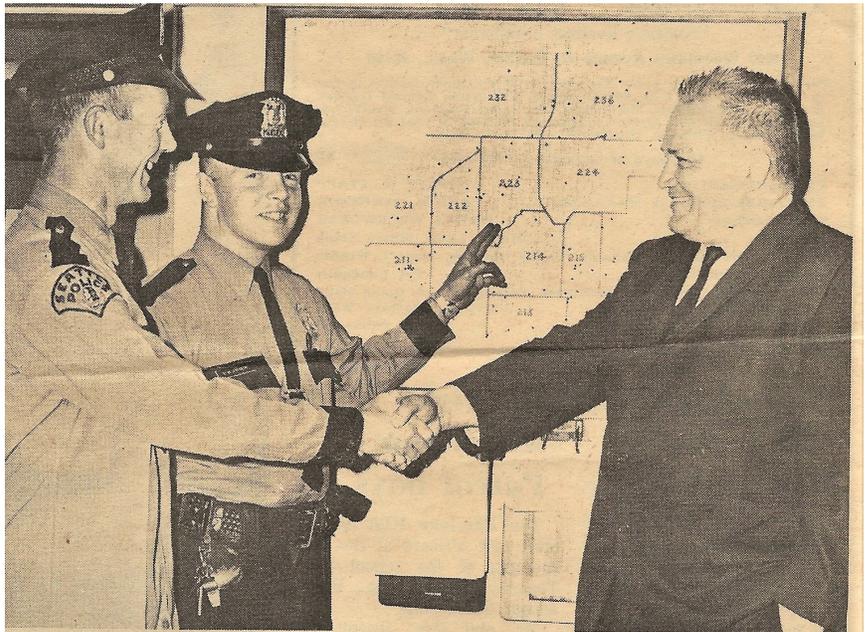
Chief Frank Moore. He never forgot he was a police officer!

Q. Tell us about some memorable or funny events while on the job?

I made an arrest where the case ultimately ended up in court. A question was asked by the defendant's attorney of my witness who was testifying to how drunk the defendant was. Initially Bob Elies, the prosecutor, had called my witness, who was a medical doctor, to the stand. The doctor had stated, "I followed a vehicle North on I-5 that was swerving from lane to lane. The vehicle took the off ramp to go east on N.E. 45th. Just before Brooklyn Ave., it crossed the middle line and hit a telephone pole. I called the police and Officer Olson and his partner arrived. I told Officer Olson that it would be my duty to testify in court. Officer Olson then asked me, as a doctor, to shine his flashlight into both eyes of the driver of the crashed vehicle. We both noticed there was almost no reaction to the light." At this time the defendant's attorney asked the doctor "What does that mean, Doctor?" The doctor replied, "That he was either under the influence of alcohol, or drugs, or in the advanced stages of syphilis." The defendant then whispered to his attorney. At that point, the attorney told the court that the defendant would plead guilty to the DUI charge. I guess the guilty guy decided he would rather confess to a D.U.I. than have anyone think he had syphilis! How I miss the courtroom interplay with attorneys.

When did you retire and what did you do?

I retired in 1981. After retirement, I was a manager of a cutlery store, Offender Crew Chief in Vancouver, WA. I then did lots of "Honey Do Projects!"

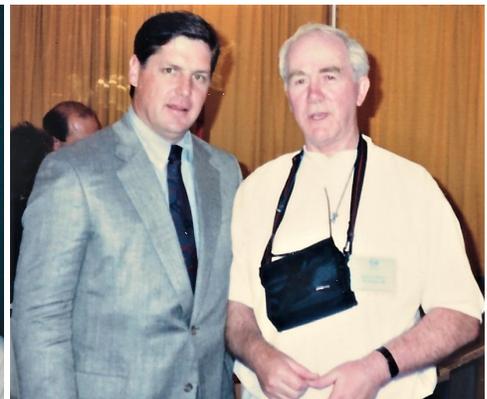


Police officers show alertness

POLICE CAPTAIN ED T. CORNING, of the North End Precinct, congratulates two of his patrolmen who put good police training into practice Sunday night in effecting the arrest of two men wanted in connection with three North End market holdups. Officers Harvey Olsen, left, and Bruce M. Johnson spotted the two men in a phone booth at N Green Lake Way and Aurora while on routine patrol. The two men, Robert R. Jared, 22, and Albert S. Brainard, Jr., 23, are now in the County Jail on \$5,000 bail each, charged with robbing Frank's Serve-U, Shop 'n Save, and Dondel's, all on Aurora N, about six weeks ago.



"Harvey & His Harem" at a Cutlery Convention in 1986



Harvey with Hall of Fame pitcher, Tom Seaver!

APRIL RSPOA MEETING

PICTURE QUIZ

Who is this officer directing traffic? (Answer below) Hint: He worked South Pct. & Traffic Cars



Veteran media journalist, Brandi Kruse, gave an outstanding talk to a capacity crowd at the April RSPOA meeting. Brandi now has her own podcast, "Undivided", where she reports on a wide range of issues of importance!



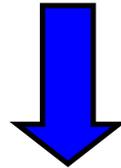
John Nordlund, Joe Kessler, Mike Henry, Corey Ness, & Brandi



John Guich returned to run the always popular "Guich Raffle!"



Picture Quiz Answer



Officer Roger Lutz #3249



Retired A/Chief Roy Skagen Brandi & Nick Bulpin & Brandi!



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Fallen SPD Officers who made the ultimate sacrifice in the months of April and May.



APRIL

- Thomas L. Roberts 4-10-1898
Dale Eggers 4-23-1985

MAY

- Fred Ivey 5-10-1928
Robert D. Ward 5-15-1969
Kenneth L. Davis 5-11-1995

Editor's Corner

By Rich O'Neill, #4451 SPD Retired

Politics! That is a word that makes many people, especially police officers, cringe! Throughout my career, especially when I was involved with contracts for the Seattle Police Officer's Guild, I quickly learned that politics is a lot like the Lottery. "You can't win if you are not in the game!" This became evident once again, dur-

ing the most recent legislature session. Your RSPOA, under the leadership of President Jerry Taylor, was "In the Game!" Jerry was instrumental in staying on top of all the developments with the Leoff 1 and Leoff 2 enhancement bills. These bills could have easily died in committee or stalled along the way. Jerry communicated to the RSPOA membership to contact their representatives with phone calls and emails. This works folks, especially if you live in their district and tell them that you are a registered voter! As a result of this hard work, retired officers will be getting a very nice check next January, with the minimum amount being \$20,000. I know many officers who were very skeptical when this bill was first introduced. It just goes to show that good things can happen when people are organized and focused. As Jerry writes in his article this month, it was a "Legislative Victory!"

Another victory in Olympia came about when an organized effort defeated HB 5354, which would have changed the state law to allow civilian flaggers to replace police officers at major intersections, including outside the Seattle stadiums. This idea is so unsafe and was being pushed by some sporting teams in an effort to save a buck. It also had the potential to impact many retired officers who augment their income by flagging. This even had the support of some on the Seattle City Council. Retired SPD Officer, Raleigh Evans, brought this to my attention and I, in turn, contacted the RSPOA board to get the word out. Again, emails and phone calls were made and the bill was killed. Legislators who were instrumental in killing this flagging bill were: Sen. John Lovick, Sen. Curtis King, Rep. Eric Robertson, Rep. Jake Fey, Rep. Andrew Barkis, and Rep. Dan Bronoske. Like a bad penny, this flagging bill may keep coming back, so we need to stay vigilant as to what is going on in Olympia.

Many retired officers don't realize that once they are retired, neither SPOG nor SPMA represents them anymore. RSPOA is the only voice in Olympia that looks out for the interests of retired Seattle Police Officers. Your pension is worth protecting and enhancing! Make sure your dues are current in the RSPOA, so we can keep doing this vital work. If you have any questions about the status of your RSPOA dues, contact Nick Bulpin, RSPOA Treasurer, for that information.

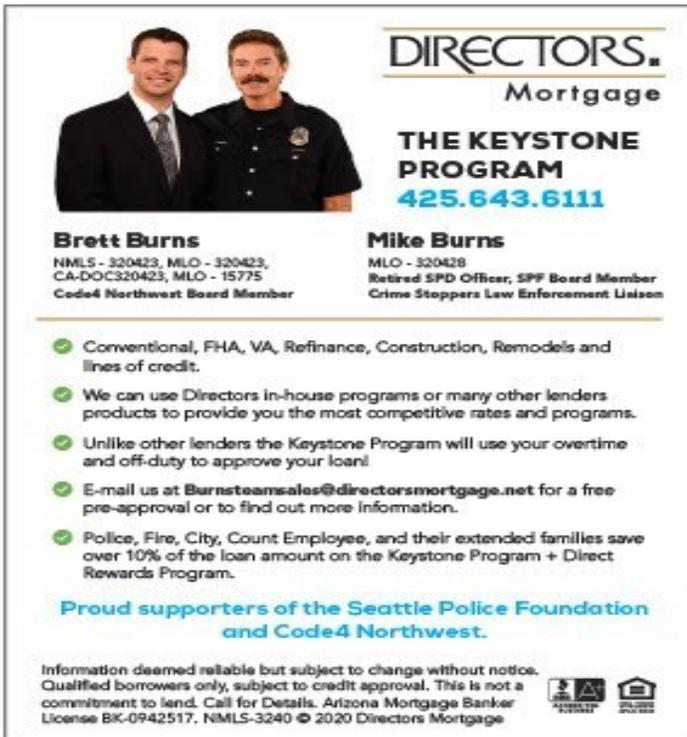
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