



The Call Box



Official Publication of the Retired Seattle Police Officers Association

The *Guardian* is gone! Welcome back to *The Call Box*

By Jerry Taylor, President, RSPOA

Being retired our hope, is to relax and let things take their course. That has not seemed to work out very well. Most of our members have relied on the *Guardian* from SPOG to stay current with not only the RSPOA but the department as well. However, the new leadership at SPOG has determined that this is an old-fashioned means of communication—too slow and too expensive. At RSPOA we recognize that not everyone is computer literate or interested in online news sites. We also recognize that staying informed about the Guild and the Department is important to many members who dedicated their entire career to the Department.

Our answer is to renew publication of the Call Box and this is our first issue. Our plan is to publish every other month. Rich O'Neill has accepted the position as editor and Dick Rovig will be working with and assisting Rich in the process. Please note that editing and publishing a newsletter on a regular schedule is a challenging undertaking, so help them to do a good job by submitting articles and ideas.

Talk about change.

The last few months have seen dramatic change. We have all seen the city abandon the East Precinct and create a new state called CHOP. We have seen Seattle business looted and burned. We have seen citizens killed. With each new incident we see the City Council fail to act and to move to further limit the ability of the department to act. That culminated in the resignation of Chief Carmen Best. She really had no choice as the Council removed all the resources needed to confront the riots in



our streets. To double down, the Council cut the Chief's salary by over six figures—a planned and direct insult to Chief Best and her leadership. We do not know what will happen next. Actions of the Council have been decried nationwide. It is impossible to see how any qualified person would seek to be a new chief. It is impossible to understand why anyone would accept even the position of interim chief—at least not with any hope of maintaining their honor or meeting the obligations of the oath of office.

The council has backed down, but only a little. I guess we will see what the future brings. Right now, things do not look bright for Seattle.

Taking action.

The RSPOA has been investigating actions we might take to ensure the citizens of Seattle are fully aware of the dangerous road we are on with the efforts to defund the police department. Our current council and mayor are all recently elected with strong majorities. It is not likely we will see any major change. However, it is still possible to let the council know that the citizens of Seattle will not stand by and see this beautiful city destroyed.

The RSPOA has investigated engaging the services of a public relations firm to assist us in informing the public. Three former mayors have agreed to provide their thoughts and concerns about the direction of the current council. But the cost of an effective campaign far exceeds our available budget. We continue to seek out other options.

It is time the citizens take the city back. The first thing we can do is to communicate with the mayor and council and demand that they enforce the law and prosecute those who violate the law. We simply cannot allow the criminal conduct of rioters to go unpunished. Elected officials need to hear that we will no longer stand for it..

The Call Box



RSPOA

**P.O. Box 25268
Seattle, WA 98165**

President

Jerry Taylor

jerryt@rspoa.org

Vice President

Dick Rovig

dickr@rspoa.org

Secretary/Treasurer

Nick Bulpin

nickb@rspoa.org

Trustees

John Sullivan

johns@rspoa.org

John Nordlund

johnn@rspoa.org

Terri MacMillan

territ@rspoa.org

Dan Melton

danm@rspoa.org

Jeff Caldwell

jeffc@rspoa.org

Joe Bouffiou

joeb@rspoa.org

Dan Oliver

dano@rspoa.org

Rich O'Neill

richO@rspoa.org

Relief Moves to the Range

Effective August 17, the Relief Association office on Eastlake Ave. E. has moved to the west side of the duplex at the SPAA Range in Tukwila. The SPRA mailbox will be inside the Range Office for both USPS and Inter-Department mail runs (**note that the Range Office is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays**).

After SPOG and SPRA sold the SPRAG office building on Eastlake in 2017 to a local developer, the Relief Association began to develop a plan to move which has resulted in a partnership with SPAA to build a new office building at the site of the current Range Office. The new building will house the current Range Office services, support SPRA's day-to-day business, and provide two training classrooms for SPD and other agencies to rent.

Though we don't have a current ground breaking date yet, the building plans are making their way through the city of Tukwila's building permit process (the change of use has already been approved by Tukwila).

Cynthia and Traci (SPRA staff) will continue to work remotely but will do mail pickup 1-2 times per week. Please continue to communicate with them via phone and email as well as processing supplemental health plan reimbursements electronically if possible.

Stay safe,

A Little Bit of History



The Publication That Won't Die

By Dick Rovig, Guardian Editor Emeritus

According to this 1967 edition, the Call Box was created in 1947 by the SPD Public Information unit as a mimeographed sheet designed to inform department members of general interest items and local gossip.

As the years went by, the publication was modernized and continued until 1969. SPD continued to print department news sporadically in various publications, such as the Seattle Police News and the SPD Journal last published in 1980. The advent

of the SPOG Guardian in 1971 spurred much of the energy in producing publications during that time. Probably, the discontinuance of a Department publication during the intervening years can be laid to that old municipal bugaboo, cost-effectiveness.

Even though the Guild was generously providing RSPOA members with the Guardian free of charge, the Association decided to publish a document to keep our group informed of ongoing information. After obtaining department permission to use the name, RSPOA Secretary Nick Bulpin became the editor of the RSPOA Call Box.

Once again, though, after a few issues, "cost-effectiveness" caused us to discontinue the publication. After all, the Guild was giving us all monthly space for all we needed in the Guardian.

Well, the Guardian is gone, a victim of technology and universal indifference to the printed page. Technology rules. Half our membership, though, don't have computers and apparently don't want one.

Consequently, we will be supplying you folks with Pension Office information including Last Ring, new retirements etc. We'll continue to track legislative news and all that other information we supplied you folks with in the Guardian in a bi-monthly Call Box.



June 23, 1972

Former

SPD Call Box Editors

Duane Christensen

Jay Dixon

Eldon Doty

Noreen Hartsfield

Doug Howard



September-October 1980

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Randy Robinson

SPD SERIAL#:4699

Hired:1-21-83 , Retired 6-30-2015

DATE OF RETIREMENT: 6-30-2015

What was your most memorable SPD assignment and why? I only had two assignments my entire career. Patrol South Precinct for almost 10 years and then Traffic for almost 23 years. I worked with some great sergeants and squads and loved patrol but my favorite assignment was "Tom 62" in Traffic.

What do you miss most about SPD? Certainly not the city, especially for what is happening now! What I miss most is the people I worked with at the South Precinct and the Tom 6 Squad and Tom 9 Squad in Traffic.

LIFE AFTER SPD:

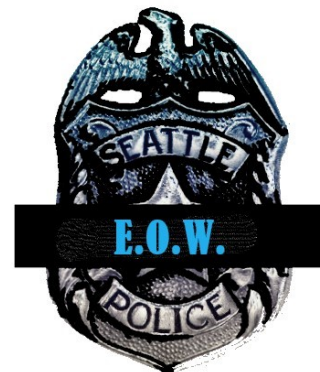


What did you do, where do you live?

Unlike most officers, I have no desire to work a post retirement job. I did enough traffic control in my traffic career to last a lifetime. We still maintain a household in South King County, but we split our time traveling in our new motorhome and/or staying at our acre ocean property on the Long Beach Peninsula.

Hobbies and Activities? When we are home, I belong to the American legion Post #15 in Kent. I am part of the Honor Guard that does Committal Services at Tahoma National Cemetery. We also have been travelling internationally, including a 21-day tour in Italy, culminating with a 7-day cruise on the Mediterranean. We have also taken two Viking River Cruises.

If you would like to be featured in a future WATN article send an email to richO@rspoa.org



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

AUGUST

Harold E.S. Williams

EOW: 8-2-1931

Joselito A. "Lito" Barber

EOW: 8-13-2006

SEPTEMBER

Edwin Wilson

EOW: 9-24-1919

Robert Litsey

EOW: 9-25-1924

Lyle F. Tracy

EOW: 9-8-1928

Emory R. Sherard

EOW: 9-15-1928

Eugene W. Perry

EOW: 9-12-1930

Walter G. Cottle

EOW: 9-29-1930

Ralph H. Ahner

EOW: 9-13-1932

David P. Richards

EOW: 9-1-1967

Dorian L. Halvorson

EOW: 9-24-1976

FROM THE PENSION OFFICE

PENSION OFFICE NEWS

Reporting Forms for 2021 will **NOT** be mailed out in our usual November time period. Due to the current pandemic situation, we will mail out the Medicare Reimbursement form only to those who are eligible, in November/December 2020. We are asking if you have the ability to scan and email this form back to us, to do so, you can also fax them (this form does not have to be notarized); last resort is the US Mail please. The Reporting process will change to late Spring 2021. Reminder – mandatory proof is required for any reimbursement of Medicare Part B above the standard rate of \$144.60 per month. Your proof is the letter that everyone receives from Social Security *dated approximately November 2019* that says what your 2020 Medicare Part B premium would be - hopefully put in your filing cabinet!

Notice of the NEW- UMR Self Submitted Reimbursement Form (this is for anything you have paid out of pocket that is Medically Necessary as prescribed by a Dr) is now being used. Please be sure to use this NEW UMR FORM, it will be mailed to you approximately Mid to Late August.

Please know any address/phone or POA changes can be sent to us via email at policepension@seattle.gov or to Stephanie at stephanie.coleman@seattle.gov please be sure to include your new full address, any new home landline number, any cell phone number as an alternate so we are able to reach you with any questions!

Due to Covid-19, the office continues to work remotely by order of the Mayor, Please do not plan to come in person to the Pension Office as we are working remotely until January 4, 2021. Should you need to contact us, the fastest way is via email – Janice Brandes is at Janice.brandes@seattle.gov and Stephanie Coleman is stephanie.coleman@seattle.gov otherwise, continue to leave a voice mail as they are being checked multiple times a day. **Take good care of yourself's and please stay safe!**

Reminder: we have a new fax number – 206-470-6900! The new number forwards to us immediately through



Last Ring



WILLIAM "BILL" BISHOP

#1390

Retired Seattle Police Detective passed away Saturday, May 16 2020 at 88 years of age.

BARBARA GROUT #2290, Retired Seattle Police Sergeant, passed away on Saturday, May 23, 2020 at 88 years of age.

VERNON "DON" ADAMS #2153, Retired Seattle Police Sergeant, passed away on June 21, 2020 at 84 years of age

DONALD "DON" MARQUART #2442, Retired Seattle Police Major, passed away on August 25, 2020, at 79 years of age.

Spouse of Retiree

Patricia Allenby, wife of Retired Patrol Officer **Gary Allenby #2892** passed away on July 7, 2020 in Lake Havasu, Arizona

Widows

Patricia Wrandstadt-Ryan, widow of Retired deceased Patrolman **Clifford Wrandstadt #414**, who passed in 2003. Patricia passed away on April 26, 2020 in Oregon at the age of 70.

Adeline Campbell, widow of Retired deceased Patrolman **Kenneth Campbell #385**, who passed in 1999. Adeline passed away on May 21, 2020 at the age of 104!

Margaret "Jean" Dodge, widow of Retired deceased Sergeant **Robert Dodge #1193** who passed in 2007. Jean passed away on June 1, 2020 at the age of 93.

Juaneva Kuga, widow of Deceased Line of duty death Patrol Officer **Steve Kuga #1797**, who died on May 16, 1968 after only 3 months of marriage to his wife. Juaneva passed away on June 21, 2020 at the age of 90.

May They Rest in Peace

email so please erase the old fax number from your contact list and add this number instead. If you do send a fax to the old number, we will not receive it for approximately a week – when we do a mail pick up.

DRS can be reached at 1-800-574-6657 should you have a need to contact them please use this phone number. They are on some mandatory Furloughs a couple of times a month, so please note that as well!

BirthDays?

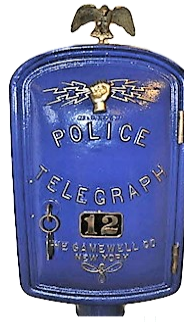
Because of space limitations RSPOA Member birth days which appeared monthly in the Guardian will not be available in the Call Box.

All is not lost, though. A list will be updated every month in our website RSPOA.org.

The site is a good way to keep track of what's going on in the retired world as it is updated regularly by Webmaster Jerry Taylor

Just What is a Call Box, Anyway?

By Jim Ritter SPD Retired



"When the public sees a law enforcement officer on a lap-top computer or a cell phone today, most of us don't give it a second thought. However, if you look back on how police talked to each other back 130 years ago, it brings to light just how far police communication technology has come." "In the

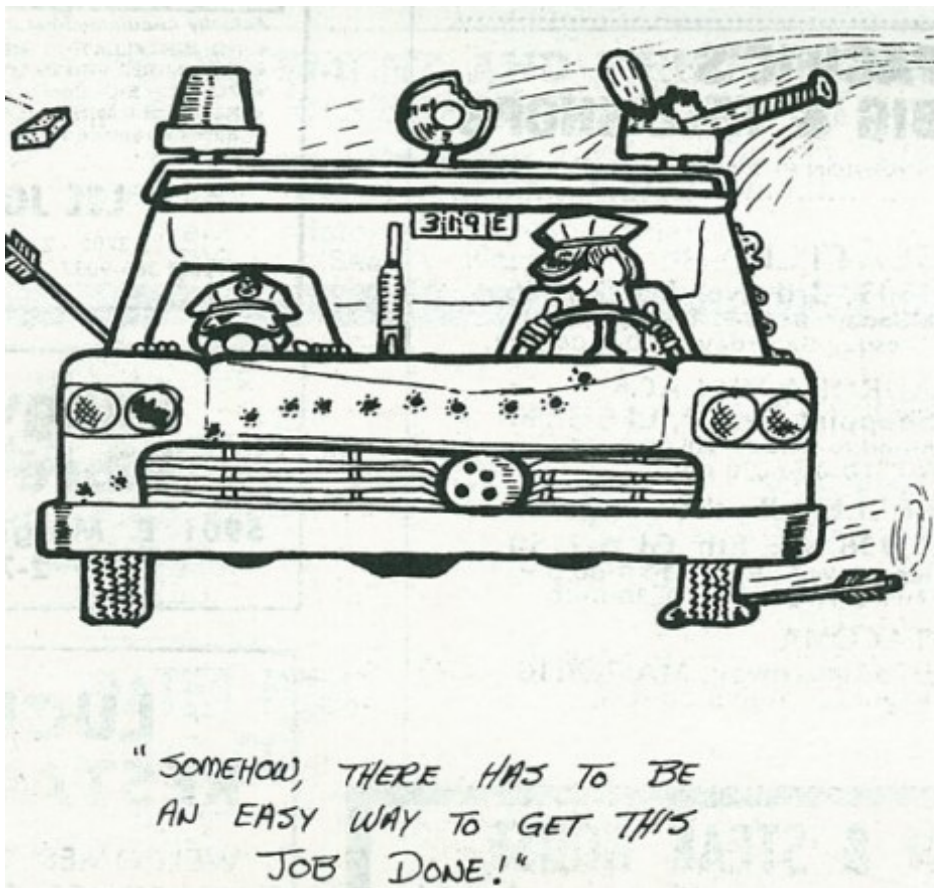
1880's, police officers used to communicate with each other by blowing a whistle. They would blow it any-time they needed assistance from the public or other officers in the area." "By 1890, The Seattle Police Department went to the Gangrel call box system. The cast iron box was mounted on telephone poles throughout the city. The officers would open the box up and inside would be a police telegraph. When the officer needed to summon a patrol wagon to haul a prisoner or other assistance, he would bring the needle all the way over to the wagon signal and press down on the lever. This would send a telegraph signal to the Gamewell punch register. This machine would be located in police headquarters and the police clerk would be able to tell, based on the ticker tape punches, which call box was needing assistance." "By the 1930's police officers began driving cars. The only way they could communicate at that point and time was one-way communication over the public radio.

Early Brenton

Boyd Brenton's second Guardian cartoon.

September 1975

(Every thing old is new again)



Published February 13, 2015

Q13 FOX



VINTAGE SEATTLE



The Beatles escorted to the stage by Seattle's Finest. Seattle Center Coliseum, August 21, 1964. L to R Andy Petorak, Stan Fridell (Background), Ray Schork, Jerry Stansbury. Officer behind George is unrecognizable. August 24, 1964



Seattle "Parking Checkers", 1958

Send in your
old photos of Seattle to
RichO@rspoa.org

Editor's Corner

By Rich O'Neill
SPD Retired

Welcome to the Call Box! When SPOG recently decided to discontinue the Guardian, members of the RSPOA Board heard loud and clear from many retired members of how much they missed getting the Guardian. Like many of you, I too enjoy getting a printed paper to read! So, the Call Box is back! I volunteered to be the Editor and although I do enjoy writing articles, I'm not very "tech savvy" so the actual layout of the Call Box will be done by Dick Rovig. Together, we hope to produce a newsletter that you will enjoy reading.

Our initial plans are to publish every two months. In order for this newsletter to be successful we are going to need everyone's help. We will need articles and many of you are good writers! Interesting vacations, hobbies, fun recipes or even a few "police war stories" from back in the day would be very helpful. If it interests you, chances are it would be of interest to others. If any of you are interested in writing a regular column for each issue, let me know. Many of you own or know of businesses who would like to advertise in the Call Box. We will be reserving space on the back page for advertisements. We can also use your help spreading the word that the Call Box is back! If you know of non-RSPOA members who would like to subscribe, the cost is only \$36 per year to have it mailed to their home. RSPOA members will get the Call Box free as part of their dues!

We are starting small in a newsletter format, but if interest grows and we have an abundance of articles we can certainly expand. The Call Box will be a source of information on everything from pension information in Olympia, recent retirees, Pension Office news from Dan Oliver, as well as upcoming meetings and current events. I hope to continue the column that I started in the Guardian, called "Where Are They Now?" It's a fun way to show that there really is "Life After SPD!" I also hope to occasionally feature officers who are still working at SPD to give us a perspective on what's going on.

So here we go! The Call Box is back! Contact me with questions or articles at richo@rspoa.org.

RSPOA
C/O Nick Bulpin
P.O. Box 25268

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID SEATTLE
WA
PERMIT NO. 1949

New Virus Hits Senior E-Mailers

Even the most advanced computer programs from Norton, McAfee, and others cannot take care of this one . It appears to target those who were born prior to 1948.The lockdown seems to be increasing the chances of being affected!

Virus Symptoms

1. Causes you to send the same e-mail twice.
2. Causes you to send a blank e-mail.
3. Causes you to send an e-mail to the wrong person.
4. Causes you to send it back to the person who sent it to you
5. Causes you to forget to attach the attachment.
6. Causes you to hit SEND before you've finished.
7. Causes you to hit DELETE instead of SEND.
8. Causes you to hit SEND when you should DELETE.

This virus is called the C-NILE virus!

A lot of us have already been inflicted with this deadly disease and unfortunately as we age it gets worse.

And if you can't admit to doing any of the above, you've obviously caught the other strain - the D-NILE virus!

**Your
Business
Advertisement
can appear here.
Contact
Rich O'Neill
for more
information**