



OREGON PEACE OFFICER

Presidents Message

By Wendy Svaren,
Lake Oswego PD.



It is hard to believe summer is over. I hope that you all had a great summer and are ready to sign up for the many OPOA training opportunities we have upcoming.

A few months ago the board voted to hire another part time training coordinator in order to have more training in all parts of the state. The boards wish is to see two regional trainings scheduled each month across the state. We are excited to see what we can bring to your corner in 2009. We are ready for our 39th Annual OPOA conference, which will be held in Newport, Oregon November 19-21, 2008. There are 50 scholarships, which DPSST has graciously awarded us. You can apply for a scholarship at the DPSST website www.oregon.gov/dpsst. This is a great opportunity to have your tuition waived and your department only having to pay for room and board. With department budget constraints, this is

very helpful and we thank DPSST for their generosity.

Last year our Awards Banquet sold out. We had over 300 people in attendance with standing room only. If you plan to attend the awards banquet on Friday, November 21, 2008, please purchase your tickets in advance to ensure seating and your meal. You can register for the conference and banquet at the website www.opoa.info.

Oregon Peace Officer's Association will host the Major Crimes Conference in Eugene, Oregon January of 2009. We look forward to a new venue, which may bring some of you to the conference that were unable to attend before. Eugene is a crossroads for all corners of the state, and has more favorable weather for the annual event.. Please watch our website and your mailbox for further information

I hope to see many of you at the conference in November.

Wendy Svaren

Oregon Peace Officers selected for National Recognition.

The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF) announced the selection of Sergeant Travis Ash of the Baker County (OR) Sheriff's Office and Senior Trooper Christopher M. Hawkins of the Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division, as its Officers of the Month for May 2008.

On August 24, 2007, Ora Doris Anderson, age 76, and her husband Harold planned to spend the

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The Oregon Peace Officer

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day in the Oregon wilderness camping and hunting. When their vehicle became stuck in mud they walked out to get help. After hiking several miles Mrs. Anderson became tired and returned to the vehicle to rest, while her husband continued.

Mr. Anderson was found by hunters the next day. But when they returned to the vehicle, Mrs. Anderson was not to be found. Upon the missing person report officers from the Baker County Sheriff's Office mounted a search and rescue effort.

Within two days rescue squads from Union County and canine officers from Wallowa County as well as twenty-five firefighters from the US Forest Service began combing the Bennet Creek area. It was a difficult search due to the heat and the rough terrain.

On the fifth day, the Yamhill County Search and Rescue's scent sniffing dogs were brought to the area. They searched night and day, but on Friday, August 31, 2007 the search was officially discontinued. In spite of the decision, several members of the Baker County Search and Rescue team and Baker County Sheriff's Office volunteered that weekend and continued searching the area. The entire weekend yielded no results.

Thirteen days after Mrs. Anderson was reported missing Sergeant Ash and Senior Trooper Hawkins joined forces to search the area one last time. The search area had been searched thoroughly, but it was extremely steep and covered with thick brush. Something might have been missed As they approached a particular area, they heard a flock of birds rustle and they heard someone talking. They had located Mrs. Anderson, alive and conscious.

Surviving on water from the creek and eating what few berries she could find, Ora Doris Anderson survived thirteen days in the Oregon wilderness. She was suffering from malnutrition, dehydration, and exposure. After six days of hospitalization, Doris was able to return home.

Although nearly 50 people spent nearly two weeks searching, Mrs. Anderson owes her life to the persistence and dedication of Sergeant Travis Ash and Senior Trooper Christopher Hawkins.

On December 27, 2007 Sergeant Travis Ash of the Baker County Sheriff's Office and Senior Trooper Christopher Hawkins were awarded the Oregon State Police Harold R. Berg Lifesaving Award.

International Search & Rescue Conference on Mt. Hood

During this unprecedented four-day gathering in the shadow of Mt. Hood, the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office hosted internationally renowned experts for field and classroom exercises covering the latest advances in search and rescue.

The event covered water searches, wilderness and high-angle rescue, K-9 searches, communications technology, robotics, body identification and recovery and more.

"Really, this has been has been one of the finest conferences I've had the opportunity to attend," said Robert J. Koester, an incident commander and instructor for the Virginia Department of Emergency Management and creator of the International Search and Rescue Incident Database. "I go to a lot of them — not just in the country, but in the world — and this is international-caliber conference."

"We've been dreaming of holding a conference like this on Mt. Hood for years," said Clackamas

County Sheriff Roberts. "It was a fantastic opportunity for law-enforcement pros and the skilled volunteers we need in the field to get together and exchange info.

"Something like SARCon builds both our knowledge base and the sense that we're all working together. It also gave us a chance to really, truly thank the volunteer groups for their commitment to search and rescue. It's mind-blowing. We couldn't rescue anyone on the mountain without them, and almost all of them are doing this free of charge."

With more than 200 professional law-enforcement and rescue workers and skilled volunteers attending classes and field workshops led by 37 different instructors covering topics to numerous to mention.

Featured speakers included award-winning outdoor journalist Eric Blehm, Air Force-trained survival expert and author Peter Kummerfelt, trainers Scott Walker and David Elle of Clackamas County Fire District #1, trauma specialist surgeon Dr. Seth Izenberg, Portland Mountain Rescue veteran Rocky Henderson, OSP forensic scientist Veronica Vance, and KOIN-TV meteorologist Bruce Sussman.

Mt. Hood is the second most frequently climbed mountain in the world, behind only Mt. Fuji in Japan (which is the site of a religious pilgrimage). This makes the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office the busiest search-and-rescue agency in the state, having completed more than 150 missions last year (an average of one mission every two to three days). The Clackamas County Sheriff's Office relies on a cadre of dedicated volunteers to perform much of its actual searching during rescue operations. These include groups such as Portland Mountain Rescue (PMR), Pacific Northwest Search & Rescue, Mountain Wave Emergency Communications and others. These volunteers form the backbone of search-and-rescue operations in Clackamas County. Sworn personnel coordinate and command the search efforts.

Clackamas County S.O. and hundreds of volunteers from throughout the Northwest encourage you to look for SARCon 2009 next fall.



Albert Bass and Search dog, Rocky, from Nye County, Nevada at SAR Con 2008.

Oregon State Law Enforcement Medal of Honor

By Officer Steven Piper,
Gresham Police Department

As OPOA's representative I was proud to be a part of the process to bring about the Oregon State Law Enforcement Medal of Honor. I worked with representatives from the Oregon State Sheriff's Association, Oregon Association of Chiefs of Police, Oregon Council of Police Associations, DPSST, and the Governors Office to create this award.

The commission, and the Chair Ken Johnson, did an outstanding job to bring about this award to highlight the extraordinary service and sacrifice of the Oregon law enforcement professional. This award presented by the Governor symbolizes the few that goes above and beyond and distinguish themselves even from the rest of their courageous peers. The medal includes two law enforcement badges - the star and the shield. The three stars in the medal represent - Honor - Integrity - Courage

The medal was unveiled by the Governor at a ceremony last August.

A Look at National Night out

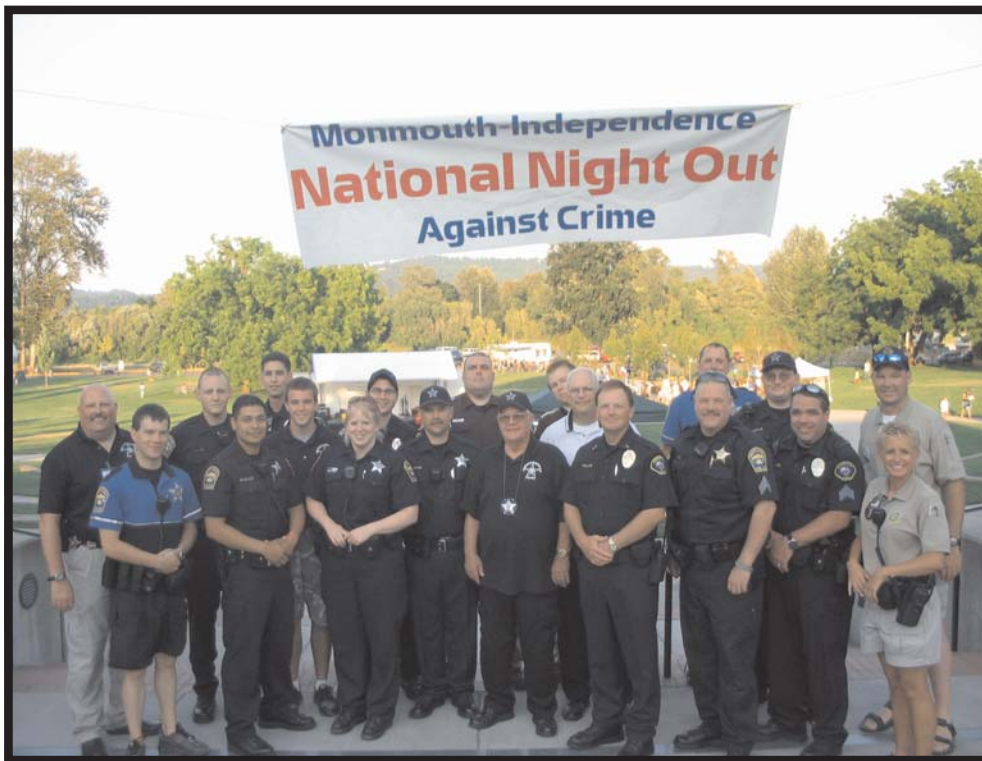
Provided by Independence Police Department

August 5, 2008 was National Night Out across America. While many police departments engage in programs and activities with their communities the Monmouth & Independence community partner together to have a very large regional event including the Polk County Sheriff's Office. Over 30 public and private agencies set up displays to help educate children and adults. It was fun for everyone and included police cars, fire trucks, ambulances, marine patrol boats, and even a helicopter.

The coordination came from the Polk County Service Integration team. Displays included Trauma Nurses, No Meth, Police GREAT program, ID Theft awareness, VORP, Car Seat Convincer from ODOT, Anti-bullying education, Red Cross, Fatal Vision Goggles demonstration, Tobacco Prevention, Safe Kids, Bike Rodeo w/ free helmets, Child ID cards, the lifeflight "REACH" helicopter, etc. In addition to all that, free hot dogs, chips, potato salad, popcorn, snow cones, and drinks were also provided along with face painting provided by teachers from the Independence Elementary School.

According to Sgt. Rick Igou from the Independence Police Department, it was the most successful event that we have participated in and it just seems to be improving every year.

The photograph below shows 20 of the Law Enforcement Personnel assisting during this event including 2 Chiefs of Police, Vernon Wells from Independence and Darrell Tallan from Monmouth.



NOTICE

The OPOA executive Board will be taking action to disband the Child Abuse and Robbery/Homicide subchapters at the annual meeting held at the training conference in November. Other training venues and organizations have made these subchapters less useful, thus prompting this action.

Missing Guns, Drugs and Money Ruins Career

Audit Points to mishandled evidence - Officer Fired

This sort of headline makes us all take a deep breath and hope it was not someone we know or our own department. On any day of the week, you can find a headline, which reads, "Theft of Drugs from Evidence Vault, Firearms Missing, Integrity in Doubt, and Criminal Cases Compromised." These headlines have prompted newly elected Chiefs and Sheriffs to order procedural audits at the onset of their administrative post.

The fact our administrators are taking steps to ensure the evidence function is being carefully inspected speaks for the importance of the function itself. It also suggests administrators are concerned whether their evidence officers have the tools they need to get the job done right.

Would your department's Evidence Room pass an audit? Ask your self these questions.

- Does your department conduct inventories on a regular basis and if not, how long has it been since one was completed?
- Has your Evidence Room ever been audited by someone outside the department?
- Do you have written policies and procedures specific to the evidence function?
- Are locks re-keyed when employees move on to other assignments?
- How many people have access to the vaults and what is their capacity within your department?
- Are your evidence vaults alarmed for unauthorized entry?
- Do you require guns, drugs and money to be listed on their own property forms and segregated from items of general evidence?
- Do you store cash in a locked safe within the vault?

These are just a few of the many questions asked during an audit. You should be able to answer "Yes" to all of these questions if you expect to pass an audit.

While a procedural audit by a professional outside of your department may be an added cost, it seems fair to say this is one of those "pay now or pay later" situations. In the end it will be more acceptable to document and correct potential problems before they turn in to a front-page story.

There are a few good resources out there to help ensure you are doing things the right way when it comes to the Evidence Function. One of the best would be the webpage for International Association for Property & Evidence at www.iape.org. This website is full of important information. Click on the "downloads" section and you will find policies and procedures, certification standards, packaging manuals and generic forms. The certification standards have been recognized as some of the best.



A seal for evidence cases with a serialized and tracked number prevents a case from being opened and resealed without the proper entry in the evidence log.

November Class offered

The Oregon Association for Property & Evidence Officers is sponsoring a two-day Evidence Management class on November 5- 6, 2008 at the Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel. Retired Lt. Joe Latta (IAPE) who is an expert when it comes to property & evidence teaches this course. You will find more information at www.iape.org or www.opoa.info.

If you have any questions please contact me . Wendy Svaren Lake Oswego Police Department. svaren@ci.oswego.or.us (503) 534-5694

The OPOA Training Conference

The 39th Annual OPOA Training Conference at Agate Beach Inn,
Newport Oregon - November 19-21, 2008.

- Over 40 DPSST scholarships available - Apply today

Wednesday, 1-3 p.m.

Investigating Child Neglect: An Investigative Approach for Law Enforcement and Protective Services

Craig Stoelk Salem Police (Ret)

Child neglect is an area largely overlooked by law enforcement during calls for service and while conducting other investigations. This course will give police and protective service workers a basis of knowledge to support the need for conducting neglect investigations.

Craig Stoelk served 30 years with the Salem Police Department, with 23 years assigned to investigate sexual assault, child abuse & homicide. He investigated well over 3,000 child abuse cases and 100 homicides. Since retiring in 2007, he has continued as an instructor and conducts HR & ethic investigations for public employers.

Wednesday, 3-5 p.m.

Will to Win: a Survival Mind-Set

Mike Kralicek

Officer Mike Kralicek took a bullet in the face while on duty in Coeur d'Alene on December 28, 2004. Doctors and nurses declared him a "lost cause", and only his wife held out hope. Now Mike helps others by sharing his secrets of survival. His tale of strength in attitude, endurance, preservation and never giving up help your optimistic outlook.

Mike became a Police Officer in 1999 in North Bend, Oregon. In 2004 Mike accepted a lateral position with the city of Coeur d' Alene, Idaho. December of that same year, while responding to assist a county deputy, Mike was shot in the head while trying to catch a fleeing suspect. Mike continues to progress in his recovery.

Thursday, 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Use of Force Update

Lt. Brian Harvey

Lorraine Angelmier DPSST

This class provides a comprehensive overview and update of use of force. Focus is on the numerous components of use of force and how use of force must be understood in a comprehensive manner to ensure proper force decision making.

Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Policing with Honor: Ethical Survival for Law Officers

Lt. Randy Sutton

Lt. Sutton's presentation helps law enforcement officers provide law enforcement services at the highest levels of integrity, compassion, courtesy and competence while helping officers "survive" a dangerous career. "Survival" for police officers shouldn't mean just staying alive. It should mean a high quality professional life, even flourishing - mentally, emotionally and ethically. Police work has become increasingly complicated. Every action a police officer takes, every remark, every discussion, is likely to be scrutinized not only intra-departmentally but by the media and the community. This program equips police officers with "ethical ammunition" - practical information to better navigate the moral complexities of today's law enforcement world. This jam-packed-with-information class is part lecture, part real-life stories, part controversial video viewing and a lot of open discussion.

(For information about Lt. Sutton, see page 7)

TRAINING CALENDAR

Major Crimes Conference

NEW LOCATION NEXT YEAR. -

What: Major Crime Conference

Where: Valley River Inn - Eugene Oregon

When: **January 27, 28, 29, and 30, 2009**

Due in part to the requests of presenters, attendees and exhibitors the board has decided to move the conference out of the Southern Oregon area to Eugene. We have resisted this in the past because of the great support and partnerships we had from Douglas County Sheriff's Office, who was the original sponsor of the event. We hope to have their continued support at our new location.

Eugene will have better access to an international airport, better weather, and less travel time from Eastern Oregon.

Please join us in Eugene for the same top quality conference you have come to expect. This year's line up of topics and instructors is almost complete and is looking to be an outstanding conference. All who are involved with law enforcement investigations will want to attend.

The Bulletproof Mind: Mental Preparation for Combat

**Thursday, April 30, 2009,
9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.**

"The Bulletproof Mind," covers several subjects in a systematic and understandable progression. Gossman lays the basis for his training by illustrating how we are living in the most violent and brutal times in modern history. He compared the statistics for assault and murder throughout the world, and extrapolates the numbers taking technological advances in emergency medicine, transportation, and communications into consideration. The colonel describes America today as being far more dangerous than even Dodge City in the 1880s. In this context he examined the law enforcement officer's role as the foundation on which modern civilization and democracy rest.

OPOA brings Lt. Col. David Gossman to Oregon. Mark your calendars today.



Lt. Randy Sutton

Lieutenant Randy Sutton is a 29-year police veteran, the last 21 years with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department. He is the author of True Blue: Police Stories by Those Who Have Lived Them and the autobiographical collection of stories, A Cop's Life, released in 2005 by St. Martin's Press. Sutton is the most decorated officer, in terms of commendations for saving lives, valor and meritorious service and exemplary service, in his department's history. His assignments have included Narcotics Detective, Federal Task Force Commander, Field Training Sergeant, Community Oriented Policing Sergeant, Advanced Training Supervisor, and Certified Police Instructor. He is also certified as a Law Enforcement Ethics Instructor by Nation Institute of Ethics.