



WPD Newsletter

"Protecting our Community"

Volume 72

Winter 2013

Upcoming Events:

January 1

New Years Day

January 21

Martin Luther King Day

February 14

Valentine's Day

February 18

Presidents' Day

March 25 - 29

Spring Break

March 29

Good Friday

March 31

Easter Sunday

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2012 A Year in Review

by: Chief Lisa Otterbacher

As we come to the end of the year, it is a good time to look back and reflect on 2012. Reflection provides time to appreciate all the accomplishments and successes we've had as a department. It is also a time to reflect on the wisdom we've gained along the way and revisit areas that presented challenges for our organization and how we can proactively address them.

We began the year with visionary meetings with all the bureaus to build the department's five year strategic plan. In 2013 we will add the city's strategic goals obtained from community meetings which will compliment the department's goals, creating a progressive and comprehensive strategic plan. In June our department underwent our third Wisconsin Law Enforcement Accreditation Group (WILEAG) re-accreditation process, receiving reaccreditation status in July of 2012. In an effort to enhance

our community partnerships, the city installed a drug drop box to provide a safe and local place to discard unused and outdated medications. We also enhanced our connection with our retired personnel, reading how our retirees are keeping busy in the "Retiree Section" of the newsletter along with enjoying the opportunity to attend firearms training with our sworn retirees.

Early in 2012, the Badger TraCS software system was fully integrated into the squad cars, eliminating the issuance of handwritten tickets and accident reports. In August we hosted our first annual Whitewater Safety Experience. The K9 demonstrations, CSI experience and bicycle rodeo provided hands-on opportunities for kids, leaving them with lifelong positive experiences with police officers, firemen and emergency medical technicians who gave of their time and talents. Utilizing a number of generous donations and drug seizure funds, obtained through the hard work of our highly

dedicated personnel, we have implemented a number of progressive programs and purchased several new pieces of equipment. We also implemented many small changes that netted notable results in our operational effectiveness; changes in how we streamlined fingerprinting through AFIS (automated fingerprint identification system), implementing an electronic calendar for court appearances and special events and finalizing our new scheduling software. Our newly purchased squad cars display our new "Thin Blue Line" logo and a revised Mission and Values Statement, which will be released early next year, are ways that we reflect our core values and dedication to the community.

Statistically our calls for services haven't increased, yet the complexity of many of the crimes has dramatically increased.

Continued on pg 4



Promotion

by: Chief Lisa Otterbacher

I am pleased to announce that Dan Meyer has been offered and accepted the position of Detective with the Whitewater Police Department. Detective Dan Meyer will transition into his new position on Friday, January 4, 2013. Please join me in wishing Dan success in his new position, he will be a welcomed addition to the Detective Bureau. ♦



Resignation

by: Chief Lisa Otterbacher

This is to announce that Jessamy Flaherty Torres has submitted her resignation to take a full-time deputy position with the Dane County Sheriff's Department. Jessamy has given 8 years of dedicated service to the City of Whitewater. Jessamy's last on-shift work day was December 31st. Please join me in congratulating Jessamy and wishing her the very best for the future. ♦

Child Sex Predators - Clearing up the Misconceptions

by: Det. Sgt. Tina Winger

On October 23, Det. Flaherty and I attended a training that was presented by the United States Marshals Service (USMS) in cooperation with the Wisconsin Department of Justice, the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force and the Office of the United States Attorney. The training was given by Dr. Michael Bourke, an international expert on child sexual predators. Although much of the information was specific to investigators that work these types of crimes, there was a lot of information provided that is important for officers to recognize. In addition it is important for all people to understand that these crimes happen in all communities, large and small. The more our community accepts that these crimes happen, the more possible it becomes to prevent these crimes by taking a proactive stance and reporting suspicious behaviors.

One of the most interesting facts to

point out, is the majority of sexual assaults of children occur in their own households. In regards to the relationship of abuse to the child; 40% are parents, 27% are a neighbor or family friend, 11% other relative, 11% online enticement, 5% unknown to the child, 4% babysitter or coach, and 2% a guardian's partner. Therefore, it can be concluded that close 80% of the time, the abuser is not a stranger, but rather known to the child.

Those who offend against boys and are non-incest offenders are at higher risk to reoffend. Additionally, incest offenders do not have a preference over gender. The arousal socket for child sex predators differs than those who are not child sex predators. The arousal socket for predators can be things such as: little fingers, scent, cuteness of a child, laugh, etc., whereas non-child sex predators find these characteristics cute as opposed to arousing. A few general characteristics for a child sex predator are the following: the onset of sexual deviance occurs prior to age 18, offenders have multiple paraphilias (sexual deviance), offenders

engage in multiple paraphilic acts, and not all child molesters are pedophiles as well as not all pedophiles are child molesters.

In the mental health profession, the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM-IV-TR) is used when formulating a diagnosis of any mental health disorder. Within the DSM-IV-TR, paraphilia (lust for something other than normal) is one of the categories for mental disorders. Pedophilia (sexual activity with a child, typically 13 years old or younger) is a sub category of Paraphilia.

As numerous mental health disorders are curable, Pedophilia is NOT curable. There are treatments available, but they are in the form of managing and maintaining their urges (behavior modification), so they do not act on them (again, sexual activity with a child).

It seems unimaginable to most people that an adult would ever commit such a horrible act against a child. The unfortunate reality is that this way of thinking is how so many offenders get away with it. It is a crime that we need to talk about and need to put a stop to. ♦

C.O.P.S. for Kids

by: Officer Jacob Hintz

On July 30, 2012, Sgt. Ciardo and I attended an event at General Mitchell Airport in Milwaukee known as C.O.P.S. for Kids. C.O.P.S., which stands for Concerns of Police Survivors, is a program that "provides resources to assist in the rebuilding of the lives of surviving families and affected co-workers of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty as determined by Federal criteria."

The program which started in 1984, with 110 members, has grown to 15,000 families. Members include spouses, children, parents, siblings, significant others, and affected co-workers of officers killed in the line of duty. "C.O.P.S. programs for survivors include scholarships, peer-support at the national, state, and local levels, "C.O.P.S. Kids" counseling reimbursement program, the "C.O.P.S. Kids" Summer Camp, "C.O.P.S. Teens" Outward Bound experience for young adults, special retreats for spouses, parents, siblings, adult children, in-laws, and co-workers,

trial and parole support, and other assistance programs." The money for this program comes from donations provide by individuals, companies, and law enforcement agencies from all over the country.

Sgt. Ciardo and I started our day at the airport with briefing on the events for the day. There were hundreds of officers from all over the state of Wisconsin, Illinois, and from federal agencies that participated. All of the time and equipment at this event was donated. The organizers explained that every person that we would meet that day had lost someone close to them in the line of duty. Each officer throughout the day received numerous family names and a schedule showing what time they would be arriving. When the family that was assigned to you arrived, your job was to give them a police escort from their flight to a room that was designated for the families.

Once in the room, the families were provided a meal and numerous snacks, along with various activities to participate in. During this time you got a chance to really get to know the family and realize

what the family has been through. After a short while, the families were then escorted outside to a number of coach buses waiting to transport them to a weeklong camp at Army Lake Camp in East Troy. As the families were boarding, the officers were responsible for carrying out luggage and loading the buses. When the buses were loaded, the families were given a police escort from General Mitchell to the camp in East Troy. The escort was provided primarily by motorcycles from various departments. The buses were escorted like this throughout the day. Once at the camp, families began their weeklong stay by participating in numerous activities such as swimming, kayaking, obstacles, etc. They also provide counseling sessions were families could talk about their loss and how to cope with it.

I am looking forward in participating in this event next year and recommend that others attend the event as well. For more information on this event, how to make donations, and on the C.O.P.S. organization, visit their website at www.nationalcops.org. ♦

USCG Training Follow-Up

by: Officer Dan Meyer

On October 14, 2012, I flew to Philadelphia where I met with the other 16 people who would be attending the Coast Guard's Direct Entry Petty Officer Training program in Cape May, New Jersey. After waiting in the Philadelphia airport USO for about 10 hours we finally boarded a bus that drove us an hour and a half to Cape May. I was definitely nervous about what was to come. When the bus stopped inside Training Center Cape May one of our Company Commanders jumped on the bus and began screaming at us. We were directed into a building where it was made clear that no matter what we did back home we were "Seaman Recruits" at Training Center Cape May which are the absolute bottom of the Coast Guard rank structure.

I found out quickly that the training was going to be fast-paced and intense. The schedule was set down to the minute and I didn't even have the extra time to write a letter home in that first week. We did not have access to phones, television, or technology outside of the occasional use of computers for training purposes. Physical "incentive training" was definitely tough at times but I found that overall the training was more mentally challenging than anything else. Given the fact that the

training was condensed from 8 weeks to 3 weeks meant that we were required to learn the material very quickly. One of the more challenging things to learn quickly was marching as a company. We were required to march everywhere we went and in a small group any mistake we made was obvious. In addition to the required knowledge we also had information to memorize that changed daily so there was constant memorization. We spent every spare moment we had studying our notes. We eventually found out that no matter how much we studied, the Company Commanders would find out what we didn't know. Eating was usually one of the most stressful parts of our day because we were tested on our required knowledge as we left the galley at each meal.

One of the best parts about the training was meeting the other 16 shipmates. There were people from many career fields including police officers, firefighters, and teachers. The police officers I met were from a variety of areas including New York, Texas, Kansas, and Florida. It was fun meeting people with similar interests and it was also very interesting comparing law enforcement in different areas of the country. Our group meshed quickly which was important because teamwork was essential for us to complete the training successfully.

Hurricane Sandy interrupted our normally scheduled training and we were bused to Fort Dix, NJ which is further inland. We stayed at Fort Dix for three nights and were able to return to Cape May two days before graduation. The hurricane tracked further north than was initially expected keeping Cape May from sustaining serious damage but unfortunately greatly impacting Northern New Jersey as well as New York City. On November 2, I graduated from training and became a Maritime Enforcement Specialist Third Class. At the time of graduation I was more than ready to return home but I did enjoy my experience at Cape May.

My first training weekend at Station Milwaukee took place on the weekend of November 17. It was great meeting the other people that I will be working with at Station Milwaukee. A large portion of the reservists at Station Milwaukee are police officers at various agencies in the area so it was easy to jump right in and get to know everyone. Our first training consisted primarily of the firearms range which also made for an easy transition into Coast Guard training since it was similar to training that I've experienced at WPD. I am looking forward to continuing training and I hope that much of what I learn will be beneficial to WPD. ♦

Our Appreciation

by: Chief Lisa Otterbacher

There isn't a family in Whitewater that hasn't been touched by the financial crisis facing our nation, as belts tighten we have all felt the impact. The police department is no different; we have experienced an increase in violent crime and substance abuse and a decrease in spendable dollars on equipment and technological improvements.

On several occasions the Whitewater Police Department has received very generous donations from many of our local and neighboring businesses. We wanted to take a moment to highlight and publically appreciate their generosity and share how we have used

the funds to add several enhancements to our department.

- Walmart's generous donation funded two new bicycles for the bike patrol unit and complimented the purchase of the Axon on-officer camera system.
- Fairhaven Retirement Community's generous donation was applied to the purchase of the Axon on-officer camera system.
- Quiet Hut Sports owner Dave Saalsaa has been a long-time supporter of our bike patrol unit, maintaining the service and operation of each of the patrol bikes and donating funds towards the purchase and outfitting of the two new patrol bikes.
- The Kiwanis Whitewater-Breakfast Club donation was also applied toward

the purchase of the Axon on-officer camera system.

This year the department also held our first annual "Whitewater Safety Experience", which we co-hosted with the Whitewater Fire Department and Whitewater Rescue Squad. This hands-on experience could not have been possible without the very generous donations and support from Walmart, Culvers, Quiet Hut Sports, Bicycle Wise, McDonalds, Subway, Toppers Pizza, Pizza Hut, Jimmy John's, Qdoba, Sentry, Dalee Water, Walgreens, Frawley Oil, Pepsi, Winchester True Value, Chartwells, and Aropa Designs. ♦

2012 A Year in Review

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The patrol and detective bureaus investigated the tragic death of a University of Wisconsin - Whitewater student, conducted enhanced drug enforcement initiatives and dealt with an increase of sensitive crimes cases. The department also responded to two complex investigations this year. One concerned a drug related death and the second was one of the most violent domestic incidents in the history of the department, which resulted in multiple felony charges, including two attempted

homicide charges.

Our united response to such incidents supports the need for continuous training for every member of the department. From the dispatchers that field and dispatch the calls, to the tactical response of sworn personnel, to the community service officers managing traffic, to clerical forwarding reports to the courts and fielding media requests. Dealing with a challenging event emphasizes the value of a united team. In today's world we must continue to hone our skills, constantly remain alert to threatening situations, guard against complacency, and never

underestimate our adversaries.

As we enter into 2013, we look forward to formally rolling out our new Mission and Value statement, seek to implement a K9 unit, form a drug investigations team similar to our sensitive crimes team, and officers will begin wearing point-of-view video cameras. The Whitewater Police Department has earned the reputation as a highly professional and integrity driven agency, in 2013 we will continue with those same highly valued standards. ♦

WPD Retiree Update What's New with Our Past...

JoAnn Harrop



♦ What was your position with the department when you retired? *Parking Patrol when there were meters in the business district, parking lot enforcement, dispatching, matron duties, and crossing guard duty when needed... after 27 years too many to mention.*

- ♦ When did you retire? *1996*
- ♦ How many years did you work for the WPD? *27 years*
- ♦ How many positions did you hold with the department? *One*
- ♦ What were the individual positions you held and did you have a particular favorite position with the department? *Clerical/parking*
- ♦ What is your best/favorite/

funniest memory working for the Whitewater Police Department? *My most favorite memory was an apology from a UW student the day after a ticket was issued for parking across the crosswalk in the business district. At the time he was very verbal. He said he was wrong and was very sorry for his actions.*

- ♦ What do you miss most about the department? *The people I worked with.*
- ♦ What do you like the most about retirement? *Doing all the things I like to do, luncheons, cards, bingo and shopping. Six years ago I became a Snow Bird. I spend 2 ½ months on the ocean in Santa Rosa Beach, Florida 20 miles from Destin.*
- ♦ As you reflect back on your career, knowing what you know today, would you have chosen the same career path; why or why not? *Probably*

- ♦ Where are you currently living? *In Whitewater—I sold my home on Highland Street in Nov. 2011 and bought a condo.*
- ♦ Do you have any family news you would like to share? *I have two children. Son Ed (Sue) - Auburn, AL - are retired accountants. Daughter Jan (Jeff) - Springfield, IL - Jan is PE teacher and Jeff is mechanical engineer. Three grandchildren - James II (Lisa) - Elk River, MN - Jim is a machinist and Lisa is a nurse. Twins - Chris - Portage, IN - is a mechanical engineer. Angie - Springfield, IL - works in the clerical field. Two great grandchildren - Elk River, MN - Jordan is a freshman in college and Carter is a high school senior*
- ♦ Do you have any hobbies you enjoy and would like to share? *No hobbies, I do things I like to do when I want to do them. ♦*

WPD Anniversaries & Birthdays

January

- Kim Millis, 5 years on 1/2
- Angela Sahr, 3 years on 1/4
- Dan Meyer, 3 years on 1/4
- Mel Lentz, 33 years on 1/7
- Saul Valadez, 6 years on 1/12
- Aaron Gross, 1 year on 1/23
- Dave Gempler, birthday

February

- Jake Hintz, 1 year on 2/6
- Cathy Swartz, 10 years on 2/18
- Michele Martin, birthday
- Derrick Schleis, birthday
- Dan Meyer, birthday
- Angela Sahr, birthday

March

- Joe Matteson, 12 years on 3/21
- Aaron Gross, birthday
- Bill Oliver, birthday
- Adam Vander Steeg, birthday

On-Officer Cameras

by: Captain Brian Uhl

In 2010, the Whitewater Police Department began a research project into the possible purchase of squad car cameras. This was based on a request from officers to be able to record their traffic stops, gather evidence for convictions, and dispute citizen complaints arising from these stops. As we gathered information on these devices, we quickly realized that the use of these cameras would only capture a small fraction of what officers do on a daily basis. Less than 10% of what our officers do occurs in front of the patrol car.

A growing trend in policing is the use of



on-officer cameras. We all have seen the citizen videos captured from cell phones that show officers in physical confrontations with citizens.

These videos always seem to capture the "after-effects" of the police/citizen contact and portray those contacts in a negative light.

With on-officer cameras, officers are able to capture the entire incident and defend themselves in court if necessary.

After testing several different systems, we determined the best system for the Whitewater Police Department was the on-officer camera system developed by Taser International. This is the same company that developed the electronic control devices that we use today. The system is called the Axon Flex on-officer camera. The Axon Flex camera is secured by a

headband and sits on the side of the head of the officer near the eye. This gives the camera the ability to "see what the officer sees." This system is less expensive than the squad car cameras and will record everything the officer does in and out of the squad car. With this system, we will be able to more accurately respond to citizen complaints against our officers, reduce time officers spend in court saving the city overtime money, reduce report writing time and supplement the report writing process, enabling officers to get back on the street faster, and most of all, reduce the City's potential monetary liability from unwarranted civil lawsuits arising out of false accusations related to police contacts. We have purchased 10 of the Axon Flex units and officers will begin wearing these cameras in early 2013. ♦

Notes of Appreciation

While many of the Whitewater Police Department employee's efforts are commendable and deserve thanks, here are a few letters and comments that have been recently brought to the attention of the Chief of Police.

- "Lt. Gray & the entire City PD, Thank you so much for your work all year, but especially during homecoming. We are thankful for your commitment to the campus and community's safety!" ~ Kim Clarksen & the UW Homecoming Committee"
- "I want to thank the WPD's quick response to our call of an intruder yesterday morning. It turned out to be, I guess, a fairly harmless drunk trying to get into our house, but it was still scary. Officer Tim Swartz was just great and we just appreciated his filling us in and the quick response. It was so amazing. Thank you so much for everything. I'm glad you guys are here." ~ voice message from Marjorie Stoneman
- "Dear Chief Otterbacher, I wanted to bring to your attention the work of one of your Detectives, Adam Vander Steeg. My daughter is a student at the University and lives in Whitewater with several friends. There apparently was drug dealing going on with one of the girl's boyfriends and thankfully your staff made an arrest this past week of the offender. Adam made himself available to my daughter and to me in answering any questions we had but more important the time he took in reassuring my daughter that she would be safe and if she did not feel that way that she could call him. I had also talked to Detective Flaherty, who also was professional in answering my questions and to assure me matters were being handled. So many times we only here the negative about police and their departments but the way Whitewater Police handled this situation was appreciated by me. My main priority was to have my daughter safe and your department showed me that she would be. Thanks for all your hard work - it does not go unnoticed. With appreciation" ~ A concerned & reassured mother .
- Ofc. Tim Swartz was amazingly helpful when we called for his help. We had a complicated situation that involved a family situation and out-of-state family members. Ofc. Swartz went out of his way to assist us, even though there was "officially" little he could do, his quick response in calling to check on a few things really helped to relieve our concerns. His ability to coordinate an opportunity to speak directly with the family member we were concerned about provided us with a great sense of relief. I have never had to have police assistance, I have only called in the past to report barking dogs. To have found myself in need of true police assistance is new and I couldn't have been more pleased and appreciative with all the help Ofc. Swartz provided. I know most people don't take the time to say thank you, but I wanted to extend my appreciation for all his help" ~ comments shared by Judy Osser
- "Thank you so much for your fast response and professionalism.. Everyone I've spoken to in the department since that day has been very kind and patient, making certain to answer my questions thoroughly... your department's actions have made me feel safer knowing that if there ever is an emergency, my family and friends are in good hands." ~ Chris & Titus Greenwood ♦

Bike Patrol

by: Sgt. Dave Gempler

The Whitewater Police Department's bike patrol program has been operating since 2002. In those years, bike patrol has proven to be a very effective tool in detecting and deterring many issues such as disorderly conduct, theft and vandalism which affect our community through much of the year. The low profile characteristics of an officer on a bicycle allow officers to quietly approach subjects engaging in unlawful activities and more effectively take those subjects into custody. Bike patrol has also been used effectively over the years to detect large scale house parties that often contribute to acts of disorderly conduct and vandalism. The very knowledge that bike officers are deployed in the city helps to deter many from such disruptive behavior. In addition to the enforcement abilities of bike patrol, it also serves a very important community relations role. Officers on bicycles are much more approachable than officers in patrol cars. Community members are often drawn to bike officers simply out of curiosity about the program. These police contacts are important in providing both community members and the officers themselves with positive interactions that don't always occur with other police contacts. Members of the bike patrol team also continue to participate in various educational programs that teach community children the importance of bicycle safety and promote positive relationships with

police officers.

Over these past ten years, the bike patrol team has been comprised of a small team of officers specially trained in police biking. This year the police department decided to expand the bike patrol program to one day included all patrol officers. The police administration has recognized the value of the bike patrol team and has decided to make an effort to make the team available on a nearly daily basis during the season. With a small team, scheduling and overtime costs made deployment of bike officers difficult and thus limited the use of the team to mostly special operations and focused patrols. Expanding the team to include all patrol officers will give shift supervisors the ability to deploy bike patrol officers anytime staffing permits. Consideration is also being given to providing the community service officers with training that will enable them to utilize the bikes in their duties.

To accomplish this goal of expanding the bike patrol team, the department added five new bike patrol officers this year. These officers were all trained locally by the University of Whitewater Wisconsin Police Department which had two of its officers trained as instructors

in police biking. The University Police Department intendeds to host police bike training on an annual basis and has welcomed our officers to attend their training. This local training provides our department with the opportunity over time to train all of our current and any newly hired officers in police biking at a much reduced cost.

Additionally the department has added two new police bikes to the existing fleet of four. The department is now equipped with a fleet of bikes that will properly fit all of our officers. The two new police bikes were purchased and made ready for deployment through the police department's existing partnerships with local businesses, Quiet Hut Sports and Wal-Mart. A grant for \$2000 became available this year through the Whitewater Wal-Mart and was rewarded to the department after grant writing efforts geared towards the bike team. David Saalsaa of Quiet Hut Sports provided the remaining support by stretching the grant money far enough to give the department the ability to purchase and equip the two bikes. Saalsaa and Wal-Mart have been long supporters of the bike team. Saalsaa provided the much needed support to get the team rolling in the beginning and has since continually provided support both monetarily and in his time. The police department thanks these businesses and highly values their partnership. ♦



Dave Saalsaa and Sgt. Gempler shown with new police bikes



Personnel Updates

Officer Bill Becker and his fiancé Traci were married on September 1, 2012. Best Wishes to Bill and Traci!

Captain Brian Uhl graduated from the Northwestern School of Police Staff and Command on November 9th. Captain Uhl attended the intensive ten-week program, which prepares law enforcement managers for senior positions by combining academic principles with practical applications. Congratulations and welcome back!



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