



WPD Newsletter

Commitment to Service ♦ Leadership ♦ Justice ♦ Compassion ♦ Partnership ♦ Pride

VOLUME 81

SPRING 2015

Upcoming Events:

- April 5**
Easter Sunday
- May 8**
UW-W Last Day of Class
- May 10**
Mothers' Day
- May 15**
Peace Officers Memorial Day
- May 16**
UW-W Commencement
- May 25**
Memorial Day
- May 30**
K9 5K/10K Walk/Run
- June 4**
Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics
- June 10**
WUSD Last Day of School (1/2 day)
- June 21**
Fathers' Day
- June 21**
First Day of Summer

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Managing Chaos

By: Chief Lisa Otterbacher

Managing chaos is what we do as public safety professionals. Regardless of the position you hold within the department, at any given moment you can be called to respond, react and manage chaos. Webster's dictionary identifies chaos as "complete confusion and disorder: a state in which behavior and events are not controlled by anything." The intensity of chaos may take on many different appearances, depending on the assignment you are navigating.

We respond to both public service and public safety concerns. Many events that our personnel respond to, be it in a squad car, via a phone call, or through assistance at the windows, are general calls for public service. During these calls, citizens are seeking assistance reference a damaged vehicle, gleaning help in connecting with other city services or paying a parking ticket.

Managing public safety is critical for law enforcement personnel because often the public's safety or perhaps a life may be at stake. I'm fond of saying that the public doesn't call us to let us know they are having a good day. Citizens call when an event in their life falls outside their ability to effectively deal with it or when someone's safety has become compromised. Managing chaos involves both our sworn and civilian personnel. Chaos in records may be when a person is unable to secure a job because of a concern with a permanent criminal record. Chaos in the communications center may be navigating through a 911 call in which the caller is unable to speak and the dispatcher needs to seek answers through another means. For a sworn officer it may be entering a house after a youth has committed an apparent suicide and navigating through the trauma of the scene of a cationic or enraged parent and securing evidence that could unknowingly transition the scene

from a suicide to a homicide.

Managing chaos is never pretty and it is why a law enforcement career is often referred to as "a calling." There isn't an easy response to managing chaos otherwise it wouldn't be chaos. We are called into service when typical answers and traditional responses yielded no result, causing us to respond dynamically. This is where it becomes so challenging and often difficult to understand. We, as law enforcement professionals, must respond and instantly react to an out of control event that will subsequently be replayed by others who have days, months and years to determine what the best response could have been.

Honor and integrity are the cornerstones of our profession, when we as public safety officials are questioned on how we managed chaos it can feel as though we are unfairly scrutinized.

Continued on Page 4

Whitewater Police Personnel Updates

New Part-time Dispatcher

Please welcome our newest part-time dispatcher Holly Brown. Holly became a member of our department on February 17, 2015. Holly currently resides just outside of Whitewater and went to high school in Johnson Creek, WI. Holly has spent the last 10+ years in the United States Air Force leaving with the rank of Staff Sergeant. Holly comes to us with a Bachelor's Degree and plans to go back to school to get her Master's in Communication. Welcome Holly!



New Patrol Officer

Please congratulate our newest patrol officer, Justin Stuppy. Justin has been a Community Service Officer since April 2013. Justin began the Police Academy in February 2015, upon graduation he will begin his field training. Congratulations Justin on your promotion to patrol officer.



Chief Otterbacher, Officer Justin Stuppy, and Lieutenant Gray

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Counteracting Drug Overdoses

By: Officer James Elder

As many know, Heroin overdoses are becoming more and more common across the nation, and Whitewater is no exception. In an effort to prevent overdoses from opiates, such as heroin, many police departments, including the Whitewater Police Department, have started carrying naloxone (commonly referred to as Narcan) in their squad cars. Naloxone is a drug that has been found to be very successful in

counteracting the effects of a heroin overdose. An overdose of heroin, or other opioids such as oxycodone or hydrocodone, can suppress an individual's respiratory drive, rendering them unconscious. Time is of the essence in an opiate overdose situation, and if left untreated the patient may die. Naloxone is administered as a nasal spray and it binds to the opioid receptors in the brain, displacing other drugs and reversing the effects. Experts agree, the sooner the naloxone is administered the

better, which is why there is such a strong push for police to have it available in their medical bags. This is especially true in Whitewater, where the police respond to medical calls and can provide treatment prior to the arrival of the rescue squad.

Our department collaborated with the Whitewater Rescue Squad in order to establish a protocol and training guidelines. A policy was created and in February, all sworn officers received specialized training in the administration of naloxone. ♦

2015 Citizen Police Academy

By: Officer Michele Martin

The Whitewater Police Department's 8th Citizen Police Academy ended on February 25th, 2015. The 6-week course provided members of the community with a hands-on opportunity to experience the profession of public safety. Our overall goals for the Citizen Academy are to make our Department more accessible to the people we serve, and to work with the citizens in addressing issues of mutual concern. Through lecture, hands-on practical application and frank discussions surrounding public safety we hope to create Goodwill Ambassadors for our community. Each academy graduate will have the knowledge to better inform others about the nature of police work.

The academy started with a tour of the department and an invitation to further their experience through a ride along with an officer and/or a sit along with a dispatcher. The academy covered a number of topics to include drug information and testing, a demonstration by our police K-9, dispatching, operating while under the influence of intoxicants detection and enforcement, defense and arrest tactics, TASER use, sensitive crimes investigation, room searching, firearms instruction, evidence detection and processing, and vehicle contacts.

Many of our department personnel assisted in making this year's academy a success. The presenters for the academy were Officer Adam Vander Steeg, Officer Joseph Matteson and K-9 Boomer, Communications Supervisor Melody



2015 Citizen Academy Class with Ofc. Martin

Lentz, Telecommunicator Marsha Peterson, Officer James Elder, Officer Derrick Schleis, Detective Bill Becker, Sgt. David Gempler, Officer Ryan Weston, Sgt. Daniel Bradford, Officer Jennifer Ludlum, Officer Saul Valadez, Walworth County Alliance for Children Coordinator Paula Hocking and Officer Neal Kolb. These instructors dedicated a lot of time and energy into their presentations, which were very much appreciated.

A special thank you also goes out to Support Services Manager Kathy Boyd, Records Technician Cathy Swartz, Community Service Officer Kyle Hathorn, Neighborhood Services Officer Zach Wilkens, and Building Maintenance worker Dwight Slocum for all their assistance in preparation and logistics to make all the classes happen. And finally, our appreciation is extended to the members of the Whitewater Volunteer Cadet Program and a few special young co-instructors - Alex Martin, Treyton Torres and Marcella Torres for giving up an evening to assist in our presentations.

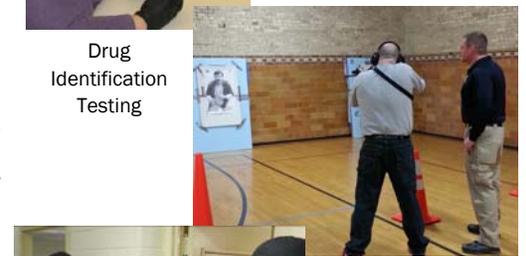
The 2015 class members included Jeff Arnold, David Brokopp, Jay Craggs, Richard Helmick, Ken Kidd, Stacey Lunsford, Heather Ruenz, Dennis

Salverson, Michele Smith, Hannah Tuinstra and Hector Villarreal. Special notice goes to Jay Craggs, who endured a personal "hit" from the TASER. Top Gun on the Glock was awarded to Jay Craggs, and on the AR-15 to Stacy Lunsford, for their excellent marksmanship with those weapons. Our program could not be successful without the academy participant's willingness to dedicate time and actively participate in each class. There was great enthusiasm and outstanding class participation from the attendees. We found the 2015 Citizen Academy class to be a great success, and look forward to the next class with a tentative date of 2017! ♦



Drug Identification Testing

Defense and Arrest Tactics



Firearms Instruction



Room Clearing

Accreditation

By: Captain Brian Uhl

Accreditation is a word that we hear often during our lives. We send our children or grandchildren to colleges and universities that are “accredited.” When we go to a hospital or emergency room we see certificates of “accreditation” hanging on the wall. Yet many of us do not know exactly what that means. Accreditation is a progressive and time-proven way of helping institutions evaluate and improve their overall performance. In 1998 Wisconsin Law Enforcement Accreditation Group (WILEAG) was developed. This is a State of Wisconsin program designed to accredit law enforcement agencies. Wisconsin’s accreditation process is

completely voluntary. Currently the Whitewater Police Department is the only agency in Walworth County to achieve certification and proud to be among the 24 police and sheriff’s departments in Wisconsin currently accredited by WILEAG.

On June 23 - 25, 2015, a three person WILEAG accreditation team will review the police department’s policies and procedures, interview employees, take citizen calls about how the police department is doing in the community and evaluate the overall performance of the agency during this extensive accreditation process. In order to become “re-accredited” in our case,



the police department must meet and comply with 235 standards as set forth by WILEAG. We realize it takes a team of dedicated people to make this process successful. Members of the police department have spent the last three years preparing for this upcoming re-accreditation process. In doing so, we have transitioned our previous paper files into a more efficient and user friendly electronic filing system. By accomplishing this, the Whitewater Police Department will be in compliance with the most up-to-date policies and procedures in the State of Wisconsin. The Whitewater Police Department is proud to have been a WILEAG accredited agency since 2003. ♦



K9 Tracking

By: Officer Joe Matteson

K9 Boomer and I recently attended training at Stenig Tal Kennel which focused on tracking. One of the interesting things I was able to see was how they initially began training a K9 for tracking. They started by walking a short track in the grass and dropping pieces of hotdog along the way. They gave Boomer a command and ran their hand along the grass near the starting point of the track. Boomer was immediately rewarded by finding the hotdog pieces and continued to follow the track to the end. This behavior was reinforced by the sporadic reward (hotdog piece) that he would find. As time passed, the tracks became longer, contained more turns, and there

were fewer hotdog pieces left. Boomer began to understand that he was getting rewarded for following the track and eventually, he would walk past the hotdog pieces without picking them up. Typically the person at the end of the track would reward Boomer with a toy or some type of treat.

It was very important in training that the person being tracked would stay downwind from the track.



Ofc. Matteson & Boomer Tracking

Otherwise their scent would travel further toward the direction that Boomer was coming from. If this happened, Boomer could raise his nose in the air and air scent the person instead of practicing his

tracking skills. In a training scenario, the person leaving the track would place ribbons along to track so that the handler could verify that their K9 was following the track correctly and make immediate corrections if the K9 deviated too far. It is common to see the K9 several feet off the track depending on the wind.

In the end it comes down to practice. It is important to train during different times of day, on different terrains, with different track lengths and ages. The more variety a K9 has during training, the better chance they have of being successful during a tracking situation. ♦



K9 5k/10k Fundraiser

By: Dispatcher Heidi Gempler

The 3rd annual *Whitewater Police Department K9 5k/10k Run/Walk* will be held at the Cravath Lakefront Park on Saturday May 30th, with registration from 7:30 am to 8:30 am.

Chip timing will be provided by Absolute Race Timing and participants will receive a long sleeve race t-shirt donated by Whitewater Manufacturing along with one of our new K9 Boomer trading cards. We look forward to welcoming back our

dedicated volunteers that have helped us with the event in the past and we are excited to have assistance from the department’s new Volunteer Cadet Program.

During last year’s event, there were 198 human participants with approximately 60 dogs. We hope there will be an increase in human and canine participation with this year’s event in order to help us fund our successful K9 team.

To stay up to date on race info or register, please go to www.wwk9run.com. To learn more about other K9 events

“like” our “Whitewater Police K9” page on Facebook. ♦



Photos from the 2014 K9 5k/10k Run/Walk.



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

Larry Meyer



- *When did you retire?* September 6, 2006
- *What was your position with the department when you retired?* Investigator
- *How many years did you work for the WPD?* 33 years
- *How many positions did you hold with the department? What were the individual positions you held and did you have a particular favorite position with the department?* One Position. Investigator and it was my favorite position.
- *What is your best/favorite/funniest memory working for the Whitewater Police Department?* I had a lot of favorite cases. Dave Haberman and I interviewed a high school student that

burglarized a residence in Whitewater and stole three handguns. The Juvenile took the guns to Milwaukee and sold them. The juvenile confessed and we took the Juvenile to Milwaukee. We went to three different residences in Milwaukee with Milwaukee PD. We got two of the handguns back, and Milwaukee PD arrested between 20 and 25 guys for possession of stolen property, felon in possession of firearm, and numerous warrants, etc. It was a fun night.

- *What do you miss most about the department?* Working with the other officers and making arrests.
- *What do you like the most about retirement?* I am not retired. I started another occupation. I have my own business, Native Shoreline Restoration. I work for Mid-west Prairies. I do prescribed burns, planting native prairies, cleaning out invasive plant species; do water quality projects-erosion control, stream improvements,

etc. I also do animal damage control. In the late fall and winter I am fur trapping every day.

- *Where are you currently living?* I have remained in the Whitewater area; I have lived here since 1979.
- *Do you have any family news you would like to share?* Kathy and I got married in January 2014 in Vegas. Jim and Dottie (Retired Court Clerk) Webb and Tom (Retired WPD Officer) and Julie Rutledge attended the Wedding.
- *Do you have any hobbies you enjoy and would like to share?* I enjoy cleaning out streams, improving water quality. I also enjoy fur trapping. ♦



Inv. Meyer (r) capture of prison escapee circa 1974

Managing Chaos

continued from pg 1

It is a difficult process when our actions are judged; many don't understand or personally see the physical threats we face. This is where we are thankful for the foundation of our laws, the quality of our training, that our policies are consistent with nationally accepted best practices, and for the integrity our department displays.

How can we ensure continued resilience in a time of chaos so that when peace is restored we don't risk losing our ability to willingly render aid during a crisis, time and time again, without becoming jaded or cynical? We must never forget compassion; it must be how we navigate a situation from beginning to end. A portion of our department's mission statement accurately

reflects our needed response "in times of crisis, we strive to defend public safety, maintain order, and restore a sense of personal wholeness." Every one of us entered the field of public safety to make a difference. In every hiring interview of a true public servant they share the desire for a career in public safety because they want to make a difference.

In a world that seems to be in a chronic state of chaos, we must stand firmly on our foundation and on our belief in humanity and to never forget that sometimes good people make poor decisions. We will always go forward with dignity, honor, and compassion. Our greatest strength continues to be our united response to any call. Let us remain strong as we walk that Thin Blue Line of public safety together. ♦



Barbara J. Norman, 78, of Madison, formerly of Fort Atkinson, passed away Tuesday, March 10, 2015, at

St. Mary's Care Center in Madison. Memorial services were held on Tuesday, March 17, at First Congregational United Church of Christ, Fort Atkinson. Barb worked for the Whitewater Police Department from March 1980 to July 1999 as a member of Support Services. ♦

Whitewater Police Personnel Updates *continued from page 1*



Dispatcher Resignation

Ellen Reddy resigned her position as Part-time Dispatcher on October 9, 2014. Ellen's last day of work was February 6, 2015. We wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors.

WPD Intern

On January 20, 2015, Jacob Crouse started a semester internship with our department, assisting with accreditation and crime prevention initiatives. Jacob is a UW-Whitewater student majoring in Criminal Justice. ♦

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.

- *"...I write this to express my sincere gratitude for the job done on this case by the entire Whitewater Police Department but more specifically singled out for their performance, Officer Tina Winger... and Officer Adam Vander Steeg. These individuals are a pleasure to work with and some of the toughest, smartest law enforcement officers I have had a privilege of interacting with. This case was made on their efforts, I simply told the story... Very truly yours" Daniel A Necci, Walworth County District Attorney*
- *"The Whitewater police have always ALWAYS been professional and sympathetic to this difficult situation. Thanks again, Michael Smith "*
- *"I just wanted to send a thank you to Officer Saul Valadez for his helpfulness during a rescue call. Saul was so helpful with the Spanish speaking patient, that night, he relayed everything that was needed to be asked. It is such a great feeling not only living in this town, but knowing we have such wonderful police officers (city and UW) who are always willing to help on scene when time is of the essence. Be well..." Dawn Kiernan*
- *"I just wanted to let you know that we have appreciated Officer Hintz' support at the Middle School. Officer Hintz is always quick to arrive and a helpful with any task. His professionalism with the students and parents do not go unnoticed and I am truly thankful to have him as part of our team. He is doing a great job and continues to form strong relationships with our students and parents." Whitewater Middle School Principal Wojciechowicz*
- *"A gentleman (didn't give him name) came into the lobby today to thank you for your (Ofc. Weston) help at the rescue call to his residence for him. He said all of you guys (Ofc. Weston and Rescue Squad Members) were great and thank you for the help." Email from Cathy Swartz*
- *"Officer Kolb, I wanted to take a second and thank you for your work following the incidents. As I parent, I want to believe that this situation is minor and just part of being a kid at college. But we have all seen small situations like this escalate into something bigger and I believe your attention to the case from the beginning has helped put it to an end. Your work in making a person feel safe is very much appreciated. Thank you." Frank Morelli ♦*

Presentations and Speeches given by WPD Personnel

- ★ On January 15th, Officer Hintz presented Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence/Sexual Harassment training at Whitewater High School.
- ★ On January 21st, Chief Otterbacher and Officer Martin welcomed the Citizen Academy participants; Officer Vander Steeg and Officer Hintz presented Drug Enforcement training; and Officer Matteson and K9 Boomer presented a K9 Demonstration at the Citizen Academy.
- ★ On January 28th, Officer Elder and Officer Schleis presented Standardized Field Sobriety Test (SFST) training; and Communications Supervisor Lentz and Dispatcher Petersen presented Dispatch Assessment training at the Citizen Academy.
- ★ On February 4th, Officer Becker presented Defense and Arrest Tactics (DAAT) instruction; and Sergeant Gempler presented TASER instruction at the Citizen Academy.
- ★ On February 4th, Officer Elder and Officer Schleis presented Standardized Field Sobriety Test (SFST) to the Volunteer Cadets
- ★ On February 11th, Officer Valadez and Paula Hocking of the Walworth County Alliance for Children presented Sensitive Crimes instruction at the Citizen Academy.
- ★ On February 18th, Officer Weston presented Room Searches/Clearing instruction; and Sergeant Bradford, Sergeant Gempler and Officer Matteson presented Simunitions instruction at the Citizen Academy.
- ★ On February 25th, Officer Ludlum presented Evidence Technician instruction; and Officer Kolb presented Vehicle Contacts instruction at the Citizen Academy.
- ★ On March 16th, Officer Hintz presented Drugs/Alcohol Abuse Information at the Whitewater Middle School for parents. ♦

WPD Anniversaries & Birthdays

April

Justin Stuppy, 2 years on 4/15
 Lisa Otterbacher, 25 yrs on 4/24
 Marsha Peterson, birthday
 Nick Borchardt, birthday
 Ben Lindsey, birthday

May

Michele Martin, 19 years on 5/3
 Bill Oliver, 24 years on 5/13
 Sabrina Ojibway, 17 yrs on 5/14
 Tim Swartz, 14 years on 5/23
 Jennifer Ludlum, birthday
 Cathy Swartz, birthday
 Lisa Otterbacher, birthday

June

Bill Becker, 5 years on 6/1
 Tina Winger, 22 years on 6/28
 Derrick Schleis, 5 years on 6/28
 Jennifer Ludlum, 12 yrs on 6/30
 Kathy Boyd, birthday
 Kathy Hogue, birthday
 Saul Valadez, birthday

School Resource Officer

By: Officer Jake Hintz

On September 2, 2014, I started my first day of school as the School Resource Officer for the Whitewater Unified School District. I began by giving numerous presentations to each grade level and meeting all the students and staff. In doing this, I learned quickly this would be a little different as compared to working 3rd shift patrol. Instead of dealing with college-aged students, I was now dealing with pre-kindergarten to high school seniors, which has brought on many different challenges. I have been able to connect and build relationships with many students and parents.

Since the first day of school, one of goals has been to keep the school district drug free. With the help of Officer Matteson and his K9 partner Boomer, and Walworth County Deputies Wirenga, Hintz, and their K9 partners as well, we have conducted many drug sniffs within school buildings and parking lots. In those searches, the dogs have alerted on lockers, cars, and back packs, which yielded drug paraphernalia. One thing we have found is that many believe that drugs couldn't be present in our schools, but a sad fact is there are. With help from K9 officers, school staff, proactive members of our police department, parents, and students, we are holding a strong front in keeping our schools drug

free.

So far, this year has been a good challenge for me, and I have been able to work with really great students, and members of the staff and community on school and non school issues. One thing that is new this year in reporting issues to law enforcement is the "Tipsoft" program. If you or anyone would like to report crime, suspicious activity, bullying, harassment, and dangerous behavior, please text your tip to "CRIMES" (274637), and begin your message with "tip4wc" followed by the tip. If you have any other concerns, please feel free to call the Whitewater Police Department at 262-473-0555. ♦

Community Connection

Save the Dates for these upcoming events

On February 14th WPD Officer Jake Hintz took the plunge into the ice cold water during the Polar Plunge for Special Olympics. ♦



The WPD was presented with the American Legion Law Enforcement Certificate of Commendation for Outstanding Public Services Benefiting Our Community, State and Nation by the Walworth County Council the American Legion Department of Wisconsin. ♦



WHITEWATER K9
 1mi kiddie run
 5k run/walk
 10k run/walk
 May 30th, 2015
HSINI START
 Run/Walk with your Dog!
 All benefits go to:
K9 UNIT
Race Day Schedule and fees
 Same Day Registration: 7:30am-8:30am
 Kiddie 1-mile Sprint: 8:30am, Cost \$10
 5k/10k Individual: 9:00am, Cost \$20/\$25
 5k/10k Team(3+ People): 9:00am, Cost/Person \$15/\$20
 Register Online or by Mail!
 Organized by the Whitewater PD K9 Committee, contact Heidi or Jim at 262-473-0555
 For more information visit our website: whitewaterk9run.weebly.com

JOIN THE WHITEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT AND OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

National Night Out

Tuesday, August 4, 2015
 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Cravath Lakefront Park
341 S. Fremont St., Whitewater

*FREE FOOD & BEVERAGES *BIKE SAFETY *KIDS CSI
 *K-9 DEMONSTRATION *PRIZES ~ GIVEAWAYS
 *EXPLORE SAFETY VEHICLES *DRIVER SAFETY
 *FAMILY FUN EVENTS

Experience Safety - Hands-On
 Hosted by the Whitewater Police Department

Donations

Chief Otterbacher would like to thank the businesses and individuals who have recently given donations to the Whitewater Police Department.

- ♦ **Basset Club**
 (the funds will be used toward the K9 program)
- ♦ **Mavis Salske**
 (the funds will be used toward the K9 program)

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