



WPD Newsletter

"Protecting our Community"

Volume 73

Spring 2013

Upcoming Events:

- May 12**
Mother's Day
- May 15**
WPD Police Day
Ceremony
- May 15**
Peace Officer's
Memorial Day
- May 18**
UWW Commencement
- May 27**
Memorial Day
- June 1**
K9 5K/10K Run/Walk
- June 11**
Last day for WUSD
Schools
- June 14**
Flag Day
- June 16**
Father's Day

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Mission & Values

by: Chief Otterbacher

Mission and values statements, what do they represent and how should they impact us as representatives of the Whitewater Police Department? Do the words contained within these documents hold distinct value and can they be interwoven into the day-to-day work of public safety? Aren't the department's guiding principles and expectations already outlined in policies and procedures of how we police and serve our community? These are questions many asked when our first mission and values statements were introduced to the Whitewater Police Department in 1992, and are perhaps being asked again in 2013.

There are defining differences between policies and procedures and mission and values statements. Policies and procedures outline how we accomplish a task, the series of checks and balances to ensure we are accomplishing

the necessary elements to affect a lawful arrest and handle various situations to maintain order in the assignments we undertake. Governing rules set the expectations surrounding behavior while carrying out official duties. Mission and values statements reflect our character and identifying how we carry out our duties and the inherent way we respond to the community's needs.

The intent of our mission statement is to describe the overall purpose of our organization: what we do, who we are serving, and how and why we serve in the way we do. We strive to respond to any call as leaders, seeking to police our community as models of character, honor, service, and excellence. We resolve to develop a creative and problem solving workforce who remain dedicated to innovation and prepared to meet the challenges of tomorrow. In times of crisis we must be prepared to defend public safety, maintain order, and seek to restore a sense of

personal wholeness to ensure the panic and pain don't continue through generations to come. Our ultimate goal is to protect and serve our diverse and dynamic community with integrity, dignity and respect. The mission statement must be at the forefront of every employee's mindset when responding to a barking dog or an active shooter; it must define how and why we respond.

Our values statement represents the core ideology of our department; the values that deeply represent what we stand for. Our **commitment to serve** is demonstrated through our enduring service to the people of our community. Our **leadership** is demonstrated through our desire to lead with a success-oriented and courage driven mindset. **Justice** is expressed through integrity, fair treatment and the wisdom demonstrated through our actions and in the completion of all of our duties.

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Patrol Officer Promotion

by: Chief Lisa Otterbacher

We are pleased to announce that we have extended an offer of employment to Derrick Schleis for the position of patrol officer effective January 17, 2013. Derrick is a lifelong resident of the Whitewater community, has been a Community Service Officer since



Chief Otterbacher, Ofc. Schleis and Captain Uhl

June 2010 and has proven to be a valuable asset to the organization and the community. Derrick

has demonstrated that he possesses the character, skills and integrity to become a sworn law enforcement officer.

Derrick began the Police Academy on January 22, 2013 and upon graduation he will immediately begin his field training. Please join me in

congratulating Derrick on his promotion to patrol officer, he will be an excellent complement to the Whitewater Police Department. ♦

Communications, the Key to Our Success

by: Melody Lentz,

Records/Communications Coordinator

The Whitewater Police Department recently underwent an on-site staff study by APCO (the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials). An assessment of procedures, operations, work assignments, budget, and staffing was conducted. The need to analyze staffing levels to accommodate the demands within the Communication Center is appropriate given the numerous changes that have taken place over time, both technologically and operationally.

Communication Centers are often metaphorically referred to as the 'HUB' for all communication activity between law enforcement, fire services, rescue services, public works departments, and other public safety agencies as they receive, relay and respond to the needs of the community and each other. The myriad of simultaneously incoming streams of information must be prioritized, processed and directed to the appropriate service for response. Currently, this is all typically accomplished by one single dispatcher the majority of the time.

The Communication Center in Whitewater is one of four PSAPs (Public Safety Answering Points) that receive 911 calls throughout Walworth County. Along

with receiving all 911 land line calls within the city, the center also receives 911 wireless transfer calls from Walworth, Jefferson, and Rock Counties. The Communication Center is responsible for receiving and dispatching all calls for service for the Whitewater Police Department, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater Police Services, the Whitewater Fire Department and Rescue Squad, and LaGrange Fire and Rescue.

Over decades, the means by which the public requests assistance from Public Safety agencies and how agencies process those requests through Communication Centers has changed dramatically. The technological advances, moving forward from land line phones, to wireless phones, to Voice over IP, Telematics (such as On Star), Video, Text and more, all have an enormous effect on a Communication Center and the ability, or inability, to receive and process the information.

Likewise, managing both the assignment of, and requests from, Police, Fire, and Rescue has also evolved. Keying information into a CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) system for assigning and monitoring Police, Fire, and Rescue unit response is essential. The number of radio transmissions from Police, Fire, Rescue, DPW, and other Public Safety agencies that are monitored has risen as operational responses increase and are more refined. The addition of numerous

radio channels to provide better communication and support interoperability functions between departments has also transpired.

Dispatchers, also referred to as telecommunicators, are **the** essential component of any Communications Center. There is no doubt that they are the 'vital link' for all they serve. They are the critical connection in any call for help, whether it be from a citizen needing emergency services (Police, Fire, or Rescue), or an officer's call for assistance. It is our department's responsibility to provide and sustain a quality response to the increased demands and challenges we have encountered, and in order to do so, additional dispatcher staffing may be necessary to meet these challenges. The final report from APCO will address the challenges we face, and will present options and recommendations instrumental in providing the best service possible to the citizens and departments we serve.

This year, National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week is observed April 14-20. It is only appropriate that we recognize the integral role dispatchers have in emergency service response, their dedication to their chosen profession, and their unwavering service to this community. ♦

Whitewater K9 Project

by: Captain Brian Uhl

The Whitewater Police Department is excited to implement its first ever K9 unit. Because of the dynamics of our community, a Labrador Retriever was selected for our community K-9 Unit. This type of dog is not a bite dog and will not be used for protection or to apprehend suspects. We anticipate the following uses for the new K9:

Detection of Controlled Substances: during traffic stops, search warrants, & consent searches in school/business lockers, vehicle searches and other searches related to arrests

Searching for People: assisting in the location of lost children or persons who

walk away from care facilities and tracking fleeing suspects

Teaching about the Negative Aspects of Drugs in our Community: visits to schools, community groups, and churches better connects the community and the police department.

Implementation of the K9 unit will be in large part dependant on the support we receive from the community. Due to budget constraints we have started a fundraising drive with several members of the police department and community members. We are planning several fundraisers in the near future to include "Scoobie night" at Culvers, a 5k/10k run/ walk, t-shirt sales, cookouts, athletic event donation drives and many more. To date, we have raised about \$5,200 of

our \$45,000 goal. Much of the expense is to cover the vehicle the K9 officer will need. We have already received some gracious donations from community members and businesses and we thank them for their generosity. We have also received commitments from Dr. Newell of the Animal Medical Center to cover any veterinary expenses as well as commitments to cover the cost of food.

If you would like to donate or know someone who may want to donate, please refer them to the City's website for information or they can send a check to the Whitewater Police Department c/o the K9 Committee at 312 W. Whitewater St. Whitewater, WI 53190. ♦

Response to an Active Threat

by: Chief Lisa Otterbacher

On April 20, 1999, law enforcement responded to a school shooting at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado and with this law enforcement response to an active shooter was forever changed. This incident caused law enforcement to recognize that rapid deployment of personnel was essential to countering an active shooter in a school. On December 14, 2012, the law enforcement response to the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting in Newtown, Connecticut once again required response changes, with the recognition that sworn personnel can't react alone to counter a domestic threat, today we need a collaborative response to successfully react to any active threat. This collaboration may now include active measures by school personnel, visitors and parents alike.

Over the years the Whitewater Police Department has appreciated the strong working relationship we have with the Whitewater Unified School District. We have partnered in several annual

meetings to ensure we have a united and trained response to school safety. On January 18, 2013, members of the Whitewater Unified School District leadership team, Whitewater Police Department, UW-Whitewater Police Services, Walworth County Sheriff's Office and Jefferson County Sheriff's Office met to review the existing school response protocol and began assessing what changes needed to be implemented.

Over the past two months there have been several brainstorming sessions, assessment of equipment, and joint training sessions (current and upcoming) to create a revised comprehensive response to an active threat. Members of the strategic team created a response outline, after which, Sergeant Dan Bradford prepared a comprehensive lesson plan, which was formally presented to all school personnel. There isn't a member of the Whitewater School District that wouldn't do everything in their power to protect a child, a co-worker or a visitor walking through a Whitewater school; it is the essence of who they are. However, as we have come to recognize and appreciate, if we don't anticipate threats,

prepare a plan, train on the plan to create strong visual images, personnel won't be prepared, regardless of what physical barriers may be implemented.

We live in an ever changing society and we can't afford to ignore what has altered other communities. What we must learn from a community that has been devastated are the lessons that we need to take away from any tragedy; otherwise it will always remain nothing but a tragic, senseless loss. We need to partner law enforcement with school personnel to teach lessons, skill sets and responses that are not only drills to respond to a possible threat at a school, they should become life lessons. Our long-term hope is that as we teach these new life skills concepts everyone will begin to visual their response beyond their office, classroom, or school and apply them anywhere at any time.

Statically there is less than a 1% chance that an active shooter situation will occur in the city of Whitewater; however we need to remember that same percentage could have been used by Sandy Hook and Columbine schools as well. ♦

Whitewater Agencies Joining WIJIS

by: Kathy Boyd, Support Services Mgr.

In the summer of 2012, UW-Whitewater Police Services Chief of Police Matt Kiederlen and Chief Otterbacher met to review a grant opportunity to join the Office of Justice Assistance's Wisconsin Justice Information Sharing (WIJIS) program. WIJIS provides a statewide justice information sharing system between law enforcement and

justice agencies in addition to the flow of electronic information through the justice system.

The Justice Gateway was launched in 2007 and as of today, has 4,450 users from 420 different law enforcement agencies with more joining regularly. Once the Gateway is accessible we will be able to search all of the contributing agencies databases. Each agency can choose which records they want available for viewing. Our agency will exclude open investigations and juvenile records. Access also includes the ability to search

the District Attorney's database to review current court status. WIJIS is looking to incorporate Department of Correction's records next, giving agencies the ability to determine if an individual is incarcerated.

With the grant secured by Chief Kiederlen, UW-Whitewater will facilitate the grant and coordinate with our shared records management software company and WIJIS to create the necessary interfaces to contribute database records. The projected implementation date will be early 2013. ♦

Mission & Values

Continued from page 1

Our **compassion** is seen through how we treat all people and a desire to restore their sense of wholeness. We actively seek a **partnership** and to work in unison with the community as a whole, making Whitewater a safer place to live, work and play. Then, lastly, we take **pride** in the law enforcement profession and achieve

personal excellence in policing in every task we undertake.

The absence of these defining documents or the error of embracing an outline of poorly written words without passion and commitment are lost opportunities for a department and a community. Our mission and values statements represent the cornerstone of why we have chosen a profession in public service and help build an organizational

culture of highly motivated personnel dedicated to serving the community of Whitewater every day.

My sincere appreciation is extended to Captain Brian Uhl, Sergeant Dan Bradford, Juvenile Officer Saul Valadez and Dispatcher Sabrina Ojibway for their commitment to redefining and reestablishing our mission and values statements. ♦

WPD Retiree Update

What's New with Our Past...

Tom Rutledge



Tom & Julie Rutledge

What was your position with the department when you retired? *Late shift Patrol Officer.*

When did you retire? *December 5, 1995*

How many years did you work for the WPD? *22+ years*

How many positions did you hold with the department? *Patrol Officer, Court Officer, Ident-Kit operator, Intoxilizer Operator, Motor Officer.*

What were the individual positions you held and did you have a particular favorite position with the department? *I enjoyed everything about working at Whitewater Police. Every day was different and calls ranged from the mundane to life threatening. Every day was different.*

What is your best/favorite/funniest memory working for the Whitewater Police

Department? *Officer Rollmann and I went to University Garden Apartments to arrest a suspect on drug related charges and the suspect accused Rollmann of looking into his apartment window to observe his activities; his apartment happened to be on the second story. I remember when I was handling an arrest and as I was talking to the guy, throughout the conversation, every time I would say something Vicki (former Officer Overbee) would tell the person "What he is trying to say is" and she would say the exact same thing I had just told the guy, using the same words I had. Also my last night at WPD when I ran my squad into the rear of the squad Tina (Det. Sgt. Winger) was driving on our way to a fight, it felt kind of good knowing I wasn't going to be disciplined. Another fond memory was when I was OIC and spit in my coffee when an officer dropped the "F" bomb (accidentally) over the radio because a guy wasn't pulling over. Of course there was the shooting of the soda machine, but I can't share the name of the shooting officer, but it did make me laugh, of course once everyone knew no one was hurt.*

What was the hardest part of your career as a law enforcement officer, dispatcher, or support services personnel? *I think any calls related to suicide were the worst for me.*

What do you miss most about the department? *The people I worked with*

over the years, both inside and outside the department. And the members of other departments who we had a close working relationship with.

What do you like the most about retirement? *The freedom to do what you want when you want.*

As you reflect back on your career, knowing what you know today, would you have chosen the same career path; why or why not? *I would do it all over again as there were some bad times and some really good times.*

Where are you currently living? *Julie and I retired to Nevada in December of 1995. We now reside in Clean Green Boulder City. A city about the same size as Whitewater, however we do not have a university campus here. We are just livin' the dream in the desert*

Do you have any family news you would like to share? *We have two grandchildren. Both boys. Our Daughter Erin who lives in Highlands Ranch, CO has a son Garek who is 12yoa. And our son Mark who lives in Fishers IN has a son Jaxon who is 11yoa.*

Do you have any hobbies you enjoy and would like to share? *I still enjoy working with wood and I am restoring a 1976 Jeep. I also work part time in an Auto Parts store. Watching Green Bay Packer and Wisconsin Badger football. ♦*

WPD Anniversaries & Birthdays

April

Lisa Otterbacher, 23 years on 4/24
Marsha Petersen, birthday



May

Michele Martin, 17 years on 5/3
Bill Oliver, 22 years on 5/13
Sabrina Ojibway, 15 years on 5/14
Tim Swartz, 12 years on 5/23
Jennifer Ludlum, birthday

Cathy Swartz, birthday

Lisa Otterbacher, birthday

June

Bill Becker, 3 years on 6/1
John Kleinfeldt, 4 years on 6/8
Mike Ciardo, 31 years on 6/14
Tina Winger, 20 years on 6/28
Derrick Schleis, 3 years on 6/28

Former Sergeant Passes Away

Former Whitewater Police Department Sergeant, Gordon W. Alexander, passed away on March 21, 2013. Gordy was hired as a Patrolman for the Whitewater Police Department in 1967. In 1969, Gordy was appointed as the campus Liaison Officer due to the student tensions and demonstrations that were occurring on and around the campus. His ability to reason and remain calm was the perfect compliment needed at this troubling time. In 1971, Chief Don Simon promoted Gordy to the position of Patrol Sergeant where he remained until 1975 when he resigned to become the Chief of Police in Harvard IL. Gordy was known for leading by example and was admired by co-workers and valued as a deeply devoted family man who touched numerous lives and inspired many. A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, April 13, 2013, at the Daley Murphy Wisch & Associates Funeral Home and Crematorium, 2355 Cranston Road, Beloit, WI. ♦

Whitewater Drug Task Force

by: Detective Adam Vander Steeg

The Whitewater Police Department (WPD) has made drug enforcement a priority and has formed a drug task force consisting of Detectives and Patrol Officers who work as a team to combat drug trafficking in Whitewater. The WPD drug task force works alongside other agencies, including UW-Whitewater Police Services, the Walworth County Sheriff's Office and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, to target and arrest known drug traffickers.

In recent years the Whitewater Police Department has investigated and solved many burglaries, robberies, and victim crimes. What became apparent about the people arrested for those crimes was that a larger portion of them were drug

dependant people, often times committing the crimes simply to obtain items of value in exchange for controlled substances. In 2012, the Whitewater Police Department decided to add an additional method of investigating these crimes, attempting to stop them before they start. The WPD did this by targeting the people using and selling the controlled substances, therefore, letting people know that Whitewater isn't a place for criminals.

Whitewater is susceptible to a drug problem for several reasons, including the following risk factors: geographical proximity to hubs such as Madison, Milwaukee, and Chicago, a large percentage of young inhabitants, and an ever-changing population that includes people with ties to different states and different countries. Arrests surrounding controlled substance possession and

controlled substance sale/manufacturing charges are on the rise. Arrests for possessing a controlled substance increased from 55 arrests in 2010, 66 arrests in 2011 and 106 arrests in 2012. Arrests for sale/manufacturing drugs have also been on the rise from 35 arrests in 2010, 22 arrests in 2011 and 134 arrests in 2012.

In order to bolster the success of the Whitewater Drug Task Force, WPD is in the process of obtaining funding for a K9 Officer. The K9 will be instrumental in drug detection and will be a great resource for officers conducting drug investigations in Whitewater. ♦

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.

- *To Whom It May Concern: In our world today police officers are all too often scrutinized and ridiculed, but in truth civilians have no idea what the job entails or the toll it takes on an individual (and their family) unless they are one, therefore I believe it is important to take a moment to do the exact opposite. Furthermore, with a profession that has parallels to my own, I know that police officers are not looking for thanks or became officers to receive thanks, but I think it is important to let people know when they are appreciated. For those reasons, I would like to thank the officers that responded to my car accident yesterday on Prairie Street a little after 4:00 pm. It was the first time I had ever been in an accident and on a day when I am sure they had to respond to dozens of similar calls they made it a point to be extremely professional, patient, kind, helpful and understanding which made the entire process as less stressful as it possibly could have been for me. I cannot thank you enough for that! Thank you for*

doing what you do and in the manner in which you do it, it does not go unnoticed! Also, thank you to the PD for hiring people who protect and serve in this manner, it speaks volumes. With the utmost respect for your profession.
~ Sarah Bosch

- *Thanks for St. Pats day, this year was one of the better ones. We live on Main Street and had no vandalism and we were able to sleep. We have been residents of Whitewater since 2004 and have experienced some challenging St. Patrick's Days, we are appreciative of what your department does and the extra work you do, thanks so much.* ~ Tom and Donna Vaughn ♦
- *FYI - Congratulations/Kudos to CSO Aaron Gross and NSO Brody Fiedler. The 2 were off-duty at Aaron's apartment today and saw the little black dog that has eluded us for so long. They lured the dog into Aaron's apartment and confined it in the kitchen area - where it proceeded to defecate as much as it possibly could. I'm pretty sure it has been eating garbage, because what came*

out of it was one of the worst things I have ever smelled. It did not enjoy being confined and furthermore, it did not enjoy being secured by Brody with the noosed pole. With Brody controlling the head, I was able to grab the back end of the dog and get it into the animal carrier. As I am writing this, the dog is in the animal carrier in the sally port waiting for Tammy Neumeister to come and take possession of it. So, I feel that a commendation is appropriate for both Aaron and Brody for going "above and beyond" in their off-duty time. ~ Ofc. Michele Martin ♦



NSO Brody Fiedler and CSO Aaron Gross with the elusive little black dog.

Community Connection

Polar Plunge for Special Olympics February 16, 2013



l to r: UWPD Lt Faye Schouton, MC for the event, along with Walworth County Undersheriff Kurt Picknell, and judges Chief Otterbacher and UWPD Chief Kiederlen



WPD Ofc Jake Hintz (middle) takes the "plunge" with UWPD officers



Cathy Swartz (pictured), Angela Sahr and Kathy Hogue represented the WPD K9 Committee at the Chili at the Freeze Fest chili cook-off. A thank you goes to Jan Bilgen for making the chili and for all who donated supplies.

JUNE 1, 2013

Register at www.Active.com

Or See our race web site!

www.whitewaterk9run.weebly.com

Early Bird Prices
\$5 off through
March 31, 2013

Silent Auction
will be held with
items from area
businesses!

Events:
1mi. Kiddie Sprint
5k Run/Walk
10k Run/Walk

Cravath Lakefront Park
Time: 9:00a.m.

PRIZES
will be awarded to
top finishers (male
and female) in each
age group

Event Fees:
Kiddie Sprint- \$10
5k- \$20
10k- \$25

**WHITEWATER
K9
5k/10k Run/Walk**

***Dog/Owner Teams are encouraged
to participate in the 5k and 10k***

For more information contact:
Jim Elder: jelder@whitewater-wi.gov
Heidi Gempler: 262-903-5410

SAVE THE DATE

Whitewater Police Department Police Day Ceremony

Our annual Police Day Ceremony will be held on
Wednesday, May 15, 2013 at 4:30p.m.
in the Community Room of the Municipal Building.

We will again be hosting an Open House event
at the police department from 12pm to 3pm.



Whitewater Police Department

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WHITEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT

MISSION STATEMENT

WE STRIVE TO BE LEADERS IN POLICING FOR OUR COMMUNITY AND MODELS OF CHARACTER, HONOR, SERVICE, AND EXCELLENCE.

WE RESOLVE TO DEVELOP A CREATIVE AND PROBLEM SOLVING WORKFORCE DEDICATED TO INNOVATION AND MEETING THE CHALLENGES OF TOMORROW.

IN TIMES OF CRISIS, WE STRIVE TO DEFEND PUBLIC SAFETY, MAINTAIN ORDER, AND RESTORE A SENSE OF PERSONAL WHOLENESS.

OUR GOAL IS TO PROTECT AND SERVE OUR DIVERSE AND DYNAMIC COMMUNITY WITH INTEGRITY, DIGNITY, AND RESPECT.

VALUES

COMMITMENT TO SERVICE



LEADERSHIP

JUSTICE

COMPASSION

PARTNERSHIP

PRIDE