Believe in Your Community

Be On the Look-Out is common police jargon to typically broadcast information to other law enforcement agencies information. Our partnership and ability to share information with the people of our community is invaluable to keeping our neighborhoods safe.

A Message from Sheriff Jason Myers

I was recently contacted by Lt. John Stanley, a historian with the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department (LASD). Lt. Stanley had been performing research on fallen peace officers from the past and came upon the story of St. Paul, Oregon Marshal, Joseph H. Krechter, who was gunned down while breaking up a barroom brawl in September 1906. Marshal Krechter’s murder had not been recognized on either the Oregon or national law enforcement memorials.

Upon notification, I contacted Director Erik’s Gabliks with Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) and requested that Marshal Joseph H. Krechter be considered for inclusion on the Oregon Fallen Law Enforcement Officer Memorial through the historic recognition process. After the request was reviewed, DPSST determined that Marshal Joseph H. Krechter’s name should be included on the Oregon Fallen Law Enforcement Officer Memorial. At a ceremony on May 5th, 2015, Marshal Krechter was added alongside the names of more than 160 other peace officers who have given their lives in the line of duty in Oregon since 1880.

Below is a brief summary of the actions of Marshal Krechter leading up to his line of duty sacrifice. In September 1906, Joseph H. Krechter, Marshal of St. Paul, was instantly killed and several other men were injured in a shooting that was the outcome of a drunken brawl which had been pending all day in a local saloon. A crew of hop pickers had been working in the yards, and, after being paid, were celebrating the event in the saloon.

Believe in Your Community
(Sheriff’s Message Continued)

After nightfall, Marshal Krechter tried to arrest the rioting men and restore peace, but the men turned on officers and fired weapons. Marshal Krechter was killed and a worker was seriously injured. The Sheriff of Marion County and his Deputy arrested three men relating to the incident. Warren Bastman, of Astoria, was ultimately charged with the murder.

Over the past five years, the LASD has located and honored almost a dozen peace officers from the past whose sacrifice in the line of duty was not known. We would like to acknowledge the work of the historians at the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department and thank Director Gabliks and DPSST for their dedication to honoring fallen law enforcement officers.

By Sheriff Jason Myers
MCSO

Never Forgotten

National Police Week

The week in which May 15th falls each year is known as National Police Week, with May 15th being designated as National Peace Officers’ Memorial Day. Fallen peace officers from throughout America’s history are honored for their sacrifices at a memorial in Washington D.C. To date, over 20,000 names of officers killed in the line of duty are honored on this memorial. Unfortunately, new names get added to the memorial each spring.

Locally, Oregon’s fallen peace officers are honored at a ceremony held each May at the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training facility in Salem.

Deputy Kelly Fredinburg
End of Watch: June 16, 2007
Honor Guard

The Honor Guard is a special unit comprised of four deputies. This unit is comprised of four deputies who have a very unique uniform which is special for paying respect to their fallen comrades and their families. Sergeant Bill Sherburn, Deputy Shawn Bush, Deputy Alicia O’Neil, and Deputy Jeff Nicoloff are the distinguished deputies trusted by the county to uphold this duty. This unit not only pays the utmost respect to their fallen coworker and family but, also maintains the most professional image on behalf of the Sheriff’s Office.

There is no price that can be put on the cost of a deputy’s life. The cost of these uniforms total up to about $1,500.00. The uniform combination in which most agencies use is all one color with a black hat, jacket, and pants.

However, Marion County is unique with a uniform combo using a black hat and jacket and green duty pants. Deputy Bush states, “We do this special unorthodox combination because it stands out and simply pops”. In terms of this uniform standing out, Deputy Bush is spot on. Their presence in full uniform is rare and reserved for very special events. The first and most important event these deputies get called upon is the tragic event of a fallen deputy.

However, they also do attend events like the Law Enforcement Memorial which takes place on May 5th. The Firefighter Memorial is another event in which one can see the Marion County Honor Guard in action. More recently, the Honor Guard could also be seen at the swearing in of the new hires coming in to join the team here at the Sheriff’s Office.

When the deputies selected to be on the honor guard are called upon, they are in a very quiet, good and straight posture, and professional manner. (Cont’d pg. 4)
This is due to the concept that if they are in this particular uniform it is for a very serious and or sensitive manner. We all hope not to see these deputies in their honor guard uniforms. However, if we do, they can be counted on to represent the sheriff’s office, its cause, and those who have fallen in the line of duty in the way that the Sheriff, the community, and coworkers expect it to be represented.

Jordan McDonald
MCSO Intern
Western Oregon University

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Friendly Faces of the Sheriff’s Office

Marion County Sheriff’s Office is featuring two individuals this quarter that are essential for the operations of this office. Their hard work and dedication is appreciated.

Deputy Elsa Navarro
Background Investigator
Deputy Since 2001

Barbara Advey
Operations Division- Records
Since 2007

Believe in Your Community
Believe In Your Community

There are certainly many challenges’ facing the law enforcement community today— but with challenges comes opportunity. The Marion County Sheriff’s Office has a vision for a new kind of community engagement. One that doesn’t start and end with a single call or interaction, but develops a relationship over time and creates an opportunity for an ongoing positive engagement, with a meaningful impact between deputies and the community, on key public safety issues and providing easy access to resources.

Believe in Your Community is a mindset and catchphrase meant to capture the idea that the Sherriff’s Office can be more than just a law enforcement agency; it can provide a vital connection between the community and the good work/resources that many organizations offer and are doing, that unfortunately can be difficult to uncover. The vision is to create a website and social media campaign to promote resources and organizations that are having a positive impact in the community, so that more people can tap into them.

“People in our communities will have a website to check and be directed to services or providers who may be able to make a difference in people’s lives,” said the programs chief architect, Undersheriff Troy Clausen. “We can be a conduit for telling the story of how our community and people are making a difference in people’s lives, business and through volunteers”. The Sheriff’s Office is developing a plan, to not only feature positive stories and organizations, but also allow vetted vendors, practitioners, and programs to link their sites to the “Believe” site, linking the community to each other. “We can be a conduit for telling the story of how our community and its people are making a difference in people’s lives…” said Undersheriff Clausen. Certainly the community and law enforcement officers face challenges, especially in this day and age, but facing them together in a positive, proactive way, not only makes for stronger community, but potentially helps reduce pressures that lead to negative outcomes. All you have to do is: BELIEVE

Jameson Hall
MCSO Intern
Lt. Steele Retires

I recently sat down with Lieutenant Timothy Steele, who retired at the end of March after a 27 year career with the Marion County Sheriff’s Office and 32 years in Law Enforcement. Our conversation gave Lt. Steele a chance to reflect back over his career and the pride he feels in having made law enforcement and community service his life’s work. Lt. Steele actually started his law enforcement career shortly after graduating high school and joining the US Army as a military policeman. During his three years in the service, Steele was stationed to Ft. McClellan, Alabama and Fort Leavenworth, Kansas where he was afforded the opportunity to work a variety of law enforcement assignments. He worked in crime prevention, traffic accident investigation, and dignitary protection and criminal investigations. He was a team leader of the area strategic reaction team, an early version of SWAT. While he was an MPI Investigator, he was assigned to a civilian detective team investigating a brutal family murder which was tied to a military service member. The case drew national attention because of the manner in which the victims were mutilated. After leaving the Army and while attending college, Steele became a reserve and temp- hire deputy with Benton County Sheriff’s Office in 1986. Gaining more law enforcement experience as he went, Steele applied for reserve deputy with the Marion County Sheriff’s Office two years later, but when he got the call to go to work it was as a full-time patrol deputy. He joined this office in August of 1988.

Lt Steele has had a varied career at MCSO, starting as a patrol deputy in what was then District 4 in an office at the Silverton Police Department. He was selected 6 months later to work on the Traffic/DUII Enforcement Team spending two years enforcing DUII and traffic laws while driving a Mustang. In one month while on the DUII team, he and partner Deputy Greg Sparks together made 83 DUII arrests. In 1991, Steele helped open the South District Office in Stayton and was assigned a brand new IROC Camaro to work traffic enforcement. In 1992, he was assigned to the Youth Services Team in the Detective Section for a year, and then to the Sheriff Bob Prinslows’ Community Action Team. (Cont’d pg 7)
He was tasked as Prinslows’ spokesman and Public Information Officer from 1994 to 1997 when he was promoted to Patrol Sergeant. As a sergeant, Steele had opportunities to build new programs and develop closer ties to the communities served by the Sheriff’s Office. He supervised the Traffic Safety Team and started Marion County’s first ever Motors Unit. After serving a stint as a patrol shift commander, Steele was assigned again to the South District as the Deputy District Commander.

In 1999, Tim became the South District Commander and built on relationships he had developed with the people in the Santiam Canyon communities. Through a partnership with the U.S. Forest Service, Steele was able to write a proposal to obtain funding for two Detroit Forest Patrol deputies under the Federal Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 or “Title 3” as it was known as. Later, he was able to secure even more funding that paid for his position, two deputies, three 4x4 vehicles, and Search and Rescue equipment and training. These positions provided much needed law enforcement and Search and Rescue services to the Santiam Canyon communities and National Forest lands. In 2003, Tim was appointed to a unique committee by the US Secretary of Agriculture. During his time on the Federal Advisory Board, he helped develop policy federal regulations regarding public use of the Opal Creek Scenic Recreation Area. He spent his time patrolling federal forest lands in the Santiam Canyon, coordinating Search and Rescue missions, enforcing marine laws on Detroit Lake, and managing those programs from his office at the Detroit Ranger Station.

Steele developed a model Search and Rescue program that has been utilized by many Sheriff’s Offices across the state. In 2007 while Chair of the Oregon State Sheriff’s Association SAR Advisory Council; he was tasked to be a lead investigator reviewing the tragic James Kim Family Search in Southern Oregon. This lead to a Governors panel that researched the manner in which Sheriff’s Offices and the State Office of Emergency Management responded to Search and Rescue missions.

In 2007, Steele became the Detective Sergeant overseeing the Criminal Investigations Unit and Street Crimes/Narcotics team. Steele and his unique team of long-haired bearded detectives were able to make a significant impact solving neighborhood drug house problems, investigating mid-level drug trafficking organizations and illegal marijuana grows. This turned out to be his favorite and “most fun” assignment (Cont’d pg 8).
Tim was promoted to lieutenant in 2010 and transferred to the Institutions Division for 3 years overseeing contracts and administrative functions. He moved downtown to the Operations Division in 2013, rounding out his career writing policies and managing the Professional Standards Unit, Accreditation, Civil, Records, CHL, Training, and Admin teams. The office he ended his career in is coincidentally the same office that Lt. Will Hingston hired him in back in the summer of 1988.

Tim is rightfully proud of his 32 year police career. He is glad he chose to join the Marion County Sheriff’s Office and is thankful for the many great opportunities afforded him. He is also thankful for Marion County Government and the stable employment atmosphere it has provided for his family. Tim has been awarded Life Saving medals from the Sheriff’s Office and the Oregon State Sheriff’s Association. Additionally, he’s received the Distinguished Service Award, the Community Policing Award, and several Sheriff’s Special Recognition Awards. He was recognized by the Oregon State Marine Board as Program Manager of the Year in 2004 and again in 2006. He received Marion County’s Vision Award in 1996.

Throughout his career, he’s driven high performance police cars, 4X4’s, ATV’s, Snowmobiles, Jet skis, Drift boats, Jet boats, hovercrafts, and has flown in helicopters and airplanes. Tim has been an agency Firearms Instructor, EVOC Instructor, and State Marine Board Jet boat Instructor on the Rogue River.

Tim plans to take some time off from work to sleep in, fish the afternoon bite, and relax at his home and workshop along the Santiam River before pursuing his next adventure. Good luck to Lieutenant Steele. Enjoy your retirement!

John Basalto
MCSO Volunteer

Believe in Your Community
Women and the Law: Pioneering Women in Marion County

Decades before women made real inroads in the workplace, two women held leadership roles in providing law and order in Marion County. The fields of endeavor these two women chose, in particular, were very difficult professions to break into for women at the time and these two women not only made it, but they excelled.

The first of these women was Alma I. Johnson-Malstrom, who became the Chief Deputy for the Marion County Sheriff’s Office in 1945. Alma had worked as a bookkeeper and stenographer for local law offices for more than a dozen years before being hired by Sheriff Denver Young as an office deputy in the Civil Division. A short time after coming to work in the Office, Sheriff Young saw Alma’s leadership abilities and promoted her to the Chief Deputy position, the equivalent of today’s undersheriff. She was put in charge of the Civil Division, and, according to retired Undersheriff Richard Bay, many of the policies and procedures she put into place are still being used today. Alma held the Chief Deputy position for almost twenty years during Sheriff Young’s tenure. The sheriff considered himself very fortunate to have such an able assistant and he came to rely heavily on her advice and counsel. Alma Malstrom left the Sheriff’s Office at the end of Sheriff Young’s last term in January 1965. She partnered with Denver Young and opened a civil process serving business that year. The two stayed in that business together into the 1990s.

Hattie Bratzel-Kreman took an entirely different path in her quest towards working for law.
and order. While still in high school she took a secretarial course, during which she apprenticed in a local law office. She was offered a job in the office when she graduated, and followed her boss to the courthouse when he was elected Marion County District Attorney. After leaving the District Attorney’s Office she became a court reporter, serving as the official court reporter for Marion, Polk and Yamhill counties. In 1945, while still continuing to serve as a court reporter during the day, she started attending law school at night at the Northwestern College of Law in Portland. In February 1947, Judge James T. Brand, who would later become the chief justice of the Oregon State Supreme Court, was appointed to the International Military Tribunal Court in Nuremberg, Germany, conducting Nazi war crimes trials. Judge Brand knew Hattie as a court reporter, and chose her to be his confidential secretary and court reporter. She spent twenty months in Europe. She later told biographer Susan Glen that during the trials she heard horrible details of medical experiments on people and of people being executed for offences as trivial as believing that Germany was going to lose the war.

Returning to the United States, Hattie returned to law school, earning her degree in 1950.

She passed the bar in 1951 and went into private practice. But she felt compelled to serve on the side of law and order. She ran for the office of District Attorney in 1952 and lost. She ran again in November 1956, winning that election and taking office on January 7, 1957, becoming the first woman district attorney in the state of Oregon. She served as Marion County’s district attorney for eight years. She lost the 1964 election and returned to private practice after she left office in January of 1965. Both of these trailblazing women left a rich legacy for the women who followed.

Today, there are many women working at all levels in both the Sheriff’s Office and District Attorney’s Office. I think that every resident of Marion County can look at the truly amazing accomplishments of Alma Johnson-Malstrom and Hattie Bratzel-Kreman with pride.

John Basalto
MCSO Volunteer
Summer Safety Tips
A few tips for staying safe during this spring

Spring is in the air, and that means whenever the sun is out everyone takes advantage of it. Whether it be spring cleaning, yard maintenance, sun tanning, or even just playing with the kids in the yard here are a few safety tips to help keep you and your family safe as the warm weather returns.

Staying safe during spring cleaning

- If moving heavy objects always remember to lift with your legs.
- Keep all cleaners and sprays out of the reach of children.
- If cleaning out dusty areas wear a mask and proper eye protection.

Staying safe during yard work

- Keep tools off of the ground and out of the reach of children.
- Don’t leave your tools out in your yard after you are done working.
- Wear ear and eye protection when using power tools, or when mowing.
- Do not leave your garage door open if you will not be near it.
- Remember to close all doors and windows when going out.
- Think about where you are going to place your plants. You don’t want to plants shrubs that would block a window and give a thief a place to hide.

Keeping the kids safe

- Double check helmet straps
- Make sure they stay hydrated
- If swimming or near a pool make sure they are being supervised

Ahhh spring, love is in the air, birds are singing, the cloudy northwest skies are opening up for the beautiful long summer days to come, and everyone is outside enjoying the weather, and school is winding down, what a great time of year. Remember the key to your safety is you. Have a happy and safe spring…summer is just around the corner!

Jameson Hall
MCSO Intern
Willamette University

Deputy David Zahn and a Marine Cadet patrol Detroit Lake.
We’re on the Web!
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http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mfUVjf28ulk&index=14&list=UU9ioKRQjrKCm0SJYFnTZUIQ

Please forward any comments or suggestions to our e-mail;
Thebolo@co.marion.or.us

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