

## PORTAGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

### 2012 ANNUAL REPORT



#### **Officer Bill Charlebois recognized for saving the life of a young boy**

Officer Bill Charlebois was given a letter of commendation and a life-saving ribbon at the city council meeting on December 13<sup>th</sup> for saving the life of a nine-year-old Portage boy. Early Saturday morning, 12-01-12, Officer Charlebois responded to a fire call at 127 East Marion Street. Upon his arrival, he learned that there was a child still inside the home. Despite the fact that Sgt. Malchow advised him that he did not know if it was possible to make entry into the house because of the intense heat and smoke, he decided to enter the home. He got down on his hands and knees due to the heavy smoke and tried to stay as low as he could. He moved along the floor feeling it with his hands and used his flashlight and at the same time, he called out for the child to come to him. He continued further into the residence still yelling loudly for the child. At some point, he located Payton, a nine year old boy. The two of them grabbed onto each other and Officer Charlebois scooped him up and carried him towards the exit of the structure as quickly as he could to get him outdoors and away from the building. Sgt. Malchow advised that what Officer Charlebois did was heroic and truly exceptional and he believes the boy would have lost his life had Officer Charlebois not acted when he did.

Congratulations & Welcome to  
Officer Dennis Pomeroy  
New Badge #7

Swearing In Ceremony on Monday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012



Dennis, his wife, Shannon & their daughter, Megan



## Officer Dennis Pomeroy

On July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012, Dennis Pomeroy became the department's newest full-time officer. He is Badge #7 and replaced Officer Gary Petersen who took an early retirement.

Officer Pomeroy received a Citizen of the Year award from the Appleton Police Department in 2010 for his volunteer work and he has a strong interest in community service. We're glad to have him join our department.

## Officer Gary Petersen's Retirement:

On June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012, Officer Gary Petersen retired after serving on our department for over 24 years.



Gary & his wife, Deb



Gag gift given to Gary at his retirement party



New Badge #7 & Old Badge #7



Gary receiving retirement plaque- it includes one of his badges



Old Badge #7 & New Badge #1



Gary & PFC President Tom Drury

**Secretary Judy Banks' retirement:**

On November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012, Secretary Judy Banks retired after serving our department more than 18 years.



Dawn Wilcox (Municipal Clerk), Judy, Jen Mecum (Police Secretary)



Judy Banks with Detective Klaude Thompson & Detective Dan Pionke



Judy's workplace decorated for her last day by Penny, Jen & Kevin (Todryk)



Judy's surprise potluck party held in the Police & Fire training room



Chief Manthey presenting Judy with her Retirement plaque



Judy with her two daughters, Amy & Kim



Jen & Judy with her retirement cake; the two of them made a great team.



Judy's Retirement Plaque

## Hiring of Two Community Service Officers in 2012:

With the loss of our dispatch center starting January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012, we still needed personnel to do the other duties that our dispatchers performed. In borrowing the idea from Baraboo Police Department and other police departments, we brought forth the proposal to hire two Community Service Officers. We were given permission to hire one the first of the year and to hire the second one at a later date. Dispatcher Jerilyn Jerome applied for and became our first Community Service Officer and she officially started on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012. (Jerilyn has been a loyal employee since 1997; we were glad that she could continue to work for us.) Former Dispatcher Kevin Todryk applied for the second CSO position and he competed against twenty-eight other applicants to get the position. (Kevin was a dispatcher for us from 2007 through 2011 and left because of the loss of dispatch.) He returned as a CSO on 9-11-12. The Community Service Officers' duties include:

- Ordinance enforcement including animal complaints & junk vehicles & other quality of life issues such as tall grass, unshoveled walks, etc.
- Assist in special events including parades, bike rodeos, crowd control, open house, senior safe night out, Kids' Day, etc.
- Parking enforcement & record keeping & follow-up letters/contacts
- Assists crossing guards and fill in as a substitute when needed
- Motorist assists and funeral escorts (when officers are busy on priority calls)
- Performs secretarial and receptionist duties: types police reports; prepares, sorts, files and maintains reports and case materials such as incident and accident reports; takes complainant statements; handles incoming and outgoing mail.
- Assist with squad, garage & property room maintenance
- Performs other duties as required. (including making contact with citizens who forget to sign their absentee ballots for voting)

**CSO Jerilyn Jerome**



**CSO Kevin Todryk**



**Hiring of another part-time officer:** (Tom Moore was hired as our first part-time officer)

Officer Mike Schutz was hired as a part-time officer after first being approved by the Police & Fire Commission. He came to us highly recommended from the Wisconsin Dells Police Department where he worked as a full-time LTE (limited term employee) Mike was also a police intern for us back in 2010 when he was attending UW-Platteville where he received his bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. He was sworn in by City Clerk Marie Moe on 11-19-12.



**PFC President Tom Drury recognized for twenty five years of service:**

On 2-15-12, Fire Chief Simonson & Police Chief Manthey presented a plaque to PFC President Tom Drury for 25 years of service. He has been involved in the hiring of all officers who have joined the department since 1987.



**Police & Fire Commissioners L-R  
Chuck Miller, Jeynell Boeck, Tom Drury, Kay Miller, Pat Hartley**

## Officer Bob Bagnall recognized for OMVWI enforcement efforts:



Portage Police Officer Bob Bagnall, who works the midnight shift, was recognized in October for his efforts to stop drunk drivers. Officer Bagnall has arrested, since Jan. 1, 2003, about 600 drivers suspected of operating under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Counting from the time Bagnall began with the department in June 1996, the number comes to about 1,400. "He's saved a lot of lives out there," said Assistant Police Chief Kevin O'Neill. "It could be yours. It could be the drunk's."

Officer Bagnall was honored in October with a commendation from the U.S. Department of Transportation and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for his efforts to stop drunken drivers in Portage. On a personal note, Bob lost his 21 year old cousin when he was 16 years old; his cousin was driving his motorcycle home from a visit to his girlfriend when he was struck and killed by a drunken driver.

Officer Bagnall said the award is an honor. "But more importantly, it's a tribute to the department as a whole," Bagnall said. The department's support is necessary: each arrest requires about two hours to process, and for those two hours, he is not on patrol. Any calls must be picked up by another officer. "It takes a lot of work on everybody's behalf," Bagnall said. His advice to those who drink: "If you drink, don't drive. Have a designated driver. Or call a cab," Bagnall said. "I'm just out there doing my thing, trying to make sure the people are safe."

## **COMMUNITY RELATIONS:**

### **CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY CLASS #3**

Class of 2012  
City of Portage Police Department- 3<sup>rd</sup>. Annual  
**Citizens' Academy**



In January of 2012, we started up our 3<sup>rd</sup> Citizen Police Academy Citizen Police Academy. We had another great group of citizens attend. Officer Gary Petersen was the main coordinator but many of our officers gave presentations on fields that they have specialized training in. This is a 10 week program (which runs from January through March) to show citizens the different kinds of training that we go through so that we can perform our duties to the best of our abilities. Topics included firearms & Tasers, traffic stops, drug investigations, emergency management, CVSA, surveillance equipment, VARDAs, cameras, legal issues, sex offenders, Triad, domestic abuse, fingerprinting & DNA, DARE/School Liaison, Amber Alert/ A Child is Missing/ Project Lifesaver, Defense and Arrest Techniques/ Handcuffing & OMVWI & SFST (Standard Field Sobriety Testing) If you would like to join the 2014 class, please contact me. (You need to be at least 18 years old and have some direct connection to the City of Portage)

We received many positive comments from the participants. They said that they wished that the program could have gone on longer. They said they had no idea how extensive our training needs to be and the wide variety of calls that we handle. They were very impressed with all of the officers who gave presentations.

## **VI.P.S. (Volunteers In Police Services) Program**

In 2010, we started a “Volunteers in Police Services” program under the direction and coordination of Ass’t Police Chief Kevin O’Neill. This is made up of unpaid citizens who have completed ten weeks of training with the Citizen’s Police Academy and expressed a willingness to stay affiliated with our department. Future membership will require the person to be either a Citizens Police Academy graduate, a student presently enrolled full-time in a college-level Law Enforcement program, or formal Police Academy graduate not yet employed by an agency. A potential member may also be a former law enforcement officer, either retired or a former police officer who chose to go into another career field. Any prior law enforcement person *must* have left their previous department under favorable/honorable terms.

None of the volunteers are armed and they do not have police arrest powers. They may wear a pull over or shirt with “Volunteer” on it. Safety vests worn will either be plain or state “volunteer”. Any identification card issued to them will clearly show “volunteer”.

The volunteers have trained one evening per month with the primary focus on emergency management. In 2012, the volunteers assisted us with numerous parades and helped us out with several Halloween related events.



Officer Gary Petersen teaching radar to VIPS (Volunteers In Police Services)

## **DARE/School Liaison Officer/School functions**

- We continue to support the DARE training in all of the schools in the City of Portage not only for the educational value but for the bonding that takes place between the officer and the students.
- When needed, we supply an officer at dances, football games, basketball games, or other community events.
- We also assist the schools with their Homecoming Parade, the High School graduation and the Project Graduation lock-in. Det. Thompson and I attend the new teacher program held each year in August.
- Officer AJ Brauner was the chaperone for the school safety patrol trip from May 14<sup>th</sup> through May 18<sup>th</sup>.
- We assisted Rusch School with traffic control, vests and cones for the "Run for Rusch" on May 12<sup>th</sup>; they again had a great turn-out.
- We are happy to give talks or presentations in the schools on just about any law enforcement related topic. We also give tours of the police department and have students "job-shadow" with police officers.
- We work with five full-time crossing guards & one substitute and they do an outstanding job for us. Warren Taylor, Jayne Krall, Marie Hoffer, George Hove & Virgil Chance are the regulars and Don Picha is a substitute. (George retired in June and Wally Roderick took over his corner in the fall) Det. Lt. Hahn continues to be their supervisor. Crossing Guard Recognition Week was held from January 9<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup>.
- We had our annual bike rodeo on May 12<sup>th</sup>; approximately 100 bike helmets were given away; these were donated by the Salvation Army, two bikes were donated by Kiwanis (given away through a drawing) and Divine Savior Hospital/EMS staff helped out with the fitting of the helmets. Children were taught how to ride their bikes safely and we had another great turn-out.



**2012 Bike Rodeo**

Community Service Officer Jerilyn Jerome, Officer AJ Brauner, Lt. Penny Kiefer

- Chief Manthey attended the 2012 Heroes Program at Rusch Elementary School on 11-14-12.
- We had the privilege of helping to escort the Portage High School Boys Baseball team into town as State Champions on 6-14-12.
- Chief Manthey helped out with “Law Day” at the Columbia County Courthouse on 5-01-12; students from three different school districts participated.
- We help the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts in Portage by assisting them in earning their badges. We have fingerprinted them, given tours of the Police Department and Safety Talks, sat on evaluation boards for Eagle Scout and attended their ceremonies.
- Chief Manthey & Mayor Jahn participated in a forum at the Columbia County Courthouse with the student group FLAG (Future Leaders in Active Government) on 1-25-12.

### **Neighborhood Watch**

- We continue to work with the neighborhood watch groups: Sgt.’s Klafke and Fehd are sharing this responsibility as liaisons.

### **Triad/S.A.L.T. (Seniors And Law enforcement working Together.**

- We continue to work with TRIAD/SALT. Lt. Penny Kiefer is the lead person on these programs.
- Numerous 9-1-1 cell phones have been distributed this past year through the direction of Lt. Kiefer and with the help of citizen volunteers.
- Every spring, a training day is held in the Senior Center below City Hall.
- Medication collection has taken place due to the partnership formed between TRIAD, Walgreen’s, Portage PD & Divine Savior Healthcare; we also have a drug safe in our lobby where people can drop off prescription medication that is no longer being used.
- In October, they had a Senior Safe Night where they get together at the VFW for a nice meal and entertainment.
- The seniors made blankets and caps which were given to young victims of sexual and physical abuse.

### **Regional Sex Offender Notification Team**

- Our Sex Offender Notification Team meets monthly and strives to keep the public informed, as soon as possible, of any new released offenders moving into our area. Det. Lt. Hahn is now our department Liaison and he is assisting Det. Lt. Roger Brander of the Columbia County Sheriff’s Department in running this team. Besides Portage PD and the Columbia County Sheriff’s Department, the State of WI Probation & Parole, the Department of Corrections, the District Attorney’s Office and the Victim-Witness Office make up this team. We also invite Police Chiefs from other communities to attend our meetings if a sex offender is moving into their jurisdiction.

### **Business Security Checks**

- Our patrol officers continue to perform security checks on businesses at night. They will occasionally leave a card informing the business owner that we were checking their business; we have received a lot of positive responses from business owners on this program.

### **Columbia County Crimestoppers:**

- We continue to work with Columbia County Crimestoppers. Det. Lt. Hahn and Det. Pionke are the liaisons from our department.
- Crimestoppers continues to help our department solve crimes in and around Portage.

### **Portage Police Chaplains Program**

- Our four current police chaplains were:
  - Pastor Dick Inglett of Bethlehem Lutheran Church
  - Father Jim Murphy of St. Mary's Catholic Church
  - Pastor Scott Schultz of the Cross of Christ Lutheran Church
  - Pastor Christian Ronalds of the 7<sup>th</sup> Day Adventist Church
- We had our annual Police Chaplain meeting in December of 2012 and three chaplains signed up for the on-call list to cover the year of 2013. (Pastor Ronalds had to step down because of other obligations & responsibilities)

### **Fire Calls**

- Our officers respond to fire calls and help with traffic control and assist the Portage Fire Department in any way we can. We have a very good working relationship with the fire department. Two of our officers (AJ Brauner & David Clark) continue to serve as volunteer firefighters.

### **Special Events:**

- We assist in all kinds of special events such as Memorial Day Parade, Canal Day Parade, Labor Day Parade, Taste of Portage, Pumpkin Fest, Living Windows, the Christmas Parade and the Christmas Train. Portage can be very proud of all the great activities they offer to the greater Portage area.

### **Ride-Along Program:**

- We offer citizens the opportunity to ride with a police officer. We will first do a brief background check on the person and they must sign a waiver of liability form. This gives the general public a better idea what our police officers do and it especially provides them with some insight in the event they're contemplating becoming a police officer.

## Open House

- We had our annual open house on October 13th, 2012, in conjunction with the Fire Department's open house. Lt. Penny Kiefer is in charge of organizing this from the police department's standpoint. The turn-out from the public was very good; it was especially nice to see all of the young families coming through. Kyle Stanley agreed to be Tasered; we appreciated his willingness to participate in this; this event is one of the most popular events. Below is the picture of Kyle right after he was Tasered.



Officer Jason Stenberg, Sgt. Keith Klafke and Officer Bill Charlebois of the Portage Police Department tend to Kyle Stanley, who volunteered to have a Taser used on him at the annual police and fire department open house Saturday at the Portage Fire Department. Stanley was no worse for the wear after a few minutes of recovery.

## Ambulance Calls:

- Our officers respond to every ambulance call when possible (with the exception of routine transfers) We responded to an all-time high of **788** ambulance calls in 2012 compared to 717 in 2011 and 548 in 2008.
- Several lives were saved in 2012 due to the quick response & actions of police officers and Emergency Medical Services.

***INTERGOVERNMENTAL/INTERAGENCY:***

Our department continues to have solid working relationships with all of the agencies that we partner with. The Columbia County Chiefs of Police Association (representing the Chiefs, Sheriff, DA, Probation & Parole, State Patrol, DNR) have been rotating our monthly meetings around the county and these have been well attended. We work closely with Probation and Parole, the District Attorney's Office, the City Attorney and Human Services. As noted previously, we have a good relationship with all of the schools.

We have assisted other agencies by sitting in on interview panels and vice versa. We have assisted numerous law enforcement agencies at the local hospital with drunk drivers, emergency commitments or potentially violent persons.

We have a particularly strong working relationship with the Columbia County Sheriff's Department. They assist us when we execute search warrants; especially when it's drug related. We share our range with them for qualifications. We assist each other with accidents and other serious calls in or near the city limits. We trained together in the spring of 2012 for in-service training and we will be training together again in 2013.

***POLICE FAMILY:***

**Recognition for Det. Klaude Thompson & Sgt. Duaine Pixler**

Both Detective Klaude Thompson and Sgt. Duaine Pixler celebrated their 25 year anniversaries with our department in January of 2012. (They started within two weeks of each other) They have been a great asset to our department and to our community.



Chief Manthey & Detective Thompson



Chief Manthey & Sgt. Pixler



Officer David Clark & his wife, Christine, were blessed with a baby boy (Logan) on 10-27-12



Chief Manthey received 35 year plaque from Ass't Chief O'Neill on 7-05-12

### ***TRAINING:***

We continue to train our officers by either sending them to training courses or providing the training in-house. By LESB (Law Enforcement Standard Board) standards, our officers have to receive a minimum of 24 hours of training every year to remain certified as law enforcement officers. (We do receive compensation from the State of Wisconsin in the amount of \$160 per officer annually)

No matter what training we have, we do our best to make sure that it's good training not only for the officer but for the department as well. We also try to select training that is in our area to prevent additional costs such as motel room bills. We were able to access a lot of good training at no cost from Volk field through federal funds. (They absorb all training costs including meals and housing)

We are also very fortunate to have our in-house trainers:

- With Officer Gary Petersen's retirement in 2012, Sgt. Brian Fehd became our DAAT (Defense And Arrest Tactics) instructor and he teaches the officers how to use verbal commands properly, how to handcuff people properly, the use of pepper spray, batons, etc. He went to a three-week training course to become qualified to teach at this level. He is also our Vehicle Contact Instructor.
- Sgt. Brian Fehd also continues to be our EVOC (Emergency Vehicle Operation Course) Instructor. He teaches our officers how to maneuver our squads as safely as possible to keep the officers safe and avoid accidents.
- Sgt. Klafke continues to be our Taser instructor. This has helped our department in reducing liability, injuries and even saving lives. This is a good working tool to help combat violent individuals.
- Sgt. Keith Klafke and Officer Jason Stenberg continue to be our Range Officers. They run officers through the range on a quarterly basis to make sure the officers are proficient with their service weapons and to make sure the weapons are cleaned thoroughly.

## **STATISTICS/ CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS:**

Our twenty-two full time sworn officers and one part time officer (our other part-time officer, retired Lt. Tom Moore, only takes transports/no calls) responded to 11,503 calls for service in 2012.

At the end of this report is the list of calls of service that we respond to on a regular basis. Our accidents dropped (386) compared to 451 in 2011. Our agency assists went up to 410 which is slightly above average from the past several years. Animal complaints went up slightly. Burglaries continued to remain low with a total of 17. I contribute this to heavy patrol around businesses; I feel a lot of burglars are scared off from Portage because of the heavy patrol. De-tox's went up slightly as did mental commitments (emergency detentions). Both the de-toxes and mental commitments are very challenging cases for the officers and they also are very time consuming as we have to first get medical clearance from Divine Savior and then transport the person to Madison, Oconomowoc or Winnebago depending on who has an empty bed) We had 114 OWI arrests slightly up from the low of 109 last year. (134 has been the average of the past five years.)

Probation and Parole arrests went up slightly. Suspicious activity calls increased from last year. Telephone harassment complaints surprisingly (because of texting and Facebook) decreased. The different categories of thefts all stayed about the same. Truancy complaints went slightly down. Warrant arrests went to an all-time high of 153 due to the fact that we're getting more municipal warrants for unpaid citations. Welfare checks went up again to another all-time high of 502. (this is probably due to the increase of senior citizens and people with mental health issues)

## **KEY EVENTS IN 2012**

### **Heroin Overdoses/Drug Investigations:**

Because of the increase of heroin overdoses/deaths in 2011, we did the following in 2012:

- We assigned two officers to work with the Columbia County Sheriff's Department to assist with the drug investigations. They were able to gain enough evidence to execute several search warrants and make a number of arrests connected with the sale and distribution of heroin.
- We met with the judges and stressed the importance of setting cash bonds on defendants facing heroin charges
- We had several heroin overdoses in 2012 but fortunately, each of the persons were revived thanks to the quick response of Police/EMS; we did charge the people with crimes if we had enough evidence to do so

**Serious Fires:**

- On 8-13-12, we responded with the Portage Fire Department to a house fire in the 100 block of Brady Street. A 50 year old man was found inside who was not breathing. CPR was performed and he was resuscitated but unfortunately he passed away on 8-16-12.
- On 8-05-12, we responded with the Portage Fire Department to a house fire in the 500 block of Karla Court. The house was fully engulfed when we arrived but fortunately the homeowner was able to get out safely. The house was a total loss and a neighbor's home was also damaged.
- On 6-10-12, we responded with the Portage Fire Department to a business/apartment fire in the downtown area at Cook & DeWitt; everyone got out ok; the building was a total loss and had to be razed.

**Armed Robberies:**

- On 11-03-12, three males (two of them with firearms) and two females robbed a man at gunpoint at his residence in the 200 block of West Cook Street. The two females were caught shortly after the incident. The three men fled to Chicago. One of them was arrested in Chicago and was extradited back to Wisconsin; the other two are still wanted.
- On 10-05-12, a Portage woman was charged with strong-armed robbery after she struck another woman and stole her prescription medications at the victim's residence on New Pinery Road.

**Child Enticement:**

- 13 year old Portage girl met a 22 year old Kentucky man on the Internet; she sent nude photos to him. He came to WI for the purpose of having sexual intercourse with her. The father intervened before the two could meet and he reported it to us. The suspect fled back to Kentucky and the FBI is currently investigating this; charges are anticipated.

**Embezzlement:**

- 62 year old Portage man was charged with embezzling over \$100,000 from his father's bank accounts; he admitted taking the money; he said he used it for paying bills and for gambling.

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>
Accident	498	372	450	451	386
Agency Assist	402	402	375	355	410
Ambulance Calls	548	562	656	717	788
Alarm Calls	147	167	173	144	151
Animal Complaints	402	435	369	344	359
Burglaries	19	18	19	14	17
Citations (Traffic & Ordinance)	2213	2142	2044	1975	2514
Criminal Damage/Property	120	100	88	58	54
De-Tox	32	20	18	17	23
Disturbance	282	329	289	218	201
Found Property	318	266	225	205	220
Lost Property	61	52	44	37	53
Mental Commitment	60	72	51	36	42
Motorist Assists	115	49	71	50	87
OWI Arrests	137	130	134	109	114
Probation/Parole Arrests	179	130	195	134	147
Suspicious Activity	468	378	341	290	361
Suspicious Person	134	121	89	92	105
Suspicious Vehicle	56	64	61	71	43
Telephone Harassment	78	62	38	77	28
Theft – Bicycle	41	28	18	24	14
Theft – From Motor Vehicle	51	48	40	20	26
Theft – Motor Vehicle	9	8	7	4	5
Truancy – Habitual	144	116	72	49	41
Warnings	2994	2946	2353	1,822	1426
Warrant Arrests	116	88	124	127	153
Welfare Checks	389	370	397	404	502

In summary, we once again had a very busy year. I continue to be proud of our staff here at Portage PD. They are very dedicated employees who do their best to fulfill our mission statement “Protecting Our Community and Its Way of Life by Delivering Exceptional Law Enforcement Services”.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth R. Manthey  
Police Chief  
2-27-13

