



Stars and Bars



Sheriff Jim Frank

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Leadership

By Sheriff Frank

The word leadership is a derivative of the word lead. Webster defines it as being first, going ahead, or showing the way. There is nothing that states leadership must be the action of only one. Therefore, many people could be leaders.

A more difficult definition is that of a good leader. Is a good leader one who simply gets others to go in a direction or is it one who gets others to go in the right direction? The right direction can be difficult to determine and often the most difficult part of leadership.

Good leaders must be risk takers. They must be grounded with a strong work ethic and value system. They must also be good followers. I have never met a good leader that wasn't a good follower. Good followers support good leaders. Followers who have a strong work ethic and value systems make leaders good.

The work we do is not easy. We often get mixed messages. Society expects us to "take care of things" by "doing the right thing". The tools we are given to work with aren't one size fits all and often don't seem to fit any.

If the Washington County Sheriff's Office is to be a leader in law enforcement, we must be grounded in a strong work ethic and value system. We must be an organization of good leaders and followers. We must be risk takers that make difficult decisions and do the right thing no matter how difficult it is.

If your job was easy anyone could do it. Each of your jobs is important and it takes good leadership to do it well. Good leadership has a Commitment to Excellence.

Sgt Larry Osterman Receives Life Saving Award

By Sgt Cheri Dexter

On August 2nd, 2001, Sgt. Larry Osterman was on duty at the Washington County Fair when a man came running out of a building yelling for an ambulance. A woman carrying a small child was following him. The two-year-old child was choking on a hotdog. Larry took the child and administered a few back blows, dislodging the hotdog. The child started to cry and in doing so sucked the hotdog back in. Larry administered a few more back blows and the hotdog was removed. Larry escorted the mother and child to the first aid booth where the child was examined and released without any further medical attention.

On November 1st, 2001, Sheriff Frank presented Sgt Larry Osterman with the Sheriff's Office Life Saving Award for his efforts at the 2001 Washington County Fair.

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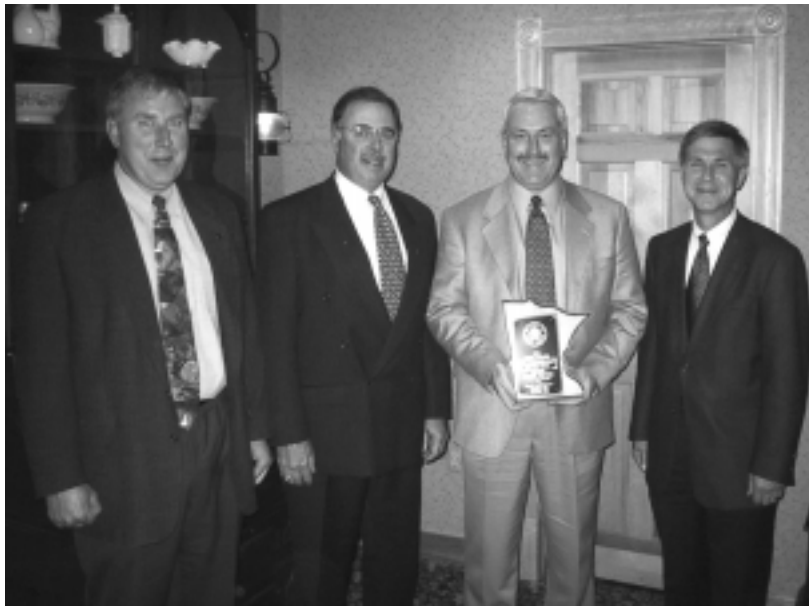
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JAIL COMMANDER CHUCK YETTER RECEIVES JAIL ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

By John Haugen

On September 13, 2001, Washington County Jail Commander Chuck Yetter was presented with the "Minnesota Jail Administrator of the Year Award." The ceremony was held during the Nineteenth Annual Jail Administration & Criminal Justice Awards Recognition Banquet held at Rutgers Bay Lake Lodge. County Administrator Jim Schug, Sheriff Jim Frank, Chief Deputy Steve Pott and Assistant Jail Administrator John Haugen were present when Chuck received his award.

Commander Yetter was chosen by a panel of corrections professionals who evaluated nominees based on a variety of criteria including past achievements, inspection results, cooperation and collaboration with other agencies, management style and service to the community. This prestigious award comes one year after Chuck received the Minnesota Criminal Justice and Jail Resource Center "Leadership Award."



Chief Deputy Steve Pott, Sheriff Jim Frank, Jail Administrator Chuck Yetter and County Administrator Jim Schug at the Jail Administration and Criminal Justice Awards Banquet.

Patrol Division News

By Commander McGlothlin

The Patrol Division welcomed the return of Sergeant Richard Peterson from the Upper Midwest Community Policing Institute, where he had been on assignment since February of 2000. Sergeant Peterson replaced Sergeant Jay Kimble who retired August 1st, 2001 after 27 years of dedicated service to the citizens of Washington County.

Sheriff Office Explorers Compete at Competition

By Sgt. Cheri Dexter

The Washington County Sheriff's Office Explorers attended the 7th Annual Law Enforcement Conference and Competition from October 19th – 21st in Duluth, MN.

Two teams competed in the following events: Domestic Crisis, Search and Arrest, Traffic Stops, Hostage Negotiations, Crime Scene Investigations, Traffic Accidents, Bomb Threats and Street Decisions. The teams also attended classroom sessions on "Bombs and Terrorism" and "10 Reasons Why Cops are Psychologically Different or Need to Be."

Team One members were: Joel Legut, Justin Kaeding, Kim Garvey and Nick Leperfido. They took first place in Traffic Accident and second place in Crime Scene Investigation. Team Two members were: Mark Jara, Amber Lammon, Chris Layman and Brad Asplund.

Deputies Sara Peulen, Jeff Larson, Jamie Jackson and Sergeant Cheri Dexter helped out as team advisors and coaches. The Explorers will be competing at the National Conference in July 2002 in Flag Staff, AZ.

Congratulations to the Explorers and the advisors!

Winter Hazard Awareness Week

By Sgt Jerry Cusick

Winter Hazard Awareness Week was November 5th-9th. The Washington County Sheriff's Office-Water, Parks and Trails Unit have a couple of main concerns: thin ice and snowmobile safety.

In Minnesota last year, four people died when they fell through thin ice. In the past 10 years, 62 people have broken through the ice and drowned. Vehicle related deaths due to thin ice account for 65% of all ice drownings. To avoid falling through the ice, follow these DNR recommended minimum ice thickness:

- 4"- walking or standing
- 5" – snowmobile or ATV
- 8" – 12" – car or small truck
- 12" – 15" – regular size truck

Always teach your children to stay away from ice covered ponds and streams.

Snowmobile safety is another area of concern. In Minnesota last year, 28 people died in snowmobile related accidents and another 519 were injured. Operator error is the key factor in most snowmobile accidents. This could include: excessive speed, over-driving the headlights, unfamiliarity with the operation of the snowmobile or with the terrain and alcohol consumption.

To have a safe snowmobile season, learn how to use your snowmobile safely and correctly. Take a snowmobile safety class, obey the 50 mph maximum speed limit and avoid consuming alcohol. To find out about the nearest snowmobile safety class call 651-296-4819.

S. W. A. T. / S.R.T.

By Sgt. Larry Osterman

In 1979, the Washington County Sheriff's Office put together a small group of deputies who were specially trained in firearms and gas delivery. They later became known as the Rifle and Gas Team and were relied upon by the citizens of Washington County to assist in critical situations for several years.

In 1986, the Rifle and Gas Team expanded to form the Special Weapons and Tactics (S.W.A.T.) Team. This team along with several other S.W.A.T. Teams throughout the region gathered at training sites such as Camp Ripley in Minnesota and Camp Dodge in Iowa for specialized tactical training. The Washington County Team became known as a very proficient and respected team who carried out such duties as high risk warrants, barricaded suspects, hostage situations, intelligence, recognizance and assisting several other agencies with high-risk duties.

In 1985, a second S.W.A.T. Team in Washington County known as the South Washington County E.R.U. was developed. This team consisted of members from the Cottage Grove, Woodbury, Oakdale, Newport and St. Paul Park Police Departments. For a number of years, two separate teams operated within Washington County on the same types of duties and call outs.



Sgt Larry Osterman, Deputy Wayne Johnson, Deputy Marv Stutz and Officer James T. Neuenfeldt participate in a training exercise.

In 1997, both teams combined to create the Washington County Special Response Team. This team has jurisdiction in all areas of Washington County and is relied upon as a back-up team by several agencies throughout the region. The combination of the teams allowed for reduction in overall budgets by all agencies participating while still being able to supply the assistance of the S.R.T. (Special Response Team) to law enforcement agencies not only in Washington County, but assisting throughout the area. In addition, training took on a different direction and officers and deputies assigned to this team were exposed to a wider variety of training and real live situations.

Currently, the Washington County S.R.T. team consists of 33 members including Command Staff, tactical and negotiations personnel. The S.R.T. is on-call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.



S.R.T. team members front row: Gina Lamers, Warren Ackerson, Marv Stutz, Dan Starry, Mike Johnson, Mike Zurbey, Brett Billmeyer, Kris Meinert, James T. Neuenfeldt, Steve Lehmann. Back Row: Steve Casey, Bill Stute, Andy Niemela, Greg Weiss, Lonnie VanKlei, Kirby Livingston, Craig Olson, Todd Johnson, Larry Osterman, Paul Torgeson, Cory Stilp, Greg Rinzel and Craig Woolery

Deputy Don Schoenberger Retires

By Sgt. Scott Malinosky

A retirement coffee and gathering at the Washington County Sheriff's Office on November 1st in honor of Deputy Don Schoenberger brought to close a 27-year career with the Sheriff's Office. Don began his law enforcement career as a cadet with what was then the Mahtomedi Police Department. When he turned 21 years old, Don became a reserve officer for the Mahtomedi Police Department. In 1972, Don tested for the Washington County Sheriff's Office and 2 years later Sheriff Ed Westphal hired him. The hiring came about as part of a grant to the Washington County Sheriff's Office at which time the Major Crime Investigation Unit was formed, now the Investigation Division. Five deputies were promoted to sergeant to help fill the new unit that opened up a deputy position for Don. During his career with the Sheriff's Office, Don served in the Patrol Division, Civil Division and

Investigation Division as a welfare fraud investigator.



Sheriff Frank presenting Don with his shadow box.

Don and his wife Judy recently built a cottage in the Lino Lakes/Circle Pines area. They hope to become "snow birds", wintering in the Phoenix area. They recently purchased a 1937 Ford street rod which they will be working on as a joint project. It sounds like they'll be hanging out under the hood instead of in the hood. Our best wishes and thanks for faithful service go out to Don as he begins a life of leisure.

CAMP RIPLEY - 2001

By Sgt Laura Waldon

The Jail's Emergency Response Team (ERT) was allowed to participate in the DOC SORT training exercises for the fourth consecutive year.

Day One consisted of Less Lethal and Lethal weapons training. Beginning with safety instructions, the DOC instructors supplied shotguns and munitions for the ERT members. The ERT members were allowed to shoot at different targets from different positions and various distances. The day ended with each member individually running through an obstacle course with an instructor advising them what target to shoot at, what position to shoot from (kneeling, standing, prone, rolling out from behind a barricade, etc.), and the distance.

Day Two began with deploying various chemical agents and distraction devices in a building known as the "Crack House". Teams were to enter the Crack House, search all rooms, use Less Lethal or Lethal munitions when necessary, then be critiqued by the DOC instructors. The day ended with riot formation training and the use of the long, straight baton.



ERT team members begin a training exercise.

Day Three was the most challenging for the team. The DOC instructors posed different scenario's for the team members in a 3-story building known as "Mount Village". Different scenarios included regaining control of one level that was taken over by inmates; Responding to regaining control of two levels; 3 inmates and a hostage; and finally ending in regaining control of all levels with multiple inmates involved. The DOC instructors acted as inmates to make each scenario more realistic.

It was very exhilarating to listen to the DOC instructors critique the ERT Members from Washington County. The instructors were very impressed with how well the team communicated with each other as well as with the restrained inmates in each situation. Although the restrained inmates were uncomfortable, they were put at ease when the team members explained what would happen to them next.

It is gratifying to know that the Emergency Response Team from the Washington County Jail has been given such high praise and has the respect from the DOC instructors.



ERT members, Front row: Chris Thomazin, Rebecca Lease, Paula Dahn, Barb Reid, and Laura Waldon. Middle row: Dave Stumpner, Dennis Rondeau, Jeff Boyden, Brian Land, Mike Eichholz, Roger Heinen, Chanin Klontz, Andy Loehr. Back row: Dave Deal, Roosevelt Collins, Gary Randall, Frank Capra, Troy Jorgenson, Garret Kleinendorst.

Deputy Rob Daniels Retires

By Sgt Dean Tilley

On August 31st of this year, Rob Daniels started his retirement after 30 years of providing emergency services to the citizens of Washington County. He has been at it since he was 18 years old.

Rob's first job in emergency services was in 1971, working for Lloyd and Ann Bodvolick, who were running a private ambulance service in the City of Stillwater. Rob worked for the Bodvolick's for 10 years answering ambulance calls. During this time he also put in seven years as a part time patrolman for the Stillwater Police Department.

Rob joined the Stillwater Police Department full time in 1978 and then was hired by Sheriff James Trudeau as a deputy in 1980. Rob worked in the patrol division for the most of his years while with the Washington County Sheriff's Office. One of his assignments was starting the Dive Team with Gary Swanson. Rob told me that he and Gary had their own equipment and this is how he became involved with the dive team. His last assignment at the Sheriff's Office was in the civil division. I asked Rob what changed the most while he was a member of the Sheriff's Office and he replied that there were a lot of changes but what stuck in his mind was the number of people that he was able to work with while employed here.

Rob's other public service was fighting fires. He joined the Stillwater Fire Department in 1977 and was a member until 1982 when he moved to Mahtomedi. He joined the Mahtomedi Fire Department and was a volunteer there until 1988. Rob told me that in 1982, while they were fighting a fire at Brine's in downtown Stillwater, he assisted with the rescue of a Stillwater fireman and the recovery of the bodies of two Mahtomedi fireman that were killed in the collapse of the building. Rob said that after the collapse, he was on roofing with a water hose fighting the fire and heard a fireman calling for help. Rob thinks that he hit the fireman with the water stream and the fireman regained consciousness and yelled out for help. Rob said that he and a Lake Elmo fireman went into the building and brought the Stillwater fireman out.

Rob married his wife Barb in 1983 and they have lived in Mahtomedi on the shores of White Bear Lake ever since. They like to travel and spend time at their condo in Florida. Barb and he have been going to Florida for 21 years. Barb and Rob have two children and three grand children, the last being born on November 1, 2001.

On April 4 of 2001, Rob was diagnosed with a brain tumor and on April 5 surgery was performed and a tumor was removed. The doctors were able to remove 98 percent of the tumor and Rob was treated with radiation and chemotherapy. In September, an MRI revealed a small portion of the tumor was remaining and the doctors were able to remove the remaining tumor and Rob is again being treated with chemotherapy to finish off the tumor. His prognosis is good for a complete recovery.

We wish Rob well in his retirement and hope that he is able to spend more time traveling and enjoying his family.

Frank presenting Rob with his shadow box.



Sheriff

Jail Emergency Response Team

By Commander Chuck Yetter

When I came to the Washington County Jail from the Department of Corrections, one of the areas I wanted to explore was the establishment of a Jail Emergency Response Team made up of jail staff. While all jail staff are trained to deal with emergency situations and are fully capable of managing unusual occurrences within the jail, it is sometimes advantageous to have a core group of staff who receive advanced training so any situation can be addressed and handled with as little disruption to normal operations as possible.

With the support of Sheriff Frank, the Washington County Jail Emergency Response Team (ERT) became a reality. That was five years ago. Many advances have occurred since that time. What started as a group of correctional officers with minimal equipment and training has developed into a well equipped, highly trained professional unit.

While Assistant Jail Administrator Haugen took my place in accompanying the team to training exercises at Camp Ripley this year, it was gratifying to hear the praise that was given to our team by the trainer's from the Department of Corrections. I want to thank Sgt. Roger Heinen who coordinates the team, as well as each and every team member, for representing the Washington County Sheriff's Office and Jail in such a positive manner.

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