

THE NEBRASKA SHERIFF

Vol. 85, No 2. • Fall-Winter 2015

Incoming NSA President Shawn Hebbert,
 Sheriff Grant County (left)
 presents outgoing
 President Steve Hespern,
 Sheriff Dodge County (right)
 with the NSA
 Presidents Award

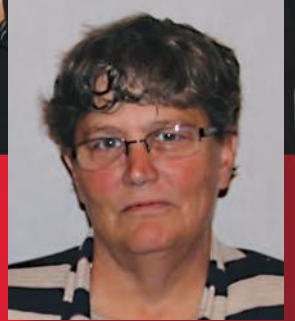
**Passing
 the Gavel**
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2014 NSA
 Hall of Fame Inductee
 Sheriff LeRoy Janssen
 Wayne County
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2014 NSA
 Hall of Fame Inductee
 Sheriff Jon Zavadil
 Platte County
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2014 NSA
 Officer of the Year
 Dianne Nichols
 Webster County
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*Have a Safe
 & Successful
 2015!*

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COMMITTED TO NEBRASKA YOUTH

The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association has incorporated in its mission statement "dedicated to the youth of Nebraska." Over the years, association members have consistently worked to educate children and teens on the dangers of distracted driving, and drug and alcohol abuse.



The Nebraska Sheriff Magazine

Official publication of the
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association

521 First Street | PO Box 10
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Office: 402.761-2216
Mobile: 402.310-1054
Fax: 402.761.2224
aprenda@youraam.com

Published 2x yearly.

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The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association, established in 1894, is the oldest organization of its kind in the nation.

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President: Sheriff David Weeks
Executive Director: Amy Prenda
www.nesheriffsassoc.org

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide continuing education to Sheriffs' Offices, youth, and the public in general.

The Nebraska Sheriff Magazine

PO Box 27071, Omaha, NE 68127-0071
402.592.0823

info@nesheriffsassoc.org

Editor: Duffi Goodrich

Associate Editor: Aaron Goodrich

Ad Sales: Ron Goodrich

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Please feel free to contact us with any questions or suggestions on the magazine and the Website.

Be sure to visit us at www.nesheriffsassoc.org

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The Nebraska Sheriff Magazine Policies

- Only submitted articles pertinent to law enforcement/criminal justice and NSA members will be featured.
- We will accept articles from law enforcement agencies, their representatives, or related fields to be considered for publication in the magazine.
- Photographs of minors must be accompanied by verifiable permission to publish and list their names, whether the photo is emailed or sent through USPS.*
- We reserve the right to edit all submittals for content or space.
- We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please let us know about them.

All articles and letters sent to the Nebraska Sheriff must be accompanied by the author's correct, legal name and are assumed to be unconditionally assigned for publication and the Nebraska Sheriff reserves the right to edit for content and/or available space. Articles and letters will only be considered if they conform to the boundaries of good taste.

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A Message from 2015 NSA President Grant County Sheriff Shawn Hebbert



2014 NSA President Steve Hesper, Dodge County Sheriff (right), accepts the Presidents Award from incoming President Shawn Hebbert, Grant County Sheriff (left), at the Awards Banquet held during the October 2014 NSA-POAN Conference in Kearney.

See page 28 for award winners.

Greetings Everybody,

Welcome to another addition of the Nebraska Sheriff's Magazine, and thanks to all the advertisers who help make this possible.

I am truly honored to serve as the NSA President in 2015. I look forward to the challenges that lay ahead of us in law enforcement, and wish to continue to move the NSA in a positive, upward direction.

I would like to especially thank the past presidents that I worked with as a vice president on the board, and know full well that I have an outstanding group to work with now.

I am also sending a huge "shout out" to our executive director, Amy Prenda. The membership may be the heart beat of the Association, but Amy is the brains behind the operation.

Membership, as usual, is very important to me and the entire board. Let's all get out and recruit new members, try to solve the past issues, and bring those that have gone away from the Association, back to the fold so to speak.

With a new A.G., Governor, and several new Senators, it should be a very interesting legislative session. I have come to believe that it is not our job, as an association, to introduce new legislation as much as it is to fight bad legislation. And we could use all the help we can get.

The meeting dates will be posted on the web site. I encourage your involvement in the meetings and if you cannot attend, please contact me and let me know your comments and concerns.

Grant County Sheriff Shawn Hebbert, 2015 NSA President

THE NEBRASKA SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

keeps diligent watch over the Unicameral for legislative actions that will affect counties in the state and that are of special interest to law enforcement.

NSA also sponsors the annual conference with major vendors displaying products and 20 hours of continuing education available. **It pays to be a member!**



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 The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association has donated and assisted at the games since 1968 - the year Special Olympics was founded.

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Nebraska State Patrol Crime Lab

Backlog information, services, updates

The Nebraska State Patrol Crime Laboratory services, backlog information, and updates are available on the Nebraska State Patrol website under the "Investigative Services Division":

<http://statepatrol.nebraska.gov/InvestigativeServices.aspx>

The Crime Laboratory also provides updated information via their quarterly newsletter *The Lab Report*. Current and past issues can be accessed at:

<http://statepatrol.nebraska.gov/LabReportNewsletter.aspx>

Please take a look at the information and feel free to contact the Crime Lab with any questions.

Pamela Zilly, Crime Laboratory Director
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From the NSA Executive Director

By Amy E. Prenda, J.D.

“Election Day outside of big cities is different. For one thing, there are so few people in my town that each individual vote really does matter, and several local races have been decided by as many votes as you can count on one hand.” Susan Orlean

The election is over and those of you who had races in less populated counties are very aware how each individual vote really can make the difference between winning and losing. This holds true for all candidates whether they are running for county, state or federal offices. Each vote counts.

Nebraskans saw a huge turnover in state offices, specifically the Nebraska Legislature. We now have a new Governor, Attorney General, Auditor, and 17 new Senators. This turnover becomes even more complicated in that we will also have a new speaker and potentially 10 new committee chairs. Needless to say, the political process does not end on Election Day. All of us need to stay involved in the process and communicate with our elected leaders on those issues that are important to law enforcement. We need to continue to pay attention to how our elected leaders represent their constituents and hold them accountable for the decisions they make.

Just as your primary goal is to protect the citizens that elected you and making the quality of life for them the best it can be, our primary goal at the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association is to preserve and protect the Office of Sheriff, so that the sheriffs, deputies and other law enforcement employees can provide quality service to the constituents in their respective counties.

We recognize that Nebraska's 93 counties are diverse and have different challenges and that is why we depend on you to assist us in making sure that our elected officials here in Lincoln support law enforcement across the state. The 2015 Legislative Session is almost here. Please take the time to have a conversation with your local state senator(s) – one elected official to another.

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

- Support for legislation that makes it a crime to have or provide contraband in the jails.
- Support for legislation that would prohibit the return of a firearm to an individual in emergency protective custody, voluntary treatment, or involuntary custody and treatment under the Nebraska Mental Health Commitment Act, unless the individual is released from treatment and the district court enters an order that the firearm should be returned to such individual (LB 1027, 2014).
- Support for legislation that increases the fees paid to sheriffs (LB 65, 2013).



Amy Prenda, J.D.
*Executive Director
Nebraska
Sheriffs' Association*

521 First Street
PO Box 10
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See page 7 for information on how to become a Patron Member

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Invite Someone to Become a Patron Member of the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association (NSA)

If you're reading this and are not a member of the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association (NSA), please consider joining today. If you're already a member, whether as law enforcement or a Patron Member yourself, please invite someone you know to join.

For just \$25 (per person, per calendar year), you can boost our membership numbers and help maintain the programs the NSA sponsors.

What does my membership help support?

The Association funds many worthwhile programs and would like to build upon them. For example:

- NSA has partnered with AAA-Nebraska and Cornhusker Auto Club to be able to provide two **Driving Simulators** for use by NSA members at schools and in the community. These effective tools increase driver awareness about the dangers of distracted driving.
- **Fatal Vision Goggles** are also available to members. One pair simulates intoxication in the daylight and another pair simulates intoxication at night.

- "Deputy Bob" is an air ventilated Walkaround® mascot that can be comfortably worn for community events. You might even convince a real deputy to climb into one.

- The NSA has **Legislative Watchdogs** that keep the Sheriffs abreast of important legislative actions that will affect their communities and the performance of their duties.

What does my membership do for me?

Besides the previously mentioned items available to members, you will receive a window cling and a membership card naming you/your business as a Patron Member. You will also receive both issues of *The Nebraska Sheriff* magazine.

Only a \$25 membership fee!

So sign up yourself or someone else today by using the form below. You can also find this form online at www.nesheriffsassoc.org.

Questions? Contact Amy Prenda, NSA Executive Director
521 First Street | PO Box 10, Milford, NE 68405

Office: 402.761.2216 | Mobile: 402.310.1054 | Fax: 402.761.2224 | aprenda@youraam.com

2015 • Nebraska Sheriffs' Association (NSA) Patron Membership Application Form

- YES!** Please add me to the Patron Membership Roster. I am happy to support my local Sheriff's Office and the NSA.
- Enclosed is my \$25 (per person, per calendar year) membership fee.
- List my name on the website/magazine. Please keep my name anonymous-do not list me or my business.

PLEASE PRINT

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The “Little Generals”

911 Communications Personnel Vital to our Mission

By Sgt. Winston Cavendish,
Retired, Sun Police (LA)



No war could be fought without generals directing the movements of their soldiers on the battlefield and someone must be responsible for translating these orders by radio to the support troops on the field. Who are these unknown “generals” in your sheriff’s office? We call them dispatchers - those special people who coordinate emergency services for hundreds of people every day. Everyone has his or her own problem, and they feel their request for service is more important than someone else’s.

Are dispatchers really appreciated by the public? Do they truly understand their mission? Dispatchers quite often aren’t honored for meritorious service on a regular basis because they’re not in harms way. Their responsibility as communication specialists is to put all emergency personnel on the scene as soon as possible. But, think for a moment what it would be like without their service during a man-made or natural disaster.

They assist everyone - including special needs persons (deaf, blind, mentally challenged), children crying out for help and even drunks trying to report their missing vehicle in a bar parking lot, and other crazy requests for service that no one would ever believe. Dispatch is truly the lifeline for every deputy in your county.

One tool for dispatchers is the new trunk radio system TTY lines for the hearing impaired. There’s also a special number (800-448-3003) for foreign languages, instantly translating Spanish, Cantonese, Vietnamese, German, etc., in one call.

911 centers operate across the country, with smaller agencies bundling their communication needs for police, fire, and ambulance services into remarkable networks for instant response in all emergencies. The cost of running a dispatch center is expensive and all law enforcement managers are faced with budgetary cuts. But communication departments are the lifeline of any public safety agency.

Today we live in a communication society where almost everyone has a cell phone, tablet, or portable laptop on their person or in their vehicle. As good as these modern marvels are, often one element is missing. It’s called “should I get involved”! It’s the big problem today. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police came up with a very interesting slogan that answers this general apathy about reporting crimes. “To Commit A Crime is Immoral; To Tolerate A Crime is Unforgivable.”

Media campaigns are currently targeting the general public and advising how to call in a suspicious activity; how to report an accident by giving proper locations; and what are the emergency needs. Sharing vital information with the dispatcher is critical. During an emergency, people lose their ability to think coherently. This alone can cause serious problems for dispatchers.

I have traveled across our country for years promoting crime prevention. In other words, I’m selling police services to the general public. I have answered thousands of questions by concerned citizens about police procedures. One of their biggest problems was response time.

We all know about the “Golden Hour,” that time is critical in a life and death situation. Time is not always on the responder’s side. Living in Nebraska, you know nothing is more dangerous than agricultural accidents. In fact, the most dangerous jobs in America today are found on ranches and farms. Rural sheriffs are faced with these daunting problems on a day to day basis.

There is so much to be said about the communications network and the skilled dispatchers who work long hours at a nerve racking job. I ask my readers to Google “Dispatcher Training Manual”. Read all 26 pages - it’s quite an eye opener.

Many thanks to the numerous sheriff’s dispatchers across the country for their input, especially Communications Manager Katharine Cavendish Gibson from Lake View Regional Medical Center Mandeville, LA for her insight into this most important job.

Please take the time to thank your dispatchers routinely for their important skills. Sometimes we forget how valuable our dispatchers are . . . those “Little Generals.”

Sgt. Winston Cavendish, Retired, Sun Police Department (LA), is a regular contributor to the Nebraska Sheriff magazine. One of the stories he shared with us was recently published in a national law enforcement magazine.

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Now, that's a test drive!

MANTECA, Calif. — A woman test driving a vehicle stopped at a Bank of America, robbed it, and returned to the car with cash, making the seller of the car behind the wheel her oblivious getaway driver.

Gail Castle knocked on the door of an elderly Manteca resident, asking if she could take his 1987 Chrysler 5th Avenue for a test drive.

The car's owner said he would drive, in fear that she could not back the vehicle out of the driveway, and she requested he stop at a bank so she could purchase the car, priced at \$2,200.

Castle returned to the vehicle with a purse full of bills, and they headed toward the man's home to complete the purchase when cruisers surrounded them.

"I turned my left signal the other side of the cross walk here, and that's when the sirens went off. I thought, 'what in the world is going on,'" said the man.

Castle threatened the man that she had a gun and told him not to exit the vehicle as officers ordered him to get out with his hands up.

"I thought I'd rather take a chance on her shooting me in the back," the man told police.

Police didn't recover a weapon from Castle or the vehicle.

Castle was arrested for bank robbery, elder abuse, false imprisonment, and resisting arrest.

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TORCH RUN

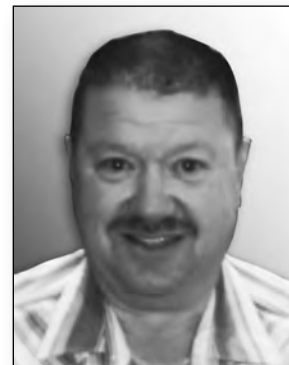
Sheriffs and personnel from across the state participate in the annual Nebraska Torch Run each year, kicking off the games.



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Sheriff Robert E. Moore

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Sheriff Timothy Sierks

BLAINE

Elected November 2014

Boyd County Sheriff's Office

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The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association has "Deputy Bob," a tall, air cooled, comfortable walkaround that can be used for county fairs and other community celebrations. It draws much attention and helps promote safety messages.

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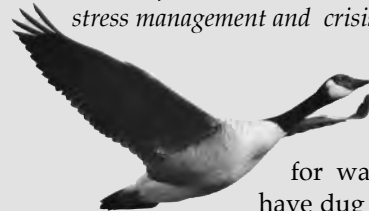
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See Buffalo County's Younes Hospitality ad on page 4

**HERO OR ZERO:
How are you rated in your performance with the public?**

By Wendy Piercy, MS, LPC

Wendy Piercy is a Grand Island, NE police officer. In addition to being a police officer, she is a licensed mental health therapist. Her career as a therapist has spanned 17 years with areas of expertise in child abuse, interpersonal communications, crisis response, stress management and crisis de-escalation.



The holidays have come and gone . . . the geese have left for warmer climates. You have dug out your winter gear and are preparing for the cold days and nights of winter. This

time of year more than any other time of year is a time of self-reflection. Have I accomplished what I wanted to do this past year? Have I been a hero or a zero? It is easy when the days are long and the nights in subzero temps are even longer to lose the desire and motivation to accomplish the goals you set. What happened to the eagerness you had last January to do more/try harder/accomplish great things? As our feet get colder, it seems our attitude has great potential to head into the negative numbers.

Our goodwill toward the human race has left us with a bad case of Bah humbugs. It certainly doesn't improve our mood when the firemen/EMT/Paramedics got buckets of popcorn, trays of cookies, homemade goodies from everyone including funeral homes, nursing homes and insurance companies. I don't remember any insurance company every dropping by to give us free pizza because we gave their clients speeding tickets therefore raising their client's premiums.

Step out of your comfort zone

This past year, law enforcement has been scrutinized in the public eye more than Bo Pelini's coaching decisions. If someone took a snapshot of the last 30 days and reviewed your performance with the public . . . would you be a hero or a zero? Your actions in a 15 second window has the potential to make or break a career. People form opinions with or without all the facts. People form these opinions based upon their own history, the mentality of the people in their social circle, the potential for the person to gain something they want or avoid something they don't want.

Are you willing to step out of your comfort zone? This does not involve giving up steak dinners for

continued on page 11

HERO OR ZERO . . . continued from page 10

tofu burgers or trading in your gut rot coffee for Chai tea. It involves doing what you already know how to do. This is like being a kid on Christmas morning waiting to get the nod to open the package that you know is the Red Ryder BB gun. Yes, I do realize there are some of you that have no idea what a Red Ryder BB reference means. Well here it is . . .

Getting out of your patrol car

I know ours cars are base. It is where we can admonish the foolish decisions of citizens both past, present and future. It also makes us look unapproachable. If we appear to be unapproachable, how much support will we get from citizens? If you make connections with people, they can provide you with tips and information which can potentially lead to solving crimes. Definitely hero material there. Making connections allows you to appear human. Just like every kid wanting the Red Ryder BB gun, every kid wanted to be a deputy/sheriff. Even the citizens who aren't law enforcement friendly wanted to be the hero at one time in their life.

Get to know the people

I had the opportunity to go to a Crime Prevention Conference in Dallas. Much of what was presented was common sense things citizens can do to lessen his or her chances of being a victim. The public can get so wrapped up in daily living they forget to do "common sense" things.

If you went and spoke to home owners about locking up out buildings, fuel barrels, vehicles, farm or heavy equipment. Cut overgrown shrubbery away from the house or other buildings. Install some type of outdoor lighting. Remove purses, wallets, computers, from vehicles. Take the keys out of vehicles, get their mail out of their mailbox every day. Encourage them to do a credit check to make sure there are no accounts open they didn't know about . . . relates back to picking up their mail every day.

Get to know them. Learn what type of livestock they raise. For those of you who work in the area of Houdini cows, find out about their cattle brand and where they run their livestock. What time does the family arrive home? What vehicles do they drive? Do we have a cell phone number for them? Ask if they have had anybody knock on their door and then ask for a person that doesn't live in the area. Ask if they did know of anyone who was sketchy or who might steal who would that be?

Besides gaining information that will benefit you, you have also showed the public you are concerned about them and their stuff, even if they do leave it in an unlocked vehicle with the keys in it. You have also formed a relationship with that

person or persons. Will their opinion of you be different because you took the time to make those connections instead of driving by and not stopping?

Convenience store employees are a wealth of information. Build into your budget getting coffee at the local convenience stores. Get to know the employees, ask their opinions, ask if they have seen anything sketchy. I have yet to meet a convenience store person who doesn't want to share information with law enforcement. Build that connection and they can become your eyes and ears. In exchange, talk to them about placement of items in the store. If you set a big display of Wrigley's gum in the back corner . . . more than likely more gum will walk off then make it to the counter. Check their video system to see where the cameras are pointed. Give them information on how to detect an impaired driver. Check the landscaping . . . bushes no taller than 2 feet, trees no taller than 7. Address any access to the roof, hiding spots. Is it possible for the gas stations to do prepay or pay at the pump not pay inside?

Will some of the people you encounter, look at you in a suspicious manner? Absolutely. There will be those who think you are up to no good or trying to campaign for your sheriff or get some dirt on a family member. If no one does this on your department, people might be hesitant. To change a behavior it takes 3 weeks. To change an attitude or a mindset might take much longer. People fear what they don't understand. The media has a very captive audience in "catching officers being bad." Does it matter that the media shares only the "juiciest part" and not the totality of the circumstances? In the eyes of the citizens . . . absolutely not. People form an opinion based upon 5-7 seconds of video from one angle.

Will people change their opinions about you just because you made it a point to get out and make a connection with that person? Maybe. Maybe not. I guarantee you their opinion will not change at all if you don't. There is an old quote by Albert Einstein, "Insanity . . . doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results." Be the catalyst for change. Build those relationships with the citizens in your county. Make this your goal for 2105. You can keep your eating and coffee drinking habits. In fact that may even be more beneficial. Keep drinking your coffee out of the mug that hasn't seen the likes of dishwasher ever.

As we close out 2014, make the commitment to be the deputy people know by first name. Be the deputy kids want to be on the playground. It all starts with . . . getting out of your patrol car.

Grant Programs

The Crime Commission offers a variety of federal and state grant programs. Each program has different purposes and requirements. Check them out at www.ncc.state.ne.us/crime_commission/pamphlet.htm



PARTNERSHIPS

The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association works in partnership with all law enforcement agencies to enhance technology, share information, and provide the highest quality of protection to all Nebraskans.

Three men named "Sam"

Three men named "Sam" were instrumental in the early development of the town of Eagle in Cass County, NE:

Sam Prouty, an early settler to the region, took aim and shot an eagle from the sky. Proud of this trophy, he chose "Eagle" for the name of the post office, which he established in his home on November 5, 1869.

Sam McClintic sold land to the Missouri Pacific Railroad in 1886 as construction began on the branch line from Weeping Water to Lincoln. He turned down the idea that the town be called "McClintic" in his honor, suggesting that they use the name of the nearby post office, "Eagle".

Sam English came to Eagle during its first year and opened a general store that became the focal point of the community. He also edited the local newspaper, the "Eagle Eaglet."

Used with permission.
<http://visitcasscounty.com/cass-county-history>

CASS



Cass County Sheriff's Office

336 Main St
 Plattsmouth, NE 68048
 402.296.9370
 402.296.9390 FAX
 sheriff@cassne.org

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Sheriff Bill Bruggeman

Cheyenne County Supporters of NSA

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CHERRY



Cherry County Sheriff's Office

365 N Maine St, Ste 9
 Valentine, NE 69201
 402.376.1890
 402.376.1892 FAX
 rosburn6@gmail.com

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Sheriff Rusty Osburn

2014 Nebraska Sheriffs' Association Member

CHEYENNE



Cheyenne County Sheriff's Office

1000 10th Ave, PO Box 75
 Sidney, NE 69162
 308.254.2922
 308.254.7895
 sheriffj@cheyennecountysheriff.org

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Sheriff John Jenson

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MEMBERS INFORMED
 The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association keeps members up-to-date with all information relative to new legislation and technological advances that impact law enforcement.

Clay County Sheriff's Office

104 E Edgar St
 Clay Center, NE 68933
 402.762.3528
 402.762.3852 FAX
 930@dataacc.net



CLAY

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Sheriff Jeffrey Franklin

2014 Nebraska Sheriffs' Association Member



Fight Crime: Invest in Kids is a national, nonpartisan anti-crime organization of nearly 5,000 members – including 79 Nebraska members – whose members are sheriffs, police chiefs, prosecutors and violence survivors. Our members educate policymakers and the public on programs and policies that actually work to get kids on the right track to success and away from crime.

This past year, Nebraska members of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids have been hard at work ensuring that policymakers understand that early childhood education is an important tool to keep our communities safe and prevent future crime.

Our members sent a letter to gubernatorial and state senate candidates encouraging them to recognize the significant value of expanding quality early learning opportunities if they are elected. A website was created, fightcrime.org/nebraskawins, that contains briefs, a letter to candidates, as well as a video of Nebraska Fight Crime members stressing the importance of early learning to reduce future crime rates.

Nebraska Fight Crime members in July also released a report, "I'm the Guy You Pay Later," that spotlights research showing one of the best ways to keep young people from dropping out of school and becoming criminals is to make sure they have a foundation for success in their earliest years.

Now, with a new legislature and governor, it is important for Nebraska policymakers to continue to hear the message that law



enforcement leaders across the state support strong investments in high quality, evidenced-based early learning programs that reduce crime.

To join this effort, please go to fightcrime.org/membership
 Becoming a member is free.

Brett Beckerson, MSW, Senior Associate
 Fight Crime: Invest In Kids Council
 For A Strong America
 1212 New York Avenue Nw, Suite 300
 Washington, DC 20005
 Ph: (202) 464-4197 Cell: (312) 860-5790
bbeckerson@fightcrime.org



Crawford NE, Fort Robinson - Influencing Each Other

In 1886, when Fort Robinson in Dawes County was twelve years old, the Fremont, Elkhorn, & Missouri Valley Railroad established stations at the fort and at a settlement soon to be known as "Crawford." A tent city immediately sprang up with every other establishment a saloon or gambling house. It is said that the man selling hardware piled the nail kegs inside the walls of his tent to keep stray bullets out.

An enterprising city editor obtained signatures from fort soldiers so he would have the number needed to file for the incorporation for the town. Named for a soldier stationed at the fort who was killed in Mexico about the time the town was organized, many streets in Crawford also carry the names of soldiers.

Fort Robinson, whose existence has greatly influenced the history of Crawford, served the West for more than 70 years. Its activities include the breeding and training of horses for the army and later for the Olympic equestrian teams. Many horses and mules were shipped overseas to Italy, Burma and other locations. During World War II, it expanded to train dogs for wartime duty. Fort Robinson was also one of 20 prisoner of war camps located in Nebraska. The prisoners worked on farms in the area, taking the places of the young men who had gone to the service.

Deactivated in 1948, Fort Robinson is now a state park, with many buildings restored as a part of the State Historical Society's out-state museum system. Tourism plays a sizable part of the local economy.

Taken from: www.co.dawes.ne.us/history.html

DAWES



Sheriff Karl Dailey

Dawes County Sheriff's Office

451 Main St, PO Box 671
Chadron, NE 69337
308.432.3025
308.432.0115 FAX
sheriff969@outgun.com

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DEUEL



Sheriff Adam Hayward

Deuel County Sheriff's Office

3rd & Vincent, PO Box 565
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shespern@68025.com

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www.facebook.com/CopHumor

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The Early Morning Flight

Excerpts from a book by Tim Dempsey, 30-year Nebraska Law Enforcement Veteran



Tim Dempsey is a native of Omaha and retired thirty year law enforcement officer. He has a B. S. in Criminal Justice and a M. P. A. from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Tim was a part-time instructor at U. N. O. for over twenty-five years, and now serves as a member of the Metropolitan Community College Board of Governors. In 2004, the Police Officers Association of Nebraska inducted Tim as a member of the Nebraska Law Enforcement Hall of Fame.

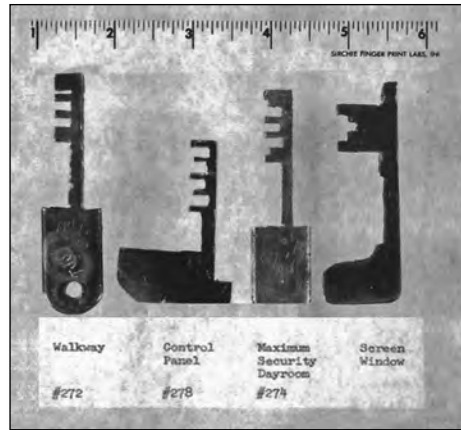
Ronald Abboud was part of a well-known Omaha family. He owned and operated a realty business along with his brother. On Halloween Eve, 1975, he was lured into a remote area of Douglas County under the pretense of showing property to a prospective buyer. The alleged buyer was more interested in killing Abboud than he was in buying any property. Three days later, Abboud's body was found lying face down in a creek bed. He had been shot execution style with a .22 caliber pistol.



After an intensive investigation of nearly two years, which included illegal wiretaps conducted by a private investigator and other twists and turns, Abboud's two murderers were identified and detained by Douglas County Sheriff's deputies. In June of 1977, Peter Hochstein and C. Michael Anderson were arrested and charged with first degree murder. Hochstein was paid \$1,500.00 by Anderson, then an employee of Abboud, to commit the murder. The two men were held without bond in the maximum security area of the Douglas County jail located on the sixth floor of the Douglas County Courthouse in downtown Omaha. In May of 1978, after spending a year in jail, both Hochstein and Anderson were found guilty of first degree murder by a jury.

During their jail stay, the two inmates made good use of their idle time. They developed a contingency plan to be used in the event that the outcome of their trial did not go the way they planned. Their scheme was simple. If they were convicted they would escape. In 1973, the Federal District Court in Omaha issued a ruling which ultimately helped support their escape plan. In a suit brought against then Douglas County Sheriff Ted Janing by Legal Aid attorneys, the Court's ruling allowed that pre-trial prisoners were due

many more privileges than convicted offenders. Based upon the ruling, Chief Deputy Joseph Thornton allowed Hochstein and Anderson expanded privileges including placing them on trustee status. He also allowed them to have several books including airplane operation manuals.



They knew an escape would take a great deal of preparation. The first obstacle to overcome, in furtherance of an escape, was to figure out how to get the four keys needed to unlock the

cell door, the cellblock door, the door to the dayroom and a locked mesh grate covering a barred window. The two men figured the best way to get keys was to make new ones. They were able to get hacksaw blades smuggled into the jail. The fact that they were trustees made it much easier. The key process began by secretly taking spreaders and other parts from metal step ladders used around the jail. The spreader and spreader lock secures a ladder once it is in the open position. The next step was to actually manufacture the keys. To do this, they needed to make impressions of the keys. They were able to get their hands on the keys on several different occasions. They did this by grabbing the keys from an unsuspecting deputy and then pretending to play "keep away" by tossing them back and forth. The keys were only hidden from view for a few seconds, but during that time, the prisoners were able to make impressions in the Styrofoam cups they kept in their cells. It took nearly six months to complete the process of making the impressions and fashioning the keys using the hack saw blades.

Hochstein and Anderson were able to convince the jail staff that the dayroom needed painting. They did a meticulous job of painting it, but simultaneously they were sawing through the bars on the outside window. They used black tar from the roof to conceal the saw marks until it was time for them to make their move. Because they were assigned to the laundry detail they were able to take several bed sheets, braid the pieces, and make a rope long enough to reach the street. The rope was hidden, along with other items to be used in the escape, on top of the cells in the cellblock. Life-like dummies were also constructed and hidden above the cells. They would be used to replace the inmates once they left the jail. The hair for the dummies was saved each time the men received a haircut.

continued on page 18



NETWORKING

The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association, in partnership with the Police Officers' Association of Nebraska, holds an annual conference where law enforcement personnel can network and share information.

Text-to-911 in Buffalo and Douglas Counties

Douglas County will soon join Buffalo County in Nebraska and allow texting when there's an emergency. Text-to-911 will launch in January 2015. This technology will enable cell phone users to get help by texting instead of phoning.

It's necessary because the government now recognizes text messaging is almost universal, but for the Douglas County 911 Center it's not the preferred method of contact.

The main drawback to texting an emergency rather than calling is the location recognition that comes easier with phone calls (wireless and land line). With texting, several back and forth conversations might have to occur before help can be dispatched. The 911 Center believes the equipment could still save lives.

From the FCC

In the future, text-to-911 will be widely available in the United States. However, text-to-911 is

continued on page 17

DOUGLAS



Sheriff Tim Dunning

Douglas County Sheriff's Office

3601 N 156th St
Omaha, NE 68116
402.444.6640
402.444.6065 FAX

timothy.dunning@douglascounty-ne.gov

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See Douglas County's MCC ad on page 6

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Text-to-911 *continued from page 16*

currently only available in certain markets where 911 call centers, also known as Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), have elected to accept emergency text messages from the public. For this reason, unless you have confirmed that the PSAP in your area supports text-to-911, you should not rely on text to reach 911.

The Commission has recently taken steps to make text-to-911 more widely available in the future. On August 8, 2014, the Commission adopted an order that will require all wireless carriers and other text messaging providers that enable consumers to send text messages to and from U.S. phone numbers to deliver emergency texts to PSAPs that request them. Wireless carriers and other text messaging providers that are not already supporting text-to-911 must be capable of doing so by the end of 2014, and must respond to PSAP requests to deliver text-to-911 by June 30, 2015, or six months from the date of the PSAP's request, whichever is later.

How to Contact 911

IMPORTANT! If you use a wireless phone or other type of mobile device, make sure to do the following in an emergency:

- Always contact 911 by making a voice call, if you can.
- If you are deaf, hard of hearing or speech disabled, and text-to-911 is not available, use a TTY or a telecommunications relay service, if possible.
- Remember - in most cases now, you cannot reach 911 by sending a text message.

Bounce-Back Messages

If you attempt to send a text to 911 where the service is not yet available, FCC rules require all wireless carriers and other text messaging providers to send an automatic "bounce-back" message.

- Consumers who receive this "bounce-back" message will be advised to contact emergency services by another means, such as by making a voice call or using a telecommunications relay service (the latter for consumers who are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech disability).
- The bounce-back requirement is intended to inform consumers and minimize the risk of a consumer mistakenly believing that a text to 911 has been transmitted to the PSAP where the service is not available.

REFERENCE SOURCE

The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association is a reference source for legal questions and a lobbying group representing the interests of law enforcement in the Legislature.



Sheriff Justin Nichols

Dundy County Sheriff's Office

PO Box 506
Benkelman, NE 69001
308.423.2393
308.423.2325 FAX
dundycosheriff@bwtelcom.net

DUNDY

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When Will Text-to-911 Become Widely Available?

As a result of the Commission's August 2014 Order, all U.S. wireless carriers and other text messaging providers that are not already supporting text-to-911 must be capable of doing so by the end of 2014, and must respond to PSAP requests to deliver text-to-911 by June 30, 2015, or six months from the date a PSAP request, whichever is later.

The Commission has encouraged PSAPs to begin accepting texts as text providers develop text-to-911 capability. It is up to each PSAP to decide whether and when to begin accepting texts. PSAPs currently accepting text messages are listed here. We expect that others will do so and that text-to-911 will become available in more areas over time. Information on best practices from public safety organizations and from PSAPs that have implemented text-to-911 is available here.

Updated: September 15, 2014
Federal Communications Commission
Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau
Consumer Inquiries and Complaints Division
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554
<http://www.fcc.gov/text-to-911>
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THE NEBRASKA SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

keeps diligent watch over the Unicameral for legislative actions that will affect counties in the state and that are of special interest to law enforcement.

NSA also sponsors the annual conference with major vendors displaying products and 20 hours of continuing education available. **It pays to be a member!**



DRIVING SIMULATORS AVAILABLE FROM NSA

The Nebraska Sheriff's Association has two high-tech tools to bring attention to the dangers associated with distracted driving. Thanks to the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety, AAA, and the Cornhusker Motor Club Foundation, the Association's arsenal of education and training tools now includes two VirtualDriver Interactive simulator units which will be available to law enforcement agencies for fairs, school/community events, and safety/health conferences. Grant funds were made available for this effort.

FILLMORE



Sheriff William Burgess

Filmore County Sheriff's Office

900 G St, PO Box 266
Geneva, NE 68361
402.759.4441
402.759.4429 FAX
burgess@fillmore.nacone.org

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Chief Deputy Daryl Callenius Retires

Daryl L. Callenius, Chief Deputy for the Fillmore County Sheriff's Office, retired October 23, 2014 after 42 years in law enforcement. Callenius served 34 years as a Fillmore County Deputy Sheriff with the last 10 years as Chief Deputy. The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association congratulates and thanks you for your dedication and years of service to the people of Fillmore County.

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EARLY MORNING FLIGHT . . . continued from page 15

Non conspicuous clothing was hoarded piece by piece after each court appearance until they each had a set of clothing. As the end of their trial grew near, they decided to share their plan with a fellow inmate Danny Shepard who was in jail facing a Federal probation violation charge. Shepard was from Canada and Hochstein and Anderson knew what he could contribute would be the "icing on the cake" for their plan.

On the morning of June 12, 1978, when Bill Pakorsky, a courthouse engineer, reported for work, he couldn't understand why a long rope was hanging from the sixth floor window. Deputies were alerted and quickly found that the three sleeping inmates had been replaced by the mannequins. The trio was long gone. During the night the men used the keys to slip out of the cells, unlock the cellblock door, open the dayroom door, open the window grate, and after spreading the pre-cut bars, left through the window. They used their homemade rope to reach the street. Next they stole a car near 24th and Leavenworth streets and drove the fifteen miles to the Millard airport. When they reached the airport, around 4:30 A. M., they found Craig Rader working alone in the office. They told him they were escaped convicts, wanted a twin engine plane, and if he cooperated he wouldn't be hurt. He took them to the only two engine craft available, a twin engine Cherokee, and when asked, filled it with gas. They took Rader back to the office and tied him up. The three escapees then hopped in the Cherokee.



Both Hochstein and Anderson had some prior, but limited, experience piloting a plane, but neither in a twin engine aircraft. What they needed to know about flying a plane was mostly gleaned from the manuals they studied in the jail. It was later determined that when they taxied to the end of the runway, they synchronized the engines by listening to the pitch. With the limited information and a little luck they took off and headed for Canada.

Terry and Mary Nord were getting ready to close their small airport at Pembina, North Dakota airstrip when they noticed the small twin engine plane attempting to land. The endeavor was aborted and the plane circled and made a lengthy approach, this time using full flaps. The plane landed and the couple, who would later describe the landing, said it was "shaky." They later told authorities that three men exited the plane and were laughing. Terry Nord checked the serial number on the aircraft, and reported the incident to authorities. It was quickly determined that the plane was stolen and carried the fugitives. The trio would later tell

General Custer's Itinerary

June 1 – General Custer, with 350 men and 20 supply wagons left Ft. Hays, KS to search for Indians between Ft. Hays and the Platte River in Nebraska.

June 6 – They entered into Furnas County at a spot on the Nebraska-Kansas line south of the present town of Hendley and one mile east. They traveled northwest about one mile to find a place to cross the "Stealing Horse Creek" (Sappa Creek). This crossing is straight south of Hendley and proceeded northwesterly to the "White Rock Creek" (Beaver Creek), at a spot about two miles west of Hendley. Here they found an Indian Trail indicating about 15 Indians going east but they didn't follow it as the trail was several days old. They then forded the creek and proceeded northwesterly to within two miles of the Republican River and camped there over night.

June 7 – They continued to the east side of Medicine Creek and followed it north going out of Furnas County the same day. They had several skirmishes with Indians, but nothing of great importance was really accomplished.

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sheriff's detectives that they did not want to land in Canada. The reason they gave was that they didn't want to violate Canadian laws as they planned on asking for asylum.

After they left the airport, they found the Red River and crossed over from North Dakota to Minnesota and started walking the fifteen mile trip to the Canadian border. Several hours later, and three fourths of a mile from the Canadian border, the trio was apprehended by Border Patrol agents Clay Kleppen and Harold Anderson. According to the agents, the men were in terrible condition and apparently had been wandering for several miles. Anderson told Douglas County Deputy Pat Grindle that he was fairly confident that the men first walked south rather than north because the Red River is the only river in North America that runs north rather than south. He theorized the men originally got lost and had to back track towards the border. All three men were returned to Omaha.

On November 30, 2001, the death sentences of Hochstein and Anderson were commuted to life imprisonment. Today, they are still in the custody of the Nebraska Department of Corrections. Dan Shepard reached a plea agreement on his original charges and the escape. He was sentenced to six years.



FATAL VISION GOGGLES

The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association has pairs of Fatal Vision Goggles, also called "drunk glasses," that show the wearer the effects of too much alcohol without actually embibing.

Furnas County Sheriff's Office

PO Box 430
Beaver City, NE 68926
308.268.2245
308.268.2345 FAX
furnasso938@yahoo.com

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Sheriff Kurt Kapperman

FURNAS

Gosper County Sheriff's Office

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308.785.2420
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gospersoso@atcjet.net

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Sheriff Dennis Ocken

GOSPER

2014 Nebraska Sheriffs' Association Member

Grant County Sheriff's Office

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Sheriff Shawn Hebbert

GRANT

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ashleyhall@unl.edu

Fred Baxendale, PhD, Forensic Science Degree Program
Department of Entomology
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
103 Entomology Hall, Lincoln, NE 68583 (UNL)
fbaxendale1@unl.edu

Task of a Crime Scene Investigator

(1) Determine the Nature of an Event: Is this event criminal or civil in nature? Many law enforcement agencies cannot investigate civil events. However, the crime scene investigator needs to gather sufficient information to interpret the information to make an informed decision. Death investigations can be a special case, as many law enforcement agencies investigate all unintended deaths. This requires gathering witness and physical information to make an informed decision on the manner of death. Gathering of physical information may require photography, collection of trace, and other, evidence at the scene prior to removal of the body. A contemporary perspective on death investigation is that as much processing of the body for physical evidence as possible should be completed at the scene prior to transportation of the body to a morgue, because transportation can destroy and alter physical evidence. Similar perspectives apply to sexual assault investigations, computer and electronic investigations, and threat investigations.

(2) Formulate a Plan of Action for Information Gathering: Lack of an information gathering plan is a formula for failure. Decisions must be made for personnel resources, techniques for identification and gathering, equipment resources, transportation, interpretation and analysis at the scene, and storage.

(3) Ensure Compliance with Legal Requirements: It is critical to make accurate decisions on the need for search warrants or consents to search. If one can articulate that a piece of evidence may be destroyed it may be appropriate to enter an apartment, as an example, to preserve the evidence. On the other hand, searches and collections may not be performed without a search warrant. A search warrant may be based on presumptive testing – biological or chemical, for example - and initial evaluation of physical evidence.

(4) Document the Scene: The purpose of the crime scene investigator is to document the scene via video digital imaging, digital photography, narrative description based on sensory information, measurements, instrumental analysis at the scene (carbon monoxide levels as an example), and presumptive testing of materials.

(5) Discover, Identify, Collect, Package, Preserve Evidence: Traditionally, this has been regarded as the job of the crime scene investigator. It requires knowledge of how to identify what is evidence, how to best document it, and most importantly how to collect, package, and store it. This requires knowledge of hazardous

materials, properties of body fluids, modes of contamination, processing sequences and protocols, and application of chemicals.

(6) Catalog the History of the Evidence: This is the establishment of a chain of custody. It is one of the most important roles of the crime scene investigator. It must be established who did what and when and where and how.

(7) Analyze Evidence: Bloodstains, bullet holes, impressions, an locations of trace evidence may be analyzed at the scene. Wounds and injuries to victims may be interpreted at the scene. It is important to investigators to have timely information during their investigative activities. As a simple example, it is important to know if a person appeared to have sharp force, blunt trauma, or gunshot injuries, and if there appeared to be any signs of semen on the victim. It would be important to know if bloodstains indicated movement from room to room, and if fibers and hair indicated certain information that might associate a suspect with the scene.

(8) Nurture Chance Discovery: It is the job of the crime scene investigator to employ processes to gather as much information as possible. This typically involves application of systematic search techniques and communication among scene investigators and follow-up investigators. The scientifically sophisticated investigator might employ the scientific method to formulate and test a hypothesis. As an example, how many different ways could this bloodstain have been made by a person, or how could this hair be related to this event? The application of semiotic exercises, event analysis exercises, fuzzy logic exercises, and chaos theory reasoning are processes that help to nurture chance discovery by causing a systematic analysis of the scene. This may lead to discovery of information not previously thought of through a traditional search method.

(9) Engage in Research and Development: The crime scene investigator may have to perform personal research to provide an explanation. An example would be documenting that an Infrared camera will create an image with contrast with given materials. A crime scene investigator might participate in research conducted by a scientist from a lab or university. As an example, how can one estimate the time of death through observation of the state of decomposition of a body?

(10) Practice Efficiency, Effectiveness, and Economy: Resources are not unlimited. It is important to use the right equipment and the right techniques for the job, and not to be wasteful. It is very important to not destroy, degrade, or contaminate evidence.

(11) Corroborate Credibility of Information: The crime scene investigator must recognize evidence that can prove or disprove the statement of a victim, witness, or suspect. This may require an explanation of the evidence and a logical argument that augments the credibility of a statement.

(12) Reconstruct and Theory Build: A crime scene investigator is often called upon to provide an explanation of what took place at a given event. This may require integration and correlation of all the information. It may require proposing and testing hypotheses, and it may require performing additional research. It may require questioning lab results, and it may require requesting additional testing of evidence.

(13) Serve As An Expert Witness: The crime scene investigator must be prepared to testify on protocols, techniques, analyses,



in the forensic science arena. Key skills were the ability to be a problem solver, which included the ability to do scientific research and analysis, the ability to perform basic hands on functions such as digital photography, the ability to communicate results, and the desire to engage in lifelong learning. The skills are similar to those thought to evolve from problem based learning approaches.⁷

We conducted a survey of students who had graduated from our program. Students had gotten jobs as crime scene investigators, correctional officers, private lab bench scientists, crime scene investigators, military positions, evidence technicians, private and corporate security and investigators, private consulting firms, and law enforcement officers. Students had gone onto graduate school and professional schools to include medical school, Physician Assistant school, dental school, law school, natural science programs, and teaching programs. We learned through informal inquiries with vendors of crime scene products and vendors of forensic products that research and marketing were being directed towards presumptive analyses and assays at the crime scene. This applied not only to traditional law enforcement and corrections crime scenes, but to moving the analyses "to the dock" in areas such as product adulteration and quality control in private industry. We did not want to lose site of the fact that many of our students were looking towards traditional lab jobs. We queried numerous law enforcement agencies, crime scene investigation entities, and forensic labs to determine the minimal educational requirements for employment in various lab positions, and we queried agencies who had hosted internships for our students on the knowledge skills of our students in relation to their future employability as forensic scientists and crime scene investigators. From this we learned that Quantitative Chemistry or Biochemistry would be minimal chemistry requirements. We learned that Microbiology and Genetics would be minimal Biology requirements, and that Calculus I and Statistics would be minimal math requirements. We learned that practice in problem solving, critical thinking, written and oral communication, use of The Scientific Method, and statistical analysis were practical skill that seemed to be at the top of employer lists.

and work tasks. It is not uncommon for the crime scene investigator to be the bloodstain pattern analyst or the shooting incident reconstructionist. It is not uncommon for the crime scene investigator to perform presumptive tests for blood, semen, urine, gunshot residue, and drugs. It is not uncommon for the crime scene investigator to testify about forensic photography, the use of alternate light sources, and the application of chemicals to enhance latent evidence for discovery and documentation. The application of fluorescein for the discovery of latent bloodstain impression such as fingerprints and shoe prints is an example of the combination of chemical and photography applications.

(14)Train and Consult: Crime scene investigators may train fellow investigators, teach in recruit academies, teach in-service courses, and make public presentations. Attorneys may ask for explanations of evidence and analyses.

(15)Present a Professional Demeanor in a Chaotic, Unpleasant, and Confrontational Environment: "To be a forensic scientist requires the appropriate integration of basic human emotions with basic rational enterprise...dealing with life's grimeiest realities dispassionately while never losing sight of the feelings that keep us human. This is what a forensic scientist does."⁵

Recognizing the evolving role of the forensic scientist and based upon the initial research exercise by the Lincoln-Lancaster County Crime Scene Tech Group, we, at UNL, embarked upon the development of the best method, in our opinion, to teach the skills that would best prepare our students for meaningful careers

continued on page 48

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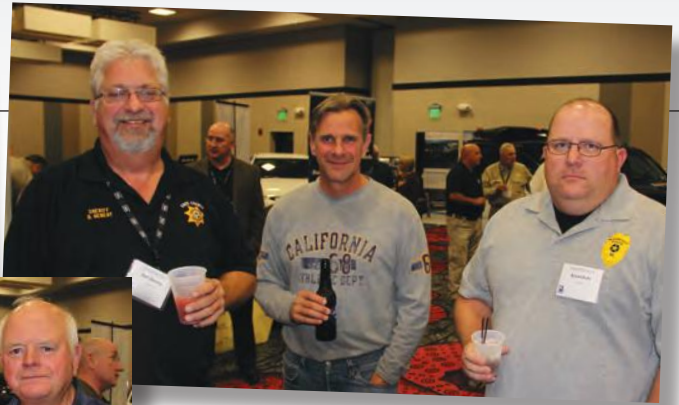
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more on page 28-29

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Five Body Worn Technology Trends in the Police Force

By TMCnet Special Guest *Tori Atkinson, Content Creator for Reveal Media USA (August 2014)*

U.S. police departments are on the cusp of full 21st century integration, exploiting the digital age's numerous technological advancements in the name of public safety. Gone are the days of relying on radios and telephones during times of crisis on the frontline - today police officers throughout America are embracing the cutting-edge technology of tomorrow to better serve their country. Body-worn technology in particular is very much on the rise, providing U.S. officers with access to wearable innovations for convenience and cover. Here's a breakdown of 5 wearable technologies revolutionizing the present and future of US law enforcement.

Google (News - Alert) Glass (pictured right)

Google Glass is an optical, head-mounted technology that displays information in a similar format to a smartphone - and is operated hands-free via voice activation. The wearable computer is not yet widely available across the U.S., but the Byron Police Department in Georgia are one of a handful of law enforcement departments using the technology to aid officers in the field - with officers wearing Google Glass to record everything on the job, sending information back to the department's video system. One officer used it to make a routine traffic stop and his superiors were able to watch and monitor the traffic stop in real time. This is only the beginning of this state-of-the-art technology's protective potential, and we can't wait to see what the future holds for Google Glass and the force.



Body Worn Cameras

Discreet cameras that document all incidents on the frontline are no doubt invaluable when it comes to gathering and presenting legal evidence. Body worn cameras are revolutionizing the jobs of officers on duty, with police departments across the country seizing this technology for themselves - and the technology has already proven to be highly beneficial when dealing with complaints against officers and the treatment of suspects.

According to The New York Times, a Californian police department experienced a staggering 88 percent decline in the number of complaints filed against officers within a 12 month period. And even discretion is a priority with this technology, as these high-capacity cameras are so small that they can be attached to an officer's collar, cap or even to the side of their sunglasses - making covert recording available to all U.S. officers. There's no denying that body worn cameras have the potential to cut crime and revolutionize the world of law enforcement.

Wrist-Worn Computers

You'd be forgiven for thinking that the wrist-worn computers being used by America's police officers were just hi-tech watches - but these gadgets work more like a miniature smartphone, with police departments and the armed forces the target audience behind this technology. This is because they often find themselves in hostile situations where computers are mandatory and the use of a computer or a hand-held device is impossible. Wrist-worn computers are a way of quickly securing access without inconveniencing the officers themselves or civilians - and the technology also aids frontline workers in field communications, as they can immediately receive calls, texts and emails.

Motorola (News - Alert) HC1 Headset Computer

This gadget is a hands-free headset computer that can be used in absolutely any environment - from sweltering North Africa to the frigid Arctic Circle - and has been designed for use in harsh environments when it's impractical to use a laptop or handheld device, whilst providing invaluable access to graphical data and text.

The Motorola headset contains a camera built into a speaker and microphone, capable of recording and streaming live video to share crucial data with the officer's department. There are also environmental and bio-monitoring sensors which the police officer can wear that issues key data about hazardous conditions. Presently, developers are working on a 'connected law enforcement officer of the future' system with integrated display, allowing officers to see around corners for additional cover.

Wi-Fi Enabled Clothing

The implications of Wi-Fi enabled clothing for the future of the police and armed forces are that we could see movements tracked in real-time and their vital signs monitored, whilst maintaining constant and fluid communications. Developers of this technology were able to create a textile waveguide antenna that can be woven into absolutely any piece of clothing, thanks to its metamaterial-like unit cell with transmission lines. This high-tech invention is guaranteed to infiltrate the U.S. police force in the future - and there's no telling the scale of the impact this will have on safety for officers and civilians alike.

These innovative body worn gadgets are set to offer American police departments a new level of cover and crime-fighting potential - and as technologies continue to progress, America's safety only continues to improve.

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NSA Honors Three at Awards Banquet

NSA 2014 Officer of the Year

Sgt. Dianne Nichols Webster County Sheriff's Office

On the night of May 22, 2014 at approximately 0100 hours, a call came in for Red Cloud EMS to respond to the country club for a male possibly having a heart attack. Sgt. Dianne Nichols of the Webster County Sheriff's Office arrived on scene ahead of EMS and observed a male lying on the floor. She was advised that he had fallen and struck his head and neck on the bar. Sgt. Nichols checked for vitals. The male had shallow breathing and his pulse was weak. She further observed that he had regurgitated and it was around his mouth and nose. Sgt. Nichols cleared his nasal passage and airway and moved to support his head while waiting for EMS.

The reporting party and another male left the room to direct EMS into the building. At this time, Sgt. Nichols observed the male stop breathing and she was unable to locate a pulse. Sgt. Nichols immediately started CPR. At this time the male coughed and Sgt. Nichols again cleared the airway. The male began to breathe on his own with a weak pulse. EMS arrived and transported the male to the hospital where he later made a full recovery.

Sgt. Nichols' presence, and because she remained calm and relied on her training, diverted tragedy and saved this man's life! Sgt. Nichols is a 7-year veteran and Webster County's K-9 officer. She always goes above and beyond the line of duty, and not just for Webster County. Sgt. Nichols also assists surrounding counties whenever they need her or our K-9 assistance - day or night!



Congratulations!
Officer of the Year
Sgt. Dianne Nichols
pictured with Webster County Sheriff
Troy Schmitz

NSA 2014 Hall of Fame Inductees



Sheriff LeRoy Janssen (ret.)
Wayne County Sheriff's Office

pictured with Cedar County Sheriff Larry Koranda
Sheriff Janssen started his career in law enforcement in 1976 as a deputy in Wayne County and recently retired as Wayne County Sheriff in July 2014 after 32 years of service.

Sheriff Janssen was the organizer of the Northeastern Nebraska Juvenile Detention Center in Madison. He also served as the county's Deputy Emergency Manager and handled two major disasters: Pilger, NE tornado in 2013; Wayne, NE tornado in 2014. **Congratulations on the award and your retirement!**



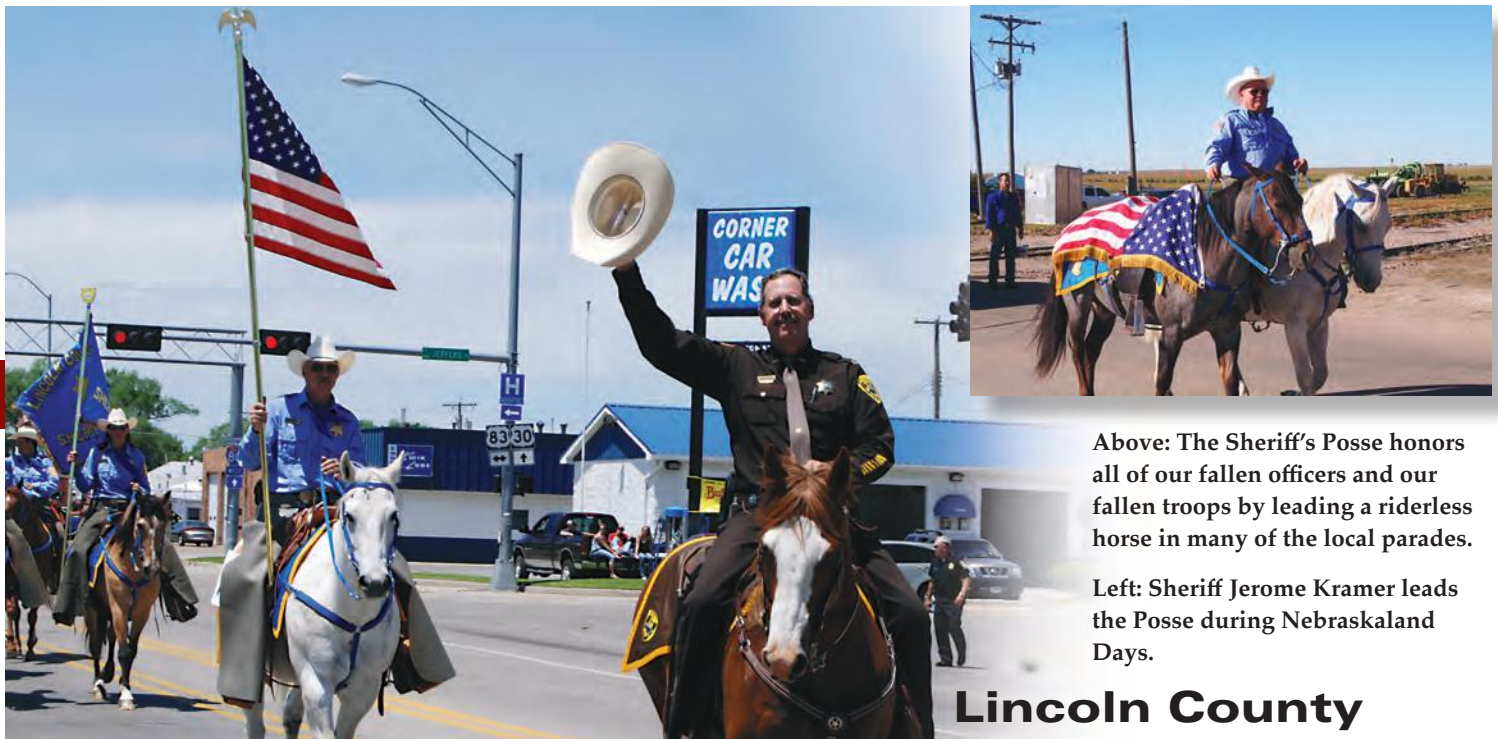
Sheriff Jon Zavadil (ret.)
Platte County Sheriff's Office

pictured with Platte County Sheriff Ed Wemhoff
Sheriff Zavadil started his career in law enforcement 44 years ago. He was appointed Platte County Sheriff in 1993 and retired in May 2014. He served on the NSA board and was president in 2000.

With too many accomplishments to list, Jon credits his dedicated staff for his successes. Jon says technology was the greatest change through his years. He was the first webmaster for NSA. **Congratulations on the award and your retirement!**



2014 NSA-POAN Conference: Just takin' a short break!



Above: The Sheriff's Posse honors all of our fallen officers and our fallen troops by leading a riderless horse in many of the local parades.

Left: Sheriff Jerome Kramer leads the Posse during Nebraskaland Days.

Lincoln County Sheriff's Posse

Photos and information courtesy of Sheriff Jerome Kramer

The Lincoln County Sheriff's Posse is the oldest Posse in the state of Nebraska. The organization was formed in 1955.

Originally the Posse was formed to assist with the staging, promotion, and policing of the Buffalo Bill Rodeo and the Lincoln County Fair. Now, the Posse is also available whenever the Lincoln County Sheriff needs help for any emergency such as search & rescue, evidence recovery, or police use.

2014 Officers are: President – Kendall Allison, VP – Bob Petersen, Treasurer – Nikki Harwood, Secretary – Brian Solko, Operations Captain – Alan Chrisman and Lieutenant of Operations – Kevin Solko.



Above Sheriff Kramer with Doug Peterson Attorney General-elect at Nebraskaland Days parade.

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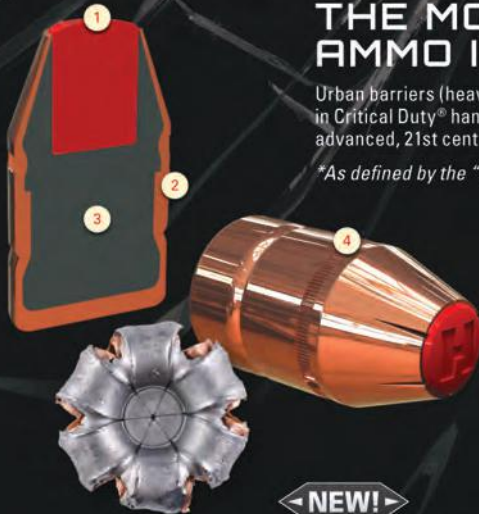
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Too Tough to Talk: Police Stress, Trauma, and Suicides

By Laura L. Cooper

What if police officers need help? Who would they confide in about troubling thoughts or persistent nightmares? Too often, they don't turn to anyone at all.

The law enforcement culture has typically rejected the notion that officers may need help in coping with stress and trauma in order to prevent or treat depression and avert suicide.

"Police officers do not want to be seen as weak. So if they have depression, or any other mental illness, they are extremely unlikely to get help" (Suicide.org). Groups such as Badge of Life (BOL) are trying to change that culture. They have conducted research on police suicides to begin to get a handle on the issue.

GOOD NEWS: The 2012 BOL study found 12% fewer suicides among law enforcement officers than they did in their 2009 study.

BAD NEWS: In 2012, the BOL still found 126 reported suicides among law enforcement officers, and the actual rate may be much higher (Policesuicidestudy.com).

The improved numbers are being attributed to an increase in peer counseling programs and an increase in the willingness of officers, especially younger officers, to seek professional help. "Suicides can happen in any profession, but they occur 1.5 times more frequently in law enforcement compared to the general population" (Officer.com).

"As we learn more through research and study, however, it becomes obvious that suicide is merely the tip of the iceberg in comparison to the more important issue of mental health in law enforcement" (Policesuicidestudy.com). Since depression is the leading cause of suicide, it cannot be ignored.

"Depression is 90% curable and, with the proper treatment interventions, those thoughts can go away. Eating your gun is not an option; treatment is" (LawOfficer.com).

Risk Factors for Depression

- Relationship difficulties
- Shift work
- Alcohol or other substance abuse
- Personal legal troubles
- Facing prosecution
- Negative public image
- Financial problems
- Physical pain/illness
- Inconsistencies in the criminal justice system
- Shame/humiliation
- Unrealistic expectations of self or by others
- Instant access to highly effective means of suicide (96+% use firearms)

Other possible causes of depression: genetics, critical incident trauma, cumulative trauma, and even repeated adrenaline dumps.

During an emergency situation, adrenaline dumps into a person's system and allows him/her to respond with speed, strength, and focus. "However, too much and too often, it's poison to your body that has negative effects on a person's physical and emotional well-being" (LawOfficer.com).

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) may be caused by a single critical event or cumulative trauma. Officers who suffer from PTSD may become depressed or even suicidal. "There's no excuse for law enforcement administrators not to (be) making sure officers are followed closely for at least two years after an incident" (AAETS.org).

Like depression, PTSD is treatable. Affected officers will need both a knowledgeable physician/psychiatrist, and a therapist who understands how to work with police officers (AAETS.org).

"So why don't officers simply go to their departments for help? Because they not only do not want to be seen as weak, but also do not want to be put on leave, reassigned to desk duty, have their gun taken from them, have other officers talk disparagingly about them, or be passed up for promotions in the future" (Suicide.org).

Officer.com presented a podcast interview of Ron Clark, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of The Badge of Life. He talked about the 2012 BOL study and how to promote mental wellness and prevent suicides. "The scandal in law enforcement is that not one department has ever said...the job has caused the officer to commit suicide" (Officer.com/podcast).

In the moving video, "Police Suicide, Where is the Piper?" BOL shares the words often spoken at law enforcement memorials: "It is not how they DIED that made them heroes, it is how they LIVED."

continued on page 33

I don't have to imagine what it's like to walk in your shoes.

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Injured in the line of duty, Mike Dyer proudly served as a member of New York City Police Department.

POLICE STRESS . . . continued from page 30

Despite these words, there is no big ceremony for a fallen officer who took his own life. No place on the National Law Enforcement Memorial. For an officer who commits suicide, it suddenly becomes a matter of how he/she died that matters. This appears to be another symptom of the unhealthy view many in law enforcement take toward mental illness and mental wellness.

The BOL suggests that police tend to their mental health as they do, hopefully, to their physical health. In a second video, "Police Suicide and HOPE," the BOL recommends annual mental health checks. They want officers to tend to their mental wellness before they have an issue.

These are signs that someone may be suicidal and in need of help:

- Talks about suicide
- Makes statements related to hopelessness or helplessness
- Has a preoccupation with death
- Shows a loss of interest in things he/she once cared about
- Makes detailed arrangements related to insurance and finances
- Gives away valued or prized possessions

Hopefully there are resources within a department that officers feel safe to turn to for help. Otherwise, direct them to local or national help lines.

Janice McCarthy lost her husband, a Massachusetts State Trooper, to suicide. She now addresses police groups about preventing suicides and the danger of viewing depression as a weakness. "Don't deny the fact that you're human," she said. "Yes, you're cops. But you're human" (APBweb.com).

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Laura L. Cooper, a former police officer, lives in Nebraska and writes about crime and public safety. She is a member of the Public Safety Writers Association, the Nebraska Writers Guild, and Sisters in Crime. See her website at <http://www.lauralcooper.com>

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Russian Grand Duke Alexis Shoots Eight Buffalo in 1872 Hayes County

The early history of Hayes County, like so many others in Southwest Nebraska, centers around the cattle herds that were driven from Texas to Ogallala. Predating that were the days when the Pawnee and Sioux tribes roamed the grasslands in this area and hunted buffalo. It was the buffalo that resulted in one of the most significant events in the history of what today is Hayes County.

In October 1871, President Ulysses S. Grant revealed that Grand Duke Alexis of Russia would be making a tour of the United States. One of the Duke's desires was to shoot a buffalo during his visit. Arrangements were quickly made for the Duke and his party of hunters on

the central plains in the Nebraska Territory. Leading the hunt would be Gen. George Custer and Gen. Phil Sheridan. Buffalo Bill Cody, at age 25, would serve as the guide.

Cody asked Sioux Chief Spotted Tail to help round up a buffalo herd. In exchange for his assistance, Spotted Tail would receive 1,000 pounds of tobacco.

An elaborate camp was set up one mile west of Red Willow Creek, just inside what today is the eastern boundary of the county. It included two hospital tents for royal meals, ten wall tents for guests and generals, and a dormitory tent for orderlies and Russian servants.

The hunt took place in January 1872. The scouts and the Sioux found a herd of buffalo near Medicine Creek. After Duke Alexis emptied two pistols, Cody gave him a .50 caliber Springfield rifle. On his first shot, the Duke dropped a buffalo bull. Russian servants immediately brought out a basket of champagne to celebrate. Before the hunt ended, the Duke shot a total of eight buffalo.

www.hayescounty.ne.gov/webpages/about/history.html

HAYES



Sheriff Thomas Dow

Hayes County Sheriff's Office

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CAMERAS ON COPS: *The Questions They Raise . . .* By Laura L. Cooper

Laura L. Cooper, a former police officer, lives in Nebraska and writes about crime and public safety. She is a member of the Public Safety Writers Association, the Nebraska Writers Guild, and Sisters in Crime. See her website at <http://www.lauralcooper.com>

Clipping a body-worn camera onto every law enforcement officer won't solve all our current issues, and it will raise new ones.

Benefits of this Technology

Last year, I wrote a blog that focused on the possible benefits of the technology:

- Document evidence in investigations
- Protect citizens from excessive force
- Defend officers from false accusations

After the controversial use of force case in Ferguson, Missouri, there is an outcry for all law enforcement officers to wear cameras.

The White House wants millions of dollars invested in the effort (Dann and Rafferty). However, not every community is prepared to cope with the questions raised by this technology.

Questions We Must Ask

- When will the cameras be set to record?
- How will video footage be stored? For how long?
- Who decides when video data will be released to the public?
- What if the recording device malfunctions?
- How will the presence of cameras affect victims, witnesses, and suspects?
- How will the privacy rights of officers and the public be protected?

Body-worn cameras open up tremendous possibilities for documentation and transparency. My concern is that they could be used to trample privacy rights, try suspects and officers in the media, scare off victims and witnesses, and micromanage every aspect of law enforcement.

We must prepare policies and public expectations so that we protect privacy rights, set reasonable procedures for officers, and realize that every technology has its limits.

Video Footage

Agencies must be clear about when and how cameras will be used and share this with the public. We cannot record everything...not officers undercover, in a briefing, or at the urinal.

"No one wants to talk to you if everything is being recorded," said Larry Ellison, president of the Massachusetts Association of Minority Law Enforcement Officers" (Johnson and Smith).

Public Release

We need to assure victims and witnesses that their videotaped comments are not subject to public records

requests. But can we? Suspects are considered innocent until proven guilty, so video may need to be protected until it is used in court. The public should not expect that everything recorded today can be released on the Internet tonight.

Limits of the Technology

It is important to realize that as helpful as the technology can be, it will not resolve all issues. There will be times a camera malfunctions, records blurry images, or is turned off during an unexpected event. An editorial in *Scientific American* points out that "even when video images are available, they are not always conclusive." Not everyone who views footage will come away with the same determination.

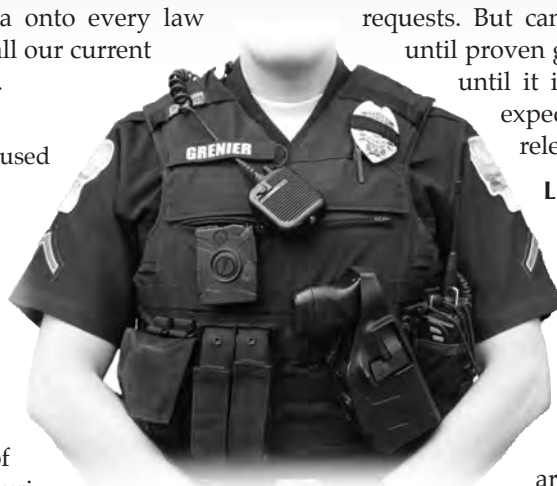
Moving Forward

Some police agencies have been using body cameras for years. Others are still experimenting on a small scale. Of 254 departments surveyed that use body cameras, The Police Executive Research Forum found that one-third have no written policies on their use (Hermann and Weiner). This is bad news for police and communities.

Carefully crafted policies and laws need to direct when and how video is captured and released to the public. We cannot jeopardize court cases or privacy rights to appease the public's appetite for information. Video has a valuable place in our justice system, but how far can it go toward building trust in communities?

RESOURCES:

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- Hermann, Peter and Rachel Weiner, "Issues over Police Shooting in Ferguson Lead Push for Officers and Body Cameras," *Washingtonpost.com*, December 2, 2014.
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SUNDAY COMICS ... Excerpts from Tim Dempsey's "Rules Are Made To Be Broken"

March 4, 1951 was a typical Sunday at the Douglas County jail. Around two in the afternoon, all the Sunday services were over, the ministers had left, the noon meal had been served, and the kitchen trustees were back in their cells. Deputy Scott Johnson was working on records in the jail office that afternoon. Deputy Cliff Hansen was working his normal afternoon shift.

Cliff and his wife, who was the jail matron, lived in the jail apartment, but both generally worked a regular shift each day. Deputy W. C. (William Camel) Wakefield was also working in the jail that day.

On the weekends, when there was little activity, a skeleton crew was enough to run the jail. Inmates Dewey Battershaw and Victor Sweet were in their cells reading the Sunday funnies and just passing time like the other prisoners. The two men were awaiting trial on several charges stemming from a crime spree that began with a burglary in Hartington, Nebraska, involved a robbery in Omaha, and ended with the pair being arrested in a stolen car in South Sioux City.

Deputy Hansen was operating the jail elevator that afternoon and answered a call to the first floor. Seventeen year old Cliff Battershaw, Dewey's younger brother, was waiting at the elevator door, and asked if he could visit his brother. He told Hansen that he was unable to come during the normal visiting hours and just wanted a few minutes to see his brother. Hansen agreed to the visit.

As the elevator stopped at the sixth floor, Deputy Wakefield was waiting beyond the jail door. The door secured the elevator and opened into the jail's main corridor. After Wakefield was told that the boy was being allowed a special visit, he unlocked the door and let young Battershaw into the jail. Cliff immediately pulled out a nine millimeter Luger pistol and stuck it into Wakefield's stomach. He forced Hansen and Wakefield, at gunpoint, into the office where Johnson was working and unaware of what was happening down the hall.

Cliff told Johnson to get the jail keys and then forced all three men through the double lock and into the cellblock area. The younger Battershaw ordered the deputies to open the cells housing his older brother and Victor Sweet. The two prisoners were let out and into the bull pen area. Deputies Johnson and Wakefield were forced to trade places with the two prisoners and were locked in a cell and the cellblock door re-locked. The two Battershaw brothers and Victor Sweet then told Hansen that they were leaving, and he was now their prisoner. They went through the double lock and onto the elevator. When the elevator reached the first floor, John N. Baldwin, an attorney, was waiting for someone to come down and take him up to the jail. He was on his way to visit



Cliff Battershaw



Dewey Battershaw



Victor Sweet

a client. Baldwin was taken by surprise when the four men got off the elevator, and knew there was a problem when he saw Cliff still holding the Luger. The men told him that he was about to become their second hostage because they couldn't leave him and didn't want to kill him.

All five of the men walked out of the building and onto Harney Street.

So, you're in downtown Omaha on a Sunday afternoon and you have just escaped from jail. You also have two hostages. What do you do? Cliff Battershaw knew. He was still in control and had not relinquished his weapon to his older brother. At the bus stop, he herded everyone onto a city bus and they headed west and away from downtown.

The bus was crowded and there were several children on board. Neither Deputy Hansen nor Baldwin said or did anything to alert the other riders of the situation for fear that people would be hurt if they did.

After riding about a mile, Dewey became nervous and decided that it was time to get off. He stood up and motioned for Hansen and Baldwin to disembark with the escapees. All five men got off of the bus when it made a stop at 32nd Avenue and Leavenworth Streets.

The group started walking south on 32nd Avenue and quickly spotted a 1937 Ford pulled over at the curb with Nathan Distefano sitting behind the wheel. Distefano was a linoleum contactor and was waiting to meet his business partner to plan a job. The trio decided to take the car and another hostage.

Distefano, Hansen, and Baldwin were forced into the backseat and the crowded car and the desperados headed south. They took back roads to avoid being seen, and just south of Gretna in Sarpy County the car choked a few times and quit. They were out of gas. Cliff was still holding the Luger and waving it at the three hostages, when he told them to get out. Hansen feared the worst and thought the teen was about to shoot all three hostages, but instead, the group headed to the nearest farmhouse.

At the Otto Timm farm, Cliff knocked on the door, and when Otto opened the door, he told the farmer that they were out of gas. Timm said, "sure boys, just meet me by the barn and I'll get you a few gallons." After he got his coat, he walked to the side of the house headed for the barn and was met by Cliff who was pointing the Luger at him. He said, "we don't want gas, just your car." He then told Timm to fill the car with gas, and when Timm was done, he told the farmer to get into the back seat. Cliff then forced the other three hostages into the back seat, and Cliff, Dewey, and Victor Sweet piled into the front.

continued on page 37

Annual “Wet Lab” Shows Why Drinking and Driving Don’t Mix

With alcohol testing results still unreported for 161 drivers in fatal crashes so far this year, 65 of Nebraska’s traffic fatalities have been confirmed as alcohol-related. Joining the National “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” Crackdown, Nebraska’s “You Drink and Drive. You Lose” special targeted enforcement began December 12th and continued through the Christmas and New Year’s Holidays, ending on January 1st. During this operation, Nebraska agencies were awarded a total of over \$282,000 in grant funding from the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety that allowed them to increase traffic enforcement hours above those regularly scheduled.

In conjunction with this, the Douglas and Sarpy County Sheriffs’ Offices along with most Metro area law enforcement agencies hosted “Wet Lab”, a controlled drinking environment to show the effects of alcoholic beverages amongst individuals on December 12. They were joined by the Iowa State Patrol and Council Bluffs Police.

Some of the partner groups in this endeavor are: Mothers against Drunk Drivers, the Live Wise coalition, Project Extra Mile, the Nebraska Safety Council, Omaha Fire Dept., a victims’ family of a drunk driver, as well as Col. Dave Sankey, Nebraska State Patrol, Sarpy Sheriff Jeff Davis, Douglas County Chief Deputy Tom Wheeler, and Fred Zwonechek of Office of Highway Safety.



**Check out an alternative to driving available anytime of year . . . page 28
“I Care Cab Fare”**

SUNDAY COMICS . . . continued from page 36

As they drove past the house and headed down the drive, Mrs. Timm noticed that someone besides Otto was behind the wheel of the car and called the sheriff’s department. The car roared onto the gravel road headed south towards Louisville.

The roads were wet and at one point the car slid and became stuck. The hostages were ordered out of the car and forced to push it until it was unstuck. Just past Johnson, Nebraska, the car got stuck again. Unlike before, this time the car was totally mired in the mud and they were unable to free it. The fugitives decided to steal another car. As they started walking towards the Werner Oestman farm, they watched as the family drove their black 1949 Dodge coupe down the farm lane headed for Auburn, Nebraska. The men, with their four fugitives in tow, walked to the farmhouse and Sweet kicked in the front door. When they realized that the family took the only car on the farm, they decided to have Timm use the Oestman’s tractor to pull Timm’s car. That plan didn’t work because the tractor also became stuck. The fugitives decided to make themselves at home and wait for the family to return. They used lamp cords and belts to tie up the four hostages. They were gagged so they couldn’t alert the Oestmans when they returned.

Around midnight the family arrived home. Werner put the car away as his wife and the two boys, Maurice and Jerry, walked to the house. She walked into the kitchen and saw Baldwin completely bound and sitting on the drawing room couch. Before she could react, one of the escapees, believed to be Dewey, told her who they were. He also told her that no one would be harmed if she and the others did as they were told. She and her two sons were locked in an upstairs bedroom and Werner was tied up and left with the other hostages. The trio of desperados decided to leave all of the hostages behind and fled in the Oestman’s Dodge. As soon

as they knew the men were gone, they hostages worked free, and Werner called the sheriff’s department. During the next ten days, the trio made it to Oklahoma, Kansas, and Arkansas, but on March 15, 1951 the three men sped through the small town of Saint Johns, Arizona. They were pursued by Apache County Arizona Deputy Sheriff Emmet Wilhelm. Cliff Battershaw busted out the back window of the Oestman’s coupe and began firing at the officers. The car went out of control and rolled several times. Miraculously, the men escaped the car and fled on foot.

Cliff suffered a broken ankle during the crash, and he needed Victor’s help as the two fled into a wooded area. Dewey held the officers at bay using a .22 stolen caliber rifle. Dewey suffered a gunshot wound in the exchange and died later at a local hospital. A posse of lawmen, some on horseback, eventually captured Cliff Battershaw and Sweet. They were subsequently returned to Omaha to face charges. Cliff Battershaw ultimately pled guilty to the charge of robbery in Douglas County and was sentenced to five to ten years. He was released on November 5, 1958. Victor Sweet took his case to a jury and lost. On November 28, 1951, he was given concurrent life sentences for the kidnappings committed during the escape. The Nebraska Pardons Board changed his life sentence to a thirty-five year sentence, and was a free man on April 8, 1964, thirteen years after the escape.

Tim Dempsey is a native of Omaha and retired thirty year law enforcement officer. He has a B. S. in Criminal Justice and a M. P. A. from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Tim was a part-time instructor at U. N. O. for over twenty-five years, and now serves as a member of the Metropolitan Community College Board of Governors. In 2004, the Police Officers Association of Nebraska inducted Tim as a member of the Nebraska Law Enforcement Hall of Fame.



Hitchcock County 1873 Indian Battleground

In the fall of 1873, the memorable fight between the Sioux and the Pawnee Indians took place about eight miles west of Culbertson. The Pawnee were out on one of their grand hunts, and were attended by their squaws and papooses. The Pawnee boasted that they were hunting Sioux. As a decoy, the Sioux left their ponies on the side of a hill where the Pawnee would see them and think they were buffalo. The decoy was successful, and as soon as the Pawnee were fairly started, another band of Sioux attacked the camp where the old men, squaws and papooses were left, and a wholesale slaughter commenced.

The astounded Pawnee then rode back to the camp, pursued by the band from the hill-sides, only to find the lodges burning and the bodies of their women, children and old men lying about in a mangled condition while their relentless foe was now pressing them hard on both sides. The overwhelming numbers of the Sioux soon compelled the Pawnee to seek safety in flight. Their loss was great. This was the last battle fought between the remnants of what were once the two great tribes of Indians in Nebraska.

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308.334.5444
308.334.5351 FAX
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Sheriff Ben Matchett

Elected November 2014

HOOKER



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CONGRATULATIONS

Hooker County Sheriff Lynn Nichols, Jr. Retires

Sheriff Lynn Nichols will retire January 2015 after a long career in law enforcement. Newly elected Sheriff Wynn Wiens is replacing him. The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association thanks Sheriff Nichols for his dedication and service to the citizens of Hooker County.

Jefferson County Historical Sites Listed on the National Register

- Woral C. Smith Lime Kiln and Limestone House. Listed 1974/12/03
- District #10 School District #10 School. Listed 1978/12/15
- Survey Thematic Group Nebraska-Kansas Public Land Survey Thematic Group. Listed 1987/06/19
- Diller Opera House Anna C. Diller Opera House. Listed 1988/07/06
- People's State Bank People's State Bank. Listed 1984/06/13
- Colman House Colman House. Listed 1982/06/25
- Fairbury Commercial Historic District Fairbury Commercial Historic District. Listed 1997/06/20
- Fairbury Carnegie Library Fairbury Carnegie Library. Listed 1985/09/12
- Rock Island Depot Fairbury Rock Island Depot and Freight House. Listed 1996/06/21
- Jefferson County Courthouse Jefferson County Courthouse. Listed 1972/11/27
- Temple Building I.O.O.F. Temple Building. Listed 1987/06/15
- Fairbury High School Fairbury High School and Auditorium. Listed 1999/03/25
- Steele City Historic District Steele City Historic District. Listed 1972/03/16
- Steele City School Steele City School District #48. Listed 1997/12/08



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So how do the natives pronounce it?

Keya Paha (KIP-ə-haw) County.



Keya Paha County Sheriff's Office

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Sheriff Jeffrey Kirsch

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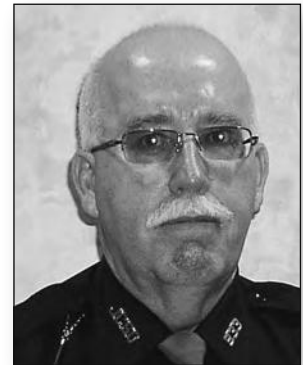


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402.729.2904 FAX
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Kimball County Sheriff's Office

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harry.gillway@gmail.com

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- Aircraft and weapons are available for transfer directly thru the Department of Defense and must be requested using an outlined procedure.

The Department of Defense and the NE State Coordinator impose a 12 month restriction period on all property received through the program.

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308.535.9594 FAX
kramerjj@co.lincoln.ne.us

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On the "Lighter" Side (<http://www.you-can-be-funny.com/CopJokes.html>)

A blonde was speeding in a 35 mile per hour zone when a local police officer pulled her over and walked up to the car.



The officer also happened to be a blonde and she asked for the blonde's driver's license.

The driver searched frantically in her purse for a while and finally said to the blonde policewoman, "What does a driver's license look like?"

Irritated, the blonde cop said, "You dummy, it's got your picture on it!"

The blonde driver frantically searched her purse again and found a small, rectangular mirror down at the bottom.

She held it up to her face and said, "Aha! This must be my driver's license" and handed it to the blonde policewoman.

The blonde cop looked in the mirror, handed it back to the driver and said, "You're free to go. And, if I had known you were a police officer too, we could have avoided all of this."

CDC: Seat Belts Could Save More Lives

Research shows primary enforcement seat belt laws make a big difference in getting more people to buckle up. A primary enforcement seat belt law means a police officer can pull a vehicle over and issue a ticket just because a driver or passenger covered by the law is not wearing a seat belt. In 2013, 33 states did not have a primary enforcement law covering all seating positions.

Seat belt use in 2010 was 89% in states with primary enforcement laws but only 80% in states with secondary enforcement laws or no seat belt laws.

cdc.gov/Motorvehiclesafety/seatbelts/facts.html



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Sheriff Vernon Hjorth

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Early McPherson County Had Sod-Walled Buildings

In 1890, McPherson County, shortly after it was organized, Russell and Manley Calhoun bought 44-year old steers and broke them to harness to plow. After plowing sod all summer, in the fall they plowed sod and hauled it to the courthouse site. John Godfrey, who was quite an expert at laying sod walls, was hired for the job. The roof was hip style, with rafters and sheeting covered with tar paper, overlaid with tough prairie sod.

A brick vault with a strong door was built in one corner. A steel safe was purchased and record books obtained and the officers were ready for business.

The courthouse grounds were enclosed with barb wire fence to prevent roving livestock from entering the yard. If livestock rubbed the sod walls, there was unnecessary wear. There was a well on the grounds where man and animals could obtain a refreshing drink. There was a turn stile gate and a hitching rail south of the fence, where farmers and ranchers would tie their teams and saddle horses.

The county clerk lived in a part of this sod house. There was only one other building in Tryon at first. The courthouse was the social center of this little community and all meetings were held there.

The courthouse was also used for religious services whenever a traveling minister or missionary was in the neighborhood. On many occasions, homesteaders and cowboys gathered for old time dancing to the music of fiddles, harmonicas or whatever, playing the popular

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MCPHERSON

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Sheriff Tim McConnell

2014 Nebraska Sheriffs' Association Member

tunes of the "gay nineties". These dances were usually held on Friday night and lasted till daybreak. On Saturday, they transacted their business. Sometimes weary travelers were permitted to spend the night in the comfortable old sod courthouse.

In later years, the sod walls deteriorated. At that time, walls of frame construction were made outside the sod walls which were later removed and the roof shingled.

Construction of a new courthouse was started in 1925 and the building was occupied by county officials during the summer of 1926. In 1926, a special election approved \$6,000 to install a heating system and buy furniture. The courthouse is still in use today.

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nemcpher/history.html>



Troops Have Better View with a Simple Toss

The Eye Ball R1 can give troops a better view of enemy positions with a simple toss.

There's a great scene in the Cartoon Network original Star Wars Clone Wars series where Arc Troopers, pinned down and badly needing a fresher

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Sheriff Milo Cardenas

Morrill County Sheriff's Office

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 308.262.0352 FAX
 mcsheriff1@morrillcountysheriff.com

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perspective, take a spherical probe droid camera and toss it high in the air. The camera gives the troopers a birds eye view of the entire city around them, spotting enemy positions and giving them great advantage when attacking. Well, someone must be a Star Wars geek because Uncle Sam and Remington Technologies have created the Eye Ball R1 Throwable Camera System.

It can't float high in the air, yet, but this compact, lightweight, spherical camera is designed for high risk tactical situations for military and law enforcement to get a vital viewpoint of what's going on where they can't see.

Once deployed by a good, strong toss, the Eye Ball R1 can capture video up to 25 yards away and broadcast it wirelessly to their position to a personal display unit (PDU) at up to 200 yards from where it lands. Audio can also be broadcast as well. The PDU can view two Eye Ball R1s at the same time and in full color to its 6 1/2" LCD screen.

In close quarters, the Eye Ball could save lives by seeing around corners.

And what else is cool, is that the Eye Ball is omnidirectional, rotating at 4 revolutions per minute to identify any potential targets and provide up to a 55 by 41 degree field of view. And if the camera lands upside down, the camera image can be flipped by the operator.

The Eye Ball R1 can operate for a maximum of 2 hours, while the PDU can run for 3 hours. But expect that to increase as the technology matures. And only Arc Troopers know if it'll every fly.

PERKINS



Sheriff James Brueggeman

Perkins County Sheriff's Office

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Elected November 2014

RED WILLOW



Sheriff Alan Kotschwar

Red Willow County Sheriff's Office

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 geno948@hotmail.com

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Red Willow County Sheriff Melvin (Gene) Mahon Retires

Sheriff Melvin Mahon will retire January 2015 after a long career in law enforcement. Newly elected Sheriff Alan Kotschwar is replacing him. The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association thanks Sheriff Mahon for his dedication and service to the citizens of Red Willow County.

Rock County Sheriff Burton Vargason (retired) Dies at Age 93 . . . Vargason was inducted into the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association Hall of Fame in 2004

Burton Alphonso Vargason was born on March 8, 1921, the fifth child of Harry and Louise Vargason. He was born at the homestead 7 miles north of Bassett, Nebraska. In September of 1942, Burton went to serve his country in World War II. While fighting in the South Pacific, he was severely wounded and returned to the United States where he spent 6 months and 19 days at Winter General Hospital in Topeka, Kansas.

Corporal Burton Vargason received an honorable discharge on October 7, 1944. Upon his discharge he returned back to help his grandparents with their ranch and married Lillian Haight on December 9, 1945.

Burton worked for many different ranches in Rock County also as a butcher and janitor until being elected the Rock County Sheriff in November of 1962.

Burton was the Sheriff of Rock County for 24 years, with the office in his home for 20 years. Lillian and two of his daughters helped him out by being dispatchers and often riding with him to get prisoners. Many a holiday was put on hold so he could go help someone.

Burton was a true rancher at heart and loved his horses and cattle and teaching his grand and great grandkids about the animals. He really enjoyed it when a group of his great-grandkids would come up to the picture window and show him which horses they were riding that day. One of the things he was very proud of was being a founding member of the KBR Saddle Club.

Burton was a member of the VFW and Legion.

Burton passed away on October 12, 2014 at Rock County Hospital at the age of 93 years and 7 months.

Graveside services were held with Military Honors by the Bassett America Legion Post #123 at Bassett Memorial Park Cemetery. Last Call Rites were given by the Rock County Sheriff's Department.



ROCK

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Sheriff James Anderson

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Sheriff Alan Moore

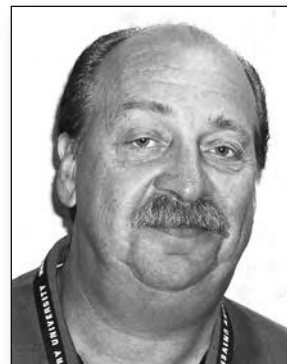
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ADDICTION

**Written by Anonymous
- a Recovering Addict**

Addiction . . . you are a miserable entity. You nurture and feed and strengthen every good sensation known to man for your own entertainment. You are a direct contradiction to the rules of man and the laws of GOD. You are the destroyer of life itself. And for what? What thrill could you possibly get from this? Is it the control? Is it the challenge? What are you going to do after you have destroyed everything around you, and there is nothing else to feed on?

You and depression go hand in hand. You both consume your host, like cancer, until there is nothing left. But that's not enough for you either, is it? You then have to spread out to all the loved ones around the host (your victim) until you have destroyed them as well. You are nothing more than a low rent, sick sort of infection that spreads as easily as the common cold.

But you don't go away like a cold. No, you hang on to the soul itself, and that is what makes you dangerous. Trying to fight you is like trying to whip the air. It is an impossible task, so why fight at all?

What exactly am I trying to fight? You are an inanimate object; you are intangible. You are a figment of imagination, and yet, you are very real. You are very strong; you are temptation itself; you are insignificant and pathetic. You are nothing more than an excuse; you are sin and cannot be ignored. You are the devil and so I say to you . . . "GET BEHIND ME, SATAN! THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD, I SHALL NOT WANT!"

I think the biggest control you have over me is your ability to make me hate. I hate you, and I hate me.

Again, it is contradictory to GOD'S law which is that we should love. Your ability to make me love the sensations, then hate myself for the pleasure I feel, at someone else's expense, is what makes me raging mad.

Go to hell where you belong and leave me alone. I may want you . . . but I don't need you. You keep coming at me in the form of doubt, but I am hard-headed and just a little bit competitive. So, come on you holy terror. Come at me with everything you have. You might knock me down. I might slip and fall once in awhile . . . but they will be small slips and I will bounce back up. I WILL WIN THE FIGHT . . . I WILL LIVE. Now, you have to live with me!

By an anonymous writer and submitted by Shawn Hebbert, Grant County Sheriff and 2015 NSA President

Thomas County Sheriff's Office

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308.645.2577 FAX
tcs89@neb-sandhills.net



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Sheriff Gary Eng

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Sheriff Dale Radcliff

Grant Programs

The Crime Commission offers a variety of federal and state grant programs. Each program has different purposes and requirements. Check them out at www.ncc.state.ne.us/crime_commission/pamphlet.htm

FORENSIC SCIENTISTS . . . continued from page 21

Results

To meet the needs of the forensic science community under the new paradigm described, we offer two options in the University of Nebraska Forensic Science Degree Program: Forensic Biochemistry and Crime Scene Investigation. Students in both options take a rigorous core of science and math classes: Calculus I, General Biology I & II, General Chemistry I & II, and Organic Chemistry I & II, Statistical Methods, and Physics I & II. Forensic Biochemistry students take the traditional science courses expected of such a course of study, including Genetics, Forensic DNA Analysis, Anatomy, Physiology, Molecular Biology, Immunology, Microbiology, Biochemistry, Pollen Analysis, and Human Remains. In keeping with the new paradigm, Crime Scene Investigation students are also required to round out their science education with a rigorous complement of science courses including Physical Anthropology, Quantitative Chemistry, Microbiology, Genetics, Insect Identification, Forensic Entomology, Palynology, Human Remains, and Crime Scene Investigation.

The curriculum was designed so that students in both the Forensic Biochemistry and Crime Scene Investigation options are introduced to the basic science that underlies all forensic applications. They revisit this theory and apply it with practical techniques through a progressive study of subject materials in both face-to-face and online settings.

This blend of on campus courses and online courses that revisits the subject matter provides the student experience working in a group to solve a problem, experience working alone to solve a problem, and it keeps the subject matter before them for four years in a progressive application. Research has indicated that students learn better through a blended learning approach as compared to a traditional classroom lecture approach.⁹ We posit that the blended learning approach, an approach that combines classroom instruction with online instruction, facilitates revisiting forensic science content that offers a better chance of understanding and retention of forensic science subject matter. Students destined for a career outside of the lab are exposed to a rigorous scientific education to better prepare them for the new normal in forensic science. Students who seek a lab career are prepared for such a career. Student who seek professional school or graduate school are prepared for such advanced education. We feel this provides a more realistic approach to learning skills, develops an ability to truly develop and retain a skill, implants the concept of online education and lifelong learning, and fits well with scientific concepts of problem solving and hypothesis testing.

An example of the Problem-Based Blended Learning approach is the content pertaining to blood as evidence. In an on campus Introduction to Forensic Science course students attend lectures on bloodstain pattern analysis, biological fluids, and DNA content. The lab course consists of one lab creating and documenting bloodstain patterns and performing presumptive tests for body fluids. An additional lab consists of extracting DNA from plant material. Students will concurrently be attending an on campus course in biological sciences, Life Sciences 1 and Life Sciences 2 that covers general biology and organismic biology. Students are required to take an online course in Bloodstains as Evidence, and an online course in Comparative Analysis. Each course has a lab component and a lecture component. In the lab component students are given lab assignments. As an example, students are required to drop forty drops of blood or a simulated material at

given angles. They are required to drop several drops at the same angle. Students must calculate the angles of impact for each drop. They are given problems such as how to calculate error rate in angle of impact calculations. Students are required to photograph their bloodstains and forward to the course instructor with their calculations and their formula for calculating error rate. Crime Scene Investigation students continue with an on campus Crime Scene Investigation with Lab. Additional material is presented in lecture and in lab. Lab problems focus on solving problems relating to enhancement of bloodstains with chemicals and advanced photography such as Infrared photography. The CSI students take an online course in DNA as evidence, and a course in Genetics. The CSI students culminate their training in an on campus Capstone course in which they manage and process a mock crime scene that contains blood and body fluids as evidence. They identify, collect, document, perform presumptive tests, and interpret the bloodstains. They submit evidence for DNA analysis. They prepare a reconstruction report and testify as an expert witness in a mock trial. Forensic Biochemistry students go on to take course in DNA analysis and Molecular Biology. They culminate their training in an on campus course Capstone course in which they analyze the DNA from the crime scene, interpret the data, prepare a reports, and testify in a mock trial as an expert witness.

An additional example is the teaching of microscopy as a subject matter, and as a component of forensic science. Students in Introduction to Forensic Science, an entry level and prerequisite course, are introduced to microscopy as a forensic analysis technique. Lab projects include using Stereo Microscopes to examine the base of ammunition casings, impressions in wood from screwdrivers and hammers, striation marks on metal, fractured items, insects, human fingers, handwriting characteristics, bullets, and clothing for evidence such as glass, fibers, and hairs. Students are introduced to compound light microscopy for examination of hairs, fibers, and blood on clothing, as examples. Polarized Light Microscopes are used to hairs, fibers, and white powders. The microscopy work is used in conjunction with specific content. As an example, when doing a lab on DNA extraction from onions, the DNA is dried on a slide, and students are asked to examine the dried DNA using a stereo microscope, compound light microscope, and polarized light microscope and to document observations in their lab note. Similar exercises are used during labs on trace evidence, blood as evidence, tool marks, firearms ammunition, and fingerprint evidence. Students are required to take an online course in comparative analysis. This course covers the theory and scientific philosophy behind identification using physical characteristics. Students are given lab projects such as polarized light microscopy tutorials from online sources such as Polarized Rotation and Specimen Birefringence from Nikon Microscopy U. Students are given images of several materials and asked to identify the materials. They are directed to the McCrone Atlas of Small Particles as a reference source.¹² The atlas can be searched and data with images are available in the atlas. The project is a simple comparison of physical characteristics known through compound light microscopy, polarized light microscopy (POL) Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM), and Raman Spectroscopy. Searching a project given lab project polarized light image requires information about polarized light microscopy, and it gives experience in looking a actual POL images and making comparisons. Crime Scene Investigation track students continue

with additional on campus microscopy work in the Crime Scene Investigation Course and the Special Problems (Capstone) course. Students are given more involved lab projects in which microscopy is integral to solving the problem. As an example, students are given twelve unknown powders. They are to identify the powders using chemical spot testing, macro characteristic identification, and microscopy identification techniques. Students are further introduced to Scanning electron Microscopy, given a project to prepare a sample, and allowed to use the SEM to capture an image. In the Capstone course students process a mock crime scene for evidence, they are required to analyze the evidence, prepare reports and charts, and to testify as an expert witness in a mock trial. Forensic Biochemistry students take similar courses, but analyze evidence submitted by the CSI track students. Forensic Biochemistry students perform DNA analysis and advanced Biochemistry techniques including the use of Laser Microdissection System.¹² This enhances their knowledge in the use of microscopy in forensic science.

Conclusion

We learned that Problem-Based Learning is catching on as the model for in-service training for forensic science agencies. We learned that many agencies are using online learning for in-service training and professional development. We feel our approach with our degree program is in line with what is taking place “in the real world.”

An added benefit is that the blend of online and on campus course provides some scheduling relief to students and advisors. With a limit of 120 hours for a degree, students and advisors can run into scheduling problems. The online courses further give the students experience in time management and project management. That is, one has to set aside the time to do “in your garage” lab experiments, gather the required materials and any assistants, prepare a presentation, and use internet techniques to deliver the end product. Students also have to learn to follow-up to make sure their products were received by the instructor.

One of our intended educational outcomes is to prepare students for not only today but for the future. We feel they have been provided a solid scientific background that has been delivered in a blended approach that will most likely reflect their approach to professional development. During their work life, online and workshops will most likely be their avenue to staying up to date, and in many cases their avenue for gaining additional and advanced degrees. The information explosion almost guarantees that there will be needs for continuous life-long learning.¹³

As Tilstone and co-authors so aptly point out, forensic science is a process.¹⁴ It is recognizing, collecting, analyzing, and presenting information concerning evidence. The modern demand is that the process include practice of the scientific method, testing of hypotheses, publication of forensic information, teaching, and practical experience. It truly involves being a problem solver, and a creative problem solver who can work along when necessary and can work with others. One of the benefits of blended learning is that it encourages students to be flexible.¹⁵ We contend that our approach of Problem-Based Blended Learning facilitates students learning experiences and life experiences to meet the future as forensic scientists by leading them to be resourceful as problem solvers, to work singularly as a project manager through online course work, to work with others in on campus courses, and by providing them with a broad robust formal scientific training experience.

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Appendix A

University of Nebraska – Lincoln, Forensic Science Degree Program

Appendix B

Tasks of a Crime Scene Investigator

Task

Task

Determine the Nature of an Event

Formulate a Plan of Action

Ensure Compliance with Legal Requirements

Document the Scene

Discover / Identify / Collect / Package / Preserve Evidence

Catalogue the History of Evidence

Analyze Evidence

Nurture Chance Discovery

Engage in Research and Development

Practice Efficiency, Effectiveness, and Economy

Corroborate Credibility of Information

Reconstruct and Theory Build

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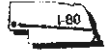
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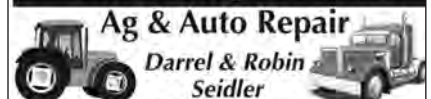
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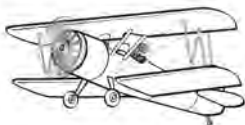
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