

January 2006

Newsletter #6

Year End Report

For the first time in nearly a decade your police department will publish an annual report. The pages of the 2005 year end report are coming together in good order and we hope to have copies available at the PD and Village Hall by the end of February. If you are unable to come to the PD and would like a copy mailed to you just drop an email our way or telephone your request and we'll be happy to send it to you.

The report will include quite a lot of information and our emphasis has been to keep it straightforward and informative. Citizen input is a vital component of our being the agency you expect us to be. If you have a suggestion or thought for something you'd like to see in the report please let us know.

\$ - Found Money - \$

I'll bet that headline got your attention, and we're hopeful it gets the attention of the owner of property recently turned over to the department. The items, including money, were found near the video store downtown. If you're the owner and can "fill in the blanks"...c'mon down, your property awaits you! We'll simply ask for an accurate description of the items found. The items will be held for 90 days and if gone unclaimed the person who turned it over will have enough to rent more than just a few videos.

Full Time Officer Appointed

Four months after the retirement of Chief Lux I was appointed to the office of chief. This left our department with a full time officer vacancy and we did our best to staff those hours with part time officers. This proved to be a difficult task and the board, recognizing that our level of service suffered, approved the filling of the vacant full time position. Interviews were conducted by the Police Committee and we are happy to report Officer Nicholas Fons was appointed to the position of full time patrol officer. All of the officers at your PD bring special talents and skills to our community. Officer Fons is no exception and is a dedicated member of our staff. He is committed to providing our residents with the highest level of professionalism and the integrity you have come to, and should expect from your police officers.

Is that an "extra" gun?

You'll be seeing a new tool on officer's duty belts. It's not a handgun but resembles one in shape only.

The Police Committee recently reviewed and approved outfitting officers with an Electronic Control Weapon, (ECW) commonly referred to by its brand name, Taser. Carried by a great number of police and sheriff's departments since 1999 this control device has reduced officer and suspect injuries quite dramatically at those departments

reporting such statistical information. Orange County Florida reported an 80% reduction of injury to deputies while Phoenix Arizona saw a 54% reduction in officer involved shootings. Suspect injuries fell dramatically as well. In Austin Texas injuries to suspects decreased by an impressive 82%, a result of the Taser being deployed to control combative behavior.

Taser technology allows officers to control combative subjects using temporary electronic disruption of the central nervous system. Tested on more than 100,000 human volunteers with an estimated 92,000 live field deployment scenarios, the Taser has proven to be a safe and effective law enforcement tool. In many potentially violent situations officers can avoid the need to move from “hands on” to an impact weapon such as a baton. In many other instances nationwide the Taser has been effectively deployed into a suspect in circumstances that would otherwise have called for the use of deadly force. For greater detailed information you can visit the manufacturer’s website at www.taser.com.

Stop right there ya’ dern side winder!

During those times when I have to research State Statues I often come across a statue that I find interesting, funny and often antiquated. Here’s one you might enjoy.

Wisconsin State Statue 943.37(4) indicates whoever does the following is guilty of a class A misdemeanor:

“Alters or removes livestock brands, recorded under 95.11, from any animal without the owner’s consent, or possesses any livestock with knowledge that the brand has been altered or removed without the owner’s knowledge or consent.”

Maybe I watch too many old westerns but all these years I thought cattle rustlin’ was a hangin’ offense. Anyway, enjoy the rest of our Wisconsin winter. Your next quarterly news letter will arrive in warmer weather...we all hope!