

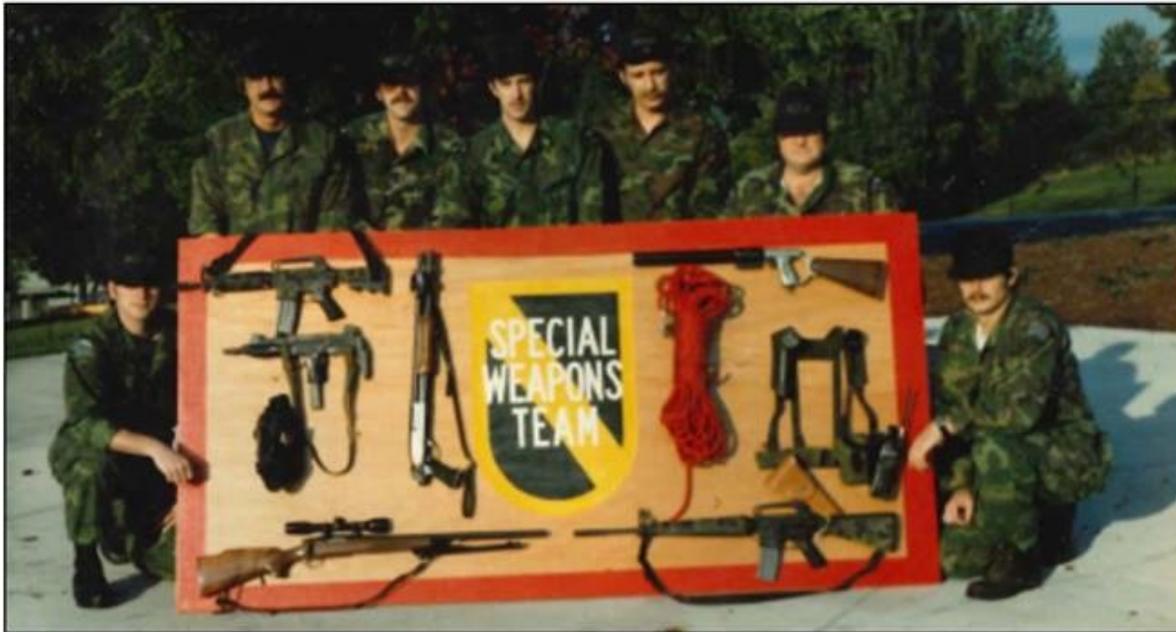


BREMERTON POLICE DEPARTMENT



BPD Weekly Update

Bremerton PD SWAT - Old school and really cool.



Bremerton PD SWAT circa 1979. From Left to Right: Ed Winningham, John Stonehouse, Dave Boynton, Joe Hatfield (RIP 2018), Terry Peterson, Ged Honzowitz (RIP 1989), and Craig Rogers.

The emergence of large scale riots, urban snipers, political assassinations and home grown terrorists groups in the 1960s resulted in police frequently finding themselves in tactical situations for which they were ill-prepared. The nation's first SWAT units were formed with the intent to respond to and manage critical situations involving shootings while minimizing police casualties. The Bremerton Police Department established a SWAT team in the 1970s in response to the George Jackson Brigade - a local left-wing terrorist cell that conducted bombings and robberies in the Pacific Northwest. Established on a shoestring budget, the SWAT officers outfitted themselves with surplus army uniforms and a potpourri of weapons and gear. Current Warrants Office Dave Boynton recalls his time on SWAT, which is quite different than today:

"The SWAT Team was formed in the 1970s in response to the George Jackson Brigade domestic terrorist attacks that started in Seattle and King Co. They liked to blowup banks, government buildings and power sub stations. As a patrol officer you had to know the locations of all your power substations and do patrol checks during the night as well as water towers. The main leader of the SWAT Team was John Stonehouse. I believe it was his idea to have a SWAT team and John had the military training and the ability to procure the items necessary to have a functioning SWAT teams. From weapons to flack vest web gear, you name it and John managed to find it, no questions asked. Because, like most things back then, if you can figure out howto do it without any money from the budget, you could do it. This of course included training time, which was done on are days off. I can remember getting introduced to CS and CN gas (tear gas) in the gas house at the Marine Camp at Wesley Harris

July 3, 2019

Contact



[Follow @BremertonPD](#)

Chief Jim Burchett
[Email](#) | [About](#)

Captain Randy Plumb
[Email](#) | [About](#)

Captain Tom Wolfe
[Email](#) | [About](#)

Lieutenant Kevin Crane
[Email](#) | [About](#)

Lieutenant Mike Davis
[Email](#) | [About](#)

Lieutenant Aaron Elton
[Email](#) | [About](#)

Online Reporting

[Drug Tips](#)

[Report an Issue](#)

[Traffic Tips](#)

Headquarters

1025 Burwell Street
Bremerton, WA 98337
(360) 473-5220
www.BremertonWA.gov

BPD Staff Directory

OFFICERS

Ryan Avery
Kasey Barnes-Trask
Spencer Berntsen
Jason Butler
Mitchell Chapman

on the Seabeck Hwy. None of us, during my first couple of years on the team, went to the State CJTC (Criminal Justice Training Commission) SWAT school. Again, not enough money or man power to let that many people go off to a week-long school. I joined the team in January 1979 (I graduated the police academy at the end of Nov of 1978. Again, my main qualification was I was willing to do all the training off duty without pay). We also used the fire training tower at Evergreen Park to work on rappelling and room entries. It was on one of those rappelling training days that Patrol Officer Bob Peck dropped by and wanted to rappel like he did in the military. He didn't hook up properly and nobody double checked his gear and over the side he went, nonstop to the parking lot two stories down. Other members of the SWAT team were: Craig Rogers, Terry Peterson, Ed Winningham, Joe Hatfield, John Stonehouse, Sgt. Ged Honzowitz. Ged was the range master so that why he got to be the team leader. Ged also had a very quiet, calm leadership style which was needed with all the other young members with more testosterone than skills."

Dave promised to provide us with some SWAT anecdotes from his time on the team for future editions of the newsletter.

Doing It Right

Earlier this month, I received this email:

Dear Chief Burchett,

...On the 15th of last month I witnessed something absolutely amazing...a 62-year-old homeless fellow had been arrested for Assault-2, this is not the amazing part. [The man] really only had two things he cared about, his truck, which he had been living in for almost two years & his little dog which he loved. Now the amazing part. The Sergeant in charge of the detail that arrested [my friend], {I am sorry I don't have his name}, called me and asked if I would come pick up the dog and the truck, which I did. This Sergeant could have just as easily turned the dog over to animal control & had the truck impounded! [My friend] would have lost everything he cared about! He would have never again seen his dog or truck. This Sergeant is truly an honorable man!! Thanks for having such a fine honorable gentleman on Your Police Force!

*Respectfully,
Phillip N Sutton*

In doing a little research, I discovered that there were actually two sergeants involved in this detail, Sergeant Duke Roessel and Sergeant Jeff Schaefer. They were a little surprised at the recognition because scenes like that get repeated every day during their work week, not only by these fine sergeants but by all the men and women of the Bremerton Police Department.

Retirement Report: Elena Rinonos - 17 years of service with BPD

Dana Clevenger
Joseph Corey
Jennifer Corn
Kenny Davis
Cory Ditmer
Trevor Donnelly
Derek Ejde
Jordan Ejde
Christopher Faidley
Sara Felty
Jared France
Steven Forbragd
Martin Garland
Alexander George
Brock Gorang
Brandon Greenhill
Ross Guiney
David Hughes
Jeffrey Inklebarger
Kent Mayfield
Allan McComas
Tara Munjekovich
William Prouse
Johnny Rivera
Brandon Smith
Nathan Smith
Matthew Thuring
PROFESSIONAL STAFF
David Boynton
Rena Brown
Tom Danaher
Barbara Forbes
Denise Ford
Marie Hansen
Dennis Hughes
Janna Lee
Marixa Scott
Joseph Sexton
Ian Sipple
Kiarra Root
CORPORAL
Beau Ayers
Bryan Hall
Michael Nelson
Steven Polonsky
Rodney Rauback
Matthew Strombach
Jacob Switzer
Jason Vertefeuille
SERGEANTS
Todd Byers
Timothy Garrity
Ryan Heffernan
Kelly Meade
Billy Renfro
Dahle Roessel
Keith Sargent
Jeff Schaefer
LIEUTENANTS
Kevin Crane
Michael Davis
Aaron Elton
CAPTAINS
Randy Plumb
Tom Wolfe
CHIEF
James Burchett



This week we had the pleasure of sending Office Assistant Senior Elena Rinonos off to a well-deserved retirement. Elena served the Patrol Division since 2002, managing payroll, scheduling, correspondence, purchasing and all the other tasks need to keep officers in patrol vehicles responding to 911 calls. She is known as a stickler for accurate records. A police department's support staff is frequently overlooked by those outside the agency, but we know we could not run the department without dedicated members like Elena. A member of the Sechelt First Nations Band from British Columbia, Elena is proud of her involvement in supporting the annual Canoe Journeys that take place during the summer. She plans on keeping busy by serving on a community board on Bainbridge Island. We wish you a long and happy retirement.

Trapped Deer? Oh Dear! Not Hardly - or - Why I love Facebook

Since the spring, we have noticed a deer feeding in the fenced PSNS security area right behind the police station. Some of our staff became concerned about its welfare while others, who shall remain nameless, began checking their hunting regulations. Okay, just kidding about that last part. Sometimes we would see it and other times the deer was nowhere to be found. We had the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) come out on two occasions. We learned that the deer is able to come and go as it pleases by ducking under a section of fence, and heading down into the shipyard. The WDFW officer explained that there is plenty of safe habitat on PSNS and our deer likely ducks into the greenbelt because it has discovered a source of delicious grass. The WDFW officer said to leave it be. Since that visit, BPD staff witnessed the deer coming and going under the shipyard side of the fence. Fast forward a week or two and we were suddenly bombarded by inquiries about a Facebook post someone made about our deer. Checking the Facebook post, we saw it was based on false assumptions. Of course, the post was tagged by crying and horrified emojis and calls to action to save the deer. We even spotted a woman inside the fence, apparently looking for the deer (Note: PSNS police were notified. I did not hear if they located this trespasser. Please don't do that. You will be arrested by the Feds.)

My brother lives at the [redacted] apartments by the police station and claims that there is a young male deer that's been trapped in a small green belt between the shipyard Fence and the fence behind his apartments. He's called numerous agencies and informed the police - but no one seems to want to handle it or remove the deer. It's been there for weeks and is starting to get especially thin - does anyone know who would come take him?



Like

Comment

Share

73

Sign? What sign?

Officer Ryan Avery was dispatched to a trespass on the west side. When he arrived, he located the suspect standing directly underneath the sign that read, "PRIVATE PROPERTY-NO TRESPASSING." It doesn't get much simpler than that folks. Officer Avery recognized the man as the same person who had been given a warning about trespassing on the same property the week before. Officer Avery easily overcame the man's feeble attempt at deception - "*I wasn't here last week,*" with an emphatic, "*Yes, you were!*" Since warnings didn't work the last time, the man was arrested. He had the obligatory drug user's metal container that housed his meth and associated "glass." He was booked into jail. [Corporal Michael Nelson]

NO CASE NUMEBR DRAWN...(Mysterious burger wrappers found in the Sergeants Office)



At approximately 8:17 P.M. just after 3rd watch lineup, Officer Dave Hughes discovered several burger wrappers and a chewed up French fry container on the floor in the sergeant's office. Some investigation uncovered the fact that inveterate hamburger lover Corporal Steven Polonsky had some Burger King, but did not throw his trash on the floor. There are no witnesses to the incident, and no suspect has claimed responsibility. [Corporal Michael Nelson]

Officer Avery's dog had this to say...



Killer boots man!!! Now, hand them over.

Officer Ryan Avery took a shoplifting report from a store on Wheaton Way. The store staff had video of the suspect. Officer Avery took a photo of the suspect from the video and sent it to fellow officers. Officer Faidley showed the photo to just about everyone on the eastside of Bremerton and quickly learned the suspect's first name. Further research and networking with KCSO deputies and WSP Troopers helped box in the suspect. Deputies got a lead on a transient encampment behind Skateland. They quickly located the suspect and detained him in a tent with a female he was not supposed to be around. She was protected from the man by a court order who was prohibited from being near her. The man also had a Department of Corrections Escape warrant and a Domestic Violence Assault warrant with a total bail amount of \$40,000. He did not get to keep the boots - they were evidence. [Corporal Michael Nelson]

Minivan for sale...or you could just steal it

Gold Watch had a call for a stolen minivan in in the 3100 block of Wheaton Way. The victim had parked it with the words for sale on the windows in white chalk paint. He

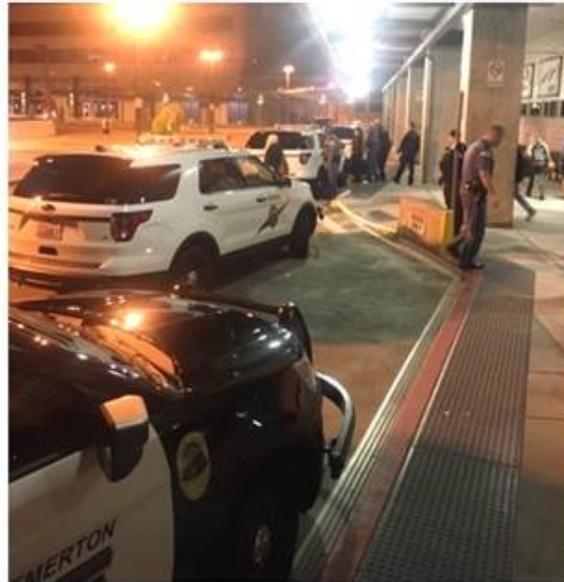
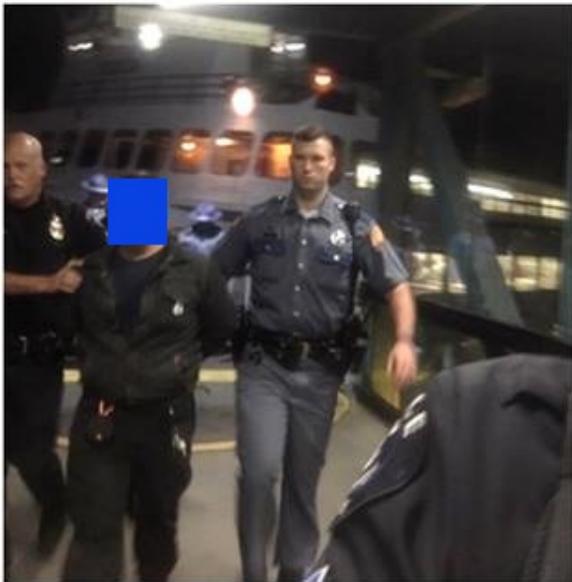
had not transferred the vehicle to his name yet so a stolen report was not completed. Officers soon located and stopped the vehicle. The driver said a guy he knows let him borrow it for the day. He was unable to explain why the guy would just randomly offer up a car. Because the victim failed to transfer the title, the suspect got to walk this time. At least the vehicle was recovered and returned to the owner. This provides a lesson on the importance of transferring your car title ASAP. [Corporal Michael Nelson]

Strange days are upon us

A man left his apartment before realizing he forgot his tablet. When he went back home and opened the door, he found a woman in his bathroom preparing to shoot up a syringe of heroin. When he yelled at the woman, she began to gather her belongings. The resident felt she was taking too long so he shoved her out of the apartment for fear of his son's safety. The female left on foot, but was not located.

We are getting to be like London

Bremerton PD responded to assist the Washington State Patrol with a call at the ferry terminal. While the boat was in transit, a passenger called 911 to report being threatened by a man who pulled out a knife to emphasis his point, whatever that was. The ferry crew were able to separate the two and isolate the suspect in the bow section of the boat. When the boat docked, a team of law enforcement officers was waiting. The man was arrested for threatening the other passenger with a knife.



That will buff right out

Officer Merritt responded to a collision on Harlow Drive that looked like the aftermath of a drone missile strike. A Hyundai came to rest on someone's front yard after crashing into a concrete wall and a parked car. The driver said he was doing the speed limit (and I'm sure his hands were at 10 and 2 on the wheel as well) when he heard a "pop" under the hood. The vehicle suddenly went out of control and played pinball with the nearest inanimate objects it could find. If you don't know Officer Merritt, he has an extensive traffic investigation background and knew better. He called out the driver on his speed limit yarn and issued him a boatload of tickets. [Sergeant Jeff Schaefer]



Friendship destroyed over a \$1.79 ink pen

Officer Mitchell Chapman responded to an assault in the 800 block of 6th Street. Two pals were walking along when suddenly, for some strange reason, they got mad at each other. The female half had a pen in her hair that the male half grabbed. The woman turned around to face him and his hand flew up and struck her in the face. The male said she threatened to stab him with the pen and he just threw his hands up to protect himself and her face hit his hand. The woman's main complaint was that the guy never gave her pen back to her. Officer Chapman estimated the value of the pen at \$1.79. The next time you stop a surly motorist for a traffic violation and they ask you the age old question, "Why aren't you out catching real criminals?" Show them a copy of this report. [Sergeant Jeff Schaefer]

Information Report (Also for the "you can't make this stuff up file")

A woman came to our front desk to report that her friend assaulted her and took her phone. Interestingly, she refused to provide the important information, like who, what, where and when. She just wanted an "information" report. It's tough to write an information report without information. Very strange. Its cases like this where I really want to know who has this phone. [Corporal Mike Nelson]

Assault with a water hose?

Officer Alec George responded to a report that a neighbor had sprayed the caller with water. The victim said they were taking photos of the sunset with friends. They walked back to the apartment and were confronted by an angry woman who told them they were on private property and sprayed them with a water hose. The evidence had evaporated by the time Officer George arrived on scene. Officer George spoke with the 65-year-old suspect. She declared the suspect is a meth user and so are her friends. She said they were arguing. She turned towards them and the hose was on. She denied spraying anyone with water, but they barely got a drop on them. So, they did get a little wet. The report was sent to the prosecutor for review. [Corporal Mike Nelson]

Man threatens a coffee shop...not cool.

Officer Avery took a harassment report from a local coffee establishment. The staff member said they had a guest who refused to wake up and leave at the agreed time of 9 A.M. This seemed reasonable, but the man was not. The staff found this guy so difficult they determined it was necessary to ban him for two days. They did not ban him forever, or a year, or three days, just two days. When the subject heard this, he said he was going to *"go get his gun and make a scene tonight."* Well now, you are banned for a lot longer than two days! [Corporal Mike Nelson]

Warrant suspect runs and hides (Goes to jail tired and sweaty)

The purpose of running is to get away and the reason to hide is to not be seen. Officer Forbragd observed a vehicle go westbound on 6th Street that was reportedly

driven by a felony warrant subject. He visually verified it was the suspect and initiated a traffic stop. The vehicle came to a slow roll and the door popped open. Out jumped the suspect. However, his foot got caught in the seat belt. He eventually broke free from the seat belt and ran and ran and ran. He ran so far he ended back at his vehicle and tried to get back inside. He looked at Officer Forbragd and signaled that he needed a minute to catch his breath. The suspect then ran again behind some buildings where he was cornered. Officer Faidley and his tracking K-9 partner Esco were called out to search the area, but Corporal Switzer saw a garbage can that did not look right. After watching it for a second, the lid would rise up exposing the suspect who thought he was hiding. I love it when the suspect's plan goes wrong! Nice spot, Corporal! The suspect was arrested and booked in to the Kitsap County Jail for his DOC Warrant DWLS 3rd degree, Use of Drug Paraphernalia, and Resisting Arrest, \$20,000 bail. [Corporal Mike Nelson]

Coming to you from the set of a B-movie...

It's not alien goo or slime from the creature from the black lagoon...on second thought maybe it is. A citizen walking the beach at Evergreen Park came across mysterious green stuff. When Bremerton Fire got there and started digging where the green mystery substance was, the holes began filling with green fluid from underground. PSNS Fire tested the substance with a special, very expensive piece of equipment they have which shoots a laser at the substance and compares it with thousands of other known substances. But it basically returned with a "???" response. Department of Emergency Management and Department of Ecology were called to respond and Fire stood containment on the beach until it could be identified. [Corporal Mike Nelson]

[Note: Last word from DEM is that they suspect it to be harmless tracing dye, similar to what is used to detect cracks in pipes.]



Nice cowboy gun (Still a gun you silly Felon)

One of our frequent flyers was going around west Bremerton, saying something about going "pop pop" and claiming she had two guns. This prompted a call to 911 from a concerned citizen. Officers located our gun-toting moll, who dropped a gun in the

bushes when she saw the police. Officer Jared France determined the gun in the shrubbery was a pellet gun. You'd think our story would end there, right? Of course not. The woman had been toting a grocery bag when she was contacted. In plain view inside the bag was a Cabela's sporting goods box indicating it contained a .44 caliber black powder pistol. Our suspect muttered something about wanting the pellet gun and not the one in her bag. Wait. What? Since she was originally reported to have two guns, officers deduced that the second one she was talking about was the real gun in her bag. That gun was seized and she went to jail because, as everyone knows, convicted felons can't possess firearms. [Sergeant Todd Byers]

That's a lotta dimp!

Officer Chris Faidley spotted a 30-year-old female with a warrant lounging in the area of a local restaurant. The female is known to partake in illegal drugs and she did not disappoint. Unfortunately for her, she was unable to create enough distance between herself and her supply of heroin (15.2 grams), methamphetamine (3.9 grams) and Oxycontin (5 pills). In addition to her outstanding warrant, she was booked on Possession with Intent to deliver. Great snag Officer Faidley. [Sergeant Todd Byers]



Jim Burchett, Chief
Bremerton Police Department
1025 Burwell Street
Bremerton, WA 98337
James.Burchett@ci.bremerton.wa.us

360-473-5224
Fax: 360-473-5890
Assistant: Barbara Forbes
Barbara.Forbes@ci.bremerton.wa.us