

The Silver Star

Newsletter of the Silver State Peace Officers Museum

Volume 2, Issue 3

June 6, 2010

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www.PeaceOfficersMuseum.org

The Comstock Police Collectors and Restored Emergency Vehicle Show

The Comstock Police Collectors and Restored Emergency Vehicle Show took place over the weekend of May 15th and 16th. Events included the collector show held just next door to the museum within historic Piper's Opera House, the restored vehicles assembled within the parking lots outside of the museum, and of course a special parade in typical Virginia City fashion entertained visitors along C Street at noon on Saturday.

Look for next years event on May 14, 2011

Collectors from as far away as New York attended the show with a near sellout of the available 50 tables. Collectors brought their trade and sale items, caught up on lost time and recent additions to their collections, and enjoyed the gathering.

Several awards were presented to those having distinguished themselves with their display material and restored vehicles.

The vehicle show brought a participants all the way from the State of Washington. Bill Wood drove his recently acquired and retired Chevy Camaro police car. Although Bill's car is still in a state of plane white wrapper, it will in the near future be brought back to its original working appearance.



Roy Semmens driving a 1902 Olds replica car.

Participants included beautifully restored police cars, two paddy wagons, and fire apparatus dating back into the 1920s.

The parade, held on May 15 which is the official Police Memorial Day by the way, began at high noon and travelled down C Street from the Fourth Ward School Museum to the opposite end of town.

Parade participants included Virginia City's own Living Legends in period character lawman costumes, a combined law enforcement color guard made up of Reno Police and Storey County Sheriff's Office honor guard members, and all of the vehicle show participants as well as Reno Police motor officers and Carson and Douglas County Sheriff's Office current vehicles.

Roy Semmens, dressed in the typical early 1900s keystone cop uniform, led the vehicles in Roy O'Connell's 1902 Oldsmobile replica car. That car and uniform combination is always a hit!

Locals Chris Kiechler and Joe Curtis entertained the crowd with Chris' 1940 Mercury "Bullfrog County Sheriff" car. Nevadans know the historic and hilarious story behind Bullfrog County!

The parade was our second annual parade, the first having been during grand opening last July. You of course will see others in our future.



Frank Furtaw's 1962 Dodge police car followed by Chris Hagen's 1966 Ford Mariposa County Sheriff's car.

Event participants and museum members were treated to a BBQ hosted by the museum on Saturday evening. (continued on page 3)



1925 Dodge Chemical Wagon, 1953 Ford NHP car, and Fuller's 1954 Packard Sparks FD car.

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- OUR SECOND SEASON

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Historical Corner

The Art of Being a Policeman

Have you noticed over the last, oh perhaps, forty years that police officers are rarely if ever featured in advertisements on television and in print? Yet, when you look back in time to the late 1800s and into the 1900s police officers were very frequently the stars of artwork, magazine covers, sheet music, and especially in print advertising. It seemed that the cops were not only patrolling the beat but they were responsible for selling just about everything made in the USA! Why was that? Was it because everyone respected them, wanted to be one when they grew up, and trusted them with their lives and property?

Television of late has been all about cops in action. Viewers may not always be very fond of law enforcement officers but they sure do like to watch them do what they do. You rarely see them in advertisements though. But I have seen a change, a change to reality shows and comedy. Has the year of the TV cop passed?

The museum has an extensive collection of artwork, magazine ads and covers, postcards, sheet music, and the like for your enjoyment. Norman Rockwell made famous a few law enforcement related magazine covers for the Saturday Evening Post. Two come to mind in fact. In 1958 Rockwell made the cop and boy at the diner counter a very famous scene. Again in 1964 during desegregation efforts, he painted an image of a very tall US Marshal escorting a very young girl, through a gauntlet of flying tomatoes, to her classroom.



American Art Company, New York, 1913

CONSIDER MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP TODAY

Your continued support is vital to our success and there is no better way to support your museum than through membership. We are conducting our membership drive now for 2010/11 and ask you to consider becoming a member or renewing your annual membership today. It is as easy as completing the form below. Just mail the form and your check as directed. The three levels offer various benefits depending on the package you select.

We maintain the largest and finest law enforcement historical collection for the enjoyment and education of the public and our day to day operation and continued improvement of the experience comes with a price. All staff members volunteer their time to operate, market, and improve the museum at a cost of hundreds of hours each week.

Please take a moment and review the three membership levels below and consider becoming a member today. You will help preserve a lasting legacy to the men and women serving you on the streets across America.



Tin Star

Tin Star members will receive a certificate of membership, membership card, and passes to the museum.



Circle Star

Circle Star members will receive a certificate, membership card, passes, and an engraved photo frame.



Chief's Shield

Chief's Shield members will receive a certificate, membership card, and a beautiful embossed logo portfolio.

SILVER STATE PEACE OFFICERS MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

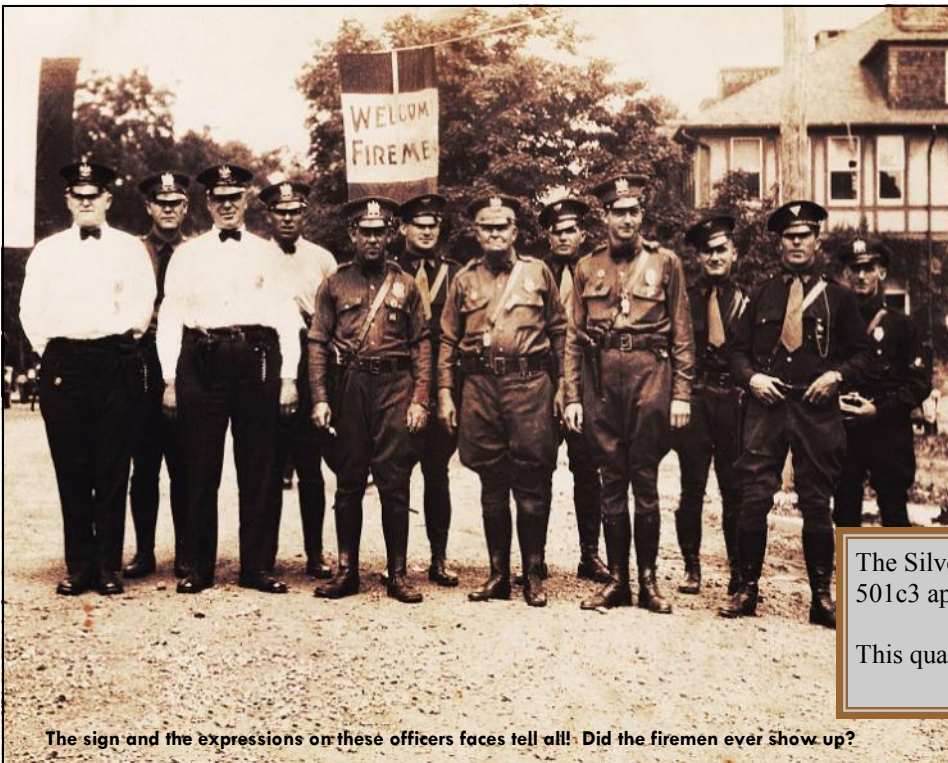
Membership Level (circle one) Tin Star \$50 Circle Star \$100 Chief's Shield \$500
 See what each member level offers on our website!

Please mail this application with your check to: Silver State Peace Officers Museum, P.O. Box 17051, Reno, NV. 89511

Collector and Restored Emergency Vehicle Show

(Continued from page 1) Merchants in Virginia City were very generous to us with their donated raffle prizes and we are very thankful to them. In addition, Pinocchio's Restaurants, Sierra Meats, and Camelot Party Rental made it all affordable. Thank you must go out to all of the participants for making our first annual collectors and restored vehicle show such a success.

We have set a date of Saturday, May 14, 2011 for next years event, however it will be a one day show. We are still in the planning stages so we will announce the specific details in a later newsletter edition.



The sign and the expressions on these officers faces tell all! Did the firemen ever show up?

Museum Summer Hours

Open daily from 11 to 5.

Calendar of Events

- July 4th Parade at noon.
- September 18th Survivors Event, details to be announced.

What's New

- Photo Exhibit of the late photo journalist Dennis Warren.
- Kid's Station sports a new led light-bar for their pursuit enjoyment!
- Watch our May 15th parade on facebook.

The Silver State Peace Officers Museum is a 501c3 approved non-profit organization.

This quarterly newsletter is produced by Doug Gist

Thanks must go **Thanks to These Organizations for Supporting Us** out to

those professional organizations supporting the museum again this year. Those supporting organizations are:

- Reno Police Protective Association
- Washoe County Sheriff's Supervisory Deputies Association
- Sparks Police Protective Association
- Nevada State Law Enforcement Officers Association

Motor duty in the current economy!

