

Retired & Disabled Police of America
327 Arden Avenue, Suite 201
Glendale, CA 91203
(800) 395-7376 www.rdpoa.org

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HIGHLIGHTING THE PHOENIX POLICE MUSEUM



The Museum features a mock up of an early 1900's police station.
Also on display is a 1919 Ford Model T Police Car.

THE HISTORY OF THE PHOENIX POLICE MUSEUM

In October 1993, the Phoenix Police Museum started as a small exhibit at the Historic City Hall, 17 S. Second Ave. With the assistance of Cindy Myers from the Phoenix Museum of History, a temporary six-month display was created. The event was enthusiastically received.

The Arizona Humanities Council funded a study of the artifacts to determine if enough material existed to open a small museum and it was determined that there was. Barrister Place was selected as the permanent site of the museum. Through generous donations from Motorola, the area was painted and re-carpeted. Home Depot, Store #455, donated construction material for the creation of exhibit areas. The Police Department provided phones and an alarm system. Volunteers prepared the exhibits including a mock up of a 1910 city street and an old jail cell.

The opening of the first exhibit in the Barrister Place location was on Friday, Oct. 6, 1995.

The Phoenix Police Museum is open
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

HISTORIC POLICE VEHICLES

Shown below are a few examples of the different types of vehicles the Phoenix Police Department has used in the past.



1919 Ford Model T Police Car



1967 Ford Galaxy 4 Door



1961 Studebaker Lark III



1911 Indian Motorcycle



1967 Harley Davidson Motorcycle

1932 Harley Davidson Motorcycle



Phoenix Police Motor Squad

125th Anniversary

The Phoenix Police Department celebrated its 125th anniversary on May 3, 2006. The Phoenix Police Department began as Marshals 125 years ago on this day and later transitioned into our current police officers. To honor this historic day, a procession of officers from the Mounted Horse patrol, the Honor guard, the Pipe and Drum Corp, marched through the streets of downtown Phoenix to the Phoenix Police Museum at Central and Jefferson. The procession carried the US flag that flew over the main station that morning as well as a city proclamation from Mayor Gordon making it “the Phoenix Police Department 125 anniversary Day celebration.” These items were delivered to the Mayor and Police Chief Jack Harris as hundreds of well wishers gathered around the stage. Central Avenue was closed much of the day for this street celebration which included historic police car displays and modern police equipment. Entertainment included the “Blues Collars” band, Honor Guard Rifle Team demonstration, and Honor Chorus performance. A free BBQ was provided by the museum which was open for tours.

The History of The Phoenix Police Department

Phoenix was incorporated as a city on February 25, 1881. Law enforcement was handled by Phoenix city marshals and later by Phoenix police officers.

Henry Garfias, the first city marshal, was elected by residents in 1881 in the first elections of the newly incorporated city. For six years, he served as the primary law enforcement officer.

In the early 1900's, the Phoenix Police Department used Old Nelly, the horse, to pull the patrol wagon for officers. Most patrolling, however, was done on foot. The city at this time was only 3.1 square miles with a population of 11,134 people. Call boxes were used to notify an officer that headquarters wanted him. These were supplemented by a system of horns and flashing lights

The first Phoenix police officer killed in the line of duty in Phoenix occurred on February 5, 1925. Officer Haze Burch was shot and killed by two brothers on the run from authorities. The men were later arrested when they were found hiding at the Tempe Buttes.

In 1929, patrolmen worked six days a week and were paid \$100 a month. The police department moved into the west section of the new city-county building at 17 South 2nd Avenue. The building included jail cells on the top two floors.

In 1933, Ruth Meicher joined the police department as the first female jail matron. The city at this time was only 6.4 square miles, with a population of 48,200. In the year prior, the first police radio system in Arizona was installed for the department with the call letters KGZJ.

The department reorganized in 1950 with four divisions, Traffic, Detectives, Patrol and the Service Divisions. Officers worked 44 hours per week for \$288 per month.

In 1974, the Air patrol unit was established initially consisting of one helicopter. A few months later, a fixed wing aircraft and two additional helicopters were added.

Today, the Phoenix Police Department provides law enforcement to 1.3 million Phoenix residents encompassing an area of more than 469 square miles. To accomplish this, the department employs approximately 2,800 police officers and detectives and more than 800 civilian support staff personnel.

RDPOA NOTEBOOK

New Membership Cards Coming Soon

RDPOA is developing new personalized membership cards. They will be made of plastic, the size of a credit card, and personalized with the members' name and membership number. We will begin issuing them for the first time in 2009.

RDPOA Credit Card

Be proud to carry our own RDPOA credit card. We are in the process of negotiations with a number of banking institutions in order to secure the best card available. When negotiations are finalized we will send out the enrollment information.

Force Travel Club

RDPOA has entered into an agreement with Force Travel & Leisure, originally based in England but opening an international office in Florida. Through this affiliation with Force Travel & Leisure, marketed under the name Force Travel Club, we will be able to offer our members special discounts on travel.

All Points Bulletin

This will be the second edition of our newly color formatted APB. We have received positive comments from our members. We would like to publish photos or articles submitted by our members. All items submitted require permission to print if they are not your own. We will only accept photos or articles at our email address, rdpoa@aol.com.

Email Address

In an attempt to stay in closer contact with our members, RDPOA is asking that you provide us with your email address. Confidentiality is assured. Please send it to rdpoa@aol.com.

Law Enforcement Supporter Database Under Construction

RDPOA is in the process of developing a database containing a listing of businesses from throughout the country. These businesses support law enforcement and, in turn, deserve the support of our members.

Outrageous Gas Prices

It seems unbelievable that our Country can send a man to walk on the moon and a spacecraft to mars, sending back crystal-clear pictures, but is unable to develop for mass production a vehicle that would allow us to tell foreign oil-producing nations to take their oil and shove it.

Each of us should send a letter to our respective members of Congress demanding, yes demanding, that they take immediate action to seek alternative sources for vehicle propulsion.

Most of us have most likely seen television news coverage of individuals who have developed vehicles that operate on gas and electricity. One such vehicle was developed in San Diego that could travel 40 miles on a single charge, and could be charged using a normal 110v outlet. The commentator drove the vehicle and described the performance like driving a normal gas engine vehicle but without the noise.

Yes, alternative vehicles are out there. But as long as big oil business runs the show, and as long as we remain silent, we'll continue to get screwed at the pump.

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Editor and Publishing Director: Al Angele, Sgt, Burbank (CA) PD Ret