

THE HAMILTON COUNTY POLICE ASSOCIATION

The Hamilton County Police Association was formed on September 23, 1937. The following are the minutes of the first meeting:

“A meeting of the various Law Enforcement Officers of Hamilton County was called this evening at the Hamilton County Shooting Range.

Lieutenant Wiggerinloh of the County Sheriffs Office stated that the objects of the meeting for the purpose of forming an Association of Mayors, Chiefs of Police, Marshals and other Law Enforcement bodies for the better understanding among themselves, as well as closer cooperation.

The following were present at the meeting: Sheriff George A. Lutz; Walter J. Schneider, Deer Park; Lloyd L. Lape, Sharonville; Thos. Fitzpatrick Jr., Elmwood Police; Capt. H. E. Wilson, Indian Hill Rangers; Major R.W. Shearwood, Cincinnati Police Department; Mayor Harry Mueller, Silverton; Edward J. Heyl, Cheviot; Chas. J. Lohmann, Chief of Police St. Bernard; Hugh Latta, Marshal Glendale; Chas. A. McDonough, Marshal Wyoming; Wm. Goertemiller, Marshal Arlington Heights; Captain C. Robish, Mariemont; J.P. Balbach, Marshal Silverton; W. J. Wiggerinloh and Chas. Coddington, Sheriffs Office; Henry Wirth, Marshal Mt. Healthy; and S.C. Garrison, Cincinnati.

Upon a call for temporary officers, Sheriff George A. Lutz was elected Chairman; Capt. H. E. Wilson, Vice Chairman, and Chas. J. Lohmann, Secretary of the meeting; all being elected by acclamation.

Upon motion the membership of the Organization was limited to Mayors, Safety Directors and Police Officials of the various Law Enforcement bodies of Hamilton County. Motion carried.

Upon Motion the name of the organization shall be “THE HAMILTON COUNTY POLICE ASSOCIATION”. Carried.

A Committee of four was thereupon on motion appointed to draw up a Constitution and By Laws for the new organization, in connection with the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary. The following were appointed: Mayor Carson Hoy, Mt. Healthy; Marshal McDonough, Wyoming; Mayor Harry Mueller, Silverton; and Mayor I. F. Brinkman, Harrison. This Committee to report at the next meeting.

A Motion was made and carried that this Committee include an operating fee in the new Constitution; carried.

Motion made that the various Mayors and Heads of Police in the various Communities be sent a special invitation by the Secretary to come in and join the new Association and also to state reasons for such an organization. Carried.

Motion made that all publicity for the new Organization be deferred until the next meeting, when the members of the press will be invited; carried.

A round table discussion was then held, in which the various subjects were talked about and all present expressed their opinions.

Upon Motion the next meeting of the Hamilton County Police Association will be held on Thursday evening October 14th at the Hamilton County Shooting Range in the rear of the County Home.

Adjournment

**Secretary,
Chas. Lohmann”**

The Hamilton County Police Association’s annual booklet, printed in 1997, announced the 60th anniversary of the HCPA. The preface also listed some of the accomplishments of the group. “On further reflection of the many accomplishments of the HCPA, it becomes evident that this organization has been the driving force for the many improvements in law enforcement over the past 60 years. The following are just some of the many law enforcement innovations spearheaded by the HCPA:

- the radio quadrant system**
- the loop teletype network**
- the Regional Crime Information Center...**
- the film library**
- first police pursuit driving seminar**
- mutual assistance pact**
- Police Intelligence Coordinating Agency (PICA)**
- Operation Identification**
- Police Clergy Teams**
- Police Call TV program from 1968-1982**
- The Mayor’s Committee”**

Two significant achievements not mentioned are the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) group and the Underwater Search and Recovery unit. Several items were created to identify personnel participating in the HCPA’s functions. They include but are not limited to the chaplain’s badge and several variations of the SWAT team patches. The HCPA emblem appears on each year’s annual publication.