



# The Greater Cincinnati Police Historical Society Museum

"Preserving the history of law enforcement in the Greater Cincinnati area"

## The Roll Call Newsletter

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Sept. 19, 2016

### Greetings!



Once again, I'm coming to you after a longer-than-usual absence. Just because you have not received a newsletter from us for the past two months doesn't mean we have not been busy; in fact, it's been just the opposite.

### Fall "Fun"-draiser



Join us on Friday, Nov. 4, 2016 from 6 - 11 p.m. at [Take Five Bar & Grill](#), 6957 Harrison Ave., for our Fall fundraiser. All proceeds will go toward preserving the history of law enforcement in our region. There will be raffle baskets, split the pot drawings and the chance to win a Smith & Wesson AR15 M&P 15 Sport II, a Ruger 9mm and a one-week vacation on Fripp Island. Send us an [email](#) for more info.

**Buy now to support your museum!**

You will notice a new look to the newsletter - it reflects the new look of our [website](#). We have also made several additions to our board that we feel will have a positive impact on our future, both in terms of its sustainability as well as in the value we provide to our members and our community.

Finally, Saturday, Sept. 17 was "Thank a Police Officer Day." In recognition of this, I want to say that this is a trying time to be in law enforcement. Recent national events have turned a spotlight on those who put their lives on the line every day to keep our communities safe. And while the media delights in focusing on the few cases where police **may** have been at fault (and I stress **may** because we don't know all the facts,) they seldom report on the thousands of instances where the presence of law enforcement made the difference between triumph and tragedy, life and death.

If there are any questions you want to ask, if you want to volunteer, or if there is something you'd like to see in a future issue, please contact me [here](#).

And as usual, thank you for your continued support.

Lt. Steve Kramer, retired

### Meet your Police Museum Staff

*This month we present Edward Zieverink, Police Museum Historian.*



Now you can support GCPHS every time you shop at Kroger or online through Amazon! Here's how:

**Kroger Community Rewards:**

Register online [here](#). Have your Kroger Plus card handy and be sure to set up your card for a Kroger Rewards Account. When prompted to enter the name of the organization to receive awards, enter "Greater Cincinnati Police Historical Society" or our NP number "82383."

**Amazon Smile:**

When you shop on Amazon, a portion of your purchase can now help support the work of GCPHS. Shop for the same products [here](#) and designate "Greater Cincinnati Police Historical Society Inc." as your charity. Amazon Smile will donate 0.5% of each purchase price back to GCPHS.



Ed's father and namesake was a World War II (10-campaign) Navy veteran. At the time of the younger Ed's birth, the elder Ed had just joined the Cincinnati Police Division. During 1966, the same year that his father was promoted to Police Specialist, the younger Ed graduated from Elder High

School, enrolled in the University of Cincinnati, and joined his father in the Police Division as a Police Cadet.

On Feb. 23, 1968, Ed took a leave of absence to join the United States Army and fight in the Vietnam War. He qualified for and served as a Green Beret in the 7th Special Forces Group out of Fort Bragg. Thirty months later he was honorably discharged as a Sergeant on Feb. 28, 1971.

Because of arcane rules and a strident administrator, the incredibly highly qualified Green Beret was not permitted to immediately return to the Police Division. Undaunted, he continued with his plans, married Mary Ann Lietz, took a job with the Water Works, and then reentered the Police Division through the next Recruit Class on Oct. 24, 1971.

Patrolman Zieverink was assigned to District 1 during March 1972 where he quickly earned a reputation for hard work, high production, and more than a modicum of humor. During 1974, he was one of the first Cincinnati officers trained in Hostage Negotiations and was assigned to a sniper team. When the Special Weapons and Tactics teams were officially formed in 1975, Ed was among them. He was transferred to District 3 in 1980, where he almost immediately was assigned to the Mini-Tac as an undercover investigator. Later, he was assigned to the plainclothes Investigative Unit.

Regardless of the team to which he was assigned, he coalesced the team with his humor and leadership. On Nov. 8, 1981, Ed was promoted to Police Specialist. During 1985, the other Specialist Zieverink retired. By then, another son, James Zieverink, joined the Division as a Police Recruit and ten years after Ed, he, too, was promoted to Police Specialist. We believe the Zieverink family is the only one that had three members promoted to and retire at Specialist.

During 1988, Ed was accepted into the Homicide Unit in the Criminal Investigation Section where he enjoyed a Division-wide reputation as a hard-nosed, tenacious investigator - and, of course, his humor. On his last performance evaluation in 1996, Homicide Sergeant McKinley Brown rated him a perfect 25.

On Jan. 11, 1997, Ed retired from the Division with 31 years of service to his country and community and 45 letters of appreciation and/or commendation, almost all of which had to do with investigations of offenses from Vandalism to Murder; two from Safety Directors Gustavson and Rager; 10 from Chiefs Leistler and Whalen, and Assistant Chief Ammann, two from Assistant Prosecutors Rebusch and Brueggeman, and one from the FBI.

But he still wasn't finished. During 1986, Ed started working part-time for the Hamilton County Coroner as a Night Clerk. After his retirement, he took on a full-time position as Morgue Director/Building Supervisor. He managed many overdue upgrades to mechanical systems. According to the Chief Administrator Andrea Hatten, he had a tremendous work ethic and brought a lot to the work environment with his sense of humor and penchant for practical jokes!! She rated him as "one of the best people that I have worked with in my 23 years" at the Coroner's Office. After 11 more years and some major improvements to the facility, Ed retired again on April 4, 2008; and now with 42 years of service to his country, community, and county.

But, he still wasn't finished. Soon after re-retirement, he visited the Greater Cincinnati Police Museum and immediately began volunteering. After watching two tours given by volunteers, he became one of our better Docents. He is incredible at woodworking and started helping our Curator with his display cases. With his facilities background, he began helping our Facilities Director convert the Museum over to LED lighting.

Historical research had been somewhat hit-or-miss in the past. During 2013, the Board of Director created an official Historian position and named Ed to it - a position well-suited to his investigative background. Since then he has been running down vague clues as to the provenance of artifacts and historical events, found the burial locations of more than a hundred officers killed in the line of duty, found several line of duty deaths that were previously not documented by either the Museum or the agencies, and generally researches historical inquiries as if they were homicides.

And if that were not enough, Ed's wife of 45 years and an accomplished woman in her own right, Mary Ann, joined the Museum and took over as Chairman of the Membership Committee.

### Join our mailing list!

Stay on top of all the events and news from your Greater Cincinnati Police Museum. [Sign up today](#) - we will never sell or give away your email address.

308 Reading Rd.  
Cincinnati, OH 45202  
(513)300-3664  
Open Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday  
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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