

Preserving the History of Law Enforcement in the Greater Cincinnati Area



Greater Cincinnati Police Museum Fall 2019 Newsletter

Remembering Museum Founder, Richard "Dic" Gross

August 5, 1947- August 15, 2019

Dic graduated from Withrow High School in Cincinnati and from the University of Cincinnati with a Bachelor's degree in history. He served in the U.S. Army Reserves during the Vietnam War.

On September 8, 1974, Dic joined the Cincinnati Police Division. After a year in District 7 (Walnut Hills), he was rotated to District 1 (Downtown) and was soon assigned as an undercover investigator.

On December 8, 1985, he was promoted to Police Specialist and transferred to the Pawn Squad in the Criminal Investigations Section. Though the rank was long gone, he was universally known as "Detective Gross". He was also known countywide and on both sides of the river as the "pawn guy." By 2002, he had been awarded the Rotary Club's Career Enhancement Award and, with a vote by his peers, he was inducted into the 1132 Living Legions.

His expertise earned him a spot in the new Special Investigations Squad of the new Major Offenders Unit in 2002. He teamed up with the BATF to root out and



100% conviction rate. Dic also worked with the FBI and U.S. Secret Service. He earned the 2007 Hamilton County Law Enforcement Appreciation and Achievement Award. Specialist Gross retired on January 21, 2012, with almost 40 years of service to his country and community and 57 letters of appreciation and/or commendation.

His passion was history and, as a nationally known police badge collector, during 1998, he met with a few of his contacts to establish a police museum. This idea had been tried by Police Superintendent Phillip Deitsch in the 1890s, Assistant Police Chief Stanley Grothaus in 1955, and the Hamilton County Police Association in 1992 – and failed. But the Greater Cincinnati Police Historical Society was incorporated in 1999, with Dic as its President, and the Greater Cincinnati Police Museum opened during June 2006, Dic was its Curator. We believe it is the largest, by artifact count, in the country.

During 2016, Dic contracted melanoma. He continued working at the Museum until April 2019. Though he intended to come back, he passed away on August 15, 2019. He was interred at Spring Grove Cemetery.

We honor Dic, his career, his service to the community, his passion for history, and his dedication to the Police Museum. He will never be forgotten. To read more about Dic's legacy, visit the [Police Museum website](#).

Donation News

The Cincinnati Mounted Patrol Committee donated over \$19,000 to the Museum in late July. This was the 501(C)(3) set up for the Cincinnati Mounted Patrol. A special thank you to Ltc. Dale Menkhous (Ret.) and Tim Burke Esq. for their coordination with this donation.



During the Hamilton County Police



donation of \$5,500 to the Greater Cincinnati Police Museum in memory of her late fiancé, retired Cincinnati Police Officer [Tom McAlpin](#). Tom McAlpin passed away unexpectedly on June 20, 2019. Thank you, Dr. Bare, for your donation in honor of your late fiancé. We are deeply sorry for your loss.

If you are interested in making a donation to the Greater Cincinnati Police Museum, click the button below to visit our website to learn how you can help support the preservation of Cincinnati's law enforcement history. There are easy ways to donate, such as Kroger Community Rewards and Amazon Smile, that allow you to make contributions to the Police Museum during your day-to-day tasks.

Support the Greater Cincinnati Police Museum

Upcoming Events

The Blue Line Foundation will host a FOP Dance on November 1 from 8 p.m. to Midnight. All proceeds will benefit a new FOP Hall. [Click here for more details.](#)

CINCINNATI GIVES: Cincinnati Gives is a fundraiser sponsored by Cincinnati Magazine that will run throughout the month of December. Additional information will be shared on the Police Museum website in the coming weeks regarding how you can participate in this fundraiser to support the Police Museum.

SAVE THE DATE: A fundraiser in memory of the Police Museum's late founder, Dic Gross, is slated to be held on Thursday, February 20, 2020, at The Handlebar in Great American Ball Park from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Further details to come.

Lest We Forget

As 2019 nears a close, we will never forget the brave men from our region who lost their lives in the line of duty this year.

- [Colerain Township Police Officer Dale Woods](#)
- [Clermont County Sheriff Detective William Brewer](#)

The Museum is open weekly on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Free and convenient parking is available for patrons between 306 and 318 Reading Road. A Police Museum parking permit is required and can be obtained in the Museum Gift Shop.

The Museum will be closed on Thanksgiving Day (11/28) and Christmas Eve (12/24).



Gift Shop

It's never too early to start your holiday shopping! The Police Museum has some great pieces that would make the perfect holiday gift for a friend or loved one. The most popular item in the Gift Shop continues to be Cincinnati Police Department's challenge coin.



[View Gift Shop Items on the Police Museum Website](#)

Museum Leadership News

Ed Zieverink, a former homicide detective and former Museum Historian, was voted in as the new Curator early this Fall. Steve Kramer, a retired police lieutenant, was voted in as the new Historian. Steve also retains his position as Archivist.

Board of Directors:

President – James Yunker, CEO of The Yunker Group

Vice President – Lieutenant Stephen R. Kramer (Retired)

Secretary – Administrative Technician Mary Lou Berning

Director – Michael Allen (former Hamilton County Prosecutor)
Director – Sergeant William T. Beuke (Retired)
Director – Judge James Cissell (Retired)
Director – Yancy Deering, Yancy Deering Communications
Director – Phil L. Lind (Retired SORTA Superintendent)
Director – Detective Edward W. Zieverink III (Retired)
Director – Ltc. Dale Menkhaus (Retired)



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