Taco Police History
By Officer Erik Timothy (Department Historian)
By 1922, the department had adopted a blue wool coat that reached to the mid-thigh and buttoned to the neck with a "choker" collar. The old style helmet was replaced with a round, military style cap with light blue piping and a more modern cap badge. All equipment was still carried under the coat. This coat was worn buttoned up, with a white shirt and tie underneath, and all equipment was carried under the coat. This remained the department uniform until 1954, and is identical to our modern day dress blouse.

In 1925, a system of 5 x 8 cards, color coded for the crime being reported, were adopted for case reports. Though an improvement over the Sergeant’s log book, no control was kept over these reports, and sometimes an officer would carry the report in his pocket for several weeks before turning it in. The entire incident was described in a report for the next day. These small cards, and very colorful language, were often used. Some examples, shown exactly as they were written:

10-18-36, Reckless driving: “This lad was driving an old Star touring car with improper brakes & equipment was driving around 19th & tac ave & G st at a high rate of speed when he took it off the road, knocked over a fender, and made a bee to the boss. I answered the call and the boy fingered him at 10th and Broadway. . . . The manager has several bongs on this same bird and has the handle of the beefer.”

11-13-36: Charge of “bachelors’ Society”: “This Jasper picked up a punk on the street and took him topside of a flicker. After a bit he gave the boys pork a jumble. The boy didn’t think that was so hot so he took it on the lam and made a bee to the boss. I answered the call and the boy fingered him at 10th and Broadway . . . The manager has several bongs on this same bird and has the handle of the beefer.”

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In 1927, the uniform changed to a 4 button coat, made of 8 oz blue wool, with brass "T.P." insignia on the lapels and a star on the sleeve for every 5 years of service. A light blue, 1/2 inch braid on the cuff indicated a Patrolman rank, while gold braid was reserved for Sergeants and above.

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In 1929, the Police Department moved across the street from the city hall to the newly completed Public Safety Building. This five story structure was designed to house the station and city jail, and was built adjacent to the old Northern Pacific Railroad headquarters building.

AGENDA
January 20, 2016
6:30 pm
STAR CENTER
3873 South 66th Street
COP’S MEETING
TACOMA MALL
NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING
“YOUR PARTICIPATION AND YOUR VOICE ARE YOUR INVESTMENT IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD’S FUTURE”

ROUNDABOUT—
Wapato Hills — We will meet Saturday February 13, from 9 am - noon, rain, wind or shine. Bring work gloves, water to drink, snacks, etc. All are welcome. Contact Carol Munsey, Habitat Steward, 753-6417 CEmunsey@nventure.com

Brand New Year—2016 begins a new year for our Council in South Tacoma. We will be looking for interested persons to work on the different committees. When asked, please give committee work some of your time. Committees are now being formed, so watch for an opportunity to serve.

Read-To-Me — Read@Me Reading program in Arlington Elementary and Manitou Park Elementary is in need of volunteers to spend 45 minutes a week. The volunteer listens to the child read, reads to the child and does interactive word group identification. The program is in need of volunteers, the children deserve to succeed. Arlington School times are Monday or Tuesday in the afternoons. Manitou Park School's reading program is Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. Just 45 minutes of your time will make a difference in a child's reading life. Contact Read2Me program at Tacoma Community House: 253-383-3951.

Neighborhoods USA — Neighborhoods USA annual conference will be held in Memphis Tennessee May 25 thru 28th, 2016. Over 800 persons were in attendance last year. People come to this conference to hear and see what and how other groups of interested people in their neighborhoods work to make a better outcome for their neighborhoods. This conference is a learning and sharing opportunity to benefit us back in our home towns.

Pizza Parties — The South Tacoma Neighborhood Council works in conjunction with Dominoes Pizza and our local schools to provide Free Pizza and Pop parties for the class in each school. The raises the most food drives or food baskets for their local families.

ROUNDABOUT— (cont)
Tacoma Mall Planning—Elliott Barnett will be presenting a slide presentation about the Tacoma Mall Subarea Plans to date.

Oak Tree Safe Streets—There will be a meeting at C. Stipek’s, 2604 South 76th Street, on Thursday January 21st with Jennifer Kammerzell from Tacoma’s Traffic Engineering concerning the traffic flow at 74th Street I-5 off-ramp.

Proposed Menthol Plant—Anyone interested in commenting on a proposed Tacoma Tideflat’s plant that would convert natural gas to methanol for export to China can do so at two public meetings next year. The first meeting is Jan. 21 at 6:30 p.m. at the Greater Tacoma Convention & Trade Center, 1500 Broadway. Information about the project will be available there starting at 5 p.m.

The second meeting is tentatively slated for Feb. 16 in Northeast Tacoma, but the place and time have not been set.

Neighborhood Cleanup—We are looking for a volunteer Chair for the Annual 2016 Cleanup sponsored by the Landfill. Workers are plentiful, need a Chair to coordinate the location and choose a date that fits with the City’s schedule. The information is on the City’s website or call Cindy DeGrosse at 253-591-5026 for info.

Arlington Meeting—The Arlington Group will hold their next regular meeting in February on the second Thursday, the 11th, at the First Congregational Church, 7209 South Puget Sound at 6:30pm. Arlington is the area between 66th to 80th St., South Tacoma Way to Tacoma Mall Boulevard. Contact Pennie Smith at 241-1176 for info.

Newsletter—We would be happy to keep you up-to-date with your Neighborhood Council. If you are interested in receiving a copy of the newsletter by email, or snail mail, call Skip at 475-3121.

Oak Tree Park—On Saturday January 16th, we will meet at the East Entrance to the park at 78th and Pine and work from 10 am - 1pm. You may pre-register at: http://cedar.greencitypartnerships.org. Contact Albert Styer, Oak Tree Park Steward, at 961-3145.

Facebook—Visit the South Tacoma Neighborhood Council on Facebook to see the latest and greatest about our Neighborhood Council. Pennie Smith and Chris Beale maintain the site up to date with our meeting agendas, minutes and exciting events in our neighborhood. “Click” or “Control-Click” on the Facebook symbol.

Did You Know?—Reporting questionable activity and concerns to the city is quite easy by using TacomaFirst311. A call to 311 can be anonymous, or you can receive a confirmation and information as to which department the query was sent.
COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICERS: Community Liaison Officers are here to team up with us on neighborhood safety and security problems. Contact them thru Sector Commander: Lt. Al Roberts (591-5190), or at Email—aroberts2@cityoftacoma.org

Your CLO’s are:  
Sector 3-1 Officer — Mike Sbory  594-7858; Email—msbory@cityoftacoma.org  
Sector 3-2 Officer — Jason Mills  591-5692; Email—jmills@cityoftacoma.org  
Sector 3-3 Officer — Debra Vause  573-2563; Email—dvause@cityoftacoma.org (Temporarily unavailable)  
Sector 3-4 Officer — John Warczak  573-2562; Email—jwarczak@cityoftacoma.org

The contents of this newsletter are believed to be the consensus of the Board and membership of the Neighborhood Council.

GRAFFITI AND YARD SALE SIGNS: People are still trashing our neighborhoods with “Yard Sale” and “For Rent” signs on utility poles, street, and stop signs. Report graffiti and illegal signs. Help out by removing illegal signs and picking up the signs that have fallen and become litter on our streets. Don’t litter on our utility poles, street, and stop signs.

WHO ARE WE?: The South Tacoma Neighborhood Council is an independent non-profit corporation formed by neighbors to address neighborhood issues and concerns. All of our meetings are open to the public and you are more than welcome to attend. Our “Board” meetings are on the first Thursday of each month, at 6:30 pm, at the STAR Center at 3873 South 66th Street. Our General” meetings are once a month on the third Wednesday at 6:30 pm at the STAR Center at 3873 South 66th Street. Contact Skip Vaughn at 475-3121 with any questions.