



The Steele Curtain

"A Look Into Your First Line of Defense"

Steele County Sheriff's Office

Don Gudmundson, Sheriff

Milo Dahlin, Chief Deputy Sheriff

Karen Meier, Administrative Ass't.

December 15, 2010

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DETENTION CENTER EMPLOYEES PROMOTED TO CORPORALS

Congratulations to the four new corporals at the Detention Center who will begin their new duties in January of 2011. It was a very competitive process with 14 correctional officers applying. The promoted include:



← Corporal Joyce Prusha has been with the Steele County Detention Center since 2002. She became a U.S. citizen in 1987 after moving to the United States with her family from Amsterdam, Holland in 1978. Joyce and her husband live S.E. of Owatonna. They have three daughters and three grandchildren.



Corporal Randy Hanson → started his career with Steele County in April of 2003. Randy is a Field Training Officer, an Intake Specialist, and works with the in-house gang information. Randy spends his off time with his family, which includes his wife, two daughters and one son. He has lived in the Faribault area all his life.



← Corporal Troy Stockwell is also a Field Training Officer. Troy has become a Trainer for our detention center staff, other law enforcement agencies and the public, to whom he does presentations on Gangs. He also has an extensive background in scuba diving, he is a certified Master Diver, Ice Diver, Dive Master, Teaching Assistant and Scuba Lifesaving Accident Management. Troy has been with our Detention Center since June of 2003. He and his wife of 21 years have two daughters. He has been a lifelong resident of Owatonna/Steele County.



Corporal Andy Buttera → is also from Owatonna. He has an Associates in Liberal Arts degree. He has been with the Steele County Detention Center since June of 2007. Andy and his wife have two daughters.

Detective Troy Matejcek continues to assist Toronto authorities in an investigation of a 44-year-old man, who is in custody in Canada for child pornography charges. He had contacts via emails with multiple young people in Steele County. The young people thought they were communicating with a 16-year-old boy.

Sergeants

Todd Schwanke
Lon Thiele
Bill Youngquist

Investigators

Scott Hanson
Troy Matejcek
Gary Okins

Deputies

Chad Forystek
Aaron Guzman
Darrin Helget
Jim Holton
Tony Padilla
Lee Robbins
Greg Skillestad
Mary Ulrich
Brady Wolhart

Civil Process

Tony David
Jeanne Willmott

K-9 Unit

Brian Bennett
With Partner Chaos

Law Enforcement Center Records Staff

Barbara Rupprecht,
Lead
Renee' Babcock
Dianne Johnson
Sidni Larson

Questions/Comments

Contact The Steele
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204 East Pearl
Owatonna, MN 55060

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County Website:

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www.co.steele.mn.us



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Special Deputies

- Les Abraham, Coordinator
507-398-3284
- Walt Barfknecht
- Charlie Berg
- Grant Brossard
- Chris Clark
- Matthew DeWees
- Jack Dillemath
- Gene Fisher
- Jodi Francisco
- Christopher Gannon
- Kate Joenks
- Scott Jorgensen
- Jeff Kirchner
- Mark Kreutter
- Andrew Kubista
- Eugene Linse
- Dave Macht
- Randy Mahlman
- Rich Mueller
- Brandon Noble
- Ryan Pankratz
- Marty & Sue Rethemeier
- Sean Robbins
- Jason Roncali
- Paul Schneider
- LeRoy Schroeder
- Mark Schultz
- John Standke
- Thomas Stockwell
- John Sweet
- Mounted Posse**
- Joe Schwering, Captain
507-528-2423
- Ralph Behne
- Brian Berg
- Ed Berryman
- John Bowe
- Maralou Brose
- Jodie Briant
- Michelle Darrah
- Tine Donahue
- John Gerold
- Tim Hager
- Tom Hager
- Mike Haubenschild
- Dan Hedberg
- Darrin Helget
- William Hildebrandt
- Jake Jacobson
- Leon Kamrath
- Mike Keinz
- Mark Lang
- Monte Mowry
- Del Mullenbach
- Joyce Nelson
- Barrie & Dawn Peterson
- Lynn Pettis
- Ethel Quimby
- Gary Ringhofer
- Marilyn Schwering
- Tony Schwering
- Carl Ulrich
- Troy Utpadel



Jail population fell last week as the State of Minnesota pulled some of their prisoners from our Detention Center. The prison is operating with 400 less inmates than last year. Thirty-seven people were booked into the jail last week, which is a lower number than a normal week. Revenue from outside counties and the State of Minnesota was \$26,995 for the week. Transport officers traveled 930 miles last week on criminal, civil and medical transports.

WHO IS COMING UP I-35

Tim Braaten, who is a 1964 graduate of Owatonna High School and is now the Executive Director of the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement, spoke to 48 members of the Sheriff's Office, Owatonna Police, Minnesota State Patrol and our SWAT Team. The subject was Texas prison gangs. Chief Braaten is a former police officer, sergeant and lieutenant in Detroit and has been a police chief in Wisconsin, Tennessee and Texas. There are 165,000 prisoners in custody in Texas compared to just over 9,000 in Minnesota. He discussed the dangers of traffic stops and contacts with members of the Texas prison gangs, who are known to travel I-35 from Texas to Minnesota.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE DURING OUR RECENT SNOW STORM

While I-35 was not closed during the recent snow storm, there was consideration that it might have to be closed. The County Emergency Manager, Mike Johnson, met with law enforcement, county personnel and public works about the possibility. County snow plows were pulled off the roadways for a period of time on Saturday, December 11th. Contingency plans were in place for response to an emergency using county snow plows and sheriff's vehicles. There were many cars in the ditches, but no serious accidents. The early rains which turned to ice continue to complicate travel in and around Steele County.

2010 NRHEG D.A.R.E. GRADUATION

At the end of every D.A.R.E. session, one student from each class is chosen to present their report at the D.A.R.E. graduation ceremony. Pictured (l to r) are those students: Caleb Harpel, Betsy Schoenrock and Carma Pederson. Graduation took place on December 1, 2010. Sheriff-elect, Lon Thiele, Deputy Brian Bennett with his K-9 partner Chaos were at the ceremony, along with our D.A.R.E. instructor, Deputy Tony David.

