

2005 Recipients under the IAWP Officer of the Year Awards Program

IAWP 2005 OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Staff Sergeant Eva Reti, Durham Regional Police Service



Staff Sergeant Eva Reti

Sgt. Eva Reti is with the Durham Regional Police Service, Ontario, Canada. When I talked to Eva's Chief, Kevin McAlpine, he was so proud of Eva's work. He said, "Eva is our rising star. Wait until you meet her, she is a wonderful person. And of course our department will pay for everything." What a wonderful support system to produce the Officer of the Year.

Eva's leadership has taken her to the challenges through patrol supervisor, to first women in the Homicide Unit, to the continual challenges of the mentoring of colleagues. Through her leadership she calls others to achieve excellence, confront poor performance and stimulate improvement.

Eva's mentoring reaches to her value that each officer should be the best they can be and if Eva can help that process she will. On her own initiative Eva developed an indexed binder of material for all trainers. Eva would not just drop the material off she would sit with officers and help them understand the process. Eva heard of an officer who was frustrated with the promotional process. Eva took the time to seek this officer out, go over the candidate's resume and help them understand the questions and formal process. This comes natural for Eva, and she will also spend the time to celebrate their success.

Eva has a personnel commitment to community service. Her personal principles motivate her actions. "Law Enforcement is a profession that provides community service." Eva has shown that through her many hours of community service. She has organized a clothing drive for a homeless shelter that was destroyed by fire; volunteered for local Jazz and Blues Festival, and helped at Meals on Wheels. She is also a board member for the Violence Prevention Coordinating Council. Eva has organized and run in the Cure for Breast Cancer, and volunteered for the Literacy Network. The list goes on and on, and if there is a cause that will make her community better, she will be there.

Eva has excelled in many areas of police work. She was given a position in the Pickering Youth Bureau after only being on the department for a short time. She had excelled so well she was transferred to the Major Crime Sexual Assault Unit. There she was able to become the first police officer in Canada to obtain and execute a DNA search warrant. Eva has made formal recommendations to improve staffing and assistance to crime victims. The recommendations made a major impact on the department to ease the pain of victims. Eva has also worked in the Cold Case Unit and has solved many cases to bring justice to the victims and their families.

Eva was ecstatic when she won her award and also very proud of what she has done. Eva likes to advise women officers to "Learn the rules, be professional and organized and the opportunities will be given to you.

2005 COMMUNITY SERVICE

Staff Sergeant Heidi Schelhorn, York Regional Police Service



Staff Sergeant Heidi Schelhorn

Staff Sgt. Heidi Schellhorn has been with the York Regional Police Service since 1987. Heidi is not assigned to community service but she is an officer that believes in community service. Heidi sees needs and finds ways to fulfill those needs. A woman lost her three children and her husband in a house fire. The devastation of that was compounded by the fact that she had no insurance. Heidi got some people together and within a few days raised \$30,000.

Heidi uses her athletic abilities to raise money for many causes, such as Special Olympics, Cops for Cancer, Easter Seals, Make a Wish, funds for a hospital, and any other event for which she can raise money. To keep

herself athletically fit, Heidi competes in her spare time. She recently completed her Seventh Iron Man the World Championships in Hawaii.

Heidi has begun programs with Toys for Tots, with a shelter for women, for developmentally disabled, for a Jewish community, for those of hate crimes in the Muslim community, for "Keep Aurora Beautiful" and finally she developed a program that educates about the myths and realities of organ donations.

For Heidi's commitment to the community we honor her with the IAWP award for Community Service. .

2005 EXCELLENCE IN PERFORMANCE

Sergeant Ann Drury, West Yorkshire Police



Sergeant Ann Drury

Sgt. Ann Drury has been with the West Yorkshire Police since 1986. Ann's Excellence in Performance comes from her qualities of resilience, compassion, pride and professionalism as a serving officer.

The death of a fellow officer in some countries is rare, but it is extremely rare in England. Sgt. Drury was the head of Killingbeck Road Traffic Department and was on holiday on December 26, 2003, when one officer was murdered, Ian Broadhurst and Neil Roper was seriously injured. She was notified and immediately cancelled her holiday to support her team and those closest to the murdered and injured officers.

Following the aftermath of the tragedy it is impossible to put into words the difficulties facing her by a traumatized team. Ann was active in arrangements, team healing, family healing and being liaison with the trial of the killer. To carry on Ian's legacy Ann felt all her hours and work was important. IAWP rewards her for her excellent performance.

2005 EXCELLENCE IN PERFORMANCE

Sergeant Sandra McLaren, Ottawa Police Service



Sergeant Sandra McLaren

Sgt. Sandra McLaren has been with the Ottawa Police Service since 1995. Sandra is a Sgt. with the High Tech Crimes Unit. Sandra has been given the Excellence in Performance award for her work in investigating child pornography and child luring through the Internet.

Sandra found methods to identify suspects when they were on line which lead to many arrests of pedophiles. Sandra didn't just help out Ottawa she took her skills to other parts of Canada and now the world. Sandra developed a leadership role in implementing an investigative template for child luring investigation. She keeps the Children's Aid Society apprised of suspects that pose a threat to children. For her work in policing the internet to keep children safe IAWP presents her with Excellence in Performance Award.

2005 LEADERSHIP AWARD

Sergeant Amy Ramsay



Sergeant Amy Ramsay

Sgt. Amy Ramsay has been with the Ontario Provincial Police since 1996 when she was recruited from the Peel Regional Police. One expects that a true leader would excel in the work that they are hired to perform. Amy stands out in that category, but she isn't satisfied to confine herself to what she is asked to do. Amy finds ways to better the department, policing or individuals. She performs these works through programs she develops, educating herself and others and mentoring.

A journey through some of her accomplishments would include the following: developing a promotional process both for OPP and the First Nations, publishing seven books on police issues, taking a leadership role in combating police spousal abuse, being the founding President of the Ontario Women in Law Enforcement, bringing IAWP to Toronto for the 2000 Conference, assisting in the ground work for the foundation of Atlantic Women in Law Enforcement, teaching professional policing courses and last but not least serving as the Executive Director of IAWP. For Amy's leadership skills and work, IAWP rewards her for her successes.

2005 MENTORING AWARD

Sergeant Myra James, Hamilton Police Service



Sergeant Myra James

Sgt. Myra James has been with the Hamilton Police Service since 1988. When you look on the internet for MENTORING you see Myra James. The first time you meet Myra she genuinely embraces you. Be prepared she will encourage you to join IAWP and OWLE. She doesn't even need to speak your language and you are signed up because of her energy and enthusiasm.

Myra is electric. She is upbeat, motivated and above all approachable. She is the first to congratulate anyone on their success and takes it one step further and lets everyone know how great you are.

Myra provides guidance and training to assist young officers. Her high profile status provides new officers with great examples of the importance of getting involved in important initiatives not only in the police service but in the community as well. She is a role model. In May of 2003, Myra was selected as "Women of the Year" in Hamilton. IAWP would now be honored to add Mentoring Award of the Year for 2005.

2005 MEDAL OF VALOR

Constable Bernadine Chapman, Royal Canadian Mounted Police



Constable Bernadine Chapman

Constable Bernadine Chapman has been with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police since 1988. On July 31, 2004 at 2045 hrs. a citizen was driving across the bridge when he noticed a man at the top of the bridge acting in an unusual manner. It appeared he was going to jump. He called the police and almost immediately he was met by Constable Chapman.

Bernadine arrived at the bridge with the citizen and saw nothing but a pair of running shoes on the deck. The lack of day light prevented her from seeing anything in the water. Knowing time was of the essence she did a strategic search of the area. With a great amount of skill and some luck she was able to find the victim, he was laying under the bridge on a very narrow cat walk. Bernadine's attempts to talk to him were made impossible by the noise of the wind, vehicles and rushing water.

Bernadine was able to get to the victim and help him through the narrow cat walk. At times he wanted to stand up and she would have to control his moves to stay in balance. They finally made it through the cat-walk and down the structure of the bridge. For Bernadine's skills and cat-walk talents IAWP presents this award for putting her life in danger to save a citizen.

2005 MEDAL OF VALOR

Constable Lisa Lambert, Ontario Provincial Police



Constable Lisa Lambert

Constable Lisa Lambert has been with the Ontario Provincial Police since 2002. Lisa was heading to a call for assistance for a fellow officer. On the way to the call she noticed that another officer, who was also responding to the assistance call, had crashed his vehicle. There was extensive damage to the car's front, side and roof. The roof was caved in on the driver's side causing the driver's compartment to be restricted, making the door inoperable. Upon impact the engine compartment near the windshield started on fire.

Constable Lambert saw the vehicle and radioed for medical and fire assistance. Lisa then went to the vehicle, which was burning, to rescue Constable Hickey. Unable to open the door Lisa was able to get Constable Hickey out through the window. She was able to get him to safety before the entire vehicle was engulfed in flames. Lisa, IAWP congratulates you for your heroism.

2005 MEDAL OF VALOR

Inspector Sylvia Morrow, San Francisco Police



Inspector Sylvia Morrow

Inspector Sylvia Morrow has been with the San Francisco Police Department since 1990. Sylvia is in the Tactical Investigative Unit which works on sensitive investigations. This unit works in plain clothes, saturating areas that have been plagued with both personal and property crimes. These investigators also work with witness protection and threats to police and other city employees.

Sylvia's unit was working on a case with a high profile felon wanted for numerous homicides. The suspect was very dangerous and vowed never to be taken alive. Much planning went into the strategies for this given day with a back up plan and other support from other agencies.

The time was set, June 29, 2004. Last minute details were being arranged, but Sylvia was in position. Unfortunately the suspect arrived too soon. He eyed an officer and drove his SUV at the officer. Sylvia was in pursuit knowing her partner was getting the proper medical attention he needed. The suspect rammed Sylvia's vehicle and took off. Sylvia continued the pursuit as he was driving on the wrong side of the road and putting many peoples' lives in danger. The team got the suspect cornered but he came out shooting directly at Sylvia. Sylvia needed to bail out of her vehicle as the suspect shot the car with numerous bullets. Through a hail of bullets she got to safety and was able to apprehend the suspect, "Alive".

Through her dedication to public service Sylvia survived a vehicle attack and a weapon attack and got her man. Because of her bravery IAWP awards her a 2005 Valor Award.

2005 Civilian Award

Brenda Radix, Toronto Police Service



Brenda Radix

Brenda Radix has been a civilian member of the Toronto Police Service since 1982. Brenda has excelled in many areas of the department, such as Warrants of Committal, C.P.I.C., Forensic Identification Services, 33 Division, 54 Division and finally in the Property and Evidence Management Unit.

In 1995 while assigned to 33 Division, Brenda was personally selected by the Unit Commander to participate in a pilot project incorporating the implementation of an innovative centralized approach to the management of evidence. She was responsible for the development of unit specific policies and procedures governing the seizure and storage of evidence, the development of all training materials including course curriculum and standards, and she directly facilitated the training of over 175 members of 33 Division.

The project was a resounding success and made lasting changes for the success of the Evidence Unit. Brenda was so successful that she was assigned as Supervisor of the Property and Evidence Management Unit. This was only one of the major projects Brenda has worked on to make the Toronto Police Service successful. For your many years of hard work and dedication, Brenda, the IAWP awards you with the Civilian Service Award.