

# Mounted Patrol Unit Annual Report



2017



# Mounted Patrol Unit Changes/Improvements

## Unit Supervision



Sgt. Shawn Engel took over the mounted unit as the team supervisor in early 2017. As a 22 year veteran of the department, the unit benefits from his Special Events Team crowd management experience, community policing background and public speaking engagements where he conducts Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events training.

## Truck and Trailer Addition

Through on-going fundraising efforts by the Friends of Madison Mounted Horse Patrol, a 2<sup>nd</sup> 4-horse trailer and new truck were acquired in 2017. This allows the whole unit to deploy at one time or to deploy in separate locations over different shifts. Prior to acquiring the new truck and trailer, the unit was limited in how it could deploy; often necessitating multiple trips to the farm to pick up/drop off horses for different shifts. The old trailer also went through an overhaul receiving a new floor and updated markings.

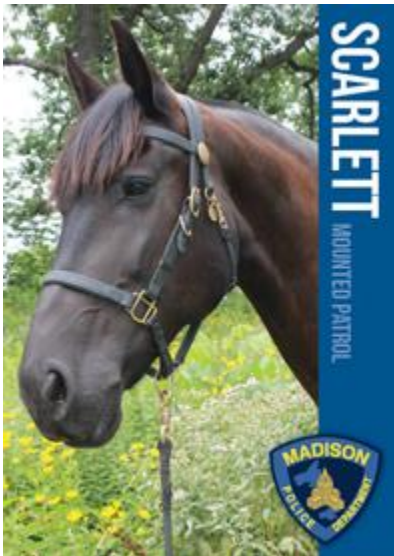


## Horse Lighting

After testing and evaluating several lighting options for the mounts, the team settled on a breast collar lighting system as well as a red/blue light that attaches towards the rear of the horse. This greatly improves the horse's visibility during hours of darkness.



## Police Horse Retirement



“Scarlett” served the Madison Police Department for six years. Although a very good police horse, Scarlett lacked confidence in the downtown urban environment. Given this, the unit made efforts to try to find a suitable home for her. That opportunity came in late 2017 just before the riding season came to a close. The decision was bittersweet but one that had Scarlett's best interests in mind.

During her tenure with MPD, Scarlett met thousands of people at many neighborhood patrols and special events. Moreover, she assisted in locating a missing person on two separate occasions! Scarlett's new home is with the Higgins family in Ixonia, WI where she may find herself back in the limelight in the dressage arena!



## Police Horse Additions



Meet “Leo”. Leo was a full-donation to the unit in late 2016. He is a Percheron/Clydesdale gelding and is 9 years old. Leo completed his training in the off-season and hit the streets at the Mifflin Street Block party like a true veteran. Susan Wester of Madison is Leo’s current sponsor.

Susan has been a long term contributor to the program for the past 6 years having donated Scarlett in 2011 and having sponsored Torres in 2012. Leo will be seeking a new sponsor in 2018.



Meet “Chevy”, a 10 year old Percheron/Friesian gelding from Iowa. The non-profit Friends of Madison Mounted Horse Patrol purchased Chevy, a former arena horse, for the unit in late 2017 as a direct replacement for Scarlett. Having the most training of any horse coming into the unit, Chevy has already proven himself capable.

His personality and temperament are a good fit and the team is looking forward to him starting full-time in April 2018. He is currently sponsored by Laura Harrington of Madison, WI. Laura is also the sponsor for MPD K9 “Allied” and feels strongly about Allied’s ability to build strong relationships with Madison’s youth.

## Horse Sponsorship Program

In 2017, the annual sponsorship program continued with all six horses sponsored at \$5,000 each. These funds helped ensure that each horse was properly taken care of throughout the year. Our great sponsors in 2017 include:

- The Munz Corporation sponsoring “Bubba Munz”
- Laura Harrington of Madison sponsoring “Chevy”
- Mary and John Sheehan of Madison sponsoring “Cooper”
- Indigo Trails & Stacey Bean sponsoring “Doctor B”, aka “Doc”
- Laura Callahan of First Weber Realty sponsoring “Torres”
- Susan Wester of Madison sponsoring “Leo”



## Community Corrals

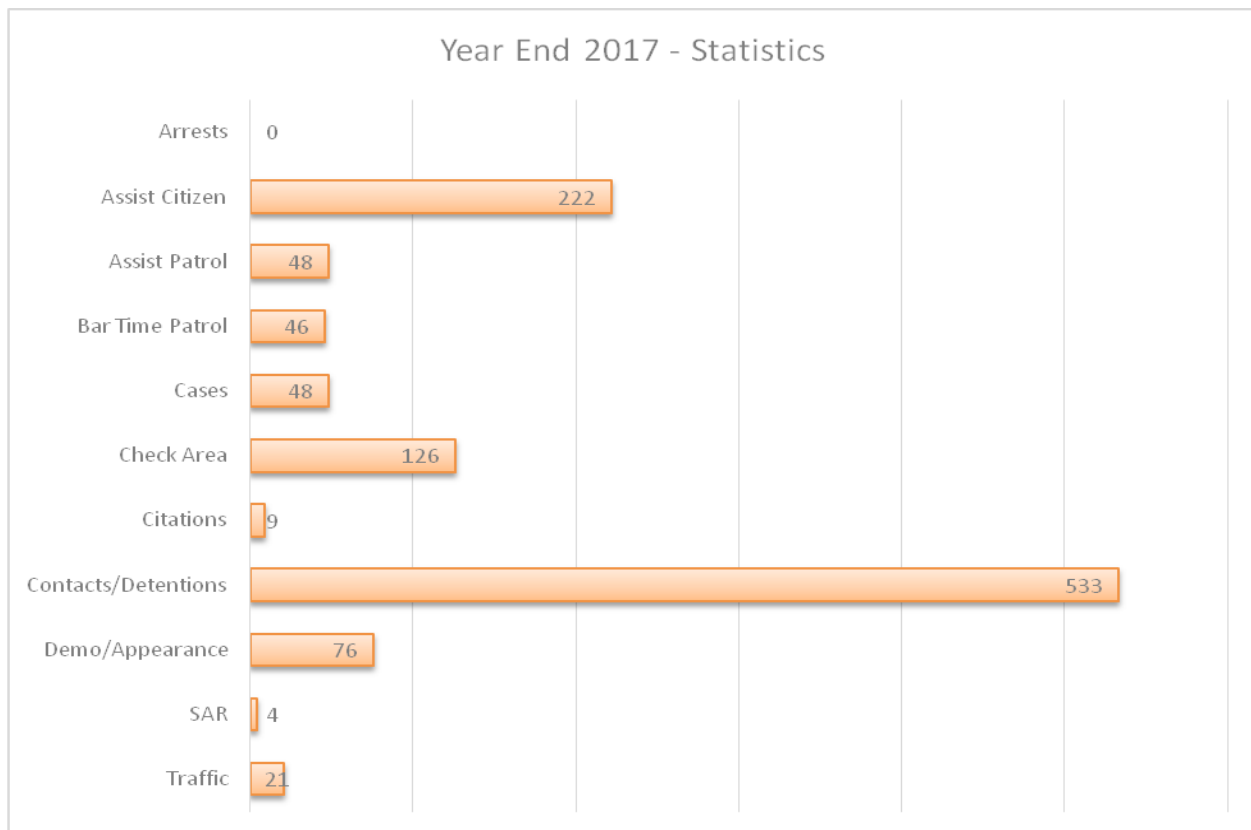
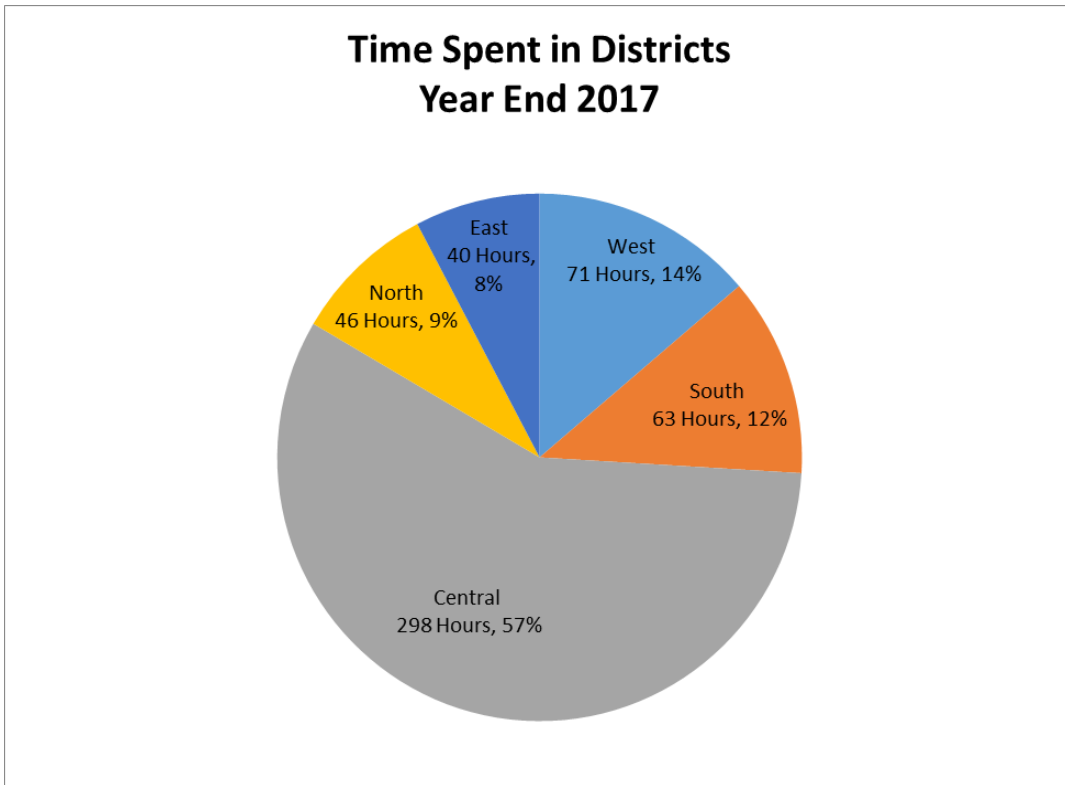
Given low attendance at random Meet and Greet events over the past few years, the Community Corral program was re-designed slightly in 2017. Requests for horse visits went directly through the Neighborhood Associations who would routinely plan neighborhood picnics and other activities as part of the horse visit. This encouraged



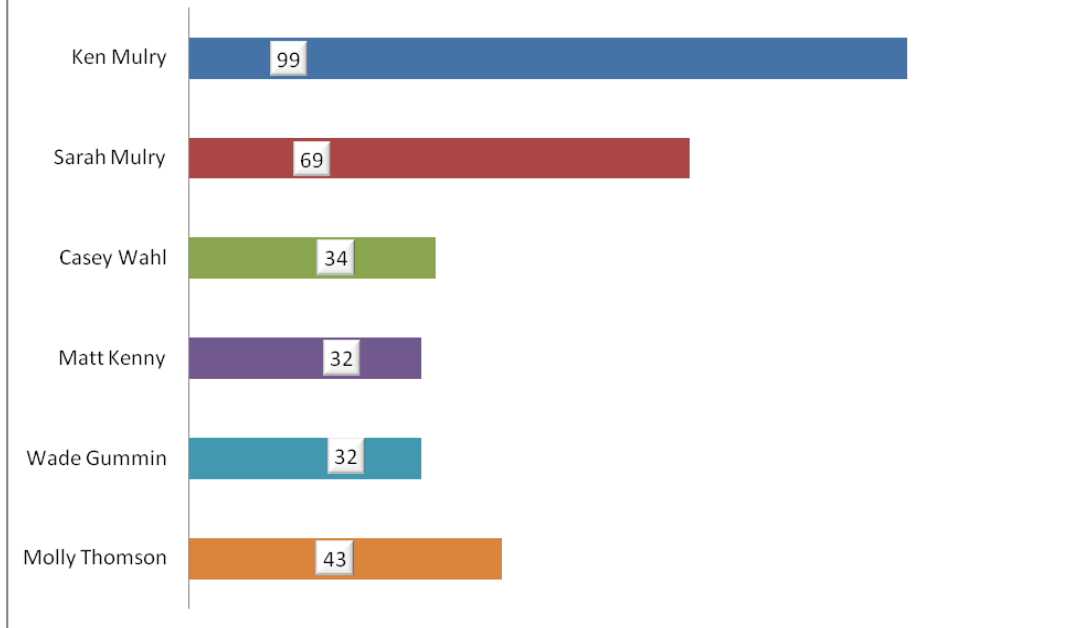
interactions between neighbors and the police that otherwise may not have happened. Due to the success of these events, Community Corrals will continue to be scheduled in the same manner in 2018.



# Unit Statistics

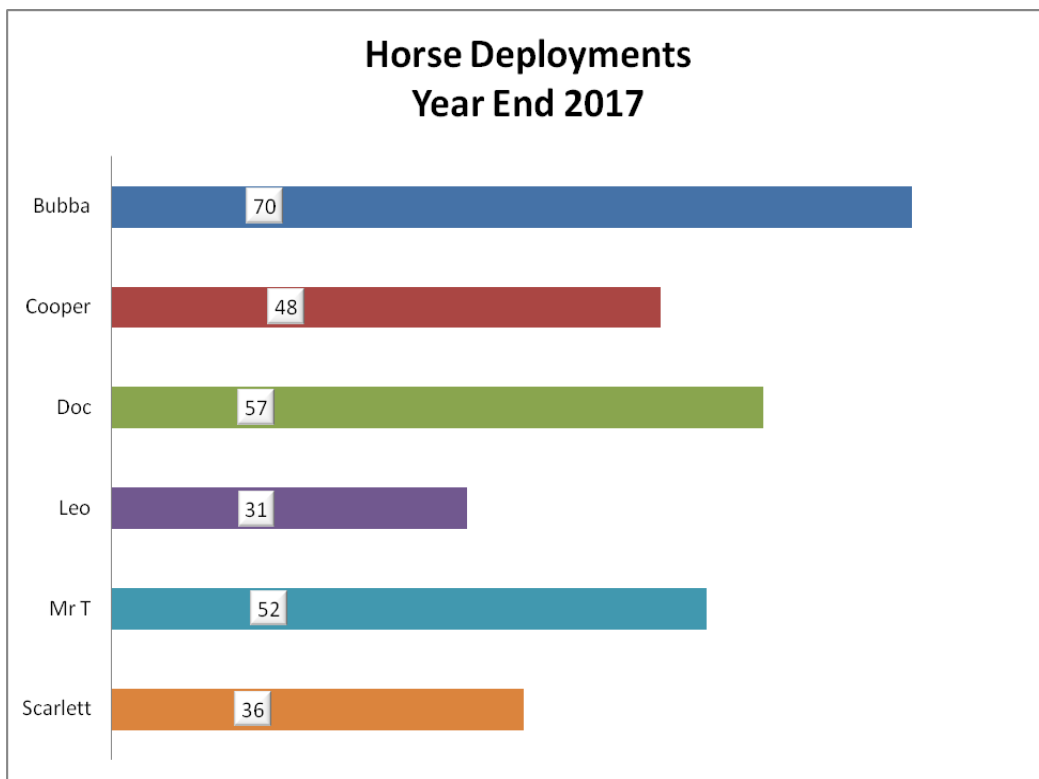


### Rider Deployments Year End 2017



Offc. S. Mulry was on Light Duty June 23 – August 18

### Horse Deployments Year End 2017



The team declined 24 appearances in 2017 due to night coverage on Fri/Sat and RDO schedules.

# Training

## Green Bay Mounted Police Basic Patrol Operations



The Green Bay Police Department requested joint training by the Madison Police Mounted Patrol Unit and the Milwaukee Police Mounted Patrol Unit. Topics of instruction included basic

formation riding, search and rescue, mounted police tactics and safety.

Being a part-time team, the Green Bay

Mounted Patrol Unit does not conduct routine mounted patrol operations at this time.

However, they do appear in uniform at public presentations as requested. As the team evolves, they hope to be utilized in crowd management applications at Packer games and during bar-time patrols.

## State Fair Mounted Police Basic Crowd Management

The State Fair Park Mounted Unit requested basic crowd control training from the Madison Police Mounted Patrol Unit. Topics included crowd formation riding, mounted officer tactics and safety. Mounted units worked alongside the State Fair Special Events Team as they practiced crowd dispersal techniques. Answering a mutual aid request, our team traveled to the State Fair to assist on the first and last days of the Wisconsin State Fair.

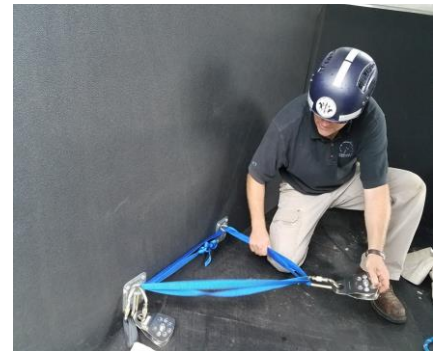




## Technical Large Animal Rescue



During this four hour course, the unit's veterinarian, Dr. Howard Ketover of Irongate Equine (and a member of the Wisconsin Technical Large Animal Rescue team) presented on the basics of large animal rescue. He addressed utilizing the unit's trailer as a large animal ambulance. By having anchor points in each mounted trailer, a pulley system can be used to move large animals into the trailer so to be transported for medical attention.



New this year, was an introduction to large animal decontamination. In the event of a hazmat incident, the horses would need to be familiar with de-con suits and water sprayed on tarps as part of any basic decontamination station.

## Horsemanship and Equitation



The unit took part in a two-day training clinic at the farm of Michelle Knapp, of Knapp Horsemanship. The focus of the training was to develop new partnerships and to expand upon the team's horsemanship and equitation skills. An anonymous donor provided funding for this excellent training!

## North American Mounted Unit Commanders Association (N.A.M.U.C.A.) Conference



In the spring, Sgt. Engel and Offc. S. Mulry attended the annual conference which was held in Lexington, KY and hosted by the Kentucky Horse Park Mounted Police and the Lexington Mounted Patrol Unit. Training topics included:

- Liability and Injury with the Police Horse
- Moving from Paper Documentation to Digital
- Coping with the Stress of Building a Successful Mounted Unit
- How to Build, Operate, and Fund a Mounted Police Unit
- Using Social Media to Promote the Mounted Unit
- Firearms Training for the Mounted Police Officer and Horse
- Construction Ideas and Thoughts When Building Obstacles for the Horse
- A Look at Crowd Management at the Republican National Convention
- A Spotlight Feature of the Minneapolis Mounted Police.



## The Friends of Madison Mounted Horse Patrol

This non-profit organization is made up of citizen volunteers whose primary role is to assist the team through financial support generated through community outreach. In 2017, the six voting board members worked closely with sponsors and members of the community to provide educational and fundraising opportunities throughout the City of Madison.

### Fundraising Efforts:

- **Horse Sponsorship Program**

The unit reached its goal of having all six horses sponsored in 2017. This is a \$5,000 annual donation per horse!

- **Midwest Horse Fair**

A 50/50 raffle and merchandise sales contributed to annual fundraising efforts. This is a high visibility event for both the board members and the police horses/riders while they are on patrol around the event.

- **2017 Calendar**

Sales were made through a partnership with the Mounds Pet Food Warehouse franchise and online.

- **Plush Ponies**

New for 2017 was a small plush black pony with the Friends of Madison Mounted logo on a bandana around the neck. These sold very well!



- **Open House**

This year's Open House was the largest attendance to date. There was a badge ceremony for "Doc" having made it through his probationary period. A Silent Auction and merchandise sales brought in additional revenue.

- **Dog and Pony Show**

The K9 and Mounted Unit joined forces for the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual invite-only event. Both units conducted demonstrations for those in attendance, including utilizing a drone during the joint K9/Mounted search demo. Proceeds and donations were divided between the units.

