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ICHELE LISH IS the 2022 IAWP Heritage Award recipient. The Board of Directors and

the Board of Trustees are pleased to bestow this unique honor on one of the most deserving members of this organization.

For 25 years, Michele served with the Portland, Oregon (U.S.A.) Police Bureau, retiring as a Lieutenant and receiving numerous awards and recognitions. Additionally, she accomplished many meaningful and important benchmarks during her 40 years of membership in the IAWP.

The Heritage Award is bestowed upon an individual member by the International Association of Women Police. Heritage Award recipients represent the legacy of the IAWP. They ensure that historical memory of the organization continues to grow. Through their active involvement in the history of the IAWP and their determination to see the organization evolve, these leaders address core goals and demonstrate the honor it is to serve the IAWP.

A History of Involvement

Michele joined IAWP in 1983 and is a lifetime member. Through the years, she participated in numerous committees and board positions, and most notably received IAWP's Officer of the Year in 2000, something she reports as "one of my greatest moments."

She held Board positions of Secretary and Treasurer between 2001 and 2019. With her financial expertise, Michele now serves as an advisory member of the Finance committee. Michele participated in numerous committees and positions: Diversity,



Michele is congratulated by Chief Charles Moose upon her promotion to Lieutenant.



Michele and friends celebrate at her final police banquet.



Michele graduated from the police academy in 1982.



OREGON POLICE ACADEMY BASIC CLASS 105

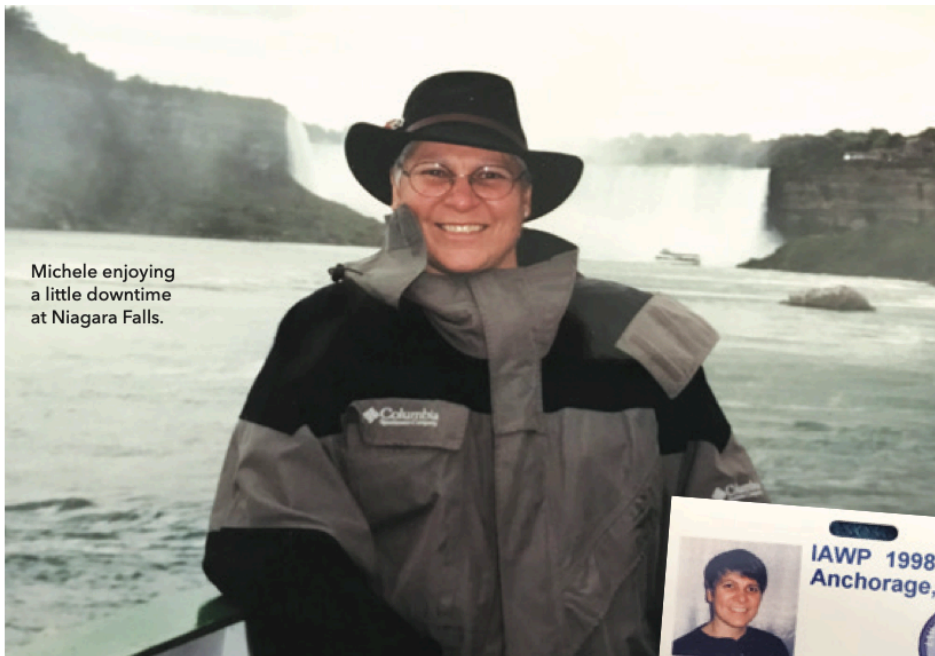
Constitution and Policy, Finance, Foundation. Her financial expertise was again needed for the 501(c)(3) application for approval by the IRS. (No small feat!)

It is remarkable to see Michele's involvement in several facets within the IAWP, both formally and informally, with the organization benefiting from her participation over the decades. For instance, as Treasurer she would routinely staff the membership table, thus missing out on much of the conferences. Speaking of which, Michele has attended every IAWP conference for over 40 years, most often at her own expense.

Mentoring new incoming board members was automatic; recruiting and mentoring Regional Coordinators was a given; and she worked at recruiting new members within her region while attending different events.



Michele with Major Beryl Thompson in an undated photo.



Michele enjoying a little downtime at Niagara Falls.



Michele received the IAWP Officer of the Year Award in 2002. Shown with Robin Matthews and Lynette Hogue.

career medals and commendations represent an individual for whom service is a core value as a consistent practice.

As a police officer, this trend of public service continued, and she has been recognized with numerous commendations, letters and an award for Community Police Officer of the Year (1988)

in the city of Portland, Oregon. She also served as President, Secretary, Newsletter Editor and training event organizer for the IAWP Affiliate, Oregon

Association of Women Police.

When asked about what is one of the greatest benefits IAWP has to offer, she was quick to reply, "attending conferences for the amazing training offerings. I don't know of anywhere else a police officer can get so many hours of training on such a variety of topics all in the same place at the same time."

She added that the unexpected benefit of being a part of this organization is the "friendships made with many wonderful people from all over the world."

As a life member of IAWP, Michele brought her gift of service to an international forum.

Her dedication to her roles on the Board of Directors continued even through her ordeal with cancer. Less visibly, she was also a committed supporter of the LGBTQ community both within IAWP and in her membership recruitment efforts. Today, LGBTQ diversity is an accepted and public reflection of IAWP Guiding Values; Michele made a significant contribution toward that goal.

The IAWP is privileged to honor Retired Lieutenant Michele Lish with the 2022 IAWP Heritage Award. ❖

During her time as a board member, Michele has attended all except two Board meetings, which were held twice annually. Not many people can say that today.

In other words, she showed up, and did so beyond the call of duty.

Reworking IAWP's Financial Policy

Michele was responsible for revising the financial policy for the IAWP Foundation. She worked with financial and membership data software programs

to better support the business end of the organization to help it better serve its diverse multi-cultural and international membership.

Further, in the international Adopt-an-Officer program, adopting one officer was never good enough; she continuously adopted four. She not only donated her time in immeasurable ways, but she also donated to silent auctions and to the Foundation itself.

Michele served 24 years with the U.S. Air Force Reserves. After graduating with honors, her list of

