

The Williamsport Chief's of Police 1866-2005

WILLIAMSPORT BUREAU OF POLICE

Williamsport, Pennsylvania
1866-2005

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2002 Edition

Updated by P.O. Jody Miller since 2002

FORWARD

Upon Williamsport's incorporation as a city, January 15, 1866, corresponding changes in government became necessary. Foremost among them was the appointment of a regular police force, which was authorized by an Act of Assembly, March 21, 1867, relating to the Borough and City of Williamsport, Pa.

Prior to the city's incorporation, the borough's chief magistrate was a burgess and was policed by the duly elected constable and high constable of each of the wards, whose duty it was to preserve the peace and dignity of the growing town.

The city government organized through the winter and into the spring months of 1866, and Maj. James M. Wood was elected the city's first mayor in May, 1866. Two bodies of councils were formed and it was decided that a police force of four was sufficient and the first police chief and three officers were sworn in June 4, 1866, along with Mayor Wood.

It was the beginning of a proud, now 136-year, history of dedicated public service to the City of Williamsport by at least 470 Officers who have donned the uniform over the years.

Here, then, is a chronological list of all those individuals, the Chiefs, who have led the department through the years immediately following the great Civil War up to the present time. The Chief's age at time of appointment and former occupations, if either known, appear immediately after the name.

ALEXANDER M. MCFADDEN

1. Alexander M. McFadden, age about 40, auctioneer and plasterer, was named the first Chief of Police by the city's first Mayor, Maj. James M. Wood, 1866-67, on June 4, 1866. He was confirmed by a joint session of Councils on July 2, 1866, after being elected over Michael Heisley by a vote of 13-10. Those serving as policemen with McFadden were: Samuel B. Coder, George W. Wilkinson, and Apollos W. Grafius. Early mayors were elected for 1-year terms. Served as Chief until May 23, 1867. Was not previously a member of the police force and was not retained as Chief or as a member of the police force by incoming Mayor, Dr. William F. Logan. McFadden was a native of Lewisburg, Pa., and was known for "his wit, geniality and humor." Died in Williamsport, April 7, 1885, at age 58. Buried in an unmarked grave, Wildwood Cemetery, Loyalsock Twp., Lycoming County, Pa.

MICHAEL HEISLEY

2. Michael Heisley, lumberman, was appointed Chief May 23, 1867, under Mayor William F. Logan's first term, 1867-68. Heisley resigned on September 2, 1867, having served just over

three months. Heisley was not previously a member of the police force and was not retained as a member after his resignation as Chief. Died at Cascade, Pa., August 14, 1869. Burial place unknown.

SAMUEL B. CODER

3. Samuel B. Coder, 45, (first of three, non-continuous, terms as Chief), policeman, was born November 27, 1821, in Fairfield Twp., Lycoming County. Coder was a High Constable in 1850 and became Williamsport's first policeman that same year while the town was still a borough. He appears to have served as a borough policeman from 1850 until the city's incorporation in 1866. Coder was appointed June 4, 1866, as one of three policemen appointed, along with a Chief, upon the establishment of the police force. Appointed Chief September 2, 1867, by Council vote of 18-16 on the fourth ballot over Alexander McFadden. Served under Mayor William F. Logan's first term, 1867-68. Coder was the third Chief to serve in Mayor Logan's first one-year term; a record number of Chiefs to serve in one year. First Chief appointed from within the department. Coder served as Chief until May 27, 1868, when he reverted back to a police officer upon the appointment of Addison V.D. Conover as Chief. He was the great-grandfather of Mayor John R. Coder.

ADDISON V. D. CONOVER

4. Addison V.D.(Con)Conover, age unknown at time of appointment, printer, appointed Chief May 27, 1868, by Council vote of 21-14 over Samuel Coder. Served under Mayor William F. Logan's second term, 1868-69. Resignation accepted July 14, 1868, after serving only 6 weeks. Served the shortest length of time of any Chief. Conover was not previously a member of the police department and did not remain with the department upon his resignation as Chief. Died at Pueblo, Colorado, September 21, 1880. His obituary stated that he was "a journalist of the highest order." Burial place unknown.

SAMUEL B. CODER

5. Samuel B. Coder, 46, (second of three, non-continuous, term as Chief), succeeded Conover as Chief, being appointed Chief July 14, 1868, and continued as Chief under mayors: Dr. William F. Logan, 1867-69 (served an 18-month term); Peter Herdic, 1869-70 (served an 18-month term); Maj. James H. Perkins, 1870-72; until the end of Seth W. Starkweather's, 1872-74, terms. He was the fourth Chief that Mayor Logan had within a period of 14 months; a record. Was Chief during July 22, 1872, "Lumberman's Riot" or "Sawdust War." Resigned as Chief May 14, 1874, and left the police force and became a deputy sheriff of Lycoming County and a constable. Returned to police force April 13, 1880, as Night Captain.

JOHN E. STRYKER

6. John E. Stryker, 46, watchman, Chief under Mayor Martin Powell, 1874-76. Born May 8, 1828. Appears to have been appointed to the police department in the summer of 1873. Sworn in as Chief May 15, 1874. A 1-year veteran promoted from Patrolman to Chief. Not retained as Chief on June 1, 1876, by incoming Mayor Starkweather, but remained on the department. Stryker served as a police officer until his appointment as Night Captain April 11, 1882. He was dismissed from the police force on April 7, 1884, when a new administration was sworn in. He was reappointed to the department and sworn in as Night Captain July 26, 1886; dismissed April 2, 1888, when new administration sworn in; named Day Sergeant April 8, 1890. Served until April 21, 1896, when he was not retained by the incoming administration. He was a Civil War veteran having served from February 14, 1864, to August 7, 1865, as a private in Company F, 65th regiment, 5th cavalry, U.S. Army. Died in Williamsport, April 14, 1908. Buried Edgewood Cemetery, also known as Sand Hill Cemetery, Loyalsock Twp., Lycoming County, Pa.

SAMUEL MCKEAN

7. Samuel McKean, DOB April 16, 1827, a veterinary surgeon, Chief under Mayor Seth W. Starkweather's third, non-continuous term, 1876-78; (two-year terms for mayors began). McKean studied law and was admitted to the Bradford County bar before becoming Chief. He was not previously a member of the police department. Appointed Chief June 1, 1876. Reappointed April 8, 1878, under Mayor William F. Logan's third, non-continuous term, 1878-80. Reconfirmed by Councils April 12, 1878, and sworn in April 13, 1878. McKean was a native of Bradford County, Pa., and his father, "Honest Gen. Sam McKean," was a state legislator, United States Senator, Secretary of the Commonwealth under Gov. George Wolfe, and served as Aide-de-Camp to Gov. William Findlay. Dismissed from the police force upon appointment of John G. Holmes as Chief.

JOHN G. HOLMES

8. John G. Holmes, age about 32, was born in Ireland ?/?/1848, laborer, Chief under Mayor Frederick H. Keller, 1880-82, and Mayor Henry C. Parsons, 1882-84. First appointed to the force on or about June 12, 1876. A 2-year veteran who had left the force April 8, 1878. First appointed Chief April 12, 1880; renominated April 10, 1882, and sworn in April 11, 1882. Served as Chief until April 8, 1884, when he was not retained by incoming Mayor Samuel M. Crans. Holmes did not remain as member of the police department. Died August 11, 1896, at St. Albans, W. Va. Buried in Mound Cemetery, Loyalsock Twp., Lycoming County, Pa.

SAMUEL MCKEAN

9. Samuel McKean, (second, non-continuous, term as Chief), age 56, appointed Chief April 8, 1884, under Mayor Samuel M. Crans, 1884-86. Resigned April 16, 1885, during scandal over sloppy bookkeeping and missing fine monies. Never charged with any wrong doing. Served as justice of the peace at Burlington, Bradford County, for several years. Died November 6, 1890, at Granville, Bradford County, Pa., age 63. Buried Old (Methodist) Burlington Cemetery, West Burlington Twp., Bradford County, PA.

SAMUEL B. CODER

10. Samuel B. Coder, 63, (third of three, non-continuous, term as Chief), appointed Chief April 16, 1885, upon resignation of Chief McKean; confirmed by Council May 4, 1885, under Mayor Samuel M. Crans, 1884-86. Promoted from the rank of Night Captain having returned to the police force in 1881. Coder went back to rank of patrolman on July 8, 1886, after not being retained as Chief by incoming Mayor William N. Jones. Retired from the force April 8, 1890, after having served 10 mayors over a period of 40 years and after having served in various capacities in U.S. and county courts. His obituary states that he was shot twice in the line of duty: once while arresting a doctor and once during the "Sawdust War" of July 1872. However, newspaper accounts of the "Sawdust War" and the ensuing trial of the rioters make no mention of Coder having been shot. He also had an ear cut off while arresting a circus gang on July 4, 1867; the ear was sewed back on. Served three non-continuous terms as Chief; more than any other Chief. Died February 11, 1905, at age 83. Buried in Williamsport Cemetery, Williamsport, Pa.

L. HOMER MARTIN

11. L. (Lewis) Homer Martin, 42, DOB ?/?/1844, clerk at American Hotel and Deputy U.S. Marshall, Chief under Mayor William N. Jones, 1886-88, being appointed Acting Chief April 2, 1886, and confirmed as Chief July 19, 1886, and sworn in July 26, 1886. Martin was not previously a member of the police department. He was a Civil War veteran of the 1st Pa., Battalion of Independent Cavalry and served under Capt. James H. Dove during Lee's invasion of Pennsylvania in 1863. Elected 3rd Ward Constable in 1867; served 12 years as Deputy U.S. Marshall; unsuccessful candidate for Lycoming County Sheriff in 1889. Served until April 12, 1888, after not being retained by incoming Mayor James S. Foresman. Did not remain on the police force after serving as Chief. Unknown date and place of death.

JAMES D. GIBSON

12. James D. (Duke) Gibson, 51, packer, was born in Lewisburg, Pa., August 1, 1836. He was

Chief under Mayor James S. Foresman, 1888-90. Was appointed as a police officer April 12, 1880, but resigned by the year's end. Appointed Chief on April 2, 1888; served until April 8, 1890. He did not remain with the police department after not being retained by incoming Mayor Frederick H. Keller. Died February 13, 1908, at age 71. Buried in Wildwood Cemetery, Loyalsock Twp., Lycoming County, Pa.

EVAN H. RUSSELL

13. Evan H. Russell, 49, surveyor, was born September 18, 1840, in Piatt Township, Lycoming County, Pa. He was a Civil War cavalry veteran who was a Captain in Co. G, 12th Regiment, Pa., Volunteers. He participated in nearly every battle fought by the Army of the Potomac and had a horse shot under him at the battle of Antietam and another at the battle of Fredericksburg. Served as a signal officer on board a gunboat through the hull of which five solid shots were sent in an engagement on the Rappahannock. He was a surveyor and teacher until 1884, when he became deputy prothonotary. Not previously a member of the police department, he served as Chief under Mayor Frederick H. Keller's second, non-continuous, term, 1890-93. Confirmed by Council April 7, 1890, and sworn in as Chief April 8, 1890. Three-year terms for mayors began. Retained by Mayor William G. Elliot, 1893-96. Reconfirmed April 3, 1893. First Chief to serve in the first City Hall, which was built in 1893. Served until April 21, 1896, when he resigned from the police department after not being retained by incoming Mayor James Mansel. Served as Captain in the Pennsylvania National Guard from 1885-1898, when at age 58 he entered the Spanish-American War in Co. M, 5th Pa., Volunteers and was discharged with the rank of Major. Appears to be the first college-educated member of the police force having graduated from Dickinson Seminary with degrees in civil engineering and mathematics. Joined the Pennsylvania Railroad police and was elected county surveyor in 1900. Co-founder, in 1910, of the Kenmar Land Company that developed 34 acres in Loyalsock Twp., into 184 building lots for residential homes. Died February 19, 1925. Buried in Jersey Shore Cemetery.

Night Captain Richard S. Worrall, 50, served as Acting Chief from April 21, 1896, until W. Ellis Wise sworn in as Chief. Augustus Lord was Mayor Mansel's selection for Chief, but Councils rejected the nomination three times.

W. ELLIS WISE

November 17, 1850. Not previously a member of the police department he was Chief under Mayor James Mansel, 1896-99. Nominated June 1, 1896, and sworn in as Chief June 3, 1896. Served as Chief until April 10, 1899, after not being retained by incoming Mayor Samuel N. Williams. Did not remain with the department after serving as Chief. Father of late Lycoming County Commissioner Victor C. Wise and grandfather of city attorney and former state Rep. Robert C. Wise, Esq. Died at a farm on Proctor Star Route, Lycoming County, May 3, 1928, at age 77, after taking ill days before while on a daily business trip. Buried in Mound Cemetery, Loyalsock Twp., Lycoming County, Pa.

FRANK F. STRYKER

15. Frank F. Stryker, 32, machinist and constable, was born December 27, 1867, in Montoursville, Pa. Not previously a member of the police force, he was Chief under Mayor Samuel N. Williams, 1899-02. Sworn in as Chief April 10, 1899. Resigned from the police department April 7, 1902, after not being retained by incoming Mayor John F. Laedlein. Stryker also served as Williamsport Fire Chief after leaving the police department, being appointed April 6, 1908, and served in that capacity until his death January 31, 1914. His father, Henry U. Stryker, was a brother of Chief John E. Stryker and was a Williamsport police officer in the 1870s. Thus, Chief Frank F. Stryker was a nephew of Chief John E. Stryker. Buried in Wildwood Cemetery, Loyalsock Twp., Lycoming County, Pa.

CHARLES F. EVANS

16. Charles F. Evans, 43, night watchman at the Deemer Oak Mill, conducted the Cleveland House at Tucker and Grove Streets prior to that, and was also a surveyor. Evans was born April 5, 1859, in Harleton, Union County, Pa. He served as Chief under Mayor John F. Laedlein, 1902-05, and Seth T. Foresman, 1905-08. Not previously a member of the department, he was sworn in as Chief April 7, 1902, and served until April 6, 1908, when he left the force after not being retained by incoming Mayor Charles D. Wolfe. Opened a local detective agency after leaving the police department. Joined the Pennsylvania Railroad police force, then became Chief of Police of the Lehigh Valley Railroad in 1911. Moved to Wilmington, Delaware, in March 1916, to join the detective force of the Dupont Power Company. Returned to Williamsport and was employed by Williamsport Passenger Railway Company. Died August 12, 1927. Buried in Wildwood Cemetery, Loyalsock Twp.

CHARLES W. BATHURST

17. Charles W. Bathurst, 39, patrolman Pennsylvania Railroad, was born in Huntingdon, Pa., on December 22, 1868. He was a Spanish-American War veteran having held the rank of Captain and served as a quartermaster in the 5th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. Sworn in as Chief April 6, 1908, under Mayor Charles D. Wolfe's first term, 1908-11. On June 1, 1911, Bathurst accepted the rank of Captain with the Williamsport & Susquehanna Railway Division. In October, 1911, he succeeded George W. Vernes, who died July 29, 1911, to the inspectorship of the Northern Central Railway. Through this time he continued to carry the title of Chief of Police, but was not on the city payroll. Died February 6, 1925. Buried in Wildwood Cemetery, Loyalsock Twp.

GEORGE W. HARDER

18. George W. Harder, 59, salesman and former Lycoming County Register and Recorder, was born April 12, 1852, in Athens, Bradford County, Pa. Prior to coming to Williamsport, in 1895, he was fire chief of Tyrone and served on council there. He was elected Lycoming County Register and Recorder in 1903 and served in that capacity for three years. Not previously a member of the police department, he was sworn in as Chief December 4, 1911, under Mayor Samuel Stabler, 1911-16. Commission form of government instituted January 5, 1914; first 4-year terms for mayors began. Known as "The Golden Rule Chief," for his humane way of dealing with people. Established the police court. Served until January 3, 1916, when he resigned from the force after not being retained by incoming Mayor Jonas Fisher. He was a gunsmith by trade and founded present day Harder Sporting Goods Co. Died December 14, 1928, at age 77. Buried in Wildwood Cemetery, Loyalsock Twp.

Day Sgt. Louis R. Russie, 50, appointed Acting Chief January 3, 1916, until Tepel took over. Andrew G. Miller was Mayor Fisher's choice for Chief, but Miller declined the position.

FRED W. TEPEL

19. Fred W. Tepel, born ???/1868, age about 46, county detective, and not previously a member of the police department, appointed Chief January 16, 1916, under Mayor Jonas Fisher, 1916-17. Mayor Fisher resigned January 2, 1917, after his citizenship questioned. Tepel continued to serve under Acting Mayor Harry S. Meyer, and under the administration of Council-appointed Mayor Archibald M. Hoagland, 1917-20, and through Hoagland's elected term, 1920-24. Resigned January 15, 1924, at request of new Mayor, Hugh Gilmore. Resignation accepted January 17, 1924. Did not remain on the police department. Tepel was president of the Pennsylvania State Association of Police Chiefs for two terms. In 1889 he enlisted in Company B, 12th Regiment, Pennsylvania National Guard and served continuously until March 1898, when he

volunteered for duty in the Spanish-American War. He served as Eighth Ward constable and 18 years as county detective. Died March 7, 1943, at age 74. Buried in Wildwood Cemetery, Loyalsock Twp., Lycoming County, Pa.

LYMAN S. HUSTED

20. Lyman S. Husted, 65, construction superintendent who had been a branch manager for Swift and Company for 25 years, appointed Chief by 3-2 Council vote—which was then made unanimous—January 17, 1924, and sworn in January 18, under Mayor Hugh Gilmore, 1924-28. Husted was a native of Covington, Pa., and had previously served five years in the Tioga County sheriff's office in Wellsboro and had worked three years on the Fallbrook Railroad. He was not previously a member of the police department. Removed as Chief and demoted to Sergeant effective midnight, January 16, 1928, by Mayor Herbert T. Ames. Husted refused to recognize Council's appointment of a new Chief, Louis R. Russie, and he refused to turn over the keys to the office and desk and pertinent papers or to give up his badge. Refused to resign until January 23, but he had already been removed. Removed as Chief for allegedly not making changes. Resigned from the force January 26 after being suspended 10 days for not showing up for duty as Sergeant. Died October 25, 1929, at his home in Cammal, Pa. Buried in Cammal Cemetery.

LOUIS R. RUSSIE

21. Louis R. Russie, 62, tanner, was born in Milestone, New Jersey, the day Abraham Lincoln died, April 15, 1865. Appointed Acting Chief January 17, 1928, by Mayor Herbert T. Ames, 1928-32. A 39-year veteran promoted from the rank of Captain. Russie was first appointed to the police department on April 15, 1889--his 24th birthday. He was promoted to Sergeant May 15, 1911, and served as Captain in charge of Headquarters in 1912. He was sworn in as Day Sergeant April 7, 1914, and served as Acting Chief from January 3 until January 16, 1916, until Chief Tepel was sworn in. Forced to resign from the department December 14, 1932, to take effect December 16. Served 43 continuous years, the longest number of years ever served by a member of the department. Age 67 at retirement. Chief Russie died December 27, 1936, at age 71. Buried in Mound Cemetery, Loyalsock Twp., Lycoming County, Pa.

JOHN G. GOOD

22. John G. Good, 31, draftsman in city engineering department, was born in Williamsport, March 18, 1902. Appointed Chief, having no previous police experience, by Mayor George K. Harris, November 30, 1932, to take effect at resignation of Russie on December 16. Served under the following mayors: George K. Harris, 1932-36; Charles D. Wolfe, 1936-40; Leo C. Williamson, 1940-52; Clifford L. Harman, 1952-56; Thomas H. Levering, 1956-64; and into the first three months of the Raymond M. Knaur Administration, 1964-68. Forced to resign April 25, 1964, having served 31 years, and 4 months as Chief. He served longer than any other Chief and appears to have been the youngest Chief at the time of his appointment. Was elected to City Council after leaving the police department. Died March 3, 1977, at age 74. Buried in Wildwood Cemetery, Loyalsock Twp., Lycoming County, Pa.

JOSEPH R. LONGO

23. Joseph R. Longo, 48, surveyor, was born in Ralston, Pa., November 14, 1915. He was appointed to the police force December 9, 1940, and was promoted to Detective, 2/04/40; to Detective Sergeant, 2/14/52; to Detective Lieutenant, 10/20/53, and was appointed Chief by Mayor Raymond M. Knaur, April 25, 1964. He was a 23-year veteran at the time of his appointment to Chief. Served under entire administration of succeeding Mayor Richard J. Carey, 1968-72, and into second month of the administration of Mayor John R. Coder, 1972-76, who was elected as the city's first mayor under the strong mayor form of government which was

implemented the day he was sworn in. Forced to retire from the department February 11, 1972, under "reorganization" plan and threat from the Public Safety Director to seek his removal if he failed to retire on his own. Served on the State Horse Racing Commission and was a constable after his retirement. Died October 16, 1987, at age 71. Buried in Mount Carmel of Wildwood Cemetery, Loyalsock Twp., Lycoming County, Pa.

THE YEAR WITHOUT A POLICE CHIEF

Chief's position eliminated; no Chief from February 11, '72 until February 21, '73. John M. Samony was the head of the police department as the city's first Director of Public Safety under the strong mayor form of government, a capacity he held from January 17, 1972, until his resignation June 28, 1974, after being convicted on City Hall wiretapping-related charges.

WILLIAM C. KNIGHT

24. William C. Knight, 47, printing pressman, was born in Williamsport, July 21, 1925, and was a United States Marine Corps veteran. He was appointed to the police department April 1, 1950. Named assistant in traffic investigation unit effective 10/27/52; promoted to Sergeant, 3/20/58; to Lieutenant, 9/21/61; named Administrative Aide to the Director of Public Safety effective 1/24/72; to newly-created third Captain's position, 6/15/72, and assumed head of both Uniform and Criminal Divisions effective 7/09/72, until another Captain named, and was promoted to Chief February 21, 1973, by Mayor John R. Coder. He was a 22-year veteran at the time of his promotion to Chief. Retired from the force April 12, 1974. Entered the ministry and served as deacon in charge of St. Mary's Episcopal Church 1982-94, Williamsport. Died October 30, 1998. Buried Green Lawn Memorial Park, Clinton Twp., Pa.

MAYNARD J. PATTERSON

25. Maynard J. (Bucky) Patterson, 49, construction laborer, was born in Curwensville, Pa., February 19, 1925. Chief Patterson was a World War II Navy veteran. He was appointed to the police force on March 9, 1952, and served as a motorcycle officer. He was promoted to Sergeant, 3/20/58; to Lieutenant, 12/28/61; to Captain, 7/02/72; to Inspector, 3/04/74; to Acting Chief, 4/15/74; and promoted to Chief May 28, 1974, by Mayor John R. Coder. He was a 22-year veteran at the time of his appointment to Chief. Retired from the force November 6, 1975, after being convicted on City Hall wiretapping-related charges; all charges overturned on appeal. Died November 17, 1993. Buried Steam Valley Cemetery, Cogan House Twp., Lycoming County, Pa.

CHARLES V. MAHAFFEY JR.

26. Charles V. Mahaffey, Jr., 50, barber, was born in Williamsport, May 25, 1925. He was appointed to the police department March 9, 1952. He was promoted to Sergeant, 4/25/64; to Lieutenant, 5/09/68; to Captain, 11/18/73; and promoted to Chief on November 10, 1975, by Mayor John R. Coder. A 23 ½-year veteran at the time of his promotion to Chief. Mahaffey's grandfather, John R. Mahaffey, served on the police force in the early 1900s, having been appointed December 21, 1906. Chief Mahaffey served through the last day of Mayor Daniel P. Kirby's, 1976-80, Administration. Last Chief to serve in the old City Hall and the first Chief to serve in the present City Hall. Retired from the force January 5, 1980, after not being retained by incoming Mayor Stephen J. Lucasi, 1980-88. Mahaffey became the fourth Chief and the fifth to head the department, including Public Safety Director John M. Samony, in the course of Mayor Coder's four-year term; a record number to head the police department in a single, four-year, mayor's term. At the time of his death he held the Lycoming County record for giving blood--29.5 gallons. Died December 27, 1996. Interred Wildwood Cemetery, Loyalsock Twp., Lycoming County, Pa.

During the Kirby Administration, city police Lt. John M. McDermott was chosen to serve as the city's second Director of Public Safety under the strong mayor form of government, being the head of the Bureau of Police and Bureau of Fire over the Chiefs of those departments, from the date of his appointment by City Council, October 28, 1976, until the last day of Mayor Kirby's term. The post was abolished by Mayor Stephen J. Lucasi and not filled by subsequent mayors.

MATTHEW M. ROOK

27. Matthew M. Rook, 42, car salesman, was born in Williamsport August 7, 1937. He was first appointed to the police department January 18, 1962, and resigned July 4, 1963. Reappointed January 1, 1965; promoted to Detective, 1/01/69; to Acting Sergeant, 3/04/74; to Lieutenant, 9/20/74; to Captain of Detectives, 3/14/75; and promoted to Chief at 10:00 a.m., January 7, 1980, by Mayor Stephen J. Lucasi. There was no Chief on January 6, 1980, the day between Chief Mahaffey's retirement and Chief Rook's swearing-in. Rook was a 16 ½-year veteran at the time of his promotion to Chief. Retired from the force January 4, 1988, after not being retained by incoming Mayor Jessie L. Bloom.

WILLIAM F. MILLER, SR.

28. William F. Miller, Sr., 43, (first non-continuous term as Chief), sign painter, was born in Lock Haven, June 19, 1944, and was a United States Army veteran who served during the Vietnam era, but did not serve in Vietnam. He was appointed to the police department January 22, 1969. He was promoted to Detective, 11/15/76; and to Lieutenant, 3/27/78. Named Williamsport Exchange Club's "Police Officer of the Year" in 1983. He was appointed Chief by Mayor Jessie L. Bloom, 1988-92, January 4, 1988. He was a 19-year veteran at the time of his promotion to Chief. Served until 10:00 a.m., January 6, 1992, at which time he reverted back to the rank of Lieutenant, after not being retained as Chief by incoming Mayor Phillip E. Preziosi.

ANTHONY H. EVANS

29. Anthony H. Evans, 41, manager of the shoe department at, L.L. Stearns & Sons, was born in Alliance, Ohio, July 9, 1950. Evans was appointed to the police department July 2, 1973. He served as a Traffic Agent, 1975 era, and was promoted to Sergeant April 4, 1984. He was appointed Chief by Mayor Phillip E. Preziosi, 1992-1996, and sworn in January 6, 1992. He was an 18 ½-year veteran at the time of his promotion to Chief. Not related to Chief Charles F. Evans. Served until 10:00 a.m., January 2, 1996, at which time he reverted back to the rank of Sergeant after not being retained as Chief by incoming Mayor Steven W. Cappelli. Retired January 14, 2001, moved to New Jersey in 2002.

Officer Lawrence R. Kuhns was Mayor Cappelli's first choice for Chief, but declined the position.

WILLIAM F. MILLER, SR.

30. William F. Miller Sr., 51, (second, non-continuous term as Chief), appointed Chief by Mayor Stephen W. Cappelli, 1996 – 2000, and sworn in at 10:14 a.m., January 2, 1996. He was a 27-year veteran at the time of his promotion from Lieutenant to Chief. Only Chief in the Twentieth Century to serve a second, non-continuous term. Due to health reasons, Chief Miller was asked to step down, and reverted back to the rank of Lieutenant January 5, 1998. Died August 14, 1999. Had a full police funeral and was buried in his uniform. Interred in Wildwood Cemetery, Loyalsock Twp., Lycoming County, Pa.

THOMAS J. CROFT

31. Thomas J. Croft, 46, salesman for Wilson Clothing, was born in Berwick, Pa. on October 17, 1951. He was sworn in as a member of the police department on August 13, 1973. Promoted to Agent 5/21/84. Named Public Information Officer effective 3/11/91. Promoted to Assistant Chief 6/10/97 and was promoted to Chief 1/05/99 by Mayor Steven W. Cappelli, 1996-2000. He was a 24-year veteran at the time of his promotion to Chief. He is a graduate of Lock Haven State College, Lock Haven, PA, and forerunner to Lock Haven University. His father was the late Lt. Charles W. Croft, who served on the police department 1961-1978. Retired March 17, 2000.

CURLEY J. JETT

32. Curley J. Jett, 55, employed by Bethlehem Steel Corporation, was born in Hartsville, South Carolina, September 29, 1944. He was sworn in as a member of the police department on April 23, 1973. Promoted to Agent 3/27/78; to Sergeant 2/12/80; demoted to patrolman 5/04/82 and reinstated as Sergeant 9/03/82 by an arbitration decision; promoted to Captain 1/09/97 in charge of Community Policing; promoted to Ass't Chief 1/06/98. Promoted to Chief 3/17/00 by Mayor

Steven W. Cappelli (1996-2000), and retained by Mayor Michael R. Rafferty. He was a 27-year veteran at the time of his promotion to Chief. First black Chief in the history of the department. Retired December 31, 2001.

MICHAEL W. FOUST

33. Michael W. Foust, 47, employed by Eureka Paper Box Company, was born in Williamsport, PA, October 26, 1954. He was sworn in January 10, 1983, as a member of the Bureau of Police. He is the son-in-law of retired city police Capt. Frank E. Kovaleski. He was involved in a non-fatal shooting by police: see "Shootings and Stabbings" section. He was promoted to Corporal on June 10, 1991, and voluntarily resigned as Corporal effective midnight January 3, 1993, in order to make more money working overtime as an officer. Named Community Policing Officer in March 1993 and began duties as such May 10, 1993. He was promoted to Corporal a second time effective August 1, 1994 and was named as the supervising officer of the community-policing program on the same date. He was promoted to Agent January 5, 1998, for one day, then promoted to Captain January 6, 1998, to Assistant Chief January 17, 2000, and to Chief by Mayor Michael R. Rafferty, (2000 - ??), on January 4, 2002. He was a 19-year veteran of the police department at the time of his promotion to Chief. He is a graduate of Lycoming College, Williamsport, PA. He was a member of the first Special Response team (SRT), established in 1991.

JOHN S. McKENNA

34 McKenna, Capt. John S., DOB 11/10/1966, appointed February 4, 1993, and sworn in February 15, 1993. United States Marine Corps veteran. Served in Lycoming County Drug Task Force Unit 9/95-present; served in WBP Vice and Narcotics Unit 1/97 to 6/99; Member Special Response Team 1998. Promoted to Corporal 6/28/99; promoted to Captain 3/17/00. Appointed Chief on January 5, 2005 by Mayor Mary B. Wolfe. Badge #42; Cpl. #2; Captain #2.