

ARE YOU AMONG THOSE ENTITLED TO SAY 'I Turned the Wheel'?



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Correction History

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WOMEN AT THE WHEEL?

One of our NY Correction History Facebook moderators, Tommy Lyman, a few hours ago posted on FB the photo [left] and asked who had turned the wheel?. Within a short period of time, about two dozen responded -- all guys. Wasn't the wheel still in use when female officers started drawing custodian staff assignments in all-male inmate facilities?

On July 16, 2018, the NY Correction History Facebook group administrator noted a question posed by one of the group's moderators – who had turned the wheel? – drew 2 dozen responses, all from males. So then the admin asked, “Wasn't the wheel still in use when female officers started drawing custodian staff assignments in all male inmate facilities?” That query resulted in more than 60 responses. Presented here, they provide much fascinating detail as well as an almost tangible sense of the lingering *esprit de corps* among the respondents. It's worth a read.



Joe Agostinelli -- These are still in use at NIC on the 3rd floor. I'm a new jack but utilized them when OB was covering NIC last year



Ernest Eans Jr. -- I used them at HDM and NIC



Chareif Lewis -- When I got to HDM IN '88, from what I was told, women were on the A post and were just starting to work the tiers. “ Watch the gates.”



Me-Gel Tour-Rez – Whistle “Watch the Gates.” @ J.A.T.C. Formerly HDM when it was open.



Mira Storm Dilbert -- We still use the wheel at NIC



Emmett Dixon -- Damn lock 'em up. Tthat wheel was hell.



Kurt Stiehler -- I used them on the 3rd floor N.I.C.



Chris Angyal -- Good old H.D.M. If the bolt wasn't tight, the wheel would fall off. There were no female officers there during the complex -- when C-95 and HDM merged -- what a strange trip that was!!!



William Thomas -- You are right, Chris, but then they came later.



Joe Martinez -- Worked that wheel @ HDM. Also the "wheel " work schedule: brutal hours, back and forth !!



Swoll Guy Brown -- HDM had females. They took their turn.



William Thomas -- Yes , there were many women who worked those houses and did it well, as well as turned that wheel.



John Leone --Yep, Queens House ... Watch the wheel !! Lol Wow long time ago.



Debra Campione -- NIC still has this too.



Linda Barra -- Yes, I turned it in the Queens HDM every day!!!



Karen Piper -- Yup I turned it also in QHDM!



William Thomas -- Let's go, Women in DOC, and u did it well. I know, I was HDM.



Desiree McKenney -- Yes. 3rd floor n.i.c.



Debra Campione -- Those wheels are easier than the boards at 95 where the inmates pop out, smh.



Michael BK Born Clark -- My first experience was at N.I.C.



Monserrate Ponce -- I remember the Wheel.



Barbara Amato -- I remember the wheel.



Frank Nola -- I turned that wheel in BKHDM a lot. BKHDM spin the wheel



Charlie Mule -- Started in BKHDM don't remember the wheel.



Frank Nola – C'mon, Charlie, you don't remember?



Martin Murphy -- BKHDM had two different types of wheels before they changed them to electric. Key lock on the lower floors, wheel was open, key and deadlock. Upper floors had levers. Neither closed the cells. You had to walk the tier and manually close them.



Charlie Mule -- Bbad memoryI guess. If you did, I did. LOL



Fran Moore Debbie Perez -- I turned it in HDM. CPSU in section 1B. Every day for three years



Nathan Schlanger -- HDM at its finest.



Chris Angyal -- The wheel was the deal!!



Erika Vernon -- I turned the wheel in HDM!!!!



Frank Serafino --There were a few female officers in the mid-eighties that worked that wheel.



Linda Barra -- It was around 1980 when they transferred three of us to each island male facility to see if we could hack it and we did just fine!!!



Dave Crusherofstones Letteriello -- HDM on OJT only in 1984.



Pamela Ince -- 85 HDM OJT only.



Justin Billings -- I turned the wheel in 1971 in ARS.



Kathy Riley -- HDM.



Joseph Beilouny -- Went for a physical exam when I was at HDM. Doctor looked me over and commented that my records showed that I was right handed. When I confirmed that I was, he asked why my left arm and shoulder were more developed than my right. I replied that I had a steady "B" post. Of course, I had to explain my answer...lol.



Dave Ruiz -- I was so good at turning the wheel, I mastered the art of crushing wash tubs when the inmates tried to block their cell doors.



Fran Moore -- I'll never forget after finally getting them all in, I didn't deadbolt and all the cells opened again and they ran out. Long night. DP.



Joyce Krebs -- I did at BKHDM.



John Manning -- Good morning. My experience was HDM. All housing areas from Block 1a - 8blk. Great training ground.



Linda Simmons – HDM.



Anthony White -- Yes, I broke a couple of hands and arms only thing [was that] old Kettleman and Spohler: would send he who broke the arm . . . had to go to Bellevue. That sucked



Vanita Martin -- I did on OJT IN 1985. Then I was promptly sent to the Ole Women’s House. LOL



Anthony White -- Jaqueline McMickens actually put women behind the gates in HDM along with Gloria Lee...and what some you may not know, it was a crazy protest with the old time male officers because they did not want them back there. But they [DOC administrators] were hell bent on proving the women could do the job and they were right. The ladies of HDM were tougher than some of their male counter parts. Real talk.



Louis Olmeda -- I second that statement Mr. White. Wwe had some of the badest women in the department and I for one was proud to work alongside them.



Sergio Aquino -- I'm proud to have worked at HDM.



Chris Angyal -- Ultimate respect to myself and everyone who worked inH.D.M.!!!!



Nancy Ortiz -- Yes it was, HDM had the wheel 8Block, BKHDM had the wheel as well. Had the privilege of turning them both.



Mike Roeck -- Turned the wheel a few times at HDM in 1983, OJT.



Monterey Swissman -- I turned the wheel a lot on the 2nd and 3rd floor at NIC.



Schivaughn Connor -- Sabrina Selby-Mossop.



Sabrina Selby-Mossop -- Yes my daughter! I got there in 1983. Jaqueline McMickens said “What’s the difference; a officer is a officer. Ladies, you’re going behind that gate on that B post!” I learned that wheel and

how to tag them levers to dead lock courts cells, and the male officers had our backs so strong that those inmates never put a hand on us. Talk about UNITY. Back then we had that. Hats Off to all my HDM Female B Post Rangers,



Anthony White -- Sabrina Selby-Mossop, yes, you did and still damn proud of all y'all.



Sabrina Selby-Mossop -- Anthony White. Hey, White! Coming from you [it] means a lot, because you had time on the job compared to me. Yet you took time to help teach me the job. It was indeed an honor.



Jacqueline Led-Fos -- Sabrina Selby-Mossop, that's right! I am proud to have been one who braved the halls of HDM with you in 1983. And yes, we did this job under the watchful eye of the many men who looked out for us. Whistle in hand to alert them that you were about to close those gates on the option. Think it was in the down position for those who were in court so that their cells would not open. #flashbacks



Sabrina Selby-Mossop -- Jacqueline Led-Fos, you're right, sis. The down position with a tag for courts, and I think options were every 45min. Dang, I just caught a serious FLASHBACK!!



Ronald Brosi -- Open for 15 min a quarter to the hour and closed on the hour.



Regina Callabross -- I turned this wheel in 1995. I use to do overtime in HDM



Sonya Nivens -- I turned the wheel in BKDC before I retired.



Shelley N. Reilly -- Wow!!! I worked at HDM 1988!! Turning the wheel and Deadbolt Lock Cells, And Callus's On my Fingers 1st week lol Those were Good days!!! Warden Marion Hopkins, the Best!!!



Stephen Wettenstein -- Any wheel turners at QHDM?



Regina Callabross --I TURNED THEM THERE ALSO



Lisa Spencer -- Yes. It was in HDM in the Bing.



Andrea Stevenson -- I turned the wheel in 1988 at the QHDM....



Samantha Quick -- RIH 2nd and 3rd floor tier ABCD tier . . . option , and dead locked cells 15 min option . A quarter to hour open cell doors and option on the hour ' close the cell Doors , w/ cat walk tours



George Boone – QHDM.



Berman Patterson -- Crank 'em up!



Patrick Flynn -- HDM The Blocks . . . I worked there when all three tiers were open.

By the time you finished the option on the third tier. . . . By the time you finished the option on the third tier, you had to start a new one on the first tier. Spinning the wheel all frickin' day....



Vincent Coppola -- Spun that wheel many, many times!!!



Joyce Krebs -- Did you win anything! No? Neither did I! LOL!!!



Debbie Howell – BKHDM.



John Cortes -- The HDM wheel.



George Boone 😄



Edie C Harris HDM. It was rough. Especially only weighing 113 lbs . 😄



Jerry O'Gara -- I remember them having pieces of scrap paper attached with notes identifying who was out of the block (clinic, court, visits) or down cells.



Michael BK Born Clark -- In/out count sheet



Joseph Beilouny -- Michael BK Born Clark Nope ... We had scraps of paper that we hung from the pull down pegs, with the names of activities to know not to open those cells since the inmates weren't in the house. It also helped if the count was off. We could compare our boards with the "A" officer's count.



Sergio Aquino -- You were a young man back then, I'll always remember



Jerry O'Gara -- Had a close call once when the nut came off and the plate came off just missing a few toes.



Emmett Dixon -- You can lose a few fingers on that thing.



Kathy Riley -- Built muscles for sure!