

# Keep Me Posted

## Quarterly News

2024 Jul-Sep  
Vol. 4.1

Post 105 Redwood City, 651 El Camino Real

## Commander's Message

I hope this newsletter finds you and your families well. Spring is in the air, the trees are blooming, the weather is getting warmer, and the Easter Bunny will have come & gone by the time you get this newsletter. Had good rain and snow this winter and it looks like we'll be OK with water this year.

Your 2024-2025 Legionnaire Officers and eCommittee members were elected: Commander George Smith, 1st Vice Commander Stan Maupin, 2nd Vice Commander Leo McArdle, 3rd Vice Commander William Jackson, Jr., Finance Officer Tom Mullins, Sgt at Arms Joe Kirby, and eCommittee three-year members John Robinson & Chester Palesoo. They were sworn in on June 12 at the general meeting.

As usual, all members are welcomed to our 5:00pm dinner which precedes our 7:00pm meeting. Please RSVP to 2nd Vice Commander Leo (650-303-2757) to reserve your dinner. If you can't attend in person, please join us via Zoom. A link will be sent prior to each meeting.

Our contact at the 23d Marine Regiment is changing. 1stSgt Tabarracci is being promoted to SgtMaj and his replacement will be GySgt Chapa who was promoted to 1stSgt on April 2, 2024. We look forward to continuing to help our San Bruno Marines.

The Post hosted a Car Show with proceeds (\$3,069.00) supporting Veterans and our community members in need. We attended the dedication of the Veterans Memorial at Central Park in San Mateo. The Memorial is a must see. At the optimal angle of viewing, it's a Red Poppy, in honor of Flanders Field and all the veterans that paid the ultimate sacrifice.

## Media

Check our [website calendar](#) and [105 Blog](#) for the latest news. To receive the blog email, send your full name & email address to [alpost105rwc@gmail.com](mailto:alpost105rwc@gmail.com).

### GLOSSARY

**ALA, Auxiliary.** American Legion Auxiliary

**ALR, Riders.** American Legion Riders

**District, Dept.** County & State levels, respectively.

**D26.** District 26 of SM County

**SAL, Sons.** Sons of TAL

**SMCBSM.** San Mateo County Blue Star Moms

**TAL, Legion.** The American Legion

**TBD.** To be determined

**VA.** Veterans Administration (govt. agency)

**VA-MP.** D26 adopted VA Menlo Park Bldg. 331



**George Smith**

June 7 was the San Mateo Veterans Commission's Stand Down at the SM Elks Lodge.

On June 24 at the Post, the VA and VSO signed Veterans up for the VA while the VSO discussed eligibility of benefits earned due to injuries while serving. We also continue our relationship with the Golden Gate Young Marines.

Once again, Post 105 will participate in the Fourth of July Parade in Redwood City followed by a BBQ at the Post. If you'd like to ride in the Parade, please let me know as space is limited.

On August 3 & September 7, the 23d Marine Regiment of the Marine Corps will have car washes at the Post to raise money to assist the families of their members deployed.

On September 28, the Post will be hosting a Public Safety Car Show for Police, Fire and Ambulance. We hope to have current Police, Fire and Ambulances here to show the equipment being used today versus days gone by. (cont. pg. 3)

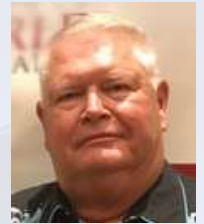


*Riders & Marine Corps League firing detail at San Francisco National Cemetery for the 87th commemoration of the Bataan Death March.*



## Member Spotlight

Meet Joe Kirby, one of our newest Legionnaire-declared dead in 1969 and resurrected a few weeks later by the U.S. Air Force! Knowing his parents couldn't afford college for him, Joe volunteered with the Air Force delayed enlistment program before he graduated high school and his 18th birthday—using the military as a means to a law enforcement career. With his imposing presence of 6'5", Joe quickly succeeded in the Air Police School and immediately thereafter the Air Police's Canine Handler School.



Joe Kirby

Later, the Air Force offered Joe an adventurous opportunity in Southeast Asia, in support of the Vietnam War. Willing to work outside the safety of the air base fence for 'special assignments,' Joe received additional combat training by completing Army Ranger School and other escape, evasion schools—all would later pay off for him. Their assignment: investigate U.S. plane crash sites in Laos to assist technicians and explosives personnel to salvage or destroy sensitive technology aboard the planes. These young 19- to 21-year-olds would be devoid of identifying clothing or dog tags. If captured or killed, the U.S. government 'would disavow any knowledge of their actions.' Joe's Fire Team consisted of 12 Combat Air Police Dog Handler Teams.

In August 1969 while in Laos, U.S. spotter aircraft warned Joe's Fire Team that two company-sized North Vietnamese Army units were quickly closing in on their location; the U.S. wasn't the only government wanting the plane's technology. The Fire Team finished their assignment and secured a landing zone for three successful helicopter personnel evacuations.

Joe's crew and dogs were set to board the last helicopter when while landing it was struck by enemy fire just 20 feet off the ground. Four of the five-man helicopter crew were killed, but one door gunner was safely blown several yards away.

The fire crew's pre-established escape route was executed with the fire crew, dogs and the gunner. Men discarded unnecessary gear to lighten their loads. After evacuating, the other pilots reported the smoke from the downed fourth helicopter. Subsequent rescue units



L-R: In Southeast Asia, Sheriff Dept. & Captain's uniform.

found the downed burned out copter and assumed all aboard the copter and fire crew perished.

For the next five weeks, the survivors and their dogs walked westward towards Thailand, subsisting on dog biscuits. Eventual contact was made using short-range

## P105 Birthdays

### July

03 David N	15 George L
04 Joseph A	16 Fernando M
04 Pauline J	16 Donald S
04 William O	18 Brenda T
05 Ralph V	20 Curtis N
05 William J	22 Matthew N
06 John T	22 Randy C
12 Hank H	23 Steven N
12 Peggy T	24 John R
12 Robert B	26 Diego R
12 Staci S	27 Albert Y
14 Alyssa V	28 Diane D
14 Ken P	28 Clifford V
15 Ed B	28 John B
	29 Robert L

### August

01 Arlene M	12 Eleanor J
01 Patrick B	12 Karl W
02 Laura V	13 William S
04 Rudy T	14 Amy W
05 Louis C	14 Madeline V
08 Patrick L	15 Mary K
08 Robert P	20 Joseph C
09 Jesse S	23 Kenneth M
09 Merle K	24 LaReine S
09 Patrick L	26 Wayne R
09 Vernon M	28 Conor P
10 John H	31 John K
11 Earl M	

### September

01 Kimberley A	20 Edwin D
03 Grady B	20 George W
08 Brian D	21 Anna M
08 Bruce W	21 Clarence S
08 John C	21 William K
10 Richard B	23 Joe C
11 Malcolm D	23 Werner S
14 Garey J	24 John D
18 Allan H	24 Wilton J
18 Andrew J	27 George L
20 David C	30 Michael
20 Dorothy M	30 Owen R



## Family Updates

### AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

A new slate of officers was elected in May: President Peggy Toye, 1st VP Pauline Robinson, 2nd VP Carol Bagley, Treasurer Wendy Weller, and Secretary Cindy McRenolds. We thank outgoing President Carol Rael and Treasurer Brenda Ternullo for their service to the ALA.



*U105 with Blue Star Moms for spring Troop Packing Day for deployed troops & VSO distribution . Cindy, Leo & 2nd VP Carol B were among several Auxiliary volunteers.*

May was Poppy Month, the premier fundraiser for the Auxiliary. All Post members should have received our letter describing the poppy symbolism and our 2022 timeline of activities supporting veterans and our local community. If you did not receive our letter but would like to support our work, please use this [Donate Button](#) on our website.

Upcoming District 26 VA Menlo Park activities which we're poised to participate in include resumption of spring & fall Sunday BBQs and managing monthly Bingo games.



*U105 with Riya at the Girls State Orientation.*

*Auxiliary  
U105's 2024  
Girls State  
Delegation*



AISHANI  
Design Tech  
Redwood City



LARA  
The Nueva School  
San Mateo



RIYA  
Sequoia High  
Redwood City

### *(cont'd from Commander's Message, pg. 1)*

Commander's Coffee is held on the last Wednesday of the month: 9-10:00am, pastries and coffee served and 10-11am, presentation on topics important to our members. Hope to see you at the Post for the presentation. If you can't attend in person, watch your email for a Zoom link to watch online. Until next time, be safe!



### *(cont'd from Member Spotlight, pg. 2)*

radios with F105 fighter bombers and rescue ensued. Word had not gotten to Joe's wife, Mary, about the incident so she was luckily spared the news of losing him. It wasn't until May 1970 when the feds rectified Joe's demise and reinstated his paychecks and backpay. Following his discharge in November 1970, Joe went from being an X-ray technician and security bouncer in SF to being hired as a Redwood City Policeman. In 1975, he joined the Santa Clara County Sheriff Dept.--working homicide and robbery investigations--and retiring as a Captain in 2003 while simultaneously serving as Chief Range Master at Evergreen College (1978-1998). In late-1971 he joined the Army Reserves, 229th Military Intelligence Company as an NCO--graduating as a Counterintelligence Agent Distinguished Honor Graduate.

Joe moved back & forth between the Army Reserve and the California Army National Guard. As an NCO (E-7), Joe completed Officer Candidate School in 1978 and gained his commission as an officer. As a Captain, Joe was selected to be the Headquarter Company Commander for a USAR Psychological Operations Battalion. He spent four years as commander, usually only a two-year assignment. Somehow Joe also found time to join and compete for the National Guard Composite Rifle Team. While with the Sheriff's Office, he served on and as Commander of the Transit Patrol Division, in addition to SWAT Teams, Canine Teams, Underwater Dive Teams, Mounted Patrol Teams, and the Search and Rescue Unit.

In his retirement, Joe enjoys his time with his bride, Mary, of 56 years, adult children and four grandchildren. Joe was recently introduced to the Legion by his brother-in-law, Oxnard Post 48 Vice Commander. As Joe acquaints himself with the Post 105's Family, please express your gratitude to him and his wife for his many years of dedicated public service and sacrifice for our country. - Peggy T.



## Family Updates

### AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

The American Legion Riders Chapter 105 continues to honor our fallen Veterans by participating in Final Honor Details along with The American Legion, Sons of the American Legion, US Volunteers, and various military branches. We were honored to be included in final ceremonies for 52-yr Post Legionnaire Robert. J. Aherns and for long-time Legionnaire Wally Muller, spouse to Auxiliary VA&R Deputy Arlene.



Andrew Trapani

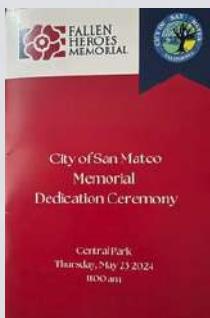


The team prior to Legionnaire Muller's service.

ALR attended three commemorative ceremonies this spring: Fallen Peace Officers at Courthouse Square, the 87th commemoration of the Bataan Death March, and the City of San Mateo Memorial Dedication.

RED Fridays & red worn at burial services for Marines.

RED:  
Remember  
Everyone  
Deployed



ALR & ALA member and former peace officer Wendy attended the ceremony with Andrew, also a former peace officer, and George, former fireman. Former

peace officer & ALR Gary and ALR Ken attended the Fallen Peace Officers Ceremony. Thanks for representing Post 105.

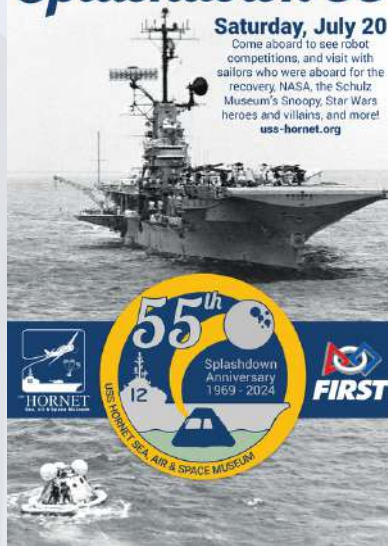
### Latest Stats for ALR Honor Details

Dept. Miles Ridden	Group Miles	Dedicated Hours	Missions
2168	4143	180	10

## Splashdown 55

Saturday, July 20

Come aboard to see robot competitions, and visit with sailors who were aboard for the recovery. NASA, the Schulz Museum's Snoopy, Star Wars heroes and villains, and more! [uss-hornet.org](http://uss-hornet.org)



This event holds special meaning for two Post members. Legionnaire Allan Hirsch serves as a docent on the USS Hornet and Auxiliary President Peggy mentors SF Robotic Eagles. The Museum's Splashdown 55 recognizes NASA, science, technology, engineering & math (STEM) by hosting a FIRST(r) robotics competition on the flight deck of

the Hornet. Join us for a day of touring, competition, STEM education, and supporting the Museum.

Memorial Day  
Golden Gate  
National  
Cemetery



## Summer Activities

VA, Veterans & military, volunteer & social opportunities.

**Jul 4, Thu, Independence Day Parade.** To be seated on P105's float, contact Commander Smith. Arrive at P105 by 8am.

**Jul 4, Thu, Post BBQ.** Enjoy the usual Fourth of July fare with fellow members. Follows the Redwood City parade.

**Jul 20-21, Sat-Sun. Splashdown 55 & Sunset Showdown** USS Hornet, Alameda.

**Jul 31, Wed. Commander's Coffee.** 9am coffee/pastries, 10am program.

**Aug 3, Sat. Car Wash Fundraiser for Marines 23d Regiment's deployed family members.** 651 El Camino Real, RWC. 9am-1pm.

**Aug 3, Sat. SOS Breakfast.** Post 105. 9am-12noon. Adult/\$10pp; child under age 12/\$5pp.

**Aug 7, Wed. Purple Heart Day.** Golden Gate National Cemetery, San Bruno. Details tba.

**Aug 11, Sun. Girls State Brunch.** Hobee's Restaurant, 1101 Shoreway Rd., Belmont. 11am

**Aug 24, Sat. VA-PA Fisher House Fundraiser.** 11am-4pm, Veterans Memorial Center, 1455 Madison Av., RWC

**Aug 28, Wed. Commander's Coffee.** 9am coffee/pastries, 10am program.

**Sep 7, Sat. P105 Car Wash Fundraiser for Marines 23d Regiment's deployed family members.** 651 El Camino Real, RWC. 9am-1pm.

**Sep 25, Wed. Commander's Coffee.** 9am coffee/pastries, 10am program.



## Spring Activities



ALR joined 23d Marine Regiment Motorcycle Mentorship Program Riders for a beautiful ride from the 23d Regiment in San Bruno to Alice's Restaurant for a delectable lunch.



P105 Charitable Foundation President William Jackson, Jr. (R) presents a \$25,000 check to Commander Smith to ensure against any shortfalls in facility mgmt.



Dennis at the Stand Down in June at the SM Elks Lodge parking lot. More pictures on p. 6.



The moment Allan found his high school classmate's name on the wall of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.



Leo McArdle and Allan Hirsch spoke at the May Commander's Coffee about their Honor Flight experience. Here they are pictured by the Lincoln Memorial.



Two of our newest ALA members, Mary & Kim, with Carol McA to assist during the Car Show lunch crowd.



### GOOD TURN DAY, May 24 Golden Gate National Cemetery



Though the weather was wet & inclement, Post 105 Sons & Riders, with hundreds of others, participated in the annual ritual of placing flags at headstones on the Friday preceding Memorial Day. P105 Sons Andrew, Tony and Tony's son represented generations continuing this tradition.



Car Show: some of the 80+ vehicles. Photo by William Jackson, Jr.

### POST 105 2024 BOYS & GIRLS STATE DELEGATES



Robert  
Serra High  
San Mateo



Oliver  
Crystal Springs  
Hillsborough



Kai  
Woodside High  
Woodside



## Spring Activities



*San Mateo County Veterans Commission hosted a Stand Down in June. Hundreds of veterans attended to receive information on VA benefits, community services, legal relief for traffic infractions, and more. Member George scouted for speakers & info, Stan volunteered as a Commissioner, and Peggy & Arlene served 300 lunches.*



*June Flag Retirement Ceremony  
Cypress Lawn Memorial Park*



*P105 24-25 Officers await swearing-in ceremony and reciting their oath.*



*Finished dessert & waiting for TAL, ALA, and ALR meetings to commence.*



## Recurring Meetings

Legionnaire mtg: 2nd Wednesday, 7pm. 5:00pm dinner.  
<https://americanlegionpost105rwc.org/> RSVP for dinner to 2nd Vice Cmdr. Leo, (650-303-2757).

Auxiliary Unit mtg: 2nd Wednesday, 6pm.  
<https://www.alaunit105rwc.com/>

American Legion Riders Chapter mtg: 4th Tuesday, 6pm. 5pm dinner. [Facebook page](#)

Sons of the American Legion Squadron mtg: 2nd Wednesday, 6pm.

Commander's Coffee: last Wednesday/month, 9am-12noon.  
Potential speaker at 10am, TBD.

District 26 Auxiliary mtg: 1st Saturday, 10am. Rotating venue.  
[www.tinyurl.com/AuxDistrict26](http://www.tinyurl.com/AuxDistrict26)

*Meetings held at Post 105:  
651 El Camino Real, Redwood City, CA*

**POST & HALL RENTALS: Inquire at 650-365-1337**



*Car Show: ALA Pauline, Pat & Mary ready to serve lunch. Photo by William Jackson, Jr.*

## Post Family Officers

Telephone: 650-365-1337

Legion: CommanderPost105@gmail.com

Auxiliary: ALAPresident105@gmail.com

Sons: alscommander105@gmail.com

Riders: ALRDirector105@gmail.com

*Keep Me Posted* is published quarterly. Editorial staff retains the right to edit submissions. Editors: U105's Peggy Toye (writer) & Pat Reed (proofreader). Readers are welcomed to suggest stories and/or submit pictures to [Peggy.Aux.U105@gmail.com](mailto:Peggy.Aux.U105@gmail.com). To receive the Post Blog, write to [alpost105rwc@gmail.com](mailto:alpost105rwc@gmail.com).



## Family Update

### SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION



Patrick Lucy

The Sons of the American Legion Post 105 has had a busy year. Each year we submit to the National Headquarters our Consolidated Report. This is a synopsis of all hours and donations we made to assist Veterans and support Americanism and Patriotism with whomever we encounter. Shared below is what we have done over the last year from June 01, 2023, to May 31, 2024 compared to the last Consolidated Report for the same time period.

	2023 Report	2024 Report
Members	20	24.0
Color/Honor Guard Hours	349	369.0
Community Service Hours	N/R	259.5
Other Hours	25	143.0
Donations	\$100	\$400

The Consolidated Report for 2024 shows Post 105 Sons volunteered a total of 771.5 hours and donated \$400 to various groups. The Community Service Hours are items such as working at the Post, helping at various events throughout the county and community while other hours would fall into the areas of Duty Officer, Administrative time and other tasks that we volunteer ourselves to. Please be aware these are only the hours that are tied with Post 105. Many of our Sons donate their efforts to other causes which are not reported.

The IRS values California volunteer hours at \$35.56 per hour; therefore, Post 105 Sons have given \$27,434.54 of valued time to our Veterans. Thank you for allowing us to be able to do that.

We are proud to be able to work with and serve our community of Veterans throughout California. We will continue to help in any way possible. So if you have any ideas, we would love to hear from you and love to participate. God Bless, be safe and stay strong.



## VA-Menlo Park



Auxiliary donated \$750 (with assistance from the Post Family) towards an Independence Day BBQ for VA-MP Bldg. 331 residents. This is the third year the Auxiliary's sponsored a BBQ since the VA ceased their outdoor July 4th celebration post-Covid. Pictured: VA-MP Recreational Therapist Irene, Marvin Gardens Catering chef Eric and owner Carlos.



Long-time Unit supporters Ana and her mom painted this huge banner which now graces the recreation room at Bldg. 331. In 2020, Ana and her older sister donated 1,000 face masks to U105; both have continued to support U105 with holiday cards and toiletry donations.