

August 14, 2005

To: NACOP Board of Review
From: Senior Deputy Steve Arthur
Subject: C.O.P. of the year nomination, Jim Walker

I will try to organize my thoughts on all that Jim means to the Camarillo Citizen Patrol. It can be summarized as "I hope he never leaves!"

Jim joined the CCP (Camarillo Citizen Patrol) in November 1997. Though July of this year he has accumulated 5,392.5 volunteer hours. I will tell you that this is not an accurate figure. The only area I have observed Jim not be precise on is logging his hours. Without exaggeration I could honestly say his hours are closer to 7,000. Jim is always at the station and helping in all departments that he does not list.

Leadership

As a retire Master Chief for the US Navy Jim brings command presence and built in leadership. He is not afraid to make decisions and give orders. He comes off as a tough drill instructor but everyone knows what a big heart he has and that he would do anything for you.

I evaluate leadership on results and listed below is the CCP accomplishments under Jim's leadership.

Jim has had 2 stints as the Director of the CCP. While he was our Director from 1999 through 2001 the Camarillo Chamber of Commerce awarded the Service Organization of the Year Award the CCP. The membership for CCP reached the maximum allowed at the time during this time period.

Jim took command again as the Director in September 2004. At that time the membership was at 23. We have now grown to 41 and plan on bringing over 30 members to the NACOP conference in October.

Individual Impact

Many ideas and the direction CCP goes in have to do with Jim. Our joining with NACOP was Jim's idea and he brought another member to the 2004 conference to evaluate the program.

Jim took on the job of transforming a donated motor home into a fully operational command post for the Camarillo Police Department. He helped convert a basic Chrysler P.T. Cruiser into a painted flame / fast looking School Resource Officer's patrol vehicle that the kids love.

In 2004 Jim attended a conference put on by L.A. County Sheriff's reference recruiting and retaining police volunteers. From that conference he developed our "Bird-Dog Patrol" and revised our recruitment program that has had positive results. He has been on our local cable TV channel doing commercials for CCP and other programs at the police station.

Jim is the main person in our child safety seat inspection program. Parents from all over the county come to the Camarillo Police Station to have their child's seat installed and made safe. The local Kiwanis Club donates seats that we give away to needy families. I know for a fact that it is Jim's determination to makes this program work as the best in the county and he has made the difference.

Jim is the Camarillo Police Department's representative on several committees and service groups. He sits on the Ventura County Crime Stoppers and the Ventura County Safe Kids Coalition to start with. If there is a committee formed to get something done, Jim Walker's name comes up.

Jim has been to more major crime scenes, murder scenes, natural disaster scenes, and lost children call outs then almost anyone on our department. I should also include any large community events where the command post is requested.

On the official call out list for major incidents in Camarillo and the surrounding areas you will see the name Jim Walker near the top with the Major Crime's Captain & SWAT. He is relied upon in many emergency situations to drive and set up the command post as a temporary incident command center. He has been in the background of more TV coverage then Dan Rather (slight exaggeration). From the Sheriff on down they all know Jim by name and will take the time to say hello and thanks.

Awards

These are the ones I know of, I am sure I have missed some.

- 1999 CCP Organization Award (mentioned earlier)
- 2000 Camarillo Lion's Club Volunteer of the Year (first one ever given)
- 2002 Camarillo City's Certificate of Dedication and Community Service
- 2003 President Bush Volunteer Service Award (highest award for over 4,000 hours)

Summary

Jim Walker is the driving force that has put the Camarillo Citizen Patrol on the map. His impact on this group will be felt the most on the day he says goodbye. His shoes will be almost impossible to fill.

I do not know what you selection process involves but I would think that a Jim Walker would be your goal and inspiration. He has been mine! Thank you for your time and consideration for this great leader and person.