



The Ranger Way November 2025



Commanders Corner

Greetings Fellow Legionnaires,

All are invited to our Post meeting which is on November 3rd where we have a social hour prior to the meeting with meals served, so please plan on attending. There are also the usual District wide events like Monday chess at Post 858, Vet to Vet Café at Post 419 on Thursdays. Post 419 is also hosting an First Sunday Breakfast on the 5th. [Check the District 13 Calendar](#) for information. We also have the [District 13 Meeting on the 4th at Post 419](#), [Miller Middle School Veterans Day Ceremony on the 6th](#). [The Veteran's Standown is from the 6th – 8th](#). On the 9th Oddfellows #70 is having a Veterans Day Lunch and Dance Fundraiser. Of course on the 11th we have several Veterans Day events like the Cupertino Ceremony and San Jose Parade. [There is also Beyond the Uniform on the 14th](#).

Remember that we generally meet at [the Odd Fellows Lodge #70 on Homestead Road](#) on the first Monday of the Month at 1800 for socializing and a light meal and refreshments then check out the meeting at 1900.

We really want to get more people attending the Post meetings and events and be more social, so let us know your ideas by coming to our meetings. Do give us a heads-up, so that we can requisition extra rations versus our regular contingent. The next person on the meals roster ([on the Adjutant's Corner](#)) will have to get the cooler with drinks, etc. If additional drinks are required, it will be reimbursed above the normal meal amount.

We need a Finance Officer to step up as our longtime Finance Officer Mike O'Meara needs to step down for personal reasons. If you have questions about the position, please reach out to Mike O'Meara at (408) 691-8277 or nomeara47@yahoo.com. In our Post ByLaws Section 5. Duties of the Finance Officer. The Finance Officer shall be charged with the custody of the funds of the Post. He shall keep its accounts and report thereon at regular meeting of the Post. They shall receive all funds of the Post and pay

all bills approved by the Post. The office of Finance Officer and any other officers and/or positions charged by the Post Constitution and/or Bylaws, with the responsibility of handling Post funds should be bonded and must pass a credit check. This position is very important to maintain the Post Charter.

Please remember that if you have Post or Veterans events that you would like on the calendar get them to Arturo. Please include pertinent information like event information, contacts, address, where to meet, etc.

<https://www.americanlegionpost642.com/site/eventscalendar.php?y=2023&m=3>

If you know of deceased members during the past few months either bring their name and share with our District Chaplain, (currently vacant) so contact the Adjutant at wheimsoth@aol.com with information or if you would like to volunteer for the District 13 Chaplain position.

To Comradeship!
Vincent Guinnane, MSME, P.E.
CW4, 881A2, USAR (Retired)
vguinnane@comcast.net
Cell: +1 (408) 219-0191

First Vice Commanders Notes

None

2026 Membership Report (As of 24 October 2025)

2026 Membership Goal: 65
Paid Up for Life (PUFL): 13
Online Annual Renewals: 9
Multi-Annual Renewals: 4
Mail Renewals: 8
Post 1000 Transfers: 0

Total Members: 34/52.31%
Newly renewed Members: 1
New Members: 0
Renewals Pending Submittal: 0
Members not yet renewed: 29
District Rank: 10th out of 11

Renewed Members Since Last Report: 1 Greg Lindh (USAF, 18 Years)

Membership Reports

<https://americanlegionpost642.com/index.php?id=94>

Adjutant Update

Fellow Legionnaires,

November will soon be upon us. With November comes the annual Veterans Day ceremonies throughout Santa Clara County. This year looks like it will be a busy one, as Miller Middle School will be holding their Veterans Day Ceremony on Thursday 6 November at 0900 hrs. Please RSVP and attend if at all possible, a significant number of our Post members have attended in the past. Also from 6-8 November the 2025 Veteran Stand Down will be taking place at the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds. This is your chance to take care of any veteran related issues, with the VA, VSO and other military organizations, [click here](#) for more info. On the 11th the City of Cupertino will once again be holding their annual Veterans Day Ceremony at Cupertino Memorial Park beginning at 1100 hrs.

Our 10th Annual Wreaths Across America (WAA) Ceremony will be taking place on Saturday 13 December at 1000 hrs. at the Gate of Heaven Ceremony. For more info and to purchase wreaths please go to our [WAA tab](#) on our website.

Please look at the newsletter for more information regarding our Post Annual Christmas/Holiday Dinner scheduled for Friday 5 December 2025. This is a great chance to meet fellow members and their spouses and enjoy some Holiday cheer with others.

If you have not done so, now is a great time to register on mylegion.org so that you can manage your membership, your information pertaining to military service, email/phone numbers and get a chance to sign up for updates and newsletters from the American Legion.

Finally, a quick plug in membership renewal. We are currently at 52% of our membership goal of 65 members, and if you have not yet renewed, please do so sooner than later. You can either renew online at mylegion.org or send in your check to the Post from the mailers that you have received from National HQ about membership renewal.

Wishing all of you a Happy Veterans Day and Thanksgiving!

“Duty First”

Arturo

Upcoming events for November 2025-January 2026

- 3 Nov 1900 hrs. Post 642 Monthly Meeting in Person (Dinner served at 1800 hrs.) Oddfellows. Cupertino Lodge #70, 20589 Homestead Ave. Cupertino, CA**
- 4 Nov 1900 hrs. District 13 Meeting, Post 419, 958 Homestead Road, Santa Clara
- 6 Nov 0900 hrs. Miller Middle School Veterans' Day Ceremony, 6151 Rainbow Drive, San Jose
- 6-8 Nov. 1000 hrs. 2025 Veteran Stand Down, Santa Clara County Fairgrounds, 344 Tully Road, SJC
- 11 Nov Various Veterans Day Ceremonies, Cupertino, San Jose, and Santa Clara
- 1 Dec 1900 hrs. Post 642 Monthly Meeting in Person (Dinner served at 1800 hrs.) Oddfellows. Cupertino Lodge #70, 20589 Homestead Ave. Cupertino, CA**
- 5 Dec. 1815 hrs. Post 642 Christmas/Holiday Dinner, Blue Pheasant Restaurant, 22100 Stevens Creek Blvd. (See flyer for more information**
- 5 Jan 1900 hrs. Post 642 Monthly Meeting in Person (Dinner served at 1800 hrs.) Oddfellows. Cupertino Lodge #70, 20589 Homestead Ave. Cupertino, CA**

For more events and detailed event information please visit our [website events page](#).

Historian Report

Historian's Report

<https://americanlegionpost642.com/index.php?id=102>

National Days and Months:

There is a neat description of November here with regard to the National Days where the rest of these links can be found. <https://www.nationaldaycalendar.com/november>
MILITARY FAMILY MONTH – November to remember our Military Families who may have deployed members that need support.

<https://youtu.be/e7Jh6evB1Sw?si=usQ6uu7kR7utGYG1>

PRIME MERIDIAN DAY - November 1 when the location was decided upon as the Royal Greenwich Observatory and where Greenwich Mean Time is derived.

<https://youtu.be/kKxKgSGoEbE?si=LcL7UDbA83Y6eAJG>



DAY OF THE DEAD - November 1 The movie [Coco](#) is a good one to watch with your children or Grandchildren.

ALL SAINTS DAY - November 1 – If you recall Halloween is All Hallows Eve.

NATIONAL DONUT DAY - November 5 There is still also a Doughnut Day in June which celebrates the Salvation Army Doughnut Girls that served the troops in WWI.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS - First Sunday in November – remember to Fall Back on your clock.

WORLD FREEDOM DAY - November 9 – Berlin Wall Fell. <https://youtu.be/A9fQPzZ1-hg?si=UW72SKcVLv8rgnIP>

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY - November 10 – when the Marine Corps was founded in 1775 and recruiting took place at **recruiting headquarters was in the Tun Tavern on Water Street in Philadelphia also known as the birthplace of the USMC. (It was reformed in 1798 after it was abolished at the end of the Revolutionary War.** <https://youtu.be/4AgvXD7Yduo?si=EpIIJtWCQkBmIYM3>

VETERANS DAY - November 11 – also Armistice Day when Peace declared at the 11th hour of the 11th Day of the 11th month for end of WWI (The War to End All Wars).

https://youtu.be/CqO9J-5y-dk?si=ZHUt_eCCBx0SUpWf

WORLD DIABETES DAY - November 14 – I believe that the PACT Act recognizes this as a presumptive condition with Agent Orange for Vietnam Veterans.

<https://www.va.gov/disability/eligibility/hazardous-materials-exposure/agent-orange/>

<https://youtu.be/8qNkMWTmOc8?si=079IOW9WvivIHmWk>

WORLD PANCREATIC CANCER DAY - Third Thursday in November - I believe that the PACT Act also recognizes this as a presumptive condition with Burn Pit for Gulf War/Post 911 Veterans. <https://www.va.gov/resources/the-pact-act-and-your-va-benefits/> https://youtu.be/YyfRSPU084M?si=pmSff1L6iJe_O5hv

INTERNATIONAL CHECK YOUR WIPERS DAY - November 16 – a good idea to remember to replace these if necessary due to Winter Storms for safe driving.

COMPUTER SECURITY DAY - November 30 – This is a good reminder to remember to be careful of clicking on links from unknown emails and offering them personal information to Nigerian Princes that want to send you large amounts of money if you give them your bank information, etc.

Military History Notes: (A Marine Corps Theme for their Birthday)

Nov. 1

1942: On Guadalcanal, a machine gun section led by Marine Cpl. Anthony Casamento (<http://vwww.victoryinstitute.net/blogs/utb/1942/11/01 /anthony--casamento-medal-of-honor-citation/>) is hit so badly during the fourth (and final) battle at the Matanikau River that all but Casamento were grievously

wounded or killed. Despite his own wounds (he was hit 14 times during the engagement), Casamento single-handedly held his position and repelled numerous enemy attacks. Casamento will be awarded the Medal of Honor in 1980 after surviving eyewitnesses to his actions are found.

<https://youtu.be/NtWeZEsN6x4?si=eUiD5ngghkpmxXW8>

1944: Japan launches the first of some 9,000 hydrogen-filled balloon bombs towards the U.S. and Canada. By war's end, only six Americans would be killed and a small amount of damage is inflicted by the bombs.

Meanwhile, the *Tokyo Rose*, a B-29 "Superfortress" modified for photo reconnaissance, makes the first U.S. flight over Tokyo since the Doolittle Raid in 1942.

Nov. 2

1783: Gen. George Washington delivers his "Farewell Address to the Army" near Princeton, N.J., in which he refers to the Continental Army as "one patriotic band of brothers." <https://youtu.be/9PWuIOA75z4?si=KAawYT-75UnTt9if>

Nov. 3

1783: The Continental Army is disbanded following the signing of the Treaty of Paris. The role of the national defense force returns to state militias, save a regiment on the western frontier and an artillery battery at West Point, N.Y. (which will soon become the U.S. Military Academy). These few "regular army" soldiers will become the Legion of the United States in 1792, and the U.S. Army in 1796.

Nov. 9

2001: During the Battle of Mazar-e-Sharif U.S. Army and Air Force special operations forces ride into combat on horseback - the first cavalry charge by the United States military since 1943. Hundreds of Taliban and al Qaeda fighters are killed during the battle and another 1,500 are captured or defect. Although war planners figured it would take months to capture the strategic city and its airfield, the Taliban withdraw the following day. <https://www.youtube.com/shorts/iscjRK8yBAQ>

Nov. 10

1775: On this day 242 years ago, the Marine Corps is born. The Continental Congress decrees that two battalions of Marines be raised in Philadelphia, consisting of "good seamen, or so acquainted with maritime affairs as to be able to serve by sea when required; that they be enlisted and commissioned to serve for and during the present war with Great Britain and the Colonies." Capt. Samuel Nicholas - commissioned just days before as the first Marine officer - sets up his recruiting headquarters at Tun Tavern.

2001: U.S.-led coalition forces defeat Taliban forces in Mazar-e-Sharif, scoring the first major victory of the war in Afghanistan.

Nov. 11

1918: The armistice is signed, ending World War I.

Nov. 14

1965: 450 soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry under the command of Lt. Col. Harold Moore are choppered in to assault the communist stronghold in the Ia Drang Valley. Upon landing, the unit is nearly overrun by three battalions (1,600 soldiers) of North Vietnamese regulars, resulting in hand-to-hand combat, but the soldiers hold out for two days before being relieved -inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy. The Battle of the Ia Drang Valley is the first major battle between U.S. and NVA forces and one of the only setpiece battles of the Vietnam War.

2004: Nine days after launching Operation Phantom Fury — the Second Battle of Fallujah (Iraq) — U.S. Marines and soldiers (as well as a few British and Iraqi troops) begin the mopping-up phase of what has since been described as the most intense urban combat since the bloody battle for the Vietnamese city of Hue in 1968. It is during the battle for Fallujah, that a radio transmission is intercepted by U.S. forces in which a panicking al-Qaeda insurgent is heard exclaiming to his chief: "We are fighting, but the Marines keep coming! We are shooting, but the Marines won't stop!"

Nov. 19

1863: Four months after the Battle of Gettysburg, President Abraham Lincoln addresses an audience with a brief speech honoring the fallen: "we cannot dedicate. we cannot

consecrate. we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. ... we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain — that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom — and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth." Lincoln's Gettysburg Address becomes one of the most famous speeches in American history.

1967: During the Battle of Dak To, Chaplain (Maj.) Charles J. Watters, "with complete disregard for his safety, rushed forward to the line of contact. Unarmed and completely exposed, he moved among, as well as in front of the advancing troops, giving aid to the wounded, assisting in their evacuation, giving words of encouragement, and administering the last rites to the dying. Chaplain Watters was giving aid to the wounded when he himself was mortally wounded." Chaplain Watters was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor. <https://youtu.be/1djR7gFrjWU?si=M7gqzv6PWvPdkXr3>

Nov. 20

1918: The 369th Infantry Regiment receives the honor of becoming the first American unit to enter German territory for occupation duty. The famed "Hell Fighters from Harlem" fought with distinction under French command during World War I, spending more time in combat and suffering more casualties than any other American regiment during the war.

1943: A flotilla of over 100 warships, including 17 aircraft carriers and 12 battleships, hammers the Tarawa Atoll as the first of 35,000 Marines and soldiers land in the face of stiff Japanese resistance. Rear Adm. Keiji Shibasaki, in command of the defenders, stated that "a million men could not take Tarawa in a hundred years." In fact, it will only take 76 hours to secure the islands. The fanatical defenders will fight almost to the last man in the first heavily opposed U.S. landing in the Pacific. Many of the American casualties were due to low tide conditions that forced Marines to wade hundreds of yards across jagged coral reefs - under withering fire - to reach the shore. The resulting losses inspired the creation of the Navy's Underwater Demolition Teams to provide critical hydrographic reconnaissance and destroy obstacles for amphibious landings - the birth of what will become today's SEAL Teams.

Nov. 21

a 1943: *USS Nautilus* (SS-168) surfaces and disembarks Capt. James L. Jones and his Marine Amphibious Reconnaissance Company off the beaches of Abemama Atoll in the Gilbert Islands. The raiders board rubber rafts and paddle ashore under cover of darkness, spending the next several days wiping out the defenders and capturing the islands along with fire support from the sub. The Marine Corps' modern-day Force Reconnaissance companies trace their roots to Jones' team.

Nov. 22

1963: President John F. Kennedy is assassinated by former Marine radar operator Lee Harvey Oswald while the presidential motorcade travels through Dallas, Texas. Oswald also seriously wounds Texas Governor John Connally in the attack. Both Kennedy and Connally served in the Navy during World — War II - Kennedy as a PT boat skipper and Connally as a fighter plane director aboard aircraft carriers.

Nov. 23

1943: Japanese-held Tarawa falls to American forces despite the boast of its defending commander, Rear Adm. Keiji Shibasaki, that "a million men could not take Tarawa in a hundred years." It takes several thousand Marines and about 76 hours to seize Tarawa. Makin Atoll, 100 miles north of Tarawa, is also declared secure.

1963: Two days after assassinating Pres. John F. Kennedy, former Marine Lee Harvey Oswald is himself shot and killed by Jack Ruby - formerly a mechanic in the Army Air Forces, who served during World War II.

Nov. 25

2001: US Marines of the 15th and 26 Marine Expeditionary Unit land near Kandahar, becoming the first major combat force in Afghanistan.

Nov. 26

1789: Pres. George Washington issues a proclamation declaring 26 November "to be devoted by the People of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be." This marks the first designated Thanksgiving Day by the United States government.

https://youtu.be/R8ZFR_B4ogU?si=aUfd_NBrevoS1czS

Service Officer Report

Service Officer Report

<https://americanlegionpost642.com/index.php?id=119>

- CalVet awarded a grant to Nation's Finest, a Santa Rosa-based nonprofit, to strengthen mental health services for California Veterans. The funding, announced last month, is designed to reach California Veterans—particularly those at risk of suicide—who face barriers to accessing care.
- ICYMI: We've put together a general report of how the shutdown impacts federal Veterans benefits and services. This article will be updated as new information becomes available.

Curious about a Veterans issue or bill? Want to highlight the work your Legion post is doing or an event you're hosting? Email us at news@calegion.org.

Veterans Day Hub:

We'll be publishing our annual Veterans Day deals and discounts hub soon. If you know of a great deal to share with your fellow Veterans, feel free to send us the details at Southards.CALegion@gmail.com.

For example, In-N-Out is offering a free meal to all Veterans and Service Members on Veterans Day. Any business that California Veterans might visit are eligible (e.g., local small businesses, national chains with CA locations, etc.).



Medical records on the new My HealtheVet Get answers to common questions

The new My HealtheVet experience allows you to review, print, and download your VA medical records in the same place that you manage your other VA benefits. If you have questions about using the new medical records tool, we have answers.

[Learn more](#)



[Make this app part of your emergency plan](#)

It's hurricane season, when powerful storms can mean virtual care options are especially helpful. The VA Health Chat app makes it easy to connect with VA staff through real-time messages.

[Learn more about VA Health Chat](#)



[Safely track and share your health information](#)

Do you track personal health information—like your heart rate, blood sugar, or weight? Now there's an easy way to review this all in one place—and share it with your VA health care team.

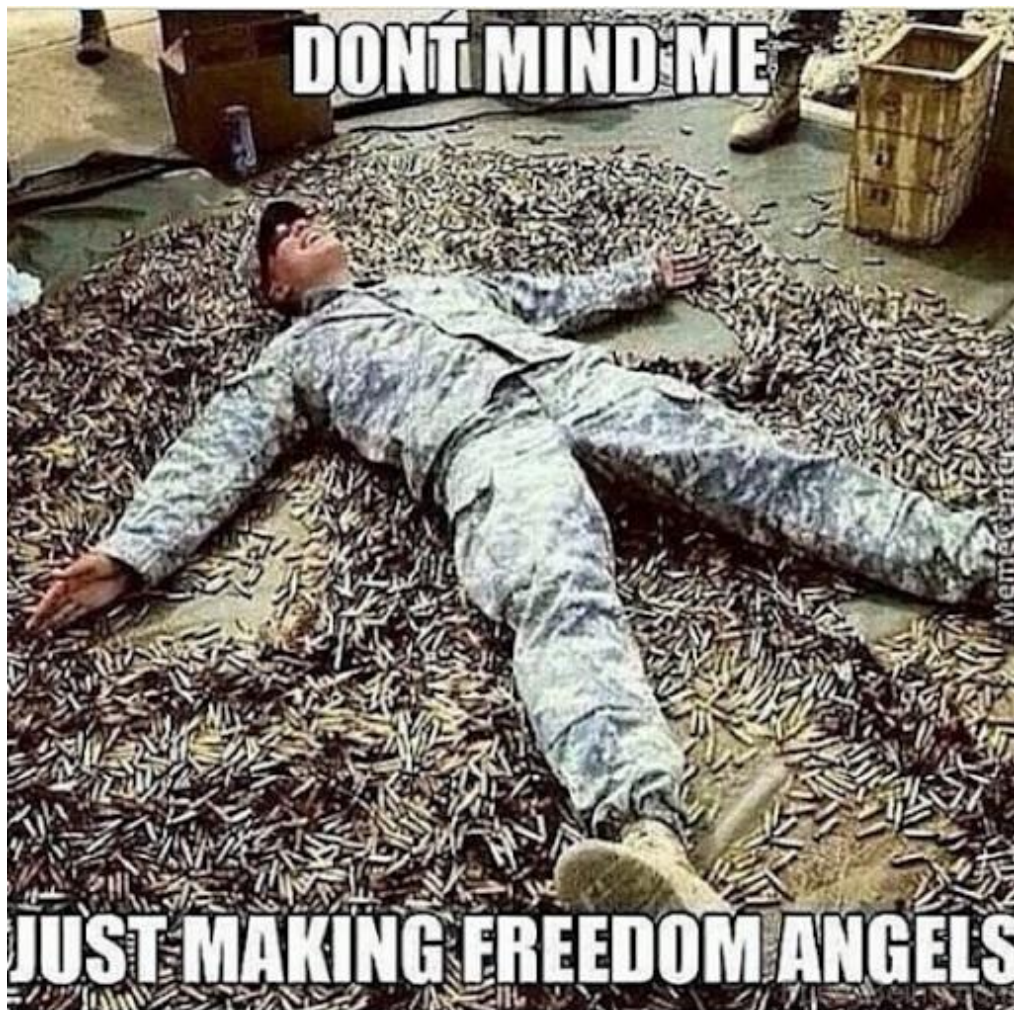
[Learn more about safely sharing your health information](#)



An easy guide to VA benefits

The VA Resource Navigator is a simple, go-to guide for trusted web links, phone numbers, and QR codes to VA services and benefits. Download your copy to keep close by. [View the Navigator to learn more about VA benefits](#)

Military Humor





To stay sharp, the Gunny would hit the shouting range.

COME JOIN US for OUR CHRISTMAS DINNER

Sign up for our annual Christmas dinner on.

Friday, December 5, 2025

at the Blue Pheasant. 22100 Stevens Creek Blvd. in Cupertino.

No Host Bar/Fellowship 6:15 to 7:00, Dinner served at 7:00 All dinners include mixed green garden-fresh salad, potato, or rice (depending on the menu item), fresh vegetables, French bread, coffee, tea, and house made dessert.

Menu items are:

Pasta Primavera (for vegetarians) _____

Broiled Salmon _____

Breast of Chicken Jerusalem _____

Prime Rib of Beef _____

For reservations, call Mike O'Meara at (408) 691-8277 or send your request to Mike at 10171 Lockwood Dr. Cupertino CA 95014 or email @momeara47@yahoo.com and tell him how many and what menu choice.

The cost this year is \$20 per person.

The Deadline to sign up is November 30, 2025,

Please PRINT

Name: _____

Menu Choice _____

Number of Guest _____