



Stevens Creek Post 642 The Ranger Way
November 2024 Newsletter
Mailing Address: PO Box 302,
Cupertino, CA 95015



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Source: Army Ranger Full Color Embroidered Tab – Vanguard Industries (vanguardmil.com)

Upcoming events for November 2024-January 2025

4 Nov 1900 hrs. Post 642 Monthly Meeting in Person

(Dinner served at 1800 hrs.) Oddfellows. Cupertino Lodge #70, 20589 Homestead Ave. Cupertino, CA

7 Nov 0900 hrs. Miller Middle School Veterans Day Celebration

Miller Middle School 6151 Rainbow Drive, San Jose 95129

11 Nov 1100 hrs. Cupertino Veterans Day Ceremony

Cupertino Memorial Park

14 Nov 1900 hrs. District 13 Meeting

Post 217 74 West 6th St Gilroy

2 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 in Cupertino

6 Dec 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](#).

Commander Corner

Greetings, fellow Legionnaires,

As we move into November, we are halfway through fall and moving closer to winter. This month the key events are Veterans Day on 11 November 2024 and Thanksgiving on 28 November. This year marks the 106th anniversary of Armistice Day when the Great War (WW I) ended. As we move towards 11 November let us not forget the freedom of this great country of ours was earned by all Veterans who served whether it was in peacetime or war. Here in Cupertino, we will be hosting the Veterans Day Celebration at Cupertino Memorial Park 11 Nov. at 1100 hrs. Please join our Post, and fellow community to celebrate Veterans Day. Dennis Whittaker, a member of our Post, will be this year's guest speaker.

Later in November is Thanksgiving a truly American Holiday, and if one listens/watches the news the world and our country are falling apart. However, as Americans although times may be tough, we can be grateful for what we have and how our community comes together to help our neighbors and those in need. On behalf of the Post, we wish all of you a Happy Thanksgiving this year.

I have been in Spain visiting family and friends these past 5 weeks and as much as I like to visit my family over here, I am looking forward to coming home later this month (October) and once again I realize how lucky I am to be living here in the United States of America!

I will close with the words of the late Dr. E.B. Sledge who served in the Pacific with the US Marines and wrote the book about his service in the Pacific entitled "With the Old Breed" Although he makes reference to the US Marines, these words are fitting for Veterans of all the branches:

"In writing I am fulfilling an obligation I have long felt to my comrades in the 1st Marine Division, all of whom suffered so much for our country. None came out unscathed. Many gave their lives, many their health, and some their sanity. All who survived will long remember the horror they would rather forget. But they suffered and they did their duty so a sheltered homeland can enjoy the peace that was purchased at such high cost. We owe those Marines a profound debt of gratitude.

Happy Veterans Day and Thanksgiving Day!

"Duty First"

Arturo

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Rainbow Drive, San Jose 95129

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Other Activities on Post Calendar

Fellow Legionnaires, although our Post does not have many events as in the past, I have updated our [Post calendar](#) with events from Posts that are close to Cupertino. Please look as there are a considerable number of events that are open to Legionnaires and their families. More importantly by attending you can have fun and support the American Legion.

1st Vice Commander's Note

Greetings Fellow Legionnaires,

As 1st Vice Commander, I would like to make sure that we are inviting our fellow veterans to our Post meeting which is on November 4th. This month brings us Veterans Day to honor our Veterans and Thanksgiving give thanks for our abundance and family as well as the Marines Birthday.

Veteran Buddy Check Week, took place October 21 – 25, 2024, which builds on the success of the American Legion's Buddy Check program and the Veteran Wellness Alliance's Get Involved program.

We are still working on increasing membership, but we have met current goals and The post has an application page for both new applications and renewals at <https://www.americanlegionpost642.com/site/application.php> or your My Legion account here: <https://mylegion.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Membership/Renew> I am still working on getting officer permissions assigned to My Account on American Legion.

This months events are as well as the Newly MOAA sponsored San Jose Veterans Day Parade at 1200 on the 11th.

7 Nov 0900 hrs. Miller Middle School Veterans Day Celebration 6151 Rainbow Drive, San Jose 95129

11 Nov 1100 hrs. Cupertino Veterans Day Ceremony, Cupertino Memorial Park

14 Nov 1900 hrs. District 13 Meeting, Post 217 74 West 6th St Gilroy

We would really like to get more people attending the Post meetings and events and enjoy social aspects of membership, 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 will have to get the cooler with drinks, etc. If additional drinks are required, it will be reimbursed above the normal meal amount. Remember, if you need a ride, contact either me or one of the officers.

Please remember that if you have Post or Veterans events that you would like on the calendar to get them to Arturo or the District. 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, Jere Bernardoni, or send to him at Jerep.bernardoni@gmail.com.

To Comradeship!

Vincent Guinnane, MSME, P.E.

CW4, 881A1, USAR (Retired)

vguinnane@comcast.net

2025 Membership Report (As of 10 September)

2025 Membership Goal: 68

Paid Up for Life (PUFL): 16

Online Renewals: 2

Mail Renewals: 9

Post 1000 Transfers: 0

Newly renewed Members:

New Members:

Total Members: 41

New Members: 0

Renewals Pending Submittal: 0

Members not yet renewed: 24

District Rank: Tied for 8th/12

2024-25 Membership Renewals

As we posted several months ago National American Legion voted to raise national dues by \$5. Our Post voted to raise our annual dues to \$45 starting on 1 July 2024. Therefore, if you want to save \$5 you need to renew online NLT 27 June and if you plan on renewing via check, please mail your check for \$40 to PO Box 302, Cupertino, CA 95014 NLT 15 June so we have time to process your membership renewal. Also, Department has a special where you can renew your membership for 3 years at \$40 per year. If you are interested in that option you can go to this [link](#) and follow the instructions.



Source: <https://images.app.goo.gl/t54bPZ7B2fTUxaLx8>

Post 642 Monthly Meeting Schedule for 2023-24 Year

The meeting dates can be found on the [Post Website Calendar](#).

Post member report: John Swensson

The Cupertino Veteran's Memorial will be the site of this year's Veterans Day Celebration at 11Am on Monday, November 11th. The WWI Armistice was signed at that exact time and date in 1918. This year we will honor women in the Military including CPT Diane Carlson Evans, an Army Nurse in Viet Nam who created the Vietnam Women's Memorial in Washington DC. Our lead speaker will be Major General Tracy Smith, Commanding General of the 63rd Readiness Division at Moffett Field. She is an outstanding speaker and formerly a member of the Army's Medical Service Corps.

Our second speaker will be former Navy SEAL Commander Thomas Deitz, USN, Ret, who commanded SEAL Team Five in Iraq and Afghanistan. We will also honor the Military and First responders from our Police and Fire Units. The Cupertino Veteran's Memorial was created to honor the service of the 19 SEAL and Army Special Operators who gave their lives in Afghanistan in The Battle of Operation Red Wings in 2005 including Cupertino resident Matt Axelson and his fellow SEAL David Suh. It was the nation's first memorial to Afghanistan and is right across from De Anza College where there will be free parking. Please come and join us. Donna Axelson and former Cupertino Mayor Sandy James, the two chairs of the Memorial, will be in attendance. Come early as we expect a large crowd.

JOHN K. SWENSSON, M.A., M.S.
Emeritus Professor of English &
Director, Global Education Partnerships (GEP)
De Anza College cell: 408-590-4430

Meals Roster 2024

November 6th: George Midwin

December 4th: David Han

January 8th: Mike O'Meara

February 5th: Bill Reichard

March 4th: Bob Devlin

April 1st: Kenneth Klinkowski

May 6th: Jim Barnhart

June 3rd: Vince Guinnane

Need A Ride?

Are you a member who hasn't had a chance to attend one of our meetings or activities because you have difficulties driving at night, or are no longer able to drive? If so, please feel free to contact the 1st Vice Commander (arturo@cadiz.com) or at 408-838-0375 and let him know. We will arrange to have someone pick you up and drop you off at home. We currently have several members who use this service and will be more than happy to assist others in being able to attend our meetings and activities. It's a great opportunity to get out of the house, especially if you are not able to on your own and meet fellow Legion members and attend our meeting.