



Stevens Creek Post 642 The Ranger Way
October 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)

Commander Notes

Greetings fellow Legionnaires,

I hope all is well with you and your families. It has been a busy month, I was fortunate to attend representing our Post at this year's RISE, Stand United, Stand Strong America Ceremony that was held on 9-11 in Lost Gatos. I had never had a chance to attend this ceremony before or visit the Flame of Liberty Memorial that is located across the street from Los Gatos High School.

I would also like to congratulate Gracie Prosceno who is the grand daughter of Donald Prosceno who is a member of our Post on being awarded the Post 642 Scholarship for graduation High School Seniors. She is attending the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs this fall and is excited and grateful to our Post for having selected her for this \$2000 scholarship.

There are 4 events that are worth mentioning for Post members.

- At a date and time TBD within the next couple of weeks, our Post will continue the tradition of sponsoring a lunch for the De Anza Student Veterans at the Veterans Student Center on the De Anza Campus. This is a fantastic way to meet fellow Veterans who are currently attending college, provide them with some mentoring and answer some of their questions regarding the career fields and paths they are interested in. Many of us used the GI Bill that we earned while serving and were able to go to college/vocational school and enter the civilian work force. Let us help them along the way as they study and prepare for their future careers. Vince our

First Vice who is overseeing this luncheon will send out the notice of the date/time and location for the lunch so please keep your eyes open for the announcement.

- Santa Clara County Veterans Stand Down 2-4 October at the County Fair Grounds on Alma Ave. The County Veterans Service Office (VSO) is partnering with a sizable number of organizations that support Veterans for this three-day event. If you have issues with VA Disability claims, have questions regarding Veterans Benefits and other Veteran related issues, this is the place to be, It will be held over 3 days and please go the following [link](#) to get more information about all the things that are being offered for Veterans and their families.
- Miller Middle School Veterans Day Celebration 7 November. Each year Miller Middle School hosts a Veterans Day celebration. As part of the celebration, you can speak to students regarding your military service. After the ceremony and classroom presentations there is a great breakfast/lunch buffet prepared by the teachers and staff. If you are interested please click [on this link](#) by 17 October, or contact Nicole Gasparik at gasparik_nicole@cusdk8.org (408-829-6987).
- Cupertino 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.

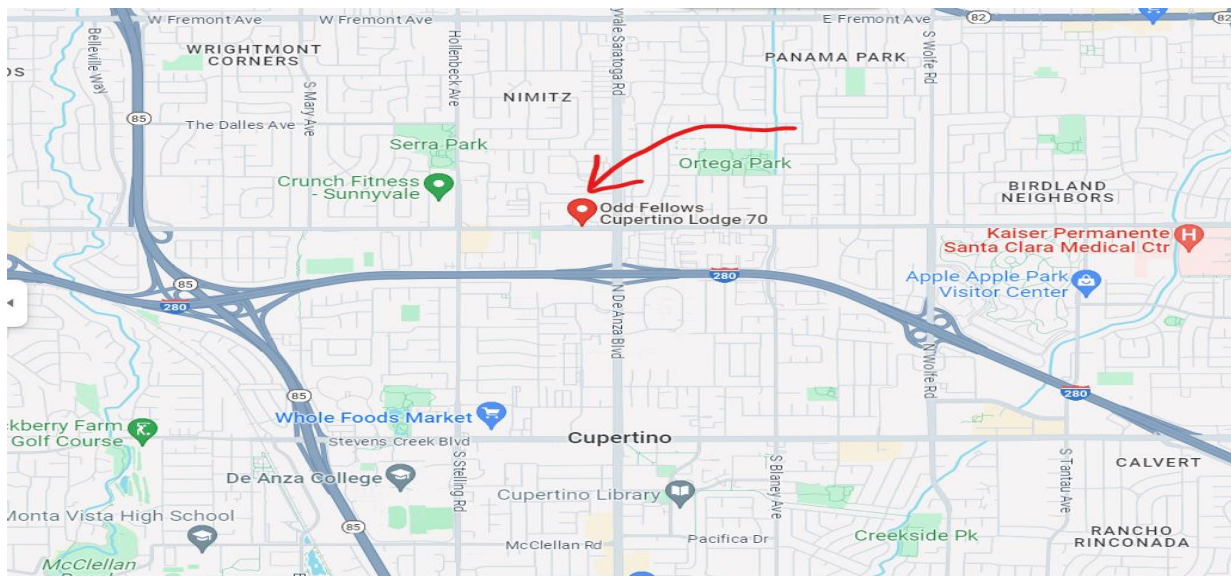
Thanks again for all you do supporting Veterans and the community!

“Duty First”

Arturo

We Moved in 2024

We have finally found a new home for our Post meetings going forward. Beginning on the 5 February 2024 meeting we will be meeting at the Oddfellows Cupertino Lodge #70 in Cupertino; CA. The address of the lodge is 20589 Homestead Road in Cupertino. The building is located approximately 100 meters west of DeAnza Blvd. The Safeway store is located across the street. There is parking behind the building since you cannot park on the street. A big thanks to the relocation committee (Bill, Mike, Bob, Vince, and Arturo) who managed the logistics, legal and other aspects of making this happen. As in the past our social hour begins at 1800 hrs. and the meeting will start at 1900 hrs. We hope to see you all there in February so you can check out the facility, which is much nicer than the KoC Hall.



Upcoming events for October 2024-December 2024

- 2-4 Oct 1000 hrs. Veterans Stand Down at the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds
- 7 Oct 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. 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
- 12 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

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



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.

Upcoming events for August 2024-November 2024

31 Aug	1000 hrs.	VA BBQ-Palo Alto VA (Bldg. 520) 3801 Miranda Avenue Palo Alto, CA
9 Sept	1900 hrs.	Post 642 Monthly Meeting in Person (Dinner served at 1800 hrs.) Oddfellows. Cupertino Lodge #70, 20589 Homestead Ave. Cupertino, CA
11 Sep	0800 hrs.	RISE, Stand United, Stand Strong America Ceremony, The Flame of Liberty Memorial at the Los Gatos Civic Center, 110 East Main St. Los Gatos
24 Sept	1800 hrs.	District 13 Meeting, Post 809 The Moose lodge: 1825 Mt. Pleasant Rd. San Jose
28 Sept	1000 hrs.	VA BBQ-Palo Alto VA (Bldg. 520) 3801 Miranda Avenue Palo Alto, CA
7 Oct	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.	Post 642 Monthly Meeting in Person (Dinner served at 1800 hrs.) Oddfellows. Cupertino Lodge #70, 20589 Homestead Ave. Cupertino, CA
11 Nov	1100 hrs.	Cupertino Veterans Day Ceremony, Cupertino Memorial Park
12 Nov.	1900 hrs.	District 13 Meeting, Post 217 74 West 6th St Gilroy

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 October 7th. I am still working on getting the tools added to My Account on mylegion.org.

We are still working on increasing membership, but we have met current goals and renewals as reported by the New/previous Post Commander Arturo. I will be distributing the new membership cards at our Meeting, and via mail based on the latest membership report. 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.

The last VA BBQ on September 28th was cancelled due to not enough VA Personnel.

The De Anza Student Veterans Lunch will be on October 2nd from 11:30 – 1300 in the De Anza Veterans Office – SEM3. There will be pizza and non-alcoholic liquid refreshments.

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?v=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: 1
Mail Renewals: 9
Post 1000 Transfers: 0
Newly renewed Members:
New Members:

Total Members: 38
New Members: 0
Renewals Pending Submittal: 0
Members not yet renewed: 27
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>

Membership Contact Updates

With the new year already upon us, now is the time to make sure that your contact information is correct so that you receive your magazine, newsletter and other important information pertaining to the American Legion. We are continually moving towards email as the main communication platform for the Post. You can find your contact information at mylegion.org. If you have already registered you just need to log in, if not you can register and then log in. Changes and updates can be easily made by the individual member. If your name appears below that means we do not have a valid email address for you: You can either shoot me an email so I can update your info with your email address or give me a call at 408-838-0375 and provide me with the email address or let me know that you do not have an email address.

- Gary Burton
- Thomas Cribbs
- Herbert Duvernay
- Fenton Hill
- Richard Lee
- Patrick Montijo
- MaryAnn Salvatierra
- Chris Snell
- William Tillinghast

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 at 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 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

October 2nd: Gordon

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.