



Stevens Creek Post 642 The Ranger Way
March 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's Corner

Greetings Fellow Legionnaires,

All are invited to our Post meeting which is on March 4th. Spring begins on March 19 or the vernal equinox, which is when the amount of sunshine is approximately 12 hours long. The amount of sunlight will incrementally increase until the first day of Summer. The vernal equinox marks the moment the sun crosses the celestial equator. This is the imaginary line in the sky above the Earth's equator, from south to north. Based on the early weather reports March, will come in like a lion, out like a lamb per the saying. It may also refer to the constellations Leo and Aries. Leo rises in the east early in March but Aries sets in the west at the end of March. Note that Easter and Good Friday are actually at the end of March this year and Daylight Savings Day is on the 10th so clocks "Spring Forward".

We need to work on end of year reports, which the Americanism Form which Arturo has emailed in Excel spreadsheet form before which needs to be updated by each member and consolidated as one of these End of Year reports. It helps National with showing the strength of the American Legion.

Remember that we generally meet on the first Monday of the Month at 1800 for socializing and a light meal and refreshments then check out the meeting at 1900. The 1st Vice shows a map to our new meeting site at the Odd Fellows Lodge #70 on Homestead Road in our last newsletter, so you might want to save that and print it out.

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. 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.

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. Please enjoy the National Day and Month links and Military History below including VA links. The Day or Month link is highlighted in the email, and YouTube is a related topic video. I try to include the ones that I can have a military or VA related topic for the National Day and Month. If we have time in the meeting we try to watch one or two of the YouTube videos usually during "For the Good of the Post" section.

To Comradeship!
Vincent Guinnane, MSME, P.E.
CW4, 881A1, USAR (Retired)
vguinnane@comcast.net

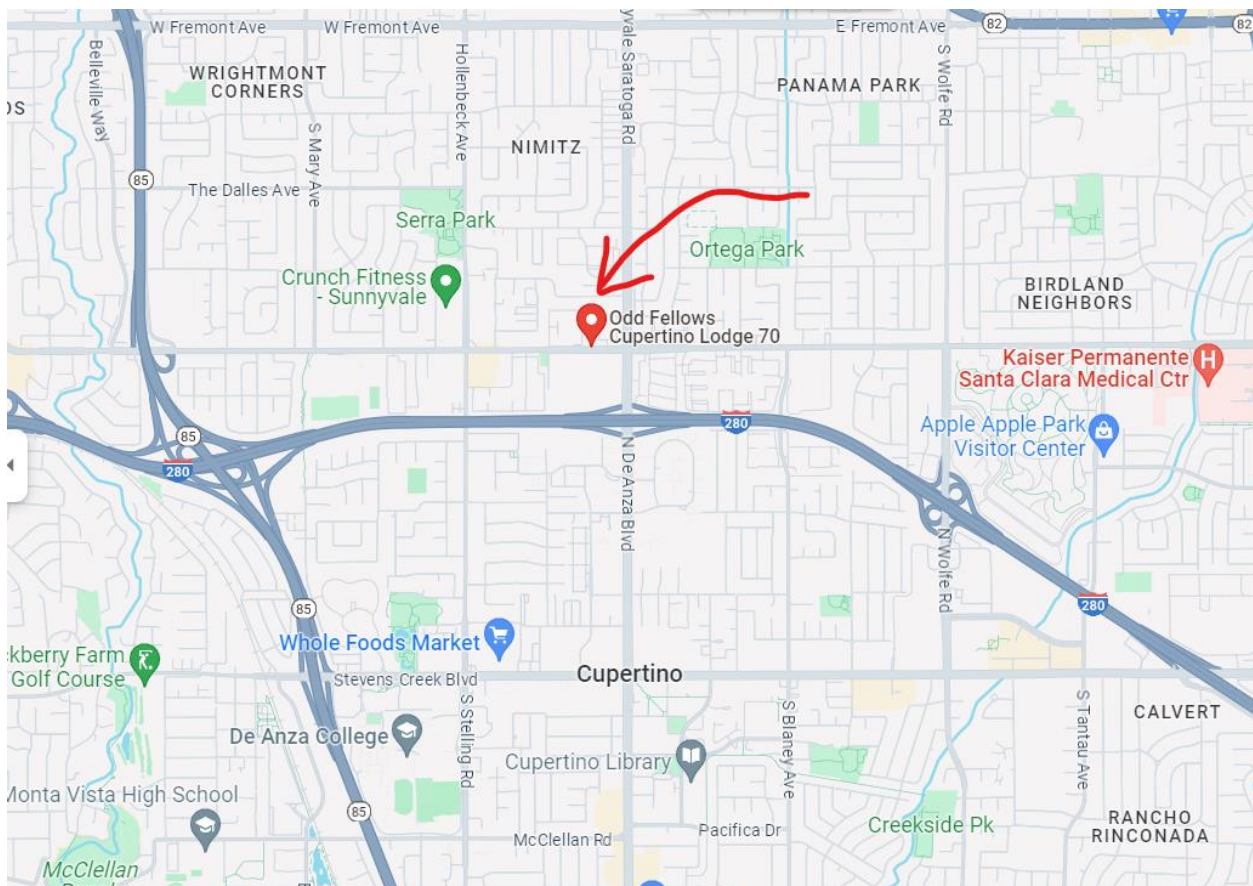
Cell: +1 (408) 219-0191

[Major Jock Sinclair in "Tunes of Glory":](#)

"Whisky for the gentlemen that like it. And for the gentlemen that don't like it - Whisky."

We Are Moving 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.



First Vice Commander Notes

Greetings fellow Legionnaires,

I hope that all are well after a wet late January and February brought our area some needed rain. Now that spring is right around the corner and the days are getting longer, you may want to attend our monthly meetings at our new location, the Oddfellows Hall on Homestead Av. Just west of De Anza Blvd. We had a great turnout of 13 members last month and the facilities were much nicer than our previous meeting hall. As a note for those who need a ride, contact me or the Adjutant David Han if you need a ride and we will collaborate with other members to pick you up and take you home from the meetings.

Our support for the De Anza Students Veterans continues as we approved \$2000 for their Veterans Site, so Veterans can utilize sandwich vouchers, restock their break room snacks and food so they can continue to use the Students Veteran Center as a meeting place, study location and a place to grab a quick snack between classes. We will be hosting another Veterans lunch during the first week of the new quarter in April at their De Anza location.

Membership is picking up and we have a new member Chester Thuener a US Army Vietnam War Veteran who has helped our Post at a few VA BBQ.' Bob Devlin finally convinced him to join the American Legion. He will formally be initiated as a member at our March meeting. We are getting close to reaching our goal, at this point we are 6 members short of our 2024 goal. We still need some new members and for the few members who have not yet renewed to do so. For those of you who have not yet renewed it is not too late to do so. Please renew either [online](#) or writing a \$40 check to American Legion Post 642, PO Box 302 Cupertino, CA 95015. Your renewal and support enable our Post to continue to work for and help Veterans in our community.

“Duty First”

Arturo

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.

2024 Membership Report (23 February 2024)

2024 Membership Goal: 66	Total Members: 60/90.9%
Paid Up for Life (PUFL): 16	New Members: 1
Online Renewals: 18	Renewals Pending Submittal: 1
Mail Renewals: 25	Members not yet renewed: 6
Post 1000 Transfers: 0	District Rank: 05/12

Newly renewed Members: Steven Gardner 2 Yrs.
New Members: Chester Thuener-US Army (Vietnam War)

Upcoming events for March 2024-May 2024

4 Mar	1900 hrs.	Post 642 Monthly Meeting in Person (Dinner served at 1800 hrs.) 20589 Homestead Ave. Cupertino, CA
12 Mar	1900 hrs.	District 13 Meeting at Post 419: 958 Homestead Ave. Santa Clara CA
1 Apr	1900 hrs.	Post 642 Monthly Meeting in Person (Dinner served at 1800 hrs.) Oddfellows Cupertino Lodge #70, 20589 Homestead Ave. Cupertino, CA
27 Apr	1000 hrs.	District 13 Meeting at Post 564: 2120 Walsh Ave, Santa Clara CA
6 May	1900 hrs.	Post 642 Monthly Meeting in Person (Dinner served at 1800 hrs.) Oddfellows Cupertino Lodge #70, 20589 Homestead Ave. Cupertino, CA

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

Here are the meeting dates for the current American Legion Year, please update your calendars. You can also find these dates on the [Post Website Calendar](#)

4 December 2023
8 January 2024
5 February 2024
4 March 2024
1 April 2024
6 May 2024
3 June 2024

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.

Military Jokes

Joke #1

Aboard a troop carrier crossing the Atlantic, I noticed a seasick pal of mine losing it over the railing alongside several other soldiers. "I never knew you had such a weak stomach," I said. "It's not weak," he replied. "I'm throwing up just as far as the rest of these guys."

Joke #2

A Drill Sergeant had just chewed out one of his cadets, and as he was walking away, he turned to the cadet and said: "I guess when I die you'll come and dance on my grave."

The cadet replied: "Not me, Sarge...no sir!

"I promised myself that when I got out of the Army I'd never stand in another line."

Joke #3

What do soldiers do when they find a scorpion in their tent?

In the Marines, they kill the scorpion. In the Army, they call their CO and report the presence of the scorpion. In the Air Force, he calls the front desk and asks why there's a tent in his room. The Navy wonders what a tent and a scorpion are.

Service Officer Cathy Schiavone

VA/DoD Health Affairs

VA & TRICARE Information

TRICARE is the Department of Defense (DoD) health care program for uniformed service members, retirees & their families. <https://tricare.mil/>

Does VA participate in the TRICARE Network?

- Yes, since 1995, all VA health care facilities have participated as TRICARE Network Providers.
- VA can provide care for Active-Duty Service Members, military retirees, & family members under their TRICARE benefit - on a space available basis.
- Each VA health care facility can serve as primary care manager for TRICARE beneficiaries, but more often TRICARE referrals are used for specialty care.

What VA requirements are there to be TRICARE Providers?

- Care can only be made available to TRICARE beneficiaries on a space available basis.
- No service provided under the agreement will adversely affect the range of services, quality of care, or the established priorities for care provided to the primary/core (Veteran) beneficiaries of VHA.
- VHA USH has certified to VA Sec that caring for TRICARE beneficiaries will not result in denial/delay in providing access to care for any Veteran at that facility.

For TRICARE Information and Assistance

TRICARE eligibility is determined by the military services.

If eligibility questions arise or more information is needed regarding TRICARE eligibility, contact:

- Defense Manpower Data Center: <https://dwp.dmdc.osd.mil/dwp/app/main>
- Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS): 1-800-538-9552
- TRICARE East Region: Humana Military 1-800-444-5445
<https://www.humanamilitary.com>
- TRICARE West Region: Health Net Federal Services 1-844-866-9378
<https://tricare-west.com>

Meals Roster 2023-2024

December 4th: Dan Weishaar (availability?)

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



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Source: <https://images.app.goo.gl/t54bPZ7B2ftUxaLx8>



Source: <https://images.app.goo.gl/GQ3xn6T6u7L7Mdn88>

Adjutant's Advice



Panelists Meg O'Grady, National University senior vice president, military and government programs; Angela Albritton, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University director of military relations; and Esmeralda Silva, Alliant International University vice president for student affairs, listen to a comment from the audience during a panel on the Department of Defense tuition assistance program at The American Legion's Washington Conference, Feb. 26. Photo by Andy Proffet / The American Legion.

Tuition assistance program for servicemembers needs more funding, more awareness as recruiting tool

By [Andy Proffet](#)

FEB 28, 2024

The American Legion [supports an increase](#) in the financial aid provided through the Department of Defense's Tuition Assistance (TA) program. Members of the Veterans Employment & Education Commission were encouraged to share that support with their legislators — as well as help raise awareness of the benefit — during a panel discussion on Feb. 26 at the Washington Conference.

“I think it's really important when you talk about this issue (to legislators), which is providing dollars for education or training, that they take the policy but don't dictate the practice. For the longest time, for some reason, virtual education has been associated with poor quality. We're taking that back,” said Meg O'Grady, senior vice president for military and government programs at National University.

The TA program provides financial assistance to active-duty servicemembers as they pursue voluntary education programs, but the aid is capped at \$250 per credit hour and \$4,500 per year. Those numbers haven't changed since 2002.

That limit in financial assistance affects how long it takes for servicemembers to get a degree.

“That \$4,500 a year, if maximized, would (take) seven years to get an associate degree,” O’Grady said.

In turn, that can force servicemembers to use other avenues to pay for education that they shouldn't need to rely on. “We should not be seeing our servicemembers taking on student loans unless they're getting grants,” said Esmeralda Silva, vice president for student affairs at Alliant International University.

The added years it would take to get a degree using only the TA program can also effectively make earlier learning obsolete.

“We know that if you started 12 years ago under that (STEM degree) curriculum, that's not where that industry is any more,” said Angela Albritton, director of military relations and strategic initiatives at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. “Those STEM degrees are expensive, and if we're looking at having the same business model to pay for those STEM degrees from 20 years ago, doing it now, we can all see there's a gap here.”

The caps are also having a negative influence on the number of universities who accept active-duty servicemembers into their programs.

Silva said that the last time the Department of Defense memorandum of understanding governing the TA program was updated “there were 5,000 universities that signed that MOU to say that they would support active duty utilizing tuition assistance. ... There's less than 1,100 universities (now) that will continue to support that. So we're also seeing that decline.

“One of our members, Central Texas College, the largest community college serving military students in this nation, is pulling out because they cannot sustain with the caps and continue to provide educational services at the cost point with the TA cap right now. Faculty in some of these programs are extremely expensive, and if you're going to bring in faculty that are the top tier to teach in some of these areas, it's critical.

And so when you see our community colleges pulling out, there's a crisis happening. It's just not adding up," Silva added.

Panelists also noted that the TA program is a benefit that isn't publicized well enough, which can have an impact on recruiting in general.

"Less than 20 percent of our servicemembers utilize tuition assistance every year. ... It is still an underutilized benefit to our servicemembers," Silva said.

"We want to really emphasize that this is a wanted benefit and yet the awareness isn't there that the benefit is available to them," O'Grady said.

Source: [Tuition assistance program for servicemembers needs more funding, more awareness as recruiting tool | The American Legion](#)

National Days and Months:

There is a neat description of March here with regard to the National Days and also where the rest of these links can be found.

<https://www.nationaldaycalendar.com/March> Minnesota, Oregon, Kansas, West Virginia, and Nevada were all admitted to the Union in March. There are also quite a few culinary days like National Cocktail Day on the 24th (one of my personal favorites) and "NATIONAL SPANISH PAELLA DAY" (Arturo's Foodie Day?) on the 27th, which I am sure some of our members will be fans.

[NATIONAL BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH - March](#) https://youtube.com/shorts/x_RgUroKpS4?si=kCRtluLIzffFnNSA

[IRISH-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH – March](#)

[NATIONAL COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH – March](#) <https://youtu.be/oXhfV1mYZx8?si=mVYdaRLHNCWSZziI>

[NATIONAL KIDNEY MONTH – March](#) <https://youtu.be/Z4pgqUr9rg8?si=ycUaB3k9GYE8jjyP>

National Women's History Month – March

<https://youtu.be/sQWfIdxB6kU?si=9D7Yg3nA-o8Q3Sjc>

[NATIONAL INVEST IN VETERANS WEEK | March 1-7 What is National Invest In Veterans Week? \(youtube.com\)](#)

[NATIONAL ANTHEM DAY - March 3](#)

[1931](#) <https://youtu.be/FLH8fzAPWYk?si=QvbD-3eodZzmu3np>

NATIONAL HUG A G.I. DAY - March

4 <https://youtube.com/shorts/EOXw9BCKKHU?si=GfK6RwrybmBJZEQ1>

[DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME | Second Sunday in March – spring forward](#)

NATIONAL K9 VETERANS DAY - March

13 <https://youtu.be/CeW57a2YN9Y?si=DPOpyG9aj6typ-4a>

ST. PATRICK'S DAY - March 17th

[NATIONAL MEMORY DAY | March 21 – this is about doing things to keep your brain active like the video poem below.](#)

<https://youtu.be/caIoVj91czg?si=J5wV27RBFLt8mHJ9>

NATIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR DAY - March

25 https://youtu.be/_AylIq4N718?si=fo3NYZ1nchjZ6Oy

AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION ALERT DAY | Fourth Tuesday in March

[VA PACT – Vietnam Diabetes mellitus type](#)

2 <https://youtu.be/yu267D7DMAA?si=UxT0x4K6q9n3uhjZ>

NATIONAL VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY - March

29 <https://youtu.be/p4XZ8A7Nw24?si=v-5ToScDc-z5kd6J>

Military History Notes: Vietnam, Medal of Honor, and Dogs

March 13

1942: The U.S. Army establishes the "K-9 Corps" - training dogs to serve in sentry, scout, messenger, and mine detection duties during World War II. The Quartermaster Corps puts the dogs through an 8-12 week basic training at camps across the United States, weeding out the animals who can't handle the sound of gunfire or handle the military lifestyle. Starting with 32 breeds, the Army eventually cuts down the list to seven breeds: German Shepherds, Doberman Pinschers, Belgian Sheep Dogs, Siberian huskies, farm collies, Eskimo dogs, and Malamutes. Some even serve on the front lines. The Japanese are said to have never attacked a patrol accompanied by a war dog. A German Shepherd named "Chips" serving with a military police company on Sicily attacked a German pillbox, forcing the occupants to surrender. Wounded in his attack, Chips was awarded Purple Heart and Silver Star.

Mar. 14

1945: on Iwo Jima, Pvt. Franklin E Sigler leads his squad on an assault against a Japanese machine gun nest that had been holding up his company for several days. Sigler reaches the position first and neutralizes it with grenades. As additional enemy troops begin firing from tunnels and caves near his location, he keeps pressing the attack. Despite his own painful wounds and heavy incoming fire, Sigler carries three of his wounded Marines to safety before returning to the fight. Pvt. Sigler will be awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions, as will fellow Marine, Pvt. George Philips, who leapt on an enemy grenade to shield his comrades from the deadly blast - sacrificing his life.

Mar. 17

1973: The first U.S. prisoners of war are released from the infamous "Hanoi Hilton" prison camp in North Vietnam.

Mar. 19

1945: The aircraft carrier USS *Franklin* sails to within 50 miles of the Japanese mainland - closer than any U.S. carrier during World War II. A lone Japanese bomber slips through the flattop's defenses and hits *Franklin* with two armor-piercing bombs. The bombs detonate below the flight deck, igniting fires and devastating the ship. Around 800 sailors are killed and another 400 wounded - the highest casualties for a surviving ship during the war. "Big Ben's" death toll would have been far higher were it not for men like Lt. (j.g.) Donald A. Gary, who earned the Medal of Honor when he located a blacked-out mess compartment holding 300 trapped sailors. Gary made repeated trips through the ship, guiding the men to (relative) safety.

March 23

1775: In a speech before the House of Burgesses, future Virginia governor (and colonel of the 1st Virginia Regiment) Patrick Henry exclaims, "Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!"

Mar. 24

1959: Elvis Presley is sworn into the Army as a private. He would attend basic and advanced training at Fort Hood, Texas and later serve in Europe in the 3d Armored Division. He ultimately reached the rank of sergeant before completing his two years of active duty service. Elvis was a jeep driver and reconnaissance scout, although he could also drive, load, and fire the M-48 Patton tank.

Mar. 25

1863: Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton presents six Union Army soldiers members of Andrews' Raiders with the first-ever Medals of Honor. Today, America recognizes all of its Medal of Honor recipients on National Medal of Honor Day — Mar. 25 (of each year) — the anniversary of the first presentations.

1915: While on maneuvers off the coast of Hawaii, USS *F-4* (SS-23) develops a fatal leak, going down with the entire 21-man crew and becoming the first commissioned submarine lost at sea. When a fellow Navy diver becomes entangled during recovery operations on the sunken vessel in April, Chief Gunner's Mate Frank W. Crilley volunteers to rescue his comrade. Crilley's dive of 306 feet sets a world-record and he is awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions.

March 27

1953: When the Marines launch a counterattack against entrenched communist forces at Outpost Reno, Corpsman Francis C. Hammond exposes himself to enemy fire to treat his wounded Marines for four exhausting hours, becoming critically wounded himself. When his unit was ordered to withdraw, Hammond remains behind to assist the incoming medics treat and evacuate the casualties, but is killed by an enemy mortar. For his actions, Hammond is posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.

March 28

1966: While serving as a corpsman with the 1st Battalion, 7th Marines in Quang Ngai Province, Petty Officer Robert R. Ingraham's platoon was hammered by automatic weapons fire from around 100 North Vietnamese soldiers. Over the next several hours, Ingraham disregarded heavy incoming fire and treated his fellow Marines, patching up wounds, distributing ammunition, all the while ignoring four bullet wounds he received during the battle - one of which was life-threatening. For his selfless actions, Ingraham is awarded the Medal of Honor. Today he is one of only 71 surviving recipients of the nation's highest award for combat valor.

March 29

1911: After a series of disappointing firearm designs The U.S. Army selects Colt's Model of 1911 .45-cal pistol to become the service's new standard-issue sidearm. Designed by John Browning, the M1911 is destined to become the longest-serving pistol in military history, still carried on battlefields by [U.S. Army Special Forces](#), [U.S. Marine Corps](#) and the [U.S. Navy](#).

March 30

1944: During the Nuremburg raid, a Halifax bomber flown by captain Cyril J. Barton fell under attack by German fighters while enroute to the target. Barton manages to throw off the enemy fighters but not before they inflict heavy damage to his Halifax, causing three of his seven-man crew bail out. Despite not having a navigator, radio operator, or bombardier, Barton presses on to the objective and releases the bombs himself, then makes the return trip to England. The badly shot up plane runs out of fuel once they hit the coast, and Barton crash-lands - saving the crew, but at the cost of his life. For his actions, Barton is posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross, the British equivalent to our Medal of Honor.

1981: President Ronald Reagan is shot during an assassination attempt at the Washington D.C. Hilton Hotel. While the president lost half his blood and was in shock from the gunshot, the 70-year-old former cavalry officer makes a full recovery - thanks to his fitness and the quick actions of his Secret Service agents. Jerry Parr, the agent who pushed Reagan into the presidential limousine and made the life-saving decision to reroute the motorcade to George Washington Hospital instead of the medical team waiting at the White House, was inspired to become a Secret Service agent by watching a film starring Ronald Reagan called *Code of the Secret Service (1939)*. Also wounded in the attack is White House Press Secretary James Brady, District of Columbia police officer Thomas Delahanty, and Secret Service agent Timothy McCarthy.

American Legion Post 642 January 8, 2024 meeting minutes
First meeting at Odd Fellows Cupertino

Attendance:

Bob, Vince, Michael O'Meara, Kenneth, Kathy, David, Arturo, Bill R, Gordon, Dennis, George, Delmar Wrensch, Chester Thuener .

Opening the meeting: Vince, Commander

Prayer by Bill

Pledge of Allegiance

POW empty Chair Ceremony

Preamble to the Legion Constitution

Adjutant Roll Call:

Commander- Vince, 1st Vice- Arturo, 2nd Vice-NA, 3rd Vice-George Midwin, Finance-Mike, Chaplain-Bill, Service Officer- Kathy, Judge Advocate- Bob, Adjutant- David, Sergeant at Arms- Bill, Historian-Dennis.

Guests:

2 guests

Reading of the Minutes:

Motion: Accepting minutes as written.

Moved: Dennis, Seconded: Bob

Discussion: None

Approval: Unanimous

Officer Reports Updates:

Finance Officer's Report: Mike

Summary: There is some movement with the money market account.

Outstanding checks from Wreaths Across America total over \$2000.

Motion: To approve the finance report subject to audit.

Moved: Dennis, Seconded: Arturo

Discussion: None

Unanimous Approval

First Vice Commander: Vince

Summary: For membership, we are at 58 members but our goal is 66. Chester is a new member. We are at 89.4% of our goal. State we are 47 out of 51. District we are 4/12 on renewals. Post 1000 members are getting emails and calls.

National has raised dues by \$5. We must decide if that is what we will do too. Our participation rate is around 20% from our members. Jose from De Anza College will join our post. 1/23 was a lunch with De Anza Vets. There were some good mentoring opportunities. It was a successful outreach.

May schedule another one for April. We are able to make it \$10 for student vets to join our post.

Discussion: Would like to provide \$1500 to De Anza veteran center for snacks and not books or scholarships anymore.

Motion: To donate \$2000 to the De Anza Student Veteran Pantry for snacks and drinks.

First: Arturo, Second: Dennis

Unanimous Approval

Second Vice Commander's Report:

Summary: NA

Discussion: NA

Adjutant's Report: David

Summary: Shared on article about VA offering homeless veterans more support.

Chaplain Report: No

Summary: None.

Historian: Dennis

Summary: February 3 and 4 are Chaplain's Day commemorations.

Post Service Officer: Kathy

Summary: Toxic exposures can be reported to the VA and may be able to get a disability rating. There are currently funds from the PACT Act. This

is for all eras. There is a study on veterans by the VA to better understand and serve the veteran community. Someone asked if symptoms were needed to get VA benefits for toxin exposures. Not necessary. The San Jose VSO is looking for three more employees.

Commander: Vince

Summary: None.

Committee Reports:

Boys and Girls State: Gordon

Summary: One delegate is ready to go. May need some extra help from Kenneth and George for more interviews. It will cost \$500 per delegate. Boys and Girls State medals will need to be purchased.

Wreaths Across America: Dennis

Summary: He attended an awards ceremony for Wreaths at Moffitt Field. He did a wrap up meeting. Overall, it was a great event. Couldn't hear one of the presenters well. May need to add another speaker for the sound system.

Sick Call Relief: None.

Unfinished business: None.

Discussion:

Initiation of new members: None.

New Business:

District Meeting Updates:

Memorial to Departed Post member:

Good of the legion:

Chaplain: Bill

POW/MIA chair ceremony

Benediction and Closing