



**Stevens Creek Post 642 The Ranger Way**  
**October 2023 Newsletter**  
**Mailing Address: PO Box 302,**  
**Cupertino, CA 95015**



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Zoom Meeting Info for October 2023 Meeting:  
Arturo Thiele-Sardina is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: American Legion Post 642 March Meeting  
Time: October 2, 2023 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6756452940?pwd=SXR0eFlZYTVuVWJUK0RmNnBQS05RZz09>

Meeting ID: 675 645 2940

Passcode: 1151

Dial by your location

+1 669 444 9171 US

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 675 645 2940

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kHGiETSdb>



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



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 October 2nd of this month. 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. Do give us a heads up, so that we can requisition extra rations versus our regular contingent. COME ON DOWN!

We are now officially in Fall after the passing of the Autumnal Equinox on the 23<sup>rd</sup> which brings cooler weather, Columbus Day, the Navy Birthday and Halloween (or All Hallows Eve). There are a few other honor months and days listed below that also have some Veteran interest as well. The VA wants to really emphasize Buddy Checks to help prevent Veteran Suicide.

First-ever Buddy Check Week, Oct. 16-20 – Get Involved!

Check in on your fellow Veterans during Buddy Check Week Oct. 16 to 20. Take time during this week to help organize and facilitate Veteran connections, outreach and education around peer wellness, crisis prevention and community.

[https://news.va.gov/124179/vas-first-ever-buddy-check-week-get-involved/?utm\\_source=middle&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=VetResources&utm\\_id=20SEP2023RN](https://news.va.gov/124179/vas-first-ever-buddy-check-week-get-involved/?utm_source=middle&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=VetResources&utm_id=20SEP2023RN) MORE

Regardless of creed—"No one left behind" (Marines), "I will never leave an Airman behind"(Air Force), "I am a warrior and a member of a team" (Army), "...on the strength of one link in the cable, dependent the might of the chain" (Laws of the Navy), or "I shall sell life dearly to an enemy of my country, but give it freely to rescue those in peril" (Coast Guard)—our strength is in standing together, and our resilience is fostered in community.

For Buddy Check Week, I will be handing out a list of members to call for buddy check to the current officers. to check up on the members, but also to let them know about things that we are doing and invite them to come and socialize at our monthly meetings.

Please remember that if you have Post or Veterans event 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](mailto:Jerep.bernardoni@gmail.com).

Please enjoy the National Day and Month links and Military History below including VA links.

To Comradeship!

Vincent Guinnane, MSME, P.E.

CW4, 881A1, USAR (Retired)

[vguinnane@comcast.net](mailto: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."**



## First Vice Commander Notes

Greetings fellow Legionnaires,

Welcome to October and fall, where the days get shorter and the weather cooler as we move from summer activities to those that occur in the next couple of months. We had our last two VA BBQ's these past two months and thanks to our Post members volunteering and the assistance of family members and the Cupertino Rotary, this years BBQ's at the VA were a success.

We will be busy in the next few months with various Legion related activities. As we approach Veterans Day there are a variety of local events. Miller Middle School hosts a Veterans Day Ceremony on 9 November at 0900 hrs. Look for an invite for that event soon. Additionally the city of San Jose holds their annual Veterans Day Parade on 11 November, as do other communities. I have not yet seen anything from the city of Cupertino regarding Veterans Day Celebration at Memorial Park for the 11<sup>th</sup>.

Also as some of you may not be aware, the hall where we meet on a monthly basis is owned by the Knights of Columbus and we rent our meeting room. The building has major structure and HVAC issues and we were recently informed this week that the Knights of Columbus have decided to sell the building. Speaking with my counterpart at the KoC, he basically said that more than likely the building will be sold before the end of the year and that we need to make plans to remove our items from the premise before the end of 2023. We have already approached several Posts of the American Legion to use their facilities going forward, and for the short term that seems the way to go. However, knowing that many of you belong to local churches and groups, if you are aware of a facility that can rent out meeting space with room for up to 30 persons please contact either myself or our Post Commander Vince and let us know of such location and the point of contact so that we can pursue that lead and finalize a long term meeting location for our Post going forward. We obviously want to remain in Cupertino since most of our members are located here or in areas adjacent to Cupertino .

Renewals are moving along, we are currently at 42, we are trying to reach the 80% goal by Veterans Day. Our Post at this point has the 4<sup>th</sup> highest renewal goal percentage in the District at 63.6% Please help our Post reach our goal and renew preferably on line at [legion.org/renew](https://legion.org/renew) or you can renew by mail just fill out the renewal invoice that you should have already received in the mail, and send that with your \$40 check to American Legion Post 642, PO Box 302 Cupertino, CA 95015.

“Duty First”

Arturo

## 2024 Membership Report (15 September 2023)

2024 Membership Goal: 68

Total Members: 42/63.6%

Paid Up for Life (PUFL): 16

New Members: 0

Online Renewals: 11

Renewals Pending Submittal: 0

Mail Renewals: 15 Members not yet renewed: 26

Post 1000 Transfers: 0 District Rank: 04/12

Newly renewed Members: Mike O'Meara 15 Yrs

## Upcoming events for September 2023-November 2023

### Upcoming events for September 2023-December 2023

26 Sep 1800 hrs.	District 13 Meeting at Post 809, 1825 Mt. Pleasant Rd., San Jose
<b>2 Oct 1900 hrs.</b>	<b>Post 642 Monthly Meeting in Person (Dinner served at 1800 hrs.)</b>
2 Nov 1900 hrs.	District 13 Meeting Post 217 74 West 6th St Gilroy, CA
<b>6 Nov 1900 hrs.</b>	<b>Post 642 Monthly Meeting in Person (Dinner served at 1800 hrs.)</b>
11 Nov Various Times	Veterans Day Ceremonies at various locations in Santa Clara County
2 Dec 1900 hrs.	Post Christmas/Holiday Dinner (No-host Cocktails start at 1815 hrs. Blue Pheasant Restaurant 22100 Stevens Creek Blvd, Cupertino,
<b>4 Dec 1900 hrs.</b>	<b>Post 642 Monthly Meeting in Person (Dinner served at 1800 hrs.)</b>



*“Cover me, Johnson—I’ve gotta tweet this!”*

## Membership Contact Updates

With the new Legion 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](http://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
- Timothy O'Meara
- 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](#)

10 July 2023  
7 August 2023  
11 September 2023  
2 October 2023  
6 November 2023  
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 member who hasn't had a chance to attend one of our meetings or activities because you have difficulties driving at night, or no longer are able to drive? If so please feel free to contact the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander ([arturo@cadiz.com](mailto: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.



COME JOIN US for OUR CHRISTMAS DINNER

**Sign up for our annual Holiday dinner on;**  
**Thursday, December 7, 2023**  
**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 desert.

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 will remain \$20 per person.

**The Deadline to sign up is November 27, 2023**

**Please PRINT**

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Menu Choices \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Guest \_\_\_\_\_

## **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?**

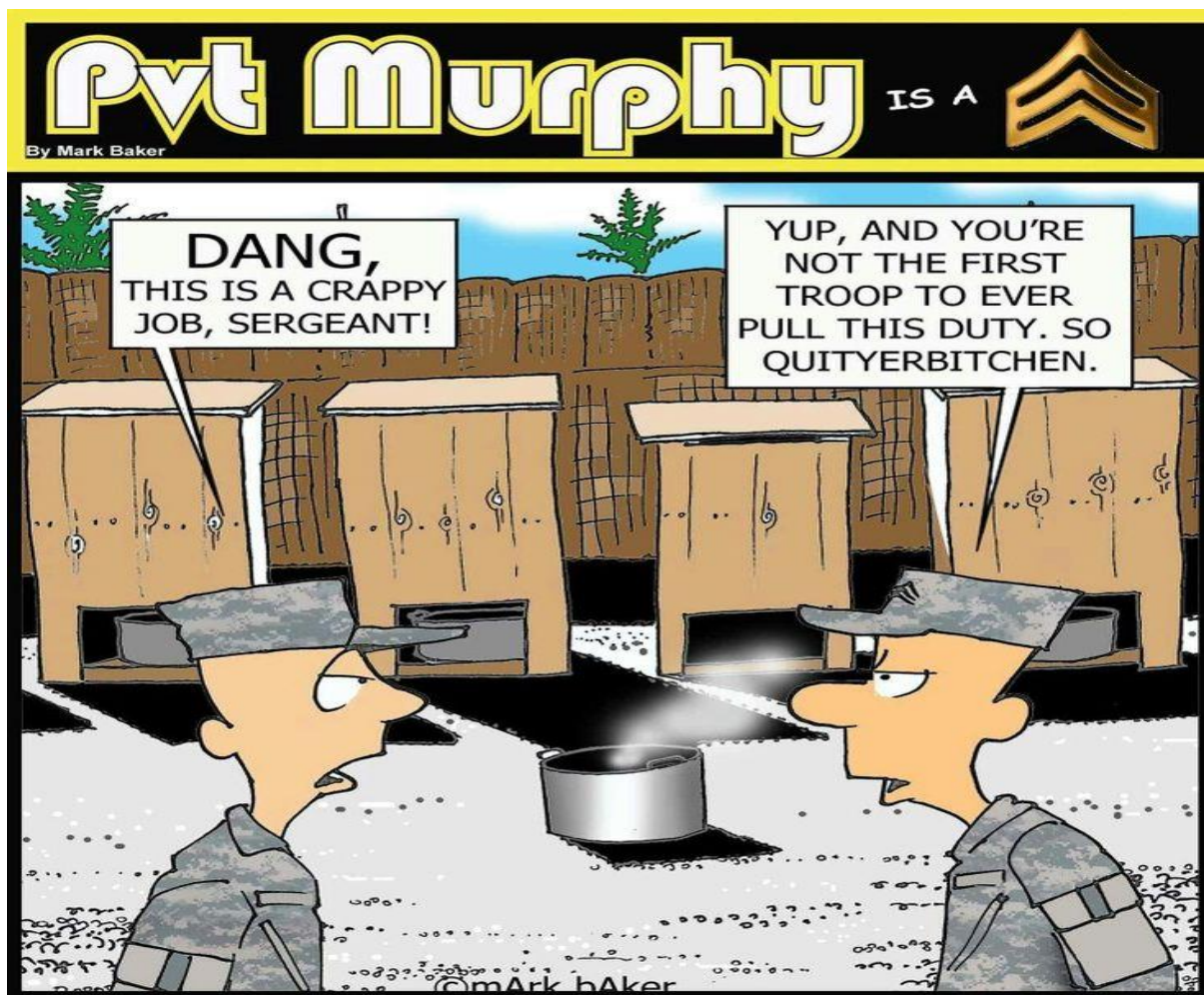
- Care can only be made available to TRICARE beneficiaries on a space available basis.
- No service provided under the agreement will adversely affect the range of services, quality of care, or the established priorities for care provided to the primary/core (Veteran) beneficiaries of VHA.
- VHA USH 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

October 2nd, Gordon Hall

November 6th<sup>t</sup>: David Han

December 4th: Dan Weishaar (availability?)

January 8<sup>th</sup>: Mike O'Meara

February 5th: Bill Reichard

March 4th: Bob Devlin

April 1st: Kenneth Klinkowski

May 6th: Jim Barnhart

June 3rd: Vince Guinnane

## **Adjutant's Advice**

Below is a request for veterans to tell their stories to be recorded for future generations. Please participate if you are able.

Hello,

I am following up on behalf of my colleague Lizzie McCarthy, who spoke to you last week regarding the Veterans History Project we are working on. As Lizzie may have mentioned, we would love to do a brief interview with service members so that we can learn from their lived experiences. Please share the invitation below and help us get the word out.

Our target is to interview two hundred Veterans by this summer. We have completed twenty incredible interviews so far and would love your support in helping to get the word out so we can reach our target. Please forward this email to the service members.

### **Some Details:**

- Interview duration: 30-45 min
- Interview can be remote or in person.
- In appreciation of the time, we will provide an amazon gift card.

To set up a time for the interview, please send an email to [team@spikeview.com](mailto:team@spikeview.com) or call/text 510-209-7615.

Please include:

- Date/Time you are available for the interview.
- Email/Phone number where we can contact you.

With much gratitude,  
Spikeview Team



# Inviting all Veterans!



## **Do you want to help immortalize history and tell your story?**

We would love to do a brief interview with you to catalog your lived experiences and submit them to the library of congress for future generations to view and learn from, leverage your collective stories to spark policy discussion, and explore how to get you connected to helpful resources.



**In appreciation of your support, we would love to gift you an amazon gift card**

To interview with us, please send an email to [team@spikeview.com](mailto:team@spikeview.com)





## **American Legion Post 642 September 11, 2023 meeting minutes**

### **Attendance:**

Gordon Hall, Vince Guinnane, Bill Reichard, Arturo, Wally, Manny, Michael O'Meara, Jim Barnhart, Wally, David, Kenneth.

**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-absent, Finance-Mike, Chaplain-Bill, Service Officer- absent, Judge Advocate- Bob, Adjutant- David, Sergeant at Arms- Bill Reichard, Historian-absent.

### **Guests:**

None.

### **Reading of the Minutes:**

Motion: Accepting minutes as written.

Moved: Wally, Seconded: Gordon

Discussion: None

Approval: Unanimous

### **Officer Reports Updates:**

***Finance Officer's Report:*** Mike

Summary: Need audit of the books. Need three members to help at the next meeting.

Motion: To approve the finance report subject to audit.

Moved: Wally, Seconded: Gordon

Discussion: None

Unanimous Approval

***First Vice Commander:*** Arturo

Summary: Vince provided a summary of Arturo's report in the newsletter.

Discussion: None.

***Second Vice Commander's Report:*** Gordon

Summary: Boys and Girls State is starting up. Kenneth will help Gordon.

Discussion: None.

**Adjutant's Report:** David

Summary: None.

**Chaplain Report:** Wally

Summary: No update on Arvid Stenstrom.

**Post Service Officer:** Absent

Summary: None.

**Commander:** Vince

Summary: Shared thank you letter from Yountville for sponsoring their American Legion Golf Tournament. Ordered the challenge coins. Membership year star patches were also ordered.

**Committee Reports:**

Wreaths Across America: Vince

Summary: Flyers may be here soon.

Discussion: NA

VA BBQ: Mike

Summary: September 9 was the last VA BBQ. Only four members were there. Robert, Mike, Manny, and Vince. Need 6 or 7 minimum helpers at every event. Second servings were allowed.

Christmas Dinner: Mike

Summary: Thursday December 7th. Please see the flyer in the newsletter.

**Sick Call Relief:** None.

**Unfinished business:** 9/11 Tribute videos.

**Initiation of new members:** None.

**New Business:** None.

**District Meeting Updates:** Coming up in September for all officers.

**Memorial to Departed Post member:** Arden Stenstrom

**Good of the legion:**

Raffle- Winner was Bob Devlin.

**Chaplain:** Bill

**POW/MIA chair ceremony**

**Benediction and Closing**