



**Stevens Creek Post 642 The Ranger Way**  
**April 2025 Newsletter**  
**Mailing Address: PO Box 302,**  
**Cupertino, CA 95015**



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

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

## **Commander Corner**

### **Commander's Corner**

Greetings fellow Legionnaires,

I will keep this short as I have updated my comments and input on the Post Website. You can find the Commanders Corner [here](#) and please check out the rest of our Post Website, as we have up to the minute events posted, information for Veterans and their families and other notable items.

1. I just wanted to point out that we are coming up to elections soon, nominations will be held in April and elections in May. I ask that you consider running for one of the leadership positions for our Post.
  - Commander-Leads the post, representing the organization and overseeing its activities.
  - First Vice Commander-Assists the Commander and takes on specific responsibilities, specifically regarding membership
  - Second Vice Commander-Assists the Commander and takes on specific responsibilities, such as Boys/Girls State Program
  - Adjutant-Maintains membership records, meeting minutes, and post communications.
  - Finance Officer-Manages post funds, accounting, and financial reporting
  - Sergeant at Arms-Maintains order during meetings, sets up for events, and is the custodian of the post colors.
  - Judge Advocate-Advisor for conducting Post business and responsible for the orderly conduct of disciplinary procedures
  - Chaplain-Need not necessarily be a clergyman, but must be a person capable of moral and intellectual leadership and one who gives dignity and respect to the office.

- Historian-Compile and preserve a pictorial Post history for print and electronic distribution.
- Post Service Officer-Assists veterans and their families with accessing benefits and resources
- Here is the [link](#) that describes these positions in greater detail.

2. The \$1000 Post Scholarship application window is now open, if your wife/husband/son/daughter or grandkids will be attending technical school, junior college or college in 2025-26 please have them contact me at [arturo@cadiz.com](mailto:arturo@cadiz.com) and request an application. Applications are due by 15 May 2025.

I look forward to seeing you at our April monthly meeting on 7 April 2025, please attend as we will be accepting officer nominations for the upcoming Legion Year.

“Duty First”

Arturo

#### Upcoming events for April 2025-July 2025

<b>7 Apr</b>	<b>1900 hrs.</b>	<b>Post 642 Monthly Meeting in Person (Dinner served at 1800 hrs.) Oddfellows. Cupertino Lodge #70, 20589 Homestead Ave. Cupertino, CA</b>
<b>9 Apr</b>	<b>1200 hrs.</b>	<b>DeAnza Student Veterans Lunch (Sponsored by Post 642), SEM-3 Bldg. De Anza Campus</b>
<b>29 Apr</b>	<b>1900 Hrs.</b>	<b>District 13 Meeting: Post 564: 2120 Walsh Ave, Santa Clara, CA</b>
<b>5 May</b>	<b>1900 hrs.</b>	<b>Post 642 Monthly Meeting in Person (Dinner served at 1800 hrs.) Oddfellows. Cupertino Lodge #70, 20589 Homestead Ave. Cupertino, CA</b>
<b>2 Jun</b>	<b>1900 hrs.</b>	<b>Post 642 Monthly Meeting in Person (Dinner served at 1800 hrs.) Oddfellows. Cupertino Lodge #70, 20589 Homestead Ave. Cupertino, CA</b>
<b>14 Jun</b>	<b>1000 hrs.</b>	<b>VA BBQ at Palo Alto VA, Bldg 520, 3801 Miranda Ave, Palo Alto,</b>

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.

## 1st Vice Commander's Note

### 1st Vice Commander's Note

Greetings Fellow Legionnaires,

Please invite fellow veterans, even if they aren't American Legion members yet, to our [Post meeting which is on April 7th](#) at the [Odd Fellows Lodge #70 Hall](#). This month also brings us the [The De Anza Student Veterans Lunch \(9th\)](#), [Team RWB Hike for Military Children Month \(6th\)](#), [American Veterans Autorama Car Show \(11-13\)](#), [Mobile medical outreach for Veterans \(18th\)](#), Easter Sunday (20th) and [District 13 Meeting\(29th\)](#)

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 need to check on funds for elderly Post Members for their annual membership as I have had several say that they are not doing well physically and/or financially, so I would like to keep them in the loop with our newsletter, etc. I have also reached to various Post 1000 members and Michael Fouts is now a new Post member. I understand that he will be bringing a copy of his DD-214 for the next meeting.

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 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. [Events Calendar](#)

If you know of deceased members during the past few months either bring their name and share with our District Chaplain, Sunny Dosanjh or send to him at [dos@dosanjhusa.com](mailto:dos@dosanjhusa.com)

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

### 2025 Membership Report (As of 14 March)

**2025 Membership Goal: 68**  
**Paid Up for Life (PUFL): 16 (-2)**  
**Online Renewals: 22**  
**Mail Renewals: 16**  
**Post 1000 Transfers: 2**  
**Newly renewed Members: 1**  
**New Members:**

**Total Members: 54**  
**New Members: 0**  
**Renewals Pending Submittal: 0**  
**Members not yet renewed: 14**  
**District Rank: Tied for 7th/12**

### Membership Reports

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



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

## **Service Officer Report**

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

**Dear Veteran,**

**The VA Health Chat app lets you easily connect with VA staff online. Through the app, you can chat by text to a real person to ask questions about your health concerns. You can get medical advice for non-life-threatening injuries or illnesses in minutes. You can even schedule VA appointments, refill VA prescriptions, and more. VA Health Chat services are offered at no additional cost.**

**The following channels are available in VISN 21:**

- **Pharmacy Support:** Ask questions about your VA prescriptions and request refills.
- **Virtual Clinic Visit (Urgent Care):** Receive medical advice for injuries or illnesses that need immediate care but aren't serious enough for an emergency room visit.

**Hours vary by location, but you can connect with VA staff in most participating locations Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. local time, excluding federal holidays. In some locations, staff are available on weekends or 24/7.**

**To access the app, [sign in to My HealtheVet on VA.gov](#). You can also access VA Health Chat on the [VA App Store](#) or download it from the Apple App Store or Google Play. For security reasons, you'll need to sign in to the app with VA-supported credentials. You may use your [Login.gov](#) or [ID.me](#) account.**

**Don't currently get care in VISN 21? You may have received this email in error or because you used to receive care there. Sorry for the confusion.**

**Thank you for your service.**





**A new camp commander was appointed and while inspecting the place, he saw 2 soldiers guarding a bench. He went over there and asked them why do they guard it.**

**"We don't know. The last commander told us to do so, and so we did. It is some sort of regimental tradition!"**

**He searched for last commander's phone number and called him to ask him why did he want guards in this particular bench.**

**"I don't know. The previous commander had guards, and I kept the tradition."**

**Going back another 3 commanders, he found a now 100-year old retired General.**

**"Excuse me sir. I'm now the CO of your camp you commanded 60 years ago. I've found 2 men assigned to guard a bench. Could you please tell me more about the bench?"**

**"What? Is the paint still wet ?!?"**

### **Historian's Report**

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

**<https://www.scotsman.com/news/american-civil-war-how-tartan-wearing-regiment-scotland-joined-northern-cause-1679908>** )

John Paul Jones of the Revolutionary War was also a Scot and considered the Father of the U.S. Navy (<https://youtu.be/H3rMtMJfewU> )

**Month Of The Military Child** (There is a military child day. I don't know why they called it out as Military Brat Day other than that some even call themselves that.)

#### **April 05**

**Passover Begins** (for our Jewish brothers, my Mum's parish would have a really good Seder Supper as well.)

**Gold Star Spouses Day** (This is to honor the husbands and wives of fallen military members, and I imagine fiancées, etc.)

#### **April 06**

**New Beer's Eve** (I am not sure if there is a sign that these two are on the same day, but there were a lot of Scottish immigrants and those of ancestry that have been in the American Military.)

**National Tartan Day** (There were Scottish Regiments in the Civil War on both sides.) 2 Scot Brothers on opposite sides ([https://youtu.be/j5bY5v\\_8tKU](https://youtu.be/j5bY5v_8tKU))

Scots in Civil War (<https://youtu.be/h0KRTtanfXE> )

#### **April 07**

**Good Friday** (Preparing for Easter)

**National Beer Day** (We can have beers prior on the 3<sup>rd</sup> to prepare!)

#### **April 09**

**Easter** (For those of the Christian Faith)

**National Former Prisoner Of War Recognition Day** (Vietnam POW Homecoming: <https://youtu.be/4aEKdKAjfdgv> )

**National Winston Churchill Day** (when he was granted Honorary American Citizenship under JFK's administration.)

#### **April 13**

**National Borinqueneers Day** (65<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division - Puerto Rican National Guard - <https://youtu.be/FHW0xzBmHvI> )

#### **April 27**

**National Devil Dog Day** (Also another Marines Day from when they garnered this nickname from the Germans soldiers due to their tenacity in fighting in 1918. <https://youtu.be/Klpeams774A> )



## History Notes:

### April 3

**Medal of Honor:** On this date in 1865 during the Battle of Namozine Church(Va.), 2nd Lt. Thomas W. Custer of the 6th Michigan Cavalry earns his first of two Medals of Honor. Serving alongside his older brother, Brig. Gen. George Armstrong Custer, Thomas captures the 2nd North Carolina Cavalry's regimental flag. Thomas capture another enemy flag in three days, becoming the Civil War's only double recipient of the Medal of Honor. Interestingly, George Custer is the first Union soldier to capture an enemy flag, which he accomplishes while serving as Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan's aide-de-camp in 1862. George, Thomas, and younger brother Boston will all perish during the Battle of Little Bighorn in 1876. (<https://youtu.be/9cFcBgowiFc> )

### April 5

**1951:** Corpsman Richard De Wert, serving with the 7th Marines in Korea, rushes through enemy fire to retrieve a wounded comrade. While wounded himself, De Wert refuses to stop to be treated and returns for another fallen Marine. Hit again, he braves incoming fire a third time, and on his fourth trip into the kill zone, the corpsman is mortally wounded. For his actions, De Wert is posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor. The recently decommissioned frigate USS *De Wert* (FFG-45) was named in his honor. (<https://www.defense.gov/News/Feature-Stories/Story/Article/2557866/medal-of-honor-monday-navy-corpsman-richard-d-dewert/> )

### April 18

**1775:** Paul Revere and William Dawes begin their famous "midnight ride" from Boston to Lexington, Mass., where they link-up with Samuel Prescott, who rides on to Concord. All three are sounding the alarm — warning town leaders and alerting the militia — that nearly 1,000 British infantrymen, grenadiers, and Royal Marines are advancing from Boston. (<https://youtu.be/K3-6J5qEGiA> )

**1942:** At 7:38 a.m. a Japanese patrol vessel spots the task force bearing Lt. Col. James H. "Jimmy" Doolittle and his raiders 650 miles east of Japan. The ship is sunk, but not before her crew can report the position of the American aircraft carriers. Their cover blown, sixteen specially modified B-25 Mitchell bombers have to launch from USS *Hornet* ten hours earlier than planned. The crews will not have enough fuel to return to the carrier after the first raid against the Japanese mainland of World War II, so they have been instructed to strike Tokyo and other targets on Honshu, then fly to China and pray they'll find suitable landing sites or bail out. The one-way mission will be successful, but all aircraft will be lost. Eleven airmen will be killed or captured. Doolittle will be awarded the Medal of Honor.

Long (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M-uSs0AagBc>)

Short (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WbFUBDipmfY> )

**1967:** Maj. Leo K. Thorsness, leading a flight of Air Force F-105 "Thunderchief" aircraft on a "Wild Weasel" mission in a heavily defended area around Hanoi, North Vietnam, destroys two surface-to-air missile sites. When one of his planes is hit and the crew has to eject, Thorsness circles the area to notify search and rescue crews of the downed airmen's location. Spotting an enemy MiG-17 in the area, he engages and kills the enemy fighter, and

draws its wingmen off as he heads for fuel. After refueling, helicopter crews attempting to rescue Thorsness' teammates reported more enemy fighters in the area. He damages one MiG and drives the rest away from the area. For his actions, Thorsness is awarded the Medal of Honor. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8WJI8XdHL24> )

**Apr. 22**

**1942:** The Coordinator of Information (predecessor to the Office of Strategic Services, and ultimately, the CIA) activates Detachment 101 - a special operations unit in Burma. The group collected intelligence, destroyed bridges, derailed trains, captured or destroyed enemy vehicles, located targets for the 10th Air Force, rescued downed Allied airmen, and most importantly, recruited and trained over 10,000 native troops for a highly effective guerrilla campaign against Japanese Forces. Detachment 101 and its OSS teams became the prototype for modern-day Special Forces (Army Green Berets). (Long: <https://youtu.be/1xPc0WKBbIs> ) (Short: <https://youtu.be/B7mmuzd8YmY> )

**2004:** Pat Tillman, who left a multi-million dollar career in professional football to join the Army after the 9/11 terrorist attacks, is killed while on patrol in eastern Afghanistan. Pat and his brother Kevin (a minor-league baseball player in the Cleveland Indians organization before enlisting) served in both Iraq and Afghanistan with 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment. (<https://www.nfl.com/videos/a-football-life-the-impact-of-pat-tillman-on-his-community-63457> ) (battle: [https://www.espn.com/video/clip/\\_id/10802439](https://www.espn.com/video/clip/_id/10802439) )

**Apr. 23**

**1951:** When his company's outpost is overrun by enemy forces in a fierce nighttime attack, Tech. Sgt. Harold E. Wilson ignores wounds in his head, shoulder, arm, and leg, resupplying his fellow Marines and coordinating his unit's defense with his company commander. Wounded again by a mortar blast, the platoon sergeant refuses medical assistance for himself and continues to support his men and treat the wounded. Despite being covered with serious wounds he stays in the fight until the last enemy assault has been defeated. He then walks a mile to the rear, but only after ensuring that all of his Marines are accounted for. For his actions, Wilson is awarded the Medal of Honor. Prior to the battle, he served in the Pacific Theater of World War II, was wounded in the Chosin Reservoir, and would later serve in Vietnam [as a Chief Warrant Officer].

(<https://www.cmohs.org/recipients/harold-edward-speedy-wilson> )

**Apr. 24**

**1951:** When a wave of Chinese soldiers charged his machine gun position, Army Cpl. Hiroshi Miyamura told his crew to cover him as he fixed his bayonet and advanced into the enemy force, killing ten in hand to hand combat and scattering the attackers. Upon returning to his position, Miyamura ordered his men to withdraw as he manned the machine gun and covered their retreat. He killed some 50 communist fighters before running out of ammunition and becoming severely wounded. Miyamura's position was overrun and he would spend the next 28 months as a prisoner of war. Miyamura would become the first Medal of Honor recipient whose citation was classified "Top Secret," out of fears for his safety. He would be publicly recognized upon his repatriation 28 months later. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P12ogwV4wRA> )