



The Ranger Way

August 2025



Commanders Corner

Greetings Fellow Legionnaires,

All are invited to our Post meeting which is on August 4th which happens to be the U.S. Coast Guards' 235th year of continuous service to the United States. Remember that we have the VA BBQ for the Building 500 patients on the 9th. There are also the usual District-wide events like Monday chess at Post 858, Vet to Vet Café at Post 419 on Thursdays. [Check the District 13 Calendar](#) for information.

I want to reiterate this warning again as Dennis called me just last week asking about an email allegedly from me as Commander. If you receive an unknown email that looks like one of the Legion officers or other, check the email address to see if it is something like Vince Guinnane <departmentalcommander001@gmail.com> Don't respond to it, but report it here: <https://support.google.com/mail/answer/8253?hl=en> If it is malicious, it can be reported to: US-CERT. www.us-cert.gov. Other Internet and email services have reporting methods as well. If you know the officer or person, you can let them know as well. There is also some Fraud information in the Service Officer Section this month.

Remember that we generally meet at [the Odd Fellows Lodge #70 on Homestead Road](#) on the first Monday of the Month at 1800 for socializing and a light meal and refreshments then check out the meeting at 1900.

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 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.

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, Sunny Dosanjh or send to him at dos@dosanjhusa.com. We are waiting on word about one of our members who health has taken a serious turn which will be updated to the Post and reported to the Chaplain as soon as possible.

I would like to include a YouTube that is military or VA related topic for the National Day and Month for "The Good of the Post."

To Comradeship!

Vincent Guinnane, MSME, P.E.

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[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 Commanders Notes

None

2026 Membership Report (As of 26 July)

2026 Membership Goal: N/A

Paid Up for Life (PUFL): 13

Online Annual Renewals: 8

Multi-Annual Renewals: 4

Mail Renewals: 7

Post 1000 Transfers: 0

Total Members: 32

Newly renewed Members: 0

New Members: 0

Renewals Pending Submittal: 0

Members not yet renewed: 34

District Rank: N/A

Membership Reports

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

Adjutant Update

I am working on updating our database for the Post, however most of the updates can be made by you the members. So, I am reaching out to those of you who receive the newsletter via email to look at your listed information that is currently in the Legion Database. For those of you who have been updating the information when there is a change, thank you. For the remainder I will

provide step by step instructions on how to 1) register for your personal mylegion.org login and 2) how to update your personal information.

1. Please click on the following [page](https://mylegion.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Resources/Help): or this link:
<https://mylegion.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Resources/Help>
2. Click on the Account Registration link on that page.
3. Read the "Before You Register Please Read" section.
4. Go to the "Register a New Account" section and follow the instructions listed until you completed the registration which includes setting up a password.
5. Once completed go back to step 1 above and once again click on the link.
6. Then go ahead and click on the "My Account" link, it will take you to the Help-My Account page. From here you can click on any of the items to see how you can make the necessary updates/adjustments of the current or missing items on your record. Additionally, you can scroll down the webpage, and it has the actual steps that facilitates this process.

If you are having issues with this, please shoot me an email with the issue and I will contact you and see if we can resolve the matter with a quick phone call.

Also as has been the case, the upcoming meeting agenda will be sent to members one week ahead of the meeting, which will enable all of you to read the minutes from the previous meeting, and see what is on the agenda. One ask is, if you have a topic that you would like to cover at the meeting please let me know at least 10 days prior to the meeting so I can add it to the agenda and let the Commander know in advance of the meeting. This will ensure that if any info is to be discussed that it goes out with the agenda so members can read it in advance, and this will facilitate the meeting schedule.

"Duty First"

Arturo

Upcoming events for August 2025-November2025

4 Aug	1900 hrs.	Post 642 Monthly Meeting (Dinner served at 1800 Hrs. Oddfellows Cupertino Lodge #70, 20589 Homestead Ave. Cupertino, CA
9 Aug	1000 hrs.	VA BBQ-Palo Alto VA, Bldg. 520, Miranda Ave. Palo Alto
8 Sep	1900 hrs.	Post 642 Monthly in Person (Dinner served at 1800 hrs.) Oddfellows. Cupertino Lodge #70, 20589 Homestead Ave. Cupertino, CA
8 Sept	1900 hrs.	District 13 Meeting, Oddfellows. Cupertino Lodge #70, 20589 Homestead Ave. Cupertino, CA
6 Oct	1900 hrs.	Post 642 Monthly Meeting in Person (Dinner served at 1800 hrs.) Oddfellows. Cupertino Lodge #70, 20589 Homestead Ave. Cupertino, CA
10 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	Various	Veterans Day Ceremonies, Cupertino, San Jose, and Santa Clara

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

Service Officer Report

Protecting Veterans From Fraud



The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)'s National Center for PTSD (NCPTSD) is dedicated to serving Veterans and their families. We want to raise awareness of potential scams affecting the Veteran community.

The VA will never contact you to request money. Scammers may pretend to be affiliated with VA organizations, government officials, charities, and military personnel. Additionally, these scammers may:

- Ask for personal information
- Use an urgent and aggressive tone
- Demand money via wire transfer or gift cards
- Send you suspicious links claiming they are for VA websites
 - Federal government websites often end in **.gov** or **.mil**
 - **https://** ensures that you are connecting to an official website

Please report any suspicious requests to your local authorities. For more information about how to protect yourself from fraud, **visit VSAFE**. You can also **access this VA Fraud Protection Kit**.

Historian Report

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

National Days and Months:

There is a neat description of August here about the National Days and where the rest of these links can be found. <https://www.nationaldaycalendar.com/August> Georgia, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maryland, and South Carolina were all admitted to the Union in August. There are also quite a few culinary days since August is National Sandwich Month and hosts Farmers Market Week, and there is also National IPA Day and Beer in general, along with Chop Suey Day and Toasted Marshmallow Day. There is also Elvis Week, who was a proud Army Veteran.

NATIONAL DOG MONTH – August <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-dog-month-august/> (Includes Assistance Dogs Week which includes service dogs for PTSD, etc.)

NATIONAL WELLNESS MONTH – August <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-wellness-month-august/>

https://www.va.gov/healthbenefits/resources/publications/hbco/hbco_additional_health_programs.asp

(The VA can help with this and Medicalert below)

MEDICALERT AWARENESS MONTH – August

<https://nationaldaycalendar.com/medicalert-awareness-month-august/>

[https://www.va.gov/files/2023-](https://www.va.gov/files/2023-06/MVAHCS)

[06/MVAHCS](https://www.va.gov/files/2023-06/MVAHCS) VA Benefits and community resources for aging Veterans and their caregivers.pdf

INTERNATIONAL PEACE MONTH – August <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/international-peace-month-august/> (A month which the American Legion takes to heart with our missions.)

[August 04 Friday](#)

National Coast Guard Day <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-coast-guard-day-august-4/>
<https://youtu.be/FBfpv7hH7YA>

August 05 Saturday

National Vfr Day <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-vfr-day-first-saturday-in-august/>
(Veteran and First Responder Mental Health Day. A lot of military join police, fire, and EMT) <https://youtu.be/3VLJO-izWPA>

August 07 Monday

Purple Heart Day <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/purple-heart-day-august-7/>
<https://youtu.be/NVA-7TqQT9w>

National Lighthouse Day <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-lighthouse-day-august-7/>
(This service also is under the Coast Guard) <https://youtu.be/9IMJPub0i> I

August 10 Thursday Agent Orange Awareness Day <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/agent-orange-awareness-day-august-10/> <https://youtu.be/r4LicCz4w-A> **(There are many more videos on VA SITREP site)**

August 13 Sunday

National Spirit Of '45 Day <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-spirit-of-45-day-second-sunday-in-august/> <https://youtu.be/FH6H11mo2s8>

August 14 Monday

National Navajo Code Talkers Day <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-navajo-code-talkers-day-august-14/> <https://youtu.be/yFLu73qKA8k>

National V-j Day <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-v-j-day/>
<https://youtu.be/66EOCMdEqCI>

August 15 V-j Day (europe) <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/v-j-day-europe-august-15/>

August 16 National Airborne Day <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-airborne-day-august-16/> <https://youtu.be/T2aNgykxAOI>

August 18 National Pinot Noir Day <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-pinot-noir-day-august-18/> **One of several days this month for Cathy and Arturo.**

August 19 National Aviation Day <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-aviation-day-august-19/> **For our Post Aviation Guys. I am pretty sure this day sets off Aviation Week.**

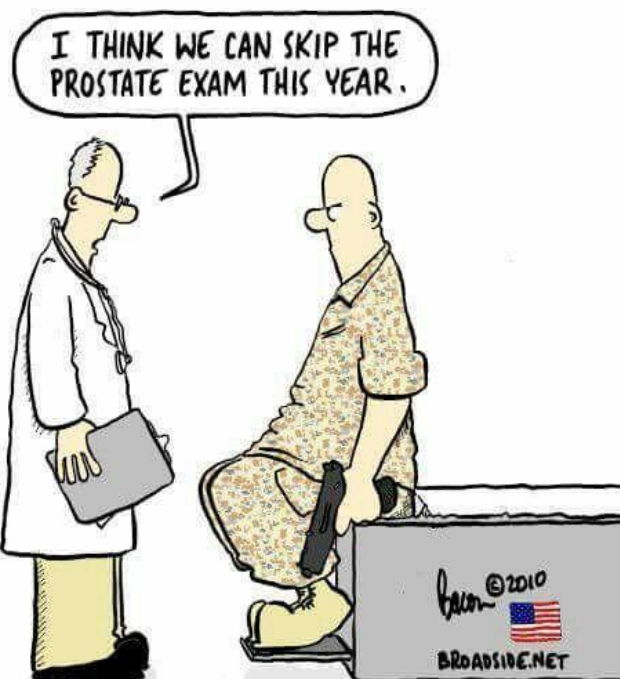
August 25 National Park Service Founders Day <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-park-service-founders-day-august-25/> <https://youtu.be/vKBBgq5Fjcc> Members of the Military, Veterans, and Gold-Star families are eligible for FREE park passes that provide access to more than 2,000 federal recreation areas including the national parks.

Military Humor



**INTERVIEWER: SO TELL ME ABOUT WHAT
YOU DID IN THE MILITARY.**

ME: I'D RATHER NOT, I KINDA NEED THIS JOB.



American Legion Legislative Report

26 July 2025

On the legislative front, several bills advancing in 2025-26 could have a direct impact on veterans' lives.

H.R. 3854, Modernizing All Veterans and Survivors Claims Processing Act. The legislation directs the VA secretary to submit a plan to expand the use of certain automation tools within VA. Harman noted that passage of the PACT Act in 2022 – which was fully supported by the Legion – led to a large backlog in veterans claims to be processed that has lasted the past several years. As of May 2025, the backlog sits at around 200,000 claims, leading the VA to reinstate mandatory overtime to help address the backlog. H.R. 3854 seeks to address such backlog by enabling VA to use AI automation to speed up claims processing by mandating VA to design a strategy plan on how to implement AI in claims processing; and design an AI tool to automatically generate claims letters, better track dependent benefits to reduce overpayments, and devise a plan to use AI to automatically label and store relevant claims documents.

H.R. 3627, Justice for America's Veterans and Survivors Act. The legislation directs the VA secretary of Veteran Affairs to submit an annual report that contains data and information on the causes of deaths among veterans. When a dependent survivor files a VA claim for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC), current regulations already stipulate for VA to examine if a veteran's cause of death was due to a primary service-connected disability or secondary contributing factors. DIC may be payable when the cause of death is any condition listed on the death certificate matches with one of the veteran's service-connected disabilities; the cause of death is an approved presumptive disability; or when requirements are met for veterans rated as "total." Harman wrote that the lengthy process to determine a service-connected death is detrimental for survivors, who are unable to readily access VA compensation and benefits upon a veteran's death. This proposed legislation addresses this inefficiency by mandating the VA secretary to better track and annually report how each veteran died, whether through natural causes or a service-connection (especially for those with a mental health condition), and whether the veteran was rated as 100% composite or "total" qualifying for survivors DIC benefits.

H.R. 3123: Ernest Peltz Accrued Veterans Benefits Act. The legislation is intended to improve laws relating to the payment of certain death benefits to veterans' surviving family members. H.R. 3123 aims to correct any potential injustices by improving the reclamation process for spouses and identified family members by safeguarding remaining entitlements and preventing VA from collecting benefits approved and owed at the time of death. Harman noted the Legion supports the legislation with an amendment that would require the VA secretary to maintain veterans' Power of Attorney for 90 days after death, allowing the veterans' widow or next of kin to utilize the benefits of an accredited service officer to represent their interests.