



**Stevens Creek Post 642 The Ranger Way**  
**July 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 July 1st. We will need to induct our slate of officers and delegates this month. We were apparently able to get our Post reports in, but still working on some paperwork and accreditation with District and Area at this time. We do have our Post 642 Annual Picnic at the Stevens Creek County Park (Sycamore Picnic Area) on 13 July at 1100 hrs. Of course, July brings our Country's Independence Day on the 4th and there will be some parades. I will be in the one in Piedmont with the Silicon Valley Pipe Band. I am hoping to get to the Alviso BBQ at the South Bay Yacht Club which information should be in the 1st Vice Report, and was sent out in an email earlier.

If you receive an unknown email that looks like one of the Legion officers or other, but you check the email and 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](http://www.us-cert.gov). Other Internet and email services have reporting methods as well.

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 showed a map in a previous newsletter to our new meeting site at the

Odd Fellows Lodge #70 on Homestead Road, so you might want to save that and print it out if you need to.

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, 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. 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 have a military or VA related topic for the National Day and Month and show for "For the Good of the Post"

To Comradeship!

Vincent Guinnane, MSME, P.E.

CW4, 881A1, USAR (Retired)

[vguinnane@comcast.net](mailto:vguinnane@comcast.net)

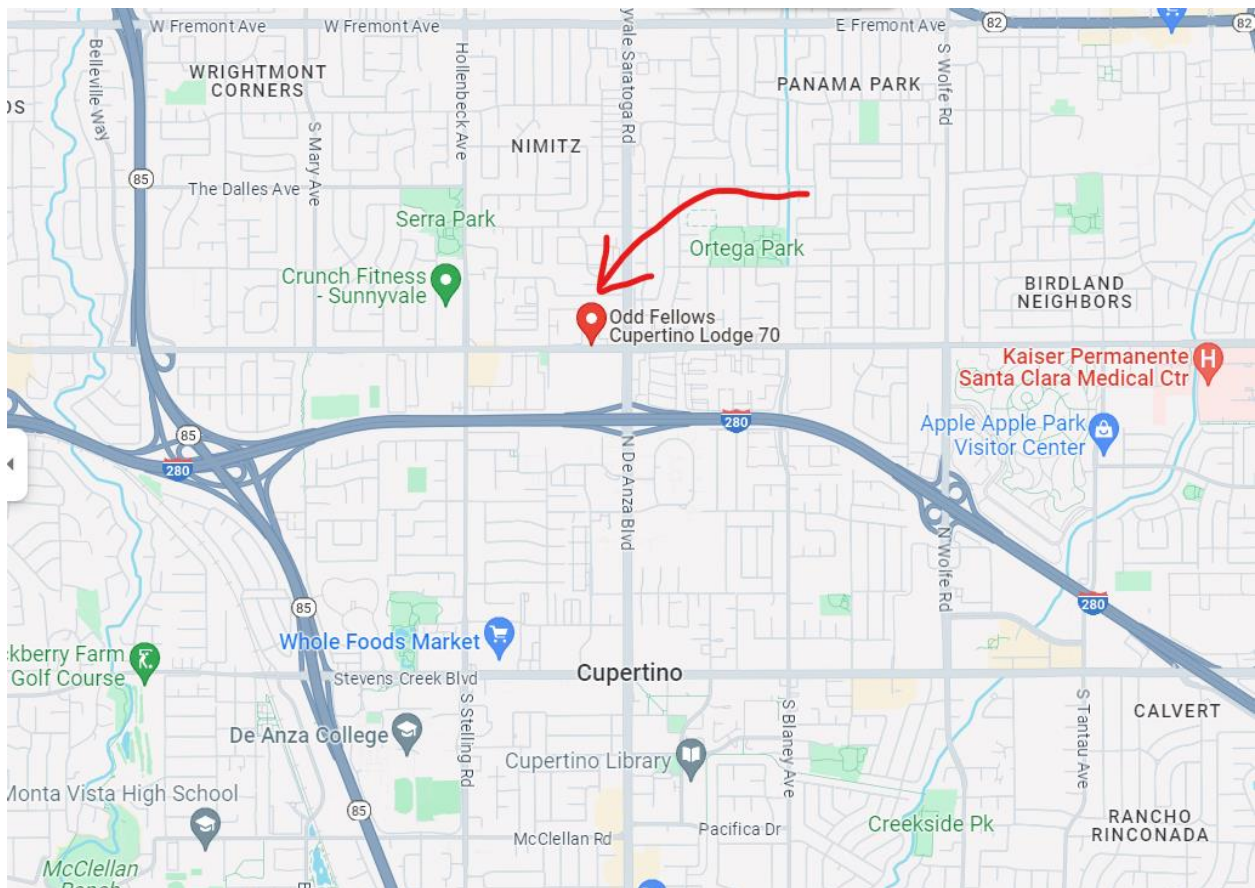
Cell: +1 (408) 219-0191

Major Jock Sinclair in "Tunes of Glory":

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

## 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.



## **First Vice Commander Notes**

Greetings fellow Legionnaires,

This will be my last update as First Vice Commander. We finished the year strongly with membership renewals. Our goal was 66 members, and we finished the year with 64 members, just two short of our goal. We were able to renew all but three members from the previous year, added two new members and unfortunately two members passed away during the Legion Year. The attrition rate for the year is much lower than in the previous 5 years so that is a good sign. As has been mentioned in the past, we Legion members are the best recruiters so this year take the time to speak with some of your friends who are Veterans and invite them to one of our meetings or various events so they can see who we are and what we do and get them to join the American Legion and our Post.

I am looking forward to our 2024-25 Legion Year as the new Post Commander. In the next few months, the leadership team will be rolling out innovative ideas and events for our Post. We will continue to work with and support the De Anza Student Veterans, local Veterans, and our community.

We have our Annual Post Picnic coming up later this month, this would be a fantastic opportunity to invite friends and family to the event. That way they can meet fellow Legionnaires and their families and enjoy a wonderful day outdoors!

I wish all of you a pleasant and enjoyable summer, I am writing this while sitting on the ferry viewing the scenery between Port Angeles, Washington, and Victoria British Columbia as we are up here in the Pacific Northwest enjoying the beauty and meeting new people on our summer journey.

Looking forward to seeing all of you at our picnic.

“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 (24 June 2024)

2024 Membership Goal: 66

Total Members: 64/96.9%

Paid Up for Life (PUFL): 16

New Members: 2

Online Renewals: 20

Renewals Pending Submittal: 0

Mail Renewals: 26

Members not yet renewed: 3

Post 1000 Transfers: 0

District Rank: 07/12

Newly renewed Members:

New Members:

### Upcoming events for July 2024-September 2024

1 July 1900 hrs. Post 642 Monthly Meeting in Person (Dinner served at 1800 hrs.)  
Oddfellows Cupertino Lodge #70, 20589 Homestead Ave. Cupertino, CA

13 July 1100 hrs. Post 642 Annual Picnic, Stevens Creek County Park  
(Sycamore Picnic Area)

5 Aug 1900 hrs. Post 642 Monthly Meeting in Person (Dinner served at 1800 hrs.)  
Oddfellows Cupertino Lodge #70, 20589 Homestead Ave. Cupertino, CA

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

## **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.

## **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](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
- 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](#).

### **Meals Roster 2024**

July 10th: George

August 7th: Arturo

September 11th: Cathy Schiavone (availability?)

October 2nd: Chuck

November 6th: Gordon Hall

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 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.



## **Adjutant's Advice**

### **The Pat Tillman Story**

Patrick Tillman was born to parents Mary and Patrick on November 6, 1976, in San Jose, California. The eldest of three boys, Pat was a caring and protective brother and a natural leader with a tendency to push limits – in life, the classroom and on the field.

At Leland High School in San Jose, California (1990-1994), that challenger mentality would become his signature. His diligence and relentless curiosity amazed almost everyone he came into contact with. In high school he was a star who led his high school team to a Central Coast Division I Football Championship – after he was told he was too small to ever play football.





Arizona State University recognized Pat's potential both in classroom and on field with a scholarship to play for the Sun Devils. What Pat lacked in physical size he more than made up for in intensity as linebacker. He led ASU to the 1997 Rose Bowl after an undefeated season, earned three consecutive selections to the Pac-10 All-Academic Football Team, a 1st team Academic All-American honor, as well as the NCAA's Post-Graduate Scholarship for academic and athletic excellence. Between games, Pat earned a B.S. in Marketing, graduating Summa Cum Laude from ASU's prestigious W.P. Carey School of Business in three and a half years.

Pat gained admiration and high regards from his professors, coaches and fans alike.

The Arizona Cardinals agreed, and selected Pat in the 7th round of the 1998 NFL Draft. Many people doubted his ability to deliver as a starter on the Cardinal's opening-day roster. He answered that skepticism by becoming the team's starting safety and broke the franchise record for tackles in 2000 with 224.

Pat's NFL success did not go to his head or break his principles. He still drove to games in the same beat up truck he had in college. He had no cell phone. He chose to read voraciously and develop, debate and discuss his ideas with eager listeners, family and friends. He made your passion his passion. In the off-season, he challenged himself physically with marathons and half-Ironman triathlons while pursuing a Master's degree in History from his alma mater. He volunteered with Boys and Girls Clubs, the March of Dimes, and read and talked to students in schools across the Phoenix Valley.



The day after the attacks of September 11, 2001, Pat told a reporter, “At times like this you stop and think about just how good we have it, what kind of system we live in, and the

freedoms we are allowed. A lot of my family has gone and fought in wars and I really haven't done a damn thing.”

In the spring of 2002, Pat married his high school love, Marie, and upon his return from their honeymoon, announced to the Cardinals he had decided to place his NFL career on hold to enlist in the U.S. Army with his brother, Kevin. The decision shocked many and garnered national media attention despite his refusal to speak publicly about the choice.

Pat and Kevin joined the U.S. Army that July, committing to a three-year term. They were assigned to the second battalion of the 75th Ranger Regiment in Fort Lewis, Washington. They served tours in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003, and in Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom in 2004. On the evening of April 22, 2004, Pat's unit was ambushed as it traveled through the rugged, canyon terrain of eastern Afghanistan. His heroic efforts to provide cover for fellow soldiers as they escaped from the canyon led to his untimely and tragic death via fratricide.

While the story of Pat's death may have been the most publicized in the War on Terror, it is Pat's life, principles and service that are his true legacy. Pat's family and friends started the Pat Tillman Foundation to carry forward that legacy by giving military service members, veterans and spouses who embody those principles the educational tools and support to reach their fullest potential as leaders, no matter how they choose to serve.

**Source:** [Pat's Story - Pat Tillman Foundation](#)

## National Days and Months:

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

<https://www.nationaldaycalendar.com/July> Hawaii, Delaware, Pennsylvania and New Jersey were all admitted to the Union in July. There are also quite a few culinary days since July is National Culinary Arts Month, but there is also Pina Colada, Chicken Wings and Scotch Days.

INDEPENDENCE DAY | July 4

<https://youtu.be/iloYdC1Gkq8?si=Cem5oDdHMzUBDNUZ>

CHRONIC DISEASE DAY | July 10

<https://youtu.be/8hvnEDKRvNc?si=n08jKVJnLfBOai3x>

NATIONAL AMELIA EARHART DAY - July 24 <https://youtu.be/2BHaX0LB-9s?si=NUwcAeTklaFB6N6A>

NATIONAL KOREAN WAR VETERANS ARMISTICE DAY - July 27

<https://youtu.be/Uzu-TbV7Hnc?si=FtbyWYbafmwhJ12A>

BUFFALO SOLDIERS DAY - July 28

<https://youtu.be/y13RwS95PIM?si=Mulg5YPSUllZXXn8>

Military History: Amelia Earhart, Buffalo Soldiers, Korean War

The Medal of Honor citations can be found here: <https://www.cmohs.org/> and videos on thru YouTube searches.

July 2

1863: The Battle of Gettysburg (Pa.) enters its second day. Col. Joshua L. Chamberlain's 20th Maine Volunteers occupy "Little Round Top" at the extreme left flank of the Union forces. With ammunition running low from repeated attacks by the 15th Regiment of Alabama, inflicted heavy casualties on the defenders, Chamberlain orders a bayonet charge. His men rush downhill, capturing over 100 soldiers. Chamberlain, who personally took a Confederate officer prisoner with his saber, is awarded the Medal of Honor.

1937: World-famous aviator Amelia Earhart takes off from New Guinea and heads for the tiny coral atoll of Howland Island, over 22,000 miles into her around-the-world flight. The Coast Guard cutter USCGC Itasca was positioned

near Howland to assist Earhart, and receives a transmission that her Lockheed Electra was running out of fuel. The Navy dispatches the battleship USS Colorado (BB-45), aircraft carrier USS Lexington CV-2), and PBY Catalinas from Hawaii (1,700 miles away) to join Itasca in the search, but they come up empty-handed.

1943: A flight of 16 B-25 Mitchell bombers, escorted by P-40 Warhawk fighters of the all-black 99th Pursuit Squadron, conducts a raid on Sicily. 1st Lt. Charles P. Hall becomes the first Tuskegee Airman to shoot down an Axis warplane - a Fw-190. Hall will fly 198 combat missions during World War II and is the recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross, which incidentally, was created on this day in 1926.

July 3

1775: Gen. George Washington, the newly appointed commander-in-chief of the Continental Army, takes formal command of his troops in Cambridge, Mass.

July 6

1944: A month after the Normandy Invasion, Lt. Gen. George S. Patton formally arrives in France. The Germans held Patton in such high regard that kept their 15th Army in Calais, thinking that would be the site where Patton's "phantom

army" would be landing - the result of a successful Allied deception campaign. Patton's Third Army will form the extreme right flank of the march across France.

That same day in the United States, 2nd Lt. Jackie Robinson - famous for breaking Major League Baseball's "color barrier" in 1947 - refuses to move to the back of a bus. Military police meet Robinson at his stop, and investigators recommend a court martial. Although his commanding officer refuses to press charges, Robinson is transferred to another unit whose commander does pursue a court martial. His former unit, the 761st "Black Panther" tank battalion is sent to Europe, and Robinson will receive an honorable discharge.

1962: USS Bainbridge (DLGN-25), America's first nuclear-powered frigate, is commissioned. In two years, Bainbridge will join the nuclear-powered vessels, USS

Enterprise and USS Long Beach for a two-month unrefueled cruise around the world.

## July 7

1798: The "Quasi War" with France begins when Congress rescinds treaties with the revolutionary French government. Leading up to - and during - the two year undeclared war, 2,000 American merchant vessels are captured by French privateers. The U.S. Navy and Marine Corps, which had been disbanded after the American Revolution, are both brought back into service, as is George Washington, whom President John Adams reinstates as Commander-in-Chief.

1846: Commodore John D. Sloat, commanding the Pacific Squadron during the Mexican-American War, lands at Monterrey and raises the flag over the Custom House, claiming California for the United States.

1944: On Saipan, 3,000 Japanese troops conduct the largest banzai charge of the war, nearly wiping out two battalions of soldiers from the 105th Infantry Regiment in a 12-hour pitched battle. Although resistance will continue for

weeks, Saipan is declared secure on July 9. The 30,000-man Japanese garrison force is wiped out, but the Battle of Saipan is the costliest campaign in the Pacific War to date with over 12,000 American casualties - including famous actor Lee Marvin, then a Marine Corps private, who was twice wounded in the assault on Mount Tapochau.

During the battle, Marine Private First Class Harold C. Agerholm commandeers an abandoned ambulance and for three hours makes repeated trips through perilous enemy fire, rescuing 45 wounded Americans before he is mortally wounded by an enemy sniper. For his actions, Agerholm is awarded the Medal of Honor.

## July 8

1942: The Gato-class submarine USS Barb (SS-220) is commissioned in Groton, Conn. The sub will conduct combat tours in both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, and, according to Japanese records, is credited with sinking more tonnage than any other U.S. submarine. On July 22, 1945, a crew of sailors from Barb land at Karafuto, Japan and place explosives that will destroy a train - the only land combat on Japanese home islands during the war.

July 10

1942: A PBY "Catalina" crew spots an intact Japanese A6M "Zero" fighter that crash-landed on the Alaskan island of Akutan. The fighter is salvaged and shipped to the United States, where test pilots will use the captured warplane to

identify tactics that negate the formidable Zero's advantages. The newly developed F6F "Hellcat" is modified to take full advantage of the Zero's weaknesses discovered during tests, and Hellcat aviators will enjoy an impressive 13:1 kill ratio against Zeroes in the Pacific War.

July 16

1957: Six years before becoming the first American to orbit the earth, Maj. John Glenn (USMC) streaks across the country on the first supersonic transcontinental flight. Glenn, a combat veteran of both World War II and Korea, pilots his F8U-1 Crusader jet from California to New York in a record setting 3 hours and 22 minutes. He averaged 725.55 mph, despite having to slow down for three mid-air refueling contacts with propeller-driven AJ-2 Savage tankers.

1969: Millions of Americans tune in to watch the Saturn V rocket carrying Apollo 11 astronauts Neil Armstrong (USN), Michael Collins (USAF), and "Buzz" Aldrin (also USAF) blast off from Kennedy Space Center on the first ever mission to the moon's surface. The Apollo 11 crew orbit the earth one and-a-half times before firing their rockets on a course for the moon that will take them three days.

July 27

1953: After three years of fighting in Korea, which kills over 50,000 Americans and millions of Chinese and Korean troops, an armistice is signed, ending hostilities in the Korean War at 2200 hours. At 2159, the cruiser USS St. Paul (CA-73) fires the last shot of the war, firing a shell signed by Rear Adm. Harry Sanders at a communist gun emplacement.

Meanwhile, Air Force Capt. Ralph S. Parr shoots down a Soviet Navy transport plane, making him a double ace (10 confirmed kills) and notching the last air-to-air victory of the war. Parr flew 641 combat missions during World War II, Korea, and Vietnam and is the only member of the Armed Forces to earn both the Distinguished Service Cross and the Air Force Cross. The agreement establishes a

De-Militarized Zone near the 38th Parallel and prisoners are exchanged, but to this day, North and South Korea are technically still at war. Dozens of Americans have been killed in clashes in the DMZ, with several U.S. aircraft and helicopters shot down since the armistice.

## **American Legion Post 642 June 3, 2024 meeting minutes**

Attendance:

Wally, Michael O'Meara, David, Bill R, Gordon, Kenneth, Jim, George, Bob Devlin, Vince, Chuck Thuener.

Opening the meeting: Vince

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- Gordon, 3rd Vice- Jim, Finance-Mike, Chaplain-Bill, Service Officer- Absent, Judge Advocate- Bob, Adjutant- David, Sergeant at Arms- Kenneth, Historian- Dennis.

Guests: None

Reading of the Minutes:

Motion: Accepting minutes subject to edit.

Moved: Dennis, Seconded: Bob

Discussion: None.

Approval: Unanimous

Officer Reports Updates:

Finance Officer's Report: Mike

Summary: Reported numbers.

Motion: To approve the finance report subject to audit.

Moved: Dennis, Seconded: Chuck

Discussion: Where is money from? Selling the building and bingo.

Where is the income now? Interest and Wreaths of America. We will continue to increase donations.

Unanimous Approval

First Vice Commander: Arturo

Summary: Membership 64 out of 66 our goal. Sent out letters and some are renewing. Dues are going up next year. Renew before July 1, 2025 then you save \$5. Three year renewals are possible. A veteran community fair on Saturday was well attended. Veteran Stand Down in San Mateo coming up. Fourth of July party at the South Bay Yacht Club in Alviso has a free BBQ. Kids can ride boats and fireworks on the levy.

Post 642 scholarships had two submit applications. 3.4 GPA met and won scholarships.

Discussion: NA

Second Vice Commander's Report: Gordon

Summary: Sponsored one girl to Girls State. June 15th to June 21st intensive study. They will give a speech at the Christmas dinner. District 13 will send information on the bus. Medal of Freedom for the student will be \$10 again.

Discussion: NA

Adjutant's Report: David

Summary: None.

Chaplain Report: Bob

Summary: All are healing. Wally said our member Mr. Cribbs in Saratoga, California passed away.

Post Service Officer: Absent

Summary: None.

Commander: Vince

Summary: None.

Committee Reports:

Boys and Girls State: Gordon

Summary: None.

Discussion: None.

Wreaths Across America: Dennis

Summary: Will be last year for Dennis as the leader. Would like to speak at Sunnyvale or Los Altos Hills city council meetings and others. Would like more volunteers. Would like to share at churches. Will print 2000 to 3000 fliers. Veteran band is going to honor women this year. Healing Wounds is a great book for veterans. Will have a meeting at his house. Rotary has been quiet.

Sick Call Relief: None.

Unfinished business:

VA BBQ and picnic: Mike

Discussion: Needs some more volunteers. June 8, 2024 Saturday. Saturday July 13, 2024 picnic. Give money and head count by July 1, 2024.

Plaque for our post at the front of the lodge: Bill

Would like to post it on the building.

Initiation of new members: None.

New Business:

Dennis will get stories from our post members to share their stories in service.

Installation of Officers will happen in July.

June 27-30 is the state convention in Visalia.

New meals roster will be needed.

July 10th: George

August 7th: Arturo

September 11th: Cathy Schiavone (availability?)

October 2nd: Chuck

November 6th: Gordon Hall

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

District Meeting Updates:

District Caucus yesterday. No commander currently. Arturo is the third vice. Proper disposal of American flags. Los Gatos Memorial park has agreed to take over.

Motion: \$240 to VAR fund.

First: Dennis, Second: Manny

Unanimous

Memorial to Departed Post member: None

Good of the legion: Bob Devlin

Air Force in North Dakota. B52 Mechanic. 10 engines.

Chaplain: Bill

POW/MIA chair ceremony

Benediction and Closing