



Brig. Gen. Robin Olds
 American Legion Thailand Post TH01
 Email: amerilegionth01@gmail.com



Bruce Templeman, Commander Jeff Ludwig, Adjutant

Post meetings held the 2nd Monday of each month at the
 Wing 21 Ubon Royal Thai AB
 Driving Range Club house at 10:00 a.m.
 All members are encouraged to attend.

Post email address: amerilegionth01@gmail.com

June 2020
 Volume 4, Issue 6

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **June 8 - Post Membership Meeting (via Skype Group Chat)**
- **June 14 – Flag Day**
- **June 21 - Father’s Day**

2020 Post Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Email</u>
Bruce Templeman	Commander	bruce.templeman@gmail.com
Wayne Wright	1st Vice Commander	waywright@outlook.com
Billy Holland	2nd Vice Commander	billybholland@gmail.com
Ted Potyrala	Historian	tpubon@gmail.com
Maurice(Rocky) Hatzke	Service Officer	mrhatzke3@gmail.com
Hugh Mason	Chaplain	htmmason@aol.com
Jeff Ludwig	Adjutant/Finance Officer	jgludwig2@gmail.com
Salvatore (Sal) Salzarulo	Sergeant at Arms	salzy48@hotmail.com
Larry Edmonds	Judge Advocate	ldedmonds@aol.com
Joe Reedy	Public Affairs Officer	joereedy4@gmail.com
Phil Colombey	IT Officer	pcolombe@gmail.com
Paul McDermott	Members at large	paulny54@hotmail.com
Dave Bell	Members at large	davebell211@hotmail.com
Kirby (Cosmo) Raines	Members at large	cosmotyson@yahoo.com

Your Post Officers:

Commander



Bruce Templeman

1st Vice Commander



Wayne Wright

2nd Vice Commander



Billy Holland

Chaplain



Charlie Mason

Adjutant/Finance
Officer



Jeff Ludwig

Historian



Ted Potyrala

Service Officer



Rocky Hatzke

Sergeant at Arms



Sal Salzarulo

Judge Advocate



Larry Edmonds

IT Director



Phil Colombey

Publicity Officer



Joe Reedy

Member at Large



David Bell

Member at Large



Kirby Raines

Member at Large



Paul McDermott

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Bruce Templeman



We're off to a slow start this month with some businesses opening and others, like the airlines, being postponed. I hope that all of our Post members and their families are faring well and are able to stay safe from this Corona virus.

It was decided by the membership at our Post meeting that our next meeting in June will also be via Skype. I appreciate all of the members in attendance this past meeting. There was a lot of participation and camaraderie.

While I realize many of our members are back in the USA and that there is a substantial time difference to contend with, I hope to get more participation. Time difference notwithstanding, I encourage all members to participate in any way possible. Drop us an email with comments and suggestions, or message us on Facebook. This Post is for you, the member, and all members have equal standing to be heard.

One issue that I would like for members to comment upon is how we can recruit new members. In addition, I would like to know what convinced you join the American Legion and what you expect from your affiliation with our Post. We have a unique opportunity to help US veterans and the local communities where they live. This next couple of months can best be spent planning for the reopening of the country and our role in supporting those in need. Please take some time to reflect on our mission and get involved. I look forward to having a fun and successful year.

1st Vice Commander Wayne Wright



My message may be a little late but is still pertinent. It is about buddy checks or better yet citizen checks. Knowing many Americans here from assisting our Embassy staff, I have many non-Legion member contacts. As I was reaching out to some, I came to realize how unprepared some were, by not even being registered for Smart Traveler Enrollment Program, (STEP), or the Embassy's own outreach newsletters. I heard some individuals say things like: "What!, the Embassy is closed; How can I make an appointment; my passport is out of pages and I need to get a new one and they are closed; or My child needs a new passport to travel, our flight is WAIT WHAT how can the airlines just stop."

In each instance, I worked with the embassy staff to provide answers or to provide a viable course of action. For example, when inbound mail stopped and the normal route for filing and payment of medical fees halted, I had a backup plan for payment of Medical care. A few calls from home (via Skype of course) and all was OK.

We can help our fellow citizens here in Thailand in several ways. First, encourage any American citizen you meet to enroll in STEP. Now is not the time to be a hermit. Second, share information even to other nation expats, as they may be getting little or no information. Third, reach out to anyone you know or are aware of to see if they are safe or need assistance. Even my expired no page passport holder was allowed to board and is back in USA. Finally, be kind in your community - we are guests here. If they want you to wear a mask, then just wear a mask. If you are asked to maintain proper social distance, then do it. Ignore the rude behavior type individuals and smile at everyone, even if they cannot see it under your mask. We will get past this!

Post Adjutant Corner:
Jeff Ludwig



Great News! We, the Maj. Gen. Robin Olds American Legion Post TH 01, have reached 100% of the Departments goal for the third straight year. We are now a member of the 100 club. While it took longer this year to reach our goal, we did it and we also met or exceeded the Department and National monthly target goals. I wish to thank all of you who helped make this possible. Because we reached our goal before May 31, 2020, we will be eligible for a monetary award of \$0.50 per member. Membership is truly the lifeblood of the American Legion. “Strength in numbers!” Without the numbers, we could not provide the vital services to our veterans, their family, and our local communities. Be proud to know that we did our part. Now we can take a month break to gear up for the new membership year starting in July. Let’s make next year’s membership drive one to remember.

Membership dues for the next year: Just a note to remind you that next year’s membership drive starts July 1, 2020. The annual dues for 2021 will be \$45.00 or 1500 baht.

Mailing Address: Are you getting your American legion Magazine and the American Legion Dispatch newsletter? If not, you may need to review your address on file with the American Legion. You can do this by going online at the Members Portal and logging in. The web address is, [https://www.members.legion.org/CGI-](https://www.members.legion.org/CGI-BIN/lansaweb?webapp=MYLmain+webtrn=WR_landingpage+ml=LANSA:XHTML+partition=TAL+language=ENG)

[BIN/lansaweb?webapp=MYLmain+webtrn=WR_landingpage+ml=LANSA:XHTML+partition=TAL+language=ENG](https://www.members.legion.org/CGI-BIN/lansaweb?webapp=MYLmain+webtrn=WR_landingpage+ml=LANSA:XHTML+partition=TAL+language=ENG)

Make sure it is this page and not the visitor’s portal. It should look like this. Once in, go to your profile and review all your data especially you mail address. A point to remember when entering



your mailing address, we have only two lines of 25 characters each line which includes spaces. That is not much room for the long Thai addresses. Most of you will have to abbreviate to make it fit. Don’t include the country as that has a separate field. If you are not sure how to do it, you can simply contact me and I will help you review and if necessary correct it.

Flag Day

In the United States, Flag Day is celebrated on June 14. It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States on June 14, 1777 by resolution of the Second Continental Congress. It's a time to educate our young people on the meaning and tradition of the flag. Most importantly, it is a time of reflection of what the flag means to the country and the men and women who gave their lives defending the principles it represents.



What are the parts of the flag? It consists of thirteen equal horizontal stripes of red (top and bottom) alternating with white, with a blue rectangle in the canton (referred to specifically as the "union") bearing fifty small, white, five-pointed stars arranged in nine offset horizontal rows. The thirteen stripes represent the original thirteen colonies. The Stars represent each state in the Union.

What do the colors of the flag symbolize? Charles Thomson, secretary of the Continental Congress, said when creating the Great Seal of the United States, described the symbolism of the flag as, "White signifying purity and innocence; Red, hardiness & valor; and Blue signifying vigilance, perseverance, and justice." From that day, the meaning stuck and was applied to both the Great Seal and the American flag. Even today, there is no *official* assignment of meaning to the colors of the flag. However, Thomson's words have carried on in custom and tradition.

How is the flag folded? It is folded thirteen times in a triangle.

This is what the 13 folds mean:

1. The first fold of our flag is a symbol of life.
2. The second fold signifies our belief in eternal life.
3. The third fold is made in honor and tribute of the veteran departing our ranks, and who gave a portion of his or her life for the defense of our country to attain peace.
4. The fourth fold exemplifies our weaker nature as citizens trusting in God; it is to Him we turn for His divine guidance.
5. The fifth fold is an acknowledgement to our country, for in the words of Stephen Decatur, "Our country, in dealign with other countries, may she always be right, but it is still our country, right or wrong."

6. The sixth fold is for where our hearts lie. It is with our heart that we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.
7. The seventh fold is a tribute to our armed forces, for it is through the armed forces that we protect our country and our flag against all enemies.
8. The eighth fold is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day, and to honor our mother, for whom it flies on Mother's Day.
9. The ninth fold is an honor to womanhood, for it has been through their faith, love, loyalty, and devotion that the character of men and women who have made this country great have been molded.
10. The 10th fold is a tribute to father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of our country since he or she was first-born.
11. The 11th fold, in the eyes of Hebrew citizens, represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies, in their eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
12. The 12th fold, in the eyes of a Christian citizen, represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in their eyes, God the Father, the Son, and Holy Ghost.
13. The last fold, when the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost, reminding us of our national motto, "In God We Trust."

Historian

Ted Potyrala



MEMORIAL DAY

It seems that Memorial Day has been an official federal holiday forever, but it officially became a federal holiday in 1971.

Originally, it was known as Decoration Day. By the late 1860's, many towns began having springtime tributes to these soldiers who died during the civil war. The townspeople would go out and put decorations of flowers on the graves and recite prayers.

It is not known where the decorating of graves started since many towns started this on their own. Some early records show that in 1865 shortly after the surrender of the south, freed slaves in Charleston, South Carolina adorned the gravesite of 250 union soldiers that died in a prisoners of war camp. They were buried in a mass grave behind the grandstand at a former racetrack. However, in the end; the federal government on May 5, 1866, declared that Waterloo, New York is the official birthplace of Memorial Day.

Waterloo was chosen because they hosted an annually community wide celebration. Businesses would close for the day and residence would go to the graves with flowers and flags.

In May of 1868, General John A. Logan, a leader of an organization for Norther Civil War veterans, called for a nation-wide day of remembrance. He chose May 30, 1868 to be designated to honor the graves of comrades who died in the defense of their country. He called it Decoration Day and chose that date because it was not the anniversary of any particular battle.

On the first Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery. Five thousand people participated by decorating graves of 20,000 civil war soldiers.

By 1890, every state made Decoration Day a state holiday. The southern states honored their dead on separate days until after WW I. Confederate Memorial Day is still celebrated by several states. This year Florida holds events on Sunday April 26, Alabama on April 27, and Georgia and Mississippi on May 11, each to recognize and celebrate Confederate Memorial Day.

Originally, Decoration Day was to honor those that died in the civil war. During WW I, the U.S. found itself in another major conflict and the holiday evolved to honor all American Military who died in all wars.

For many decades, Memorial Day was celebrated on the 30th of May. In 1965, Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act. This made the last Monday of May the official day for Memorial Day.

Information was taken From the History Channel

Safety Topic



Jeff Ludwig

June is National Safety month

In 1996, the National Safety Council established June as National Safety Month, aiming to increase awareness of the leading safety and health risks and ultimately decrease the number of unintentional injuries and deaths in the United States. This year the theme of National Safety day 2020 is “Enhance Health & Safety Performance by Use of Advanced Technology“. This online newsletter is one way to increase awareness in safety. During National Safety Month, NSC helps Americans to prevent injuries and accidental deaths by calling attention to common safety and health risks. The National Safety Month Website provides a [list of tips](#) for protecting against accidental falls, both at home and at work:



(<http://downloads.nsc.org/pdf/nsm/R&TFallPrevention.pdf>)

1. Aisles, stairs, and walkways should be clutter-free; spills should be wiped, dropped objects picked up and cabinet drawers closed when not in use.
2. Use handrails in stairways; take one step at a time and report or repair broken stairs or loose stair coverings.
3. Apply nonskid floor coatings and slip-resistant mats where falls are likely. Slow down and take small steps when walking on a wet or slippery surface.
4. Inspect ladders before and after every use.

The Web site also includes specific tips for aging adults, including:

1. Wear proper footwear. Athletic shoes greatly reduce the risk of falls among the elderly. The risk of falling increases if in stocking feet or barefoot.
2. Use non-skid throw rugs to reduce chances of slipping on linoleum.
3. Store frequently used items in easy-to-reach areas.
4. Exercise regularly. The stronger the body, the more likely a person is to sustain a fall with minimal injury.

Chaplain's Message:

*Heavenly Father,
maker and lover of all,
we ask you to bless all the people
of our great country.
We ask that you bless our American
Stars and Stripes and let it always
remind us
of the principles it stands for.
Help us to work together in peace
so that we may give you glory by our lives.*



*We ask this grace, loving Father,
through Christ our Lord.*

Amen!

TAPS:



NONE

June Birthdays:

- Dennis, Darwin
- Gilmore, James
- Manchester, Carl
- Ritzel, Peter
- Sebring, Kenneth



A very happy birthday to all