



# Brig. Gen. Robin Olds

## AMERICAN LEGION THAILAND

POST TH01

*Post Meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of Every Month, at 10:00 AM*

*Post Location: Wing 21 Ubon Royal Thai Airforce Base*

*Post Venue: Driving Range Clubhouse*



March 2022

Post Email: <http://amerilegionth01@gmail.com>

Vol. 5, No. 3



### COMMANDER'S COMMENTS...BRUCE TEMPLEMAN

My Fellow Legionnaires,

Post Officer elections are coming up. At our March General Membership meeting, nominations will be made, and the Elections will be held in April. All new officers will be installed in May, starting a new year of service to our veterans, families, and local communities. It is important work that we do, and our small group needs to expand to share the duties. I

encourage all to participate and share their knowledge, experience and, most of all, have fun. Our Post is finding ways to make a direct impact in our community and, as always, provide comfort and support to our veterans and families in need. The plan for this coming year is to grow our membership by executing or sponsoring charitable events and promoting our Post via our new website, Facebook, and other social media platforms.

### Calendar of Events

#### March 9

Post TH01 Membership Meeting, at 1000 hrs.

*Nominations for 2022 Post TH01 Officers Will Be Held in an Open Meeting*

#### March 13

Daylight Savings Time Begins (USA)

#### March 29

Vietnam Veterans Day

### Vietnam War Veterans Day History

Vietnam War Veterans Day seeks to thank and honor United States Vietnam veterans and their families. This day acknowledges their service and sacrifices. It also recognizes those men and women who were denied a proper welcome when they returned home decades ago. According to uswardogs.org, more than 2.7 million Americans served in Vietnam.

The first Vietnam Veterans Day was in 1974, a year after the last troops were withdrawn from Vietnam. The Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act, signed into law in 2017, designates every March 29th as Vietnam War Veterans Day.

## Chiang Mai Toy Ride



The American Legion Riders Thailand and the Post donated 10,000 Baht to help sponsor the Chiang Mai Toy Ride, February 20, 2022. The turnout was good, especially with the cold weather. The Toy Ride is an annual event that raises money to support Ban Mae Sap School. We have members all over Thailand, so we look to support those causes that are recommended by our membership.

*We thank 1st VC, John Skabry and his wife, for going to Chiang Mai to present the donation.*

It is good to see the American Legion Riders Thailand logo in the center of the flyer. Kudos to ALR Thailand members: John and Rob, for seizing this opportunity to get an honorable mention for the American Legion and its programs.



For those that wish to join ALR Thailand, contact John or Rob at [americanlegionth01@gmail.com](mailto:americanlegionth01@gmail.com).



# CHIANG MAI TOY RIDE 2022

## ขอบคุณผู้สนับสนุนทุกท่าน

ที่ร่วมเป็นส่วนหนึ่งในการสนับสนุนเด็ก ๆ โรงเรียนชุมชนบ้านแม่สาบ อ.สะเมิงใต้ อ.สะเมิง จ.เชียงใหม่ โดยมีพื้นที่ออกกำลังกายและเล่นกีฬา

ท่านยังสามารถสมทบทุนบริจาคหรือสั่งซื้อเสื้อกิจกรรมได้ที่

📞 : Richco Harley-Davidson Chiang Mai ☎ : 052-080-761

📧 : @richcoharley 📧 : m-support@richcoharley.com

เลขที่บัญชี 052-9-023000-9

ชื่อบัญชี บจ. ริชค้ กรุ๊ป (ประเทศไทย)

ธนาคาร กรุงเทพ สาขาตาดสวนแก้ว

\*ขอความกรุณาแนบหลักฐานการโอนเงินจากโฉดงเงินพร้อมชื่อผู้โอน

ตั้งแต่วันที่ - 20 กุมภาพันธ์ พ.ศ.2565

## POST OFFICERS 2021MY

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**ADJUTANT'S CORNER...JEFF LUDWIG**

Greetings Comrades,

Do you know what the American Legion does, what it offers? Has anyone ever asked you what being a member of the American legion is all about and you find it difficult to answer? I must admit that was me. I knew the American Legion served veterans, but I was ignorant on many facets of the American Legion. Quite frankly I was a very poor ambassador for the Post and for the American Legion. Fortunately, I discovered a remedy that is simple and painless – the American Legion basic training course.



It is American Legion's official online training program for officers, members, Legion College applicants and those who simply want to expand their knowledge. The program usually takes less than two hours to complete. The course is divided into six sections: History & Organization, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, Children & Youth, and Course summary. The course through a variety of entertaining media will provide you with the information you need to know.

You will learn of the rich history of the American Legion. You will also learn the organizational structure from top to bottom. You will also learn how this structure gives every legionnaire a voice and how it provides the very best service to our veterans and their families. Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, the foremost pillar of American Legion's service, will show you the ways in which the organization is dedicated to compassionate care, timely delivery of benefits, career development and other areas of advocacy for those who have served in uniform. The National security section will show you the steps we as legionaries can take to help secure our country. The Americanism section will show you the vast number of programs offered from proper treatment of the U.S. flag to voter education to youth programs all that make life-changing differences. The Basic Training course will also provide you with the programs to insure that "every child deserves a square deal. Programs and efforts such as the Child Welfare Foundation, the Family Support Network, Temporary Financial Assistance, and other initiatives that aim to help children and youth follow their dreams, no matter their circumstances.

Once you finish the course you will receive a certificate and be eligible for the Basic Training pin as seen at the top of the page. If you are serious about being a legionnaire and making real difference; you owe it to yourself, our Post, and the American Legion to take this course. I promise you will be glad you did.



**Adjutant's Safety Message:**

## March is National Ladder Safety Month

Ladders are one the most common tools in most homes in the united States. That is also true here in Thailand. The big difference is the quality of ladders. Many of the ladder here in Thailand are locally made, many from bamboo or cost aluminum. They may appear harmless but that is far from the truth. According to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (**OSHA**) in the USA falls are the second leading cause of death next to highway crashes. That is especially true for us older members. Below is a list of tips provided by OSHA to keep in mind when using ladders safely.

- Read and follow all labels/markings on the ladder.
- Avoid electrical hazards! – Look for overhead power lines before handling a ladder. Avoid using a metal ladder near power lines or exposed energized electrical equipment.
- Always inspect the ladder prior to use. If the ladder is damaged, Don't use it!
- Always maintain a 3-point (two hands and a foot, or two feet and a hand) contact on the ladder when climbing. Keep your body near the middle of the step and always face the ladder while climbing (see diagram).
- Only use ladders and appropriate accessories (ladder levelers, jacks, or hooks) for their designed purposes.
- Ladders must be free of any slippery material on the rungs, steps, or feet.
- Do not use a self-supporting ladder (e.g., step ladder) as a single ladder or in a partially closed position.
- Do not use the top step/rung of a ladder as a step/rung unless it was designed for that purpose.
- Use a ladder only on a stable and level surface unless it has been secured (top or bottom) to prevent displacement.
- Do not place a ladder on boxes, barrels, or other unstable bases to obtain additional height.
- Do not move or shift a ladder while a person or equipment is on the ladder.
- An extension or straight ladder used to access an elevated surface must extend at least 3 feet above the point of support. Do not stand on the three top rungs of a straight, single or extension ladder.
- The proper angle for setting up a ladder is to place its base a quarter of the working length of the ladder from the wall or other vertical surface.
- A ladder placed in any location where it can be displaced by other work activities must be secured to prevent displacement or a barricade must be erected to keep traffic away from the ladder.
- Be sure that all locks on an extension ladder are properly engaged.
- Do not exceed the maximum load rating of a ladder. Be aware of the ladder's load rating and of the weight it is supporting, including the weight of any tools or equipment.

Ref (OSHA): <https://www.oshaeducationcenter.com/articles/march-is-national-ladder-safety-month/>

Today we remember all of our veterans past and present. We ask for the healing of those who have been wounded in body and soul, wounds both visible and invisible. We pray for those who have returned and those who are returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, for those who served in Vietnam, Korea and World War II and live with injured bodies and traumatized spirits to receive your solace and healing.

We ask that those who are unable to pray for themselves will receive the blessings of our prayers offered on their behalf. Bring peace to those places where our women and men have fought. Bless those who served in non-combatant roles. May their service continue in their lives and may that service be positive for all of us.

Give us the vision to see a world in which all grow weary with war and fighting, and turn their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. These things we ask in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen. ~ Rt. Rev. James "Jay" Magness, Episcopal Bishop of the Armed Forces



**March Birthdays:**

- Ken Adams
- Loyd Garmany
- Rocky Hatzke
- Tom Maher
- Joel Pierson





**1<sup>ST</sup> VICE COMMANDER...JOHN SKABRY**

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Comrades,

We are truly living during interesting times. While it seems, the world is in an ever-increasing race to pull itself apart, I am proud to report that your Post is working to put things back together.

This month we joined the information superhighway with the release of our website: <https://americanlegionthailand.com>. The functionality of this website will enable a focal point for learning about The American Legion, our Post, and Post supported programs, Post news, and facilitate communication with our Post.

The four Pillars of The American Legion are Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, Children & Youth, National Security, and Americanism. In keeping with the support of our Pillars, your Post secured funding to provide corrective surgery for children suffering from cleft palate here in our host country. Your Post officers are interested in making this a regular activity for the Post and be sure there will be more talk to come.

As a program of the Post, the American Legion Riders, Thailand, are near and dear to my heart. It was my great honor to represent the American Legion Riders this month at the 2022 Chiang Mai Toy Run. 5000 Thai baht was generously donated by a fellow American Legion Riders, Thailand member. Your Post then exceeded this with a donation of 10000 Thai baht more. These funds, in turn, were then donated by Richco Harley-Davidson, Chiang Mai, to the Ban Mae Sap school in Samoeng District, Thailand.

We have got the ball rolling now, and I know many of you have ideas to share, and we need to hear about them! These things we have now done were simply ideas just last month. What will next month look like?

*"There's nothing is stronger than the heart of a volunteer."*  
Gen. James H. Doolittle



**HISTORIAN...TED POTYRALA**

Greetings Legionnaires,

## History of the American Legion

On March 15, the American Legion will be celebrating its 103<sup>rd</sup> anniversary. This is a brief history on how the legion was formed. There is much more to what the legion has done since its conception. I'll write about that at a later date but for now read about the formation of the American Legion. The following is from the American Legion website, legion.org



A group of 20 officers who served in the American Expeditionary Forces (AEF) in France during World War I is credited with founding the Legion. AEF Headquarters asked the officers to suggest ideas on how to improve troop morale. One officer, Lieutenant Colonel Theodore Roosevelt Jr., proposed an organization of veterans. In February 1919, the group formed a temporary committee and selected several hundred officers who had the confidence and respect of the whole army.



About 1,000 officers and enlisted men attended the Paris Caucus in March 1919. They adopted a temporary Constitution and the name The American Legion. The group also elected an executive committee to complete the organization's work. It considered each soldier of the AEF a member of the Legion. The executive committee named a subcommittee to organize veterans at home in the United States.

In May 1919, the Legion held a second organizing caucus in St. Louis. It completed the constitution and made plans for a permanent organization, setting up a temporary headquarters in New York City and beginning its relief, employment, and Americanism programs.

Congress granted the Legion a national charter in September 1919. The first national convention convened in Minneapolis on November 10-12, 1919, adopting a permanent constitution and electing officers to head the organization. Delegates also voted to locate the Legion's national headquarters in Indianapolis, Indiana. The Legion continues to support the four pillars of service and advocacy upon which it was founded: Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children and Youth.

## US Voter Information

**Registering to Vote and submitting a ballot is fast, easy, and can be done from anywhere in the world!**

Start by confirming your voter registration with your state. Some states require absentee voters to register annually so you may need to re-register. Go to [FVAP.gov](https://www.fvap.gov) to connect to your state's voter portal to register to vote, request a ballot, and more.

### **Veteran Seeking Information:**

I am looking for any Veteran that was in Thailand in 1972-73 and may have been stationed at Namphong or been in the Special Forces camp there. Also looking for any FAC and Air America and CIA sent there during this period. My name is Malcolm Browne, and I was there from March of 1973-September of 1973. A group of us are writing a book about the multi-services participation in Linebacker I, II, Laos and Campaign and worked with Marine Air Group 15, also known by others as the "Rose Garden."

Reply to [mbrowne@ix.netcom.com](mailto:mbrowne@ix.netcom.com)

This request is made from a person outside of our network of Post TH01 members. If you wish to reply, please reply directly to the requesting person.



## POST NEWSLETTER EDITOR

*Christopher L. Lampert:*  
[sea@standardenglishacademy.com](mailto:sea@standardenglishacademy.com)



Greetings fellow Legionnaires,

Hope everyone's doing well.

If you'd like an article included in the Post TH01 monthly newsletter, please send your input to my above email no later than 10 days before the 1<sup>st</sup> of every month. If you send accompanying pics, please make sure they're high quality.

I'll surely include your input in the newsletter.