



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



September 2019
 Volume 3, Issue 9

Larry Edmonds, 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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 9	Post Meeting 10:00a.m.
September 11	Remembrance of 9/11
September 11	Patriot Day
September 21	National POW/MIA Recognition Day



2019 Post Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Email</u>
Larry Edmonds	Commander	<i>lledmonds@aol.com</i>
Bruce Templeman	1st Vice Commander	<i>bruce.templeman@gmail.com</i>
Wayne Wright	2nd Vice Commander	<i>waywright@outlook.com</i>
Ted Potyrala	Historian	<i>tpubon@gmail.com</i>
Maurice(Rocky) Hatzke	Service Officer	<i>mrhatzke3@gmail.com</i>
Hugh Mason	Chaplain	<i>htmason@aol.com</i>
Jeff Ludwig	Adjutant/Finance Officer	<i>jgludwig2@gmail.com</i>
Neil Tufford	Sergeant at Arms	<i>neiltufford@gmail.com</i>
Charles (Rusty) Wilson	Judge Advocate	<i>charles.r.wilson1@gmail.com</i>
Joe Reedy	Public Affairs Officer	<i>joereedy4@gmail.com</i>
Phil Colombey	IT Officer	<i>pcolombe@gmail.com</i>
Salvatore (Sal) Salzarulo	Members at large	<i>salzy48@hotmail.com</i>
Dave Bell	Members at large	<i>davebell211@hotmail.com</i>
Bill Medley	Members at large	<i>william_2017@icloud.com</i>

August 12, 2019 Post Membership Meeting



COMMANDER'S MESSAGE



By Larry Edmonds

Let me start off by welcoming our new members to the Post. Brian Walters we are happy you decided to transfer to our Post. I would also like thank newly eligible and longtime friend of the Post, Kirby (Cosmo) Raines. We especially thank you for accepting the vacancy of Member at Large. We're confident you will represent the members well. Speaking of new membership, the Legion Act expanded the American Legion eligibility, allowing virtually all currently living veterans to join. As a result, there may be veterans out there who were not eligible join that do not know the eligibility criterion has changed. I ask you all to canvas your area for veterans to join our Post.

A few days ago, we received our National Honor Ribbon which we will proudly display on our American Legion Flag Staff. Let me take this opportunity to thank all of you for making this possible. Thank you to the members for renewing in a timely manner. Thank you to the recruiters and the new members for putting us over the top. Just as in sports, that season is over and it's now time to focus on this year. I am confident with everyone's help we can do it again.



This month we have two solemn holidays, 9/11 Remembrance Day and POW/MIA Day. Let us take time to reflect on both of these days. The 9/11 Remembrance Day was the tragic day that terrorist brought the war on terror to our doorstep. Least we not forget the fight is not over. POW/MIA day reminds us of those who didn't come back and may still be lingering in captivity somewhere praying that they will not be forgotten.



1st Vice / Membership Chairman:

Bruce Templeman

Yes, we did it! We reached and even exceeded our first target date of 50% for the 2020 membership year. Thank you to all who renewed your membership for 2020, you made this happen. Now let's keep the momentum going. I urge those who have not renewed to do so. The American Legion and Post TH01 need you. Without its members, a Post is nothing. "Strength in Numbers."

The table below lists the National Membership Renewal Targets goals and dates for the coming year:

DEPARTMENT OF FRANCE 2019 - 2020 POST MEMBERSHIP TARGET DATES	
<u>EARLY BIRD KICKOFF - 50%</u> Department Cutoff - August 30, 2019 30, 2019 National Cutoff - September 11, 2019 2019	<u>FALL MEETINGS - 55%</u> Department Cutoff - September National Cutoff - October 09, 2019
<u>VETERANS DAY - 65%</u> Department Cutoff - November 04, 2019 National Cutoff - November 14, 2019 2019	<u>PEARL HARBOR DAY - 75%</u> Department Cutoff - December 02, 2019 National Cutoff - December 11, 2019
<u>MID-WINTER - 80%</u> Department Cutoff - January 06, 2020 2020 National Cutoff - January 15, 2020 2020	<u>PRESIDENTS DAY - 85%</u> Department Cutoff - January 31, National Cutoff - February 12, 2020
<u>LEGION BIRTHDAY - 90%</u> Department Cutoff - March 02, 2020 2020 National Cutoff - March 11, 2020	<u>CHILDREN & YOUTH - 95%</u> Department Cutoff - March 30, National Cutoff - April 08, 2020
<u>ARMED FORCES DAY - 100%</u> Department Cutoff - May 04, 2020 National Cutoff - May 13, 2020	

Service Officer:

Maurice (Rocky) Hatske



The Department of Defense has released the 2019 Caregiver Resource Directory (CRD), and it is ready for download! The annual update includes 114 pages of information on resources and programs, including those that assist caregivers of wounded, ill, and injured Veterans and service members.

The CRD is an enriched source of information. It ranges from childcare, education and training, healthcare needs, legal assistance, rest and relaxation, to peer support, mentoring, and so much more. The Directory is essentially a one-stop shop for questions and concerns for those who are new to being caregivers.

The resources provided in the CRD have gone through a rigorous review and vetting process so that Veterans, service members and caregivers receive accurate, timely, and pertinent information. The simple guide is available 24/7, and is available in Spanish. The guide uses icons to assist with quickly accessing VA and DoD programs and non-profit organizations. The CRD is also a good source for info on self-care programs and for respite assistance.

“With many organizations offering support and services, it can be difficult to sort out the specific type of resource or program best suited for your needs. Therefore, this directory is compiled for you — the caregiver — as its primary focus.” – DOD Military Caregiver Support

[Download](#)

To download a digital copy of the CRD or to request a hard copy, please go to: <https://warriorcare.dodlive.mil/caregiver-resources/>.

For information about VA resources, visit VA Caregiver Support (<https://www.caregiver.va.gov/>)

This information originally published on DOD’s Warrior Care Blog, “Providing the ‘Care’ in Caregiver: The 2019 Caregiver (<https://warriorcare.dodlive.mil/2019/08/providing-the-care-in-caregiver-the-2019-caregiver-resource-directory/>)

If you cannot download the directory, let me or Adjutant Ludwig know and we will email it to you.



Featured member Kirby (Cosmo) Raines

Brig. Gen. Robin Olds American Legion Thailand Post TH01 is extremely proud to welcome Kirby (Cosmo) Raines as the first new member from a previously ineligible group of deserving veterans. Cosmo is just one of thousands of veterans that fell in a time period where there were no declared hostilities. He served honorably in the Navy and was ready to give all when called upon.



However, when he asked to join our Post we had to inform him that he was not eligible to join. That did not deter Cosmo as he regularly supported and participated in many of Post events. It is with great pleasure that we can welcome Cosmo into the Post. Cosmo expressed his desire to be an active member so when he was nominated as a Member at Large, he readily accepted. We know he will be a valuable comrade of Post TH01 and the American Legion.



Awards:

Continuous Membership Awards. Membership is the lifeblood of the American Legion. It is what has made the American Legion one of the strongest champions of veterans and their families. **Strength in Numbers!** This month we are proud to award 2 of our members the Continuous Membership certificate and Pin. Congratulations to both.

The members are as follows:

- Ted Potyrala 5 years
- David Bell 5 years



Events:

Thai Mothers Day



Safety Message:

National Preparedness Month

National Preparedness Month (NPM), is recognized each September to promote family and community disaster and emergency planning now and throughout the year.

The 2019 theme is **Prepared, Not Scared.**

Our Post membership is scattered throughout Thailand and the USA. That being said our members are exposed to just about a every natural disaster including hurricanes, typhoons, tornadoes, monsoon floods, strong winds, and earthquakes to name the most common Natural disasters.

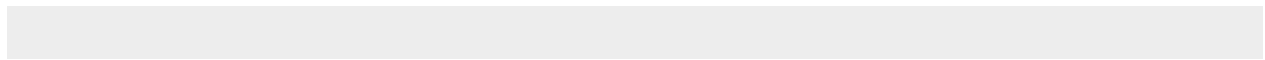
Get Prepared

Emergency Plan: The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) encourages you to plan ahead for a disaster. You can do this by establishing a meeting place and evacuation route with your family. According to FEMA, the family meeting place should be familiar and easy to find. The FEMA website lists helpful tips on how to start an emergency plan at – (<https://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan>). You can download and fill out emergency plans for families, pets, property, and more.at- (<https://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan>)

Disaster Preparedness Kit: Everyone should have a disaster preparedness kit ready should a disaster strike. Each member's disaster preparedness kit will be based on the threats in their area.

- **Keep key important documents and medical information safe and easy to find.** Before a disaster, safeguard critical documents. This includes medical records, prescription information, and your uniformed services ID card. It's also a good idea to make a list of illnesses, allergies, and prescription bottles for all family members.

Being prepared for events like wildfires, floods, and hurricanes can help keep you and your family safe. You can't predict what and when a disaster will occur but you can predict what you should do before, during, and after an emergency



Historian Archives:

Ted Potyrala

Part four in our biography of our namesake Brig. Gen. Robin Olds.

Robin Olds - Vietnam era:

Col Olds took command of the 8th Tactical Fighter Wing at Ubon Royal Thai Air Force Base on September 30, 1966. Before Col. Olds arrived, the Wing was lacking in aggressiveness and a sense of purpose which was part of the reason why Col. Olds at 44 years of age, was assigned as Wing Commander. He immediately placed himself on the flight schedule as a rookie pilot under officers that were junior to him. He challenged them to train him properly because soon he would be leading them in combat.

In December of that year, Col Olds replaced an ineffective Deputy Commander of Operations with Col. Chappie James. Together they became one of the most strongest and effective commanders of the Vietnam War. Together they became known as "Blackman and Robin" Col James went on to become the first African American 4 star General in the Air Force.



All of the aircraft that were assigned to Col. Olds were named "SCAT" The F4C that he was assigned to was named "SCAT XXVII" The reason that he named his aircraft SCAT was for his roommate from West Point who was named Scat Davis who could not become a fighter pilot because of poor eyesight. This way Col Olds could take his roommate up on missions with him. Col. Olds aircraft SCAT XXVII, sits at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base Museum in Dayton Ohio.



Col. Olds was known for his handlebar mustache. He kept it waxed and decidedly non-regulation. It was a common superstition among airmen to



grow a bulletproof mustache, but Col Olds grew his as an act of defiance. It was his middle finger. Many airmen on the base followed him and grew their own mustache. When Col. Olds returned home for an interview with the

Air Force Chief of Staff, Gen. John P. McConnell, Gen. McConnell walked up to him, put his finger under his nose and said "Take it off" to which Col. Olds replied "Yes Sir" Thus ended the rebellious mustache. However, to this day Robin Olds' mustache legacy lives on in the US Air Force in the form of the annual Mustache March Championship where airmen compete for the best mustache.



**** References: All information taken from the references listed below.**

- Wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robin_Olds
- Air Force Biographies: <https://www.af.mil/About-Us/Biographies/Display/Article/106027/brigadier-general-robin-olds/>
- National Museum of the Air Force at Wright Patterson: www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/Visit/Museum-Exhibits/Fact-Sheets/Display/Article/196007/brig-gen-robin-olds-

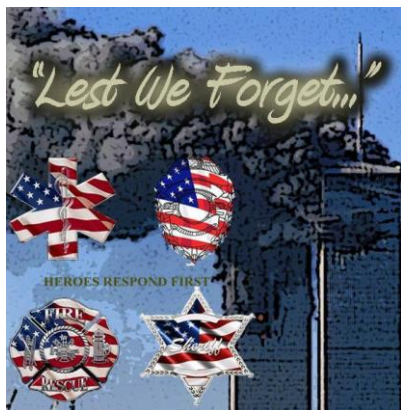
Post Adjutant Corner:
Jeff Ludwig



I posted this last year however, it bears repeating.

9/11 Lest We Forget

We sadly remember that horrible event. This month marks the 18th anniversary of this tragic event. We remember the many people who died and those who were heroes.



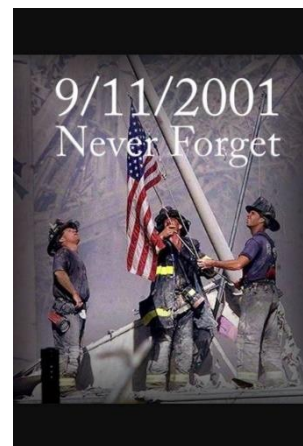
On that day, all Americans experience firsthand the horrors of a war of terrorism. We came to realize that we are engaged in a different kind of war. We are engaged in a war that preys on the innocents and shows no mercy in achievement of its agendas. A war where the enemy can pop up when least expected and just as quickly sink back into oblivion to prey on other victims. Not just on our soil but anywhere in the world.

The U. S. Congress passed legislation that names Sept. 11 as "Patriot Day" (Public Law 107-89). The American Legion works with community leaders across the nation to conduct memorial services on Sept. 11 to remember those who died as a result of the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001. The Legion also wants to remember those men and women in uniform killed in the ongoing war against terrorism.

We as loyal American Legion members must take steps to ensure our nation and the world does not forget the tragedy of 9/11.

The American Legion reminds us to take the following actions:

- We must remain committed to supporting the young men and women of our armed forces who go in harm's way on our behalf.
- We must thank God they serve America with honor, courage and commitment.
- We must recognize the men and women serving in the U.S. military today in the war against terrorism as our nation's newest veterans.
- We must understand and accept that the banner under which all of America's military forces have fought and died has no protection from those who would desecrate it.
- We must push Congress to restore legal protection for the flag as a symbol of our compassion for those who suffered in the Sept. 11 attacks, and as a statement of our resolve to show no mercy to those who hate us and would destroy our freedom.



Chaplain's Message

Prayer of Remembrance For 9/11

Lord of Mercy, Prince of Peace,

This date, 9-11, carries a heavy burden of memory.

This day does not pass in the calendar without our remembering.

We remember images of death and destruction. Images that human eyes were never meant to see. We remember words our ears were never meant to hear, the tender last words of husbands and wives who would never embrace again.

We imagine the feeling of emptiness in the arms of children who at the end of the day could not find mom or dad for their welcome home hug. We remember our own feelings of emptiness as our sense of security, as our own confidence in the predictable order of life and work was radically shaken.

This date, 9-11, carries a heavy burden of memory.

We remember the heroism of the many that lost their lives in saving others. We remember all those who suffered and died, we grieve for them still, friends and strangers alike, along with their families and friends.

This date, 9-11, carries a heavy burden of memory.

And it is right that it should not pass from our memory. But today and in this prayer, along with our remembrance of profound loss, it also seems right that we give voice to our deep longing for peace, and with this prayer, commit ourselves to those actions that will draw us closer to our most ancient and most holy desire, peace among all God's children.

Dona nobis pacem.

Lord, grant us peace. Amen.

REF:

Courtesy of: Old St.Patrick Church, <https://www.oldstpats.org/prayer-of-remembrance-for-911/>
700 West Adams Street
Chicago, IL 60661

TAPS:

NONE



September Birthdays:

- Fred Berg
- Bill (Chappie) Chapman
- Robert Engborg
- Ted Potyrala
- Rusty Wilson
- Billy Holland



A very happy birthday to all.