

The Americans' Creed

U.S. House of Representatives Resolution, April 3, 1918

I believe in the United States of America as a Government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a Republic; a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it; to support its Constitution; to obey its Laws; to respect its Flag; and to defend it against all its enemies.

I 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.

The Rancho Bernardo Veterans Memorial Association is offering a new opportunity for memorializing your veterans — a "Patriot Walk" around the perimeter of the Veterans Memorial with plaques installed in the sidewalk. These plaques are to honor veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States who served in any war, conflict, or during peacetime. Additional information about the Patriot Walk is included on the Rancho Bernardo Veterans Memorial Association's website. The preservation of the Memorial and the costs for its annual Ceremonies are totally dependent upon volunteers and public donations. All gifts are gratefully accepted. See, WWW.RBVMA.ORG

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

Our sincere thanks to all members of BSA Troop 685, San Diego, for presenting the flags of the 13 original colonies during the National Bell Ringing Ceremony and for their generous assistance in setting up and taking down the equipment. We are also grateful to the Bernardo Winery for supplying the Bell. We also wish to thank the many volunteers who make our Ceremonies possible. Our gratitude also goes to The Pearl Restaurant for allowing us the use of their patio. Please consider dining at The Pearl Restaurant and visiting the Bernardo Winery. Thanks to all that attend! Happy Independence Day!

Independence Day

July 4, 2021

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America.

The Rancho Bernardo Veterans Memorial

Presented by

The Rancho Bernardo Veterans Memorial Association

through the combined efforts of

The Military Order Of the World Wars
General J.P. Holland Chapter

And the
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Major Abraham J. Baum Post 7766



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Guest Speaker:

Ronald Samuel "Sam" Magtanong



Sam Magtanong is a Filipino-American entrepreneur, business-owner, Army veteran, philanthropist, husband to his childhood sweetheart of over 21 years and father of 5 children.

Sam was born in the Philippines and immigrated to the United States when he was four years old, growing up locally in Carmel Mountain Ranch and graduating from Rancho Bernardo High School in 1999. Sam is the son of a non-denominational pastor and was raised with a strong sense of service to country and community by grateful immigrant

parents. He graduated from the University of Southern California in Los Angeles with a degree in History and commissioned as an Army Infantry 2nd Lieutenant through the University's Army Reserve Officer Training Program. Sam served with the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment and the 2nd Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division and was stationed in Fort Carson, Colorado. In 2005, he deployed with his unit in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom 05-07 and assigned to Task Force Band of Brothers, 3rd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, to support combat operations in Diyala Province, Iraq. Sam's awards for war-time service include the Combat Infantryman's Badge and Bronze Star Medal. He left active-duty service in 2007, earning the rank of Captain, and continued with service in the active reserve component until 2013.

After active-duty service and compelled to continue to serve his community, Sam transitioned to a career in the long-term and post-acute healthcare industry, becoming a licensed nursing home administrator and vice-president of operations leading teams dedicated to dignify care for the most vulnerable and fragile of the population, our seniors. In 2013, Sam and his wife, Beverly, along with two friends, founded Mostra Coffee, a specialty coffee roaster, in the Magtanong family garage. Driven by the mission to help eradicate poverty in the Philippines by creating sustainable livelihoods for hundreds of small share-holder farmers and their families across the Philippine Islands through direct-trade relationships, Mostra Coffee champions Philippine Specialty Coffee, is the largest purchaser of coffee from the Philippines in the United States, and is the recipient of the international and coveted 2020 Micro Roaster of the Year award by ROAST Magazine. His business has been featured on Forbes, Us Weekly, Buzzfeed, Gear Patrol, Huffington Post, Conde Nast's Bon Appétit, ABC, NBC, FOX, KTLA, CBS, MSN, ABS-CBN, TFC, Alaska Airlines, Google Talks at Google HQ, and was also the recipient of Qualcomm's small business technology accelerator grant program as well as the San Diego Union-Tribune Community Heroes Award. In 2020, Sam transitioned out of the healthcare industry after 12 years of service to focus full-time in supporting Mostra Coffee's growth.

Sam and Beverly, along with their five children, ages 14, 9, 5, 4, and 20 months, live in the community of 4S Ranch, just a few miles away from where they both grew up. Sam is passionate about giving back to local and global communities and in helping Leaders increase their positive impact to their families, organizations and society and experience more happiness and success through authentic, intuitive, empathic, and inspirational leadership.

INDEPENDENCE DAY 2021

10:45 AM Introduction by Master of Ceremonies

Gerald Porter
U.S. Navy (Retired)

Invocation

Bill Hanson, U.S. Navy (Retired)

Presentation of the Colors

Scouts of Troop 685

Pledge of Allegiance

Charles St Laurent, U.S. Navy (Retired)

National Anthem

Miss Samantha Belgium
Rancho Bernardo High School & Biola University Alumna

Retire the Colors

Scouts of Troop 685

National Bell Ringing Ceremony

Donald Schmidt, U.S. Navy (Retired)
Rancho Bernardo Hall of Fame

Keynote Speaker

Ronald Samuel "Sam" Magtanong
Former U.S. Army Captain and Iraq War Veteran

Quilts of Valor Foundation

Kay and Tom Lettington

Benediction

Bill Hanson, U.S. Navy (Retired)