

History of Veterans Day:

In 1921, an unknown World War I American soldier was buried in Arlington National Cemetery. This site, on a hillside overlooking the Potomac River and the city of Washington, became the focal point of reverence for America's veterans.

Similar ceremonies occurred earlier in England and France, where an unknown soldier was buried in each nation's highest place of honor (in England, Westminster Abbey; in France, the Arc de Triomphe). These memorial gestures all took place on November 11, giving universal recognition to the celebrated ending of World War I fighting at 11 a.m., November 11, 1918 (the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month). The day became known as Armistice Day.

Armistice Day officially received its name in America in 1926 through a Congressional resolution. It became a national holiday 12 years later by similar Congressional action.

Realizing that peace was equally preserved by veterans of WW II and Korea, Congress was requested to make this day an occasion to honor those who have served America in all wars. On June 1, 1954 President Eisenhower signed a bill proclaiming November 11 as Veterans Day.

A law passed in 1968 changed the national commemoration of Veterans Day to the fourth Monday in October. It soon became apparent, however, that November 11 was a date of historic significance to many Americans. Therefore, in 1978 Congress returned the observance to its traditional date.

The focal point for official, national ceremonies for Veterans Day continues to be the memorial amphitheater built around the Tomb of the Unknowns. At 11 a.m. on November 11th, a combined color guard representing all military services executes Present Arms at the tomb. The nation's tribute to its war dead is symbolized by the laying of a presidential wreath. The bugler plays taps.

The Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag:

"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 pledge should be rendered by standing at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. When not in uniform men should remove any non-religious headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in uniform and veterans of military service should remain covered and silent, face the flag, and render the military salute.

Veterans Day

November 11, 2016



Ceremonies Held At The Rancho Bernardo Veterans Memorial

(Located in Webb Lake Park)

Arranged by the

R.B. 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



WWW.RBVMA.ORG



Colonel Daren J. Erickson
Commanding Officer Recruit Training Regiment, MCRD, San Diego



Colonel Erickson was born on 5 August 1968, in Rochester, PA and raised in Arizona. In 1986 he enlisted in the Marine Corps and attended boot camp at 2d RTBN, MCRD, San Diego, CA. He was subsequently assigned to MCAS, Kaneohe Bay, HI where he pursued his undergraduate degree from Chaminade University, Honolulu, HI. After completing his enlistment, he was accepted into the Platoon Leaders Course. In December 1992 he was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant.

Following Basic School, Colonel Erickson was a member of the 1994 USMC Rifle Team. In August of 1994, he attended Navy Supply Corps School, Athens, GA to become an Aviation Supply Officer.

In January 1995, Colonel Erickson was assigned to MALS- 12, MAG-12, MCAS Iwakuni Japan. While at MALS-12, he deployed to Korat, Thailand in support of Operation Cope Tiger, and RAAF Base Tindal, Australia in support of Operation Southern Frontier. In March 1998, he was selected to the Law Education Program and subsequently attended Thomas Jefferson School of Law in September 1998 and graduated May 2001.

After law school, he attended Naval Justice School and was subsequently assigned to MCAGCC, Twentynine Palms, CA. While there, he served as the Installation Law Officer, Senior Defense Counsel, Military Justice Officer, and Deputy Staff Judge Advocate. In July 2006, he was assigned as Trial Counsel for Legal Services Support Team C, in support of Commander, Marine Forces Central Command for cases arising out of Operation Iraq Freedom. While assigned at LSST C, he deployed in 2007 and 2008 to Haditha and Al Asaad, Iraq. In March 2008 he was assigned as the OIC of LSST E.

In July 2009, Colonel Erickson reported to I Marine Expeditionary Force as the Deputy Staff Judge Advocate. While there, he served as the I MEF Staff Judge Advocate, and in 2010 deployed to Afghanistan where he served as the I MEF(FWD) SJA and the Regional Command Southwest, Legal Advisor.

After returning from Afghanistan, Colonel Erickson served as the Officer-in-Charge of the Legal Services Support Section, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, Camp Pendleton, CA. In June 2012, he took command of 2d Recruit Training Battalion, Recruit Training Regiment, MCRD San Diego, CA. From July 2014 to present, he attended the U.S. Army War College earning a masters degree in strategic studies.

Colonel Erickson's personal decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (5th award), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and the Navy Achievement Medal.



VETERANS DAY

Schedule of Events



10:45 AM

Patriotic Musical Prelude

11:00 AM

MEMORIAL PROGRAM Introduction
— Master of Ceremonies —
Lt. Col. Thomas O'Leary, USMC (Ret.)

Invocation

Lt. Col. Rick Blank, CA Mil Reserve Chaplain Corps

Presentation of the Colors

Westview High School JROTC Color Guard

Posting of Service Flags

**Members of VFW Post 7766 and
 General J.P. Holland Chapter, MOWW**

Pledge of Allegiance

**Led by Nick Herbka
 Lt. Commander, USN (Ret.)
 Commander, M.O.W.W. Chapter**

National Anthem

Recorded music and sung by audience

Retire the Colors

Westview High School JROTC Color Guard

Introduction of Key Speaker Lt. Col. Thomas O'Leary

Principal Speaker

**Colonel Daren Erickson
 Commanding Officer Recruit Training Regiment,
 MCRD, San Diego**

Benediction

Lt. Col. Blank

Close of Ceremony

Pre-recorded Patriotic Music

The community and the R.B. Veterans' Memorial Association sincerely appreciate the contributions to this ceremony by members of the VFW and the MOWW and Westview H.S. JROTC under the command of Commander Rick Jordan, USN. We also thank Boy Scout Troop 685 for their service in setting up the equipment and distributing these programs at our ceremony. We also thank The Pearl restaurant for their considerate cooperation and use of their patio.



The RB Veterans Memorial has, for maintenance and operation, relied upon donations received for the placement of memorial plaques. We have space for only one more plaque and there can be no more. If you have enjoyed today's presentation and have enjoyed the peace and serenity of the memorial in the past, your generous donation for our maintenance and cleaning of the memorial, and the costs of our patriotic celebrations, would be greatly appreciated. Please contact David Olivet, RBVMA Treasurer, for further information at (858) 735-6121.