

The 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

100 YEARS



11/11/1918—11/11/2018

**Celebration 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 Jim G. Gruny

Chief of Staff,
Marine Corps Recruit Depot,
Western Recruiting Region

Colonel Gruny was born on 29 March 1967 and is a native of Louisville, KY. He was commissioned in 1989 upon graduation from Vanderbilt University, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics with a minor in History. From 1990-1993 he served in the 1st Marine Division, initially with 1st Tank Battalion, where he deployed in support of Operation DESERT SHIELD/DESERT STORM as a tank platoon commander and served as a Company Executive Officer. In 1992 he was transferred to the 5th Marine Regiment where he served as the Regimental Tow Platoon Commander.

In 1993 he was selected to attend the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA, where he earned a Master of Science degree in Management and received an additional MOS of 9652 (Defense Systems Analyst). He was subsequently assigned to duty as a program analyst in Programs and Resources (P&R) Department, Headquarters, Marine Corps in 1994. After his HQMC tour he completed Career Level School at the Armor Officer Advance Course and Cavalry Leaders Course in 1998 and was assigned to Inspector-Instructor duty, Company D, 8th Tank Battalion, Columbia, SC. In 2001, following his tour with Marine Forces Reserve, he was assigned to the 2nd Force Service Support Group for duty as the Tactical Readiness and Training Officer. In 2002 he was assigned to 2d Tank Battalion, where he served as the Operations Officer while deployed in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, and as the Battalion Executive Officer. In 2004 he was assigned to Joint Duty at the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, where he served as the Marine Corps Advisor in the Advanced Concepts and Studies Office before beginning his assignment with DC, CD&I as the Program Objectives Memorandum (POM) Branch Head in 2007.

Colonel Gruny was selected for command and served as the Inspector-Instructor, 4th Tank Battalion, 4th Marine Division at MCAS Miramar, CA from 2009-2010. While in command he was selected to attend Top Level School as a Secretary of Defense Corporate Fellow at Amgen, Inc. in Thousand Oaks, CA. Following TLS Colonel Gruny was assigned to III MEF, Marine Forces Pacific, where he served as the G3 Future Operations Officer from 2011-2013.

Colonel Gruny's personal decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star with "V" device, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with two gold stars, Navy Commendation Medal with "V" device and two gold stars, and Combat Action Ribbon with gold star.

Col Gruny assumed command of Recruit Training Regiment on 3 July 2013. Colonel Gruny is married to the former Teresa E. Lucas of Louisville, KY. They have two children, Jacob (23) and Lucas (18). Colonel Gruny's family currently resides in San Diego, CA.



VETERANS DAY

1918 - 2018

Schedule of Events



10:45 AM

Patriotic Musical Prelude

11:00 AM

MEMORIAL PROGRAM Introduction

— **Master of Ceremonies** —

Nick Herbka, Lt. Cdr, USN (Ret.)

Commander, General J.P. Holland Chapter M.O.W.W.

Invocation

Col. Richard Blank,

Command Chaplain, California State Military Reserve

**Armistice Commemoration
"Bells of Peace"**

Rincon del Diablo Chapter,
Daughters of the American Revolution.

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 Donald Schmidt, Commander
VFW, Maj. Abraham J. Baum Post 7766

National Anthem

Recorded music and sung by audience

Retire the Colors

Westview High School JROTC Color Guard

Principal Speaker

Colonel Jim G. Gruny, USMC

Benediction

Col. Richard 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 Captain Thomas Adams, 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 the use of their patio and suggest you give them a try.



The RB Veterans Memorial relies upon private free will donations to fund our maintenance and operation. If you have enjoyed today's presentation and have enjoyed the peace and serenity of the memorial in the past, your generous, tax deductible donation for the support of this Veterans Memorial would be greatly appreciated. Please see our web site, WWW.RBVMA.ORG for donation options and contact information.