

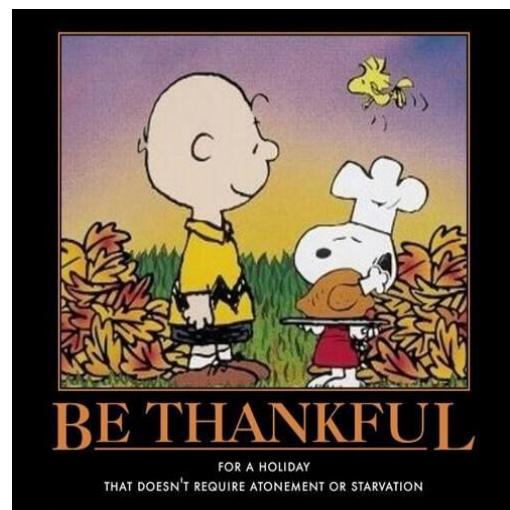
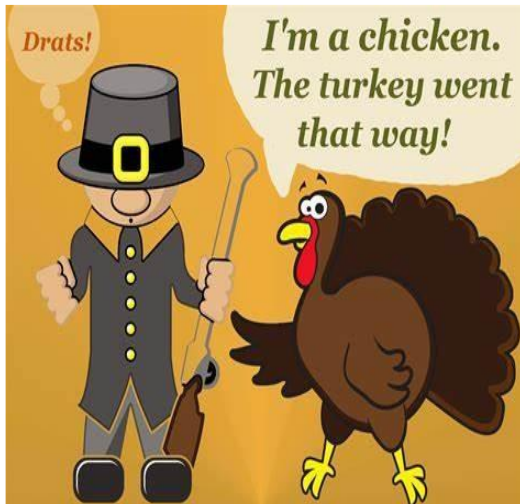


**SIR BRANCH 163**  
**NOVEMBER NEWS & NOTES**



## NOVEMBER: THE HAPPY MONTH!

### HAPPY THANKSGIVING



# HAPPY POLITICIANS



# HAPPY ELECTIONEERING



**MOST OF ALL – HAPPY FREEDOM MONTH**



**Regardless of the month, Branch 163 members always come to Hodels for a Great lunch, friendship, and a laugh or two over old videos provided by our Big Sir Jim Shapazian. Again, we thank Hodels for the service support they extend to us. No one else would do this for us in Bakersfield.**

**With that in mind always try to bring a friend to share in the festivities and, hopefully, grow our numbers. We were Six short this time at 48, which is absolute minimum. So step it up Men; we need more members!!!!!!!**



**NOVEMBER** is a busy month for most households preparing for the Holidays, bringing families and friends together in celebrations for lots of reasons; ( sometimes we don't need a reason, just an opportunity)!

**To me we should always take time to Honor our Veterans on their day: the 11<sup>th</sup> of November.**

- I find it noteworthy to mention the **VFW** held their 125<sup>th</sup> National Convention this year in Louisville, Ky. Senator Rand Paul (R-Ky) spoke on a number of primary concerns one of which was our military. Paul said, "he has a steadfast belief that the U.S. Constitution allows only Congress to declare war. War is too grave a choice for Congress to run from or evade. I pledge to you I will vote against any President of either party who tries to send our soldiers abroad without a declaration of war." No doubt, sending troops into battle is a sobering judgement on their lives and should be 'last resort'. May all congressmen view this the same way!

# NOVEMBER 11: VETERAN'S DAY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY VETERANS!



**Veterans Day** -- originally called [Armistice Day](#) -- began as an occasion to reflect upon the heroism of those who died in our country's service. It falls on November 11, the anniversary of the signing of the armistice that ended World War I. In 1954, the name of the holiday was changed from "Armistice Day" to "Veterans Day" in order to recognize veterans of [all wars](#).

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## U.S. NAVY



**"A good Navy is not a provocation to war. It is the surest guaranty of peace." - Theodore Roosevelt**

**"I can imagine no more rewarding a career. And any man who may be asked in this century what he did to make his life worthwhile, I think can respond with a good deal of pride and satisfaction: 'I served in the United States Navy.'" - John F. Kennedy**

October 13 marks the birthday of the U.S. Navy, which traces its roots back to the early days of the American Revolution. On October 13, 1775, the Continental Congress established a naval force, hoping that a small fleet of privateers could attack British commerce and offset British sea power.

The early Continental navy was designed to work with privateers to wage tactical raids against the transports that supplied British forces in North America. To accomplish this mission the Continental Congress purchased, converted, and constructed a fleet of small ships -- frigates, brigs, sloops, and schooners. These navy ships sailed independently or in pairs, hunting British commerce ships and transports.

Two years after the end of the war, the money-poor Congress sold off the last ship of the Continental navy, the frigate Alliance. But with the expansion of trade and shipping in the 1790s, the possibility of attacks of European powers and pirates increased, and in March 1794 Congress responded by calling for the construction of a half-dozen frigates, The United States Navy was here to stay.

## U.S. ARMY



From its humble beginnings as an amateur force of colonial troops, cobbled together from various militia, to its status today as the largest branch in the U.S. military, the [Army](#) has seen it all, from the Revolutionary War to conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. The [U.S. Army's Birthday](#) is an annual opportunity to celebrate the American Soldier and reflect on the Army's service to the nation

However, in recent years, this commemoration has caused many to grow concerned about America's ability to hold on to the history of our country's oldest and largest military service. There are mounting signs that America is losing the storied legacy of the U.S. Army to the passage of time.

The first part of the Army's history we often forget are the stories of individual Soldiers. Thirty million ordinary men and women have provided our country with extraordinary examples of Army service since 1775 through world wide deployment **engaging the enemy of Freedom.**

## U.S. MARINES



Every year on Nov. 10, [Marine Corps](#) veterans receive emails, calls and Facebook messages wishing them a happy birthday.

There are times throughout the year when we remember what it means to be a [veteran](#), when we honor our fallen comrades on [Memorial Day](#), or celebrate veterans on [Veterans Day](#). However, the [Marine Corps birthday](#) brings leathernecks back to a time surrounded by our brothers and sisters.

To many, it serves as more of a nostalgic day that reflects both Memorial Day and Veterans Day -- it's a time where Marines focus on their brothers in arms, remembering the good, and staring off into the distance as sorrow washes over them for all of their fellow Devil Dogs who gave their lives for our freedom.

It's a time spent remembering Marines gathering for a luau on Okinawa, or tossing each other around in the sand of [Camp Pendleton](#) for Marine Corps Martial Arts Program training. Who could forget the setting sun on evenings in boot camp, marching in formation and realizing what you were about to become, or the moment your drill instructors presented you with the Eagle, Globe and Anchor? This Marine Corps birthday, let's remember our fallen comrades while focusing on these wonderful memories, of the time



spent enjoying each other's company and forming the bonds that hold us all together forever.

Reach out to your fellow Marines and let them know you're still there for them. Celebrate our great Corps. Watch "Full Metal Jacket," or whatever you do to remember the good old days. Eat some cake and, if you have kids, make sure they understand what you're celebrating.

## U.S. AIR FORCE



The U.S. Air Force was officially established on September 18, 1947, and has since proven itself as an unrivaled force in aviation. However, its roots extend back to the early 20th century, reflecting a rich history and heritage. Between 1909 -- when the US military purchased its first aircraft -- and 1947, the U.S. Air Force did not exist as a separate and independent military service organization. It went through a series of designations: Aeronautical Section, Signal Corps (1909); Aviation Section, Signal Corps (1914); United States Army Air Service (1918); United States Army Air Corps (1926), and United States Army Air Forces (1941).

World War II highlighted the crucial role of airpower and underscored the need for a fundamental reorganization of the U.S. armed forces. In response to these lessons, the U.S. government undertook a significant restructuring to improve coordination and efficiency. This transformation led to the creation of the Department of Defense, which consolidated the military branches under a unified command structure, featuring a strong Joint Chiefs of Staff comprised of Army, Navy, and Air Force leaders.

In 1947, President Harry S. Truman signed the National Security Act, which not only established this new defense organization but also marked the formal creation of the U.S. Air Force as a separate and independent service branch.

This pivotal development granted the Air Force an equal status alongside the U.S. Army and U.S. Navy, solidifying its role in national defense and setting the stage for its future as a premier airpower force.

The reorganization significantly enhanced the strategic, operational, and tactical capabilities of the U.S. military, ensuring a cohesive and effective approach to national security in the evolving geopolitical landscape of the post-war era.

## U.S. COAST GUARD



### **Each August 4, the U.S. Coast Guard celebrates its birthday.**

The Coast Guard is one of America's six armed forces and traces its founding to Aug. 4, 1790. That's when the first Congress authorized construction of 10 vessels to enforce tariff and trade laws, prevent smuggling, and protect the collection of federal revenue. Responsibilities added over the years include humanitarian duties such as aiding mariners in distress.

The service received its current name in 1915 when the Revenue Cutter Service merged with the U.S. Life-Saving Service to form a single maritime service dedicated to the safety of life at sea and enforcing the nation's maritime laws.

The Coast Guard is a multi-mission maritime military service. Its mission is to protect the public, the environment and U.S. economic interests in the nation's waterways, along the coast, on international waters or in any maritime region as required to support national security

## **SIX MOST IMPORTANT DATES in November**

- **Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>: Election Day—Vote**
- **Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>: Veterans Day—Go to Jastro Park with your Kids**
- **Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>: Lunch-Out—Sonders 9500 Brimhall Rd.**
- **Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>: Sir Luncheon @ Hodels**
- **Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>: Pool Buddies @ Bankshots, 1129 Olive Dr.**
- **Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>: Thanksgiving**



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## **Next Speaker**

- **At our November 21st Luncheon:**
- **Professor Richard Gearhart**
- **Director of Economics, CSUB**



## **NOTE: INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS**

At our next luncheon meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> we will be installing our **SIR Officers** for the 2025 calendar year.

Jim Shapazian – Big Sir

Richard Weigelt – Sunshine Committee

Don Noriel – Little Sir

Ron Schilling - Treasurer

Don Waln – Secretary

Barry Young – Attendance Chair

If any of you have a desire to be a Substitute for one of these positions let any of these men know.