

# The Americans' Creed

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 enemies.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

Our sincere thanks go to all members of BSA Troop 685, San Diego, for presenting the flags of the 13 original colonies during the Bell Ringing Ceremony. Thanks also to Westview H.S. NJROTC for participating in today's ceremony as the Color Guard. Thanks to Mr. Rossi Rizzo of the Rancho Bernardo Winery for supplying the bell, and of course, to LT and Mrs. Bill May for ringing the bell in colonial attire. We also thank our Boy Scouts for their assistance with logistics and in distributing these programs at our ceremony. And our gratitude goes to The Pearl Restaurant for allowing us the use of their patio.

# Independence Day

## July 4, 2013

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America.

## Ceremonies Held At Site Of Rancho Bernardo Veterans Memorial (Located in Webb Lake Park)

Presented 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**  
**Post 7766**



See our web site for a map and  
parking suggestions:

[WWW.RBVMA.ORG](http://WWW.RBVMA.ORG)



**Roger E. Box, Rear Admiral, USN (ret.)**  
**First Commanding Officer, TOPGUN School,**  
**NAS Miramar**



Rear Admiral Roger E. Box, a native of Michigan, received his commission from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1956 and was designated a Naval Aviator in 1957. RADM Box's initial tours of sea duty were served in Fighter Squadrons 173, 174 and 84 with the Atlantic Fleet. Subsequently he graduated from the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School and served as an F8U and F-4 Project Test Pilot. RADM Box then served as Assistant Navigator on the commissioning crew of the aircraft carrier USS AMERICA.

From 1967 to 1969, he served in Fighter Squadron 21 and made two combat deployments to Vietnam on the aircraft carrier, RANGER. In 1971 he was assigned as the Officer in Charge of the Navy Fighter Weapons School (TOPGUN) and became TOPGUN'S first commanding officer. In 1972 he reported as the Commanding Officer of Fighter Squadron 114 aboard the aircraft carrier KITTY HAWK while conducting Vietnam combat operations in the Gulf of Tonkin. Thereafter, he was the Flight Test Officer at the Naval Missile Test Center, Point Mugu, California. RADM Box's next sea duty assignment was as Commander Carrier Air Wing 14 aboard the aircraft carrier ENTERPRISE.

Following a tour as CO of the fleet oiler, HASSAYAMPA, Rear Admiral Box was the Commanding Officer of the aircraft carrier, USS RANGER. Box and his RANGER shipmates earned the Arleigh Burke award as the most improved command in the Pacific Fleet.

He then reported as the Chief of Staff to Commander Naval Air Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet. During this tour he was selected and promoted to Rear Admiral. In August 1981, he assumed duties as the Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff, Plans and Policy Division, Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE.) In November 1982, due to reorganization of SHAPE Rear Admiral Box was given the position as Chief of Operations and Readiness Branch, Operations Division.

In 1983-5 RADM Box was Commander Carrier Group SIX twice deploying to the Mediterranean, first on his flagship KENNEDY and second on NIMITZ. For his final tour of duty he was the first Director of Operations for the newly formed U.S. Space Command.

Rear Admiral Box's decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star, thirteen Air Medals and the Navy Commendation Medal with a combat V. In addition he has been awarded various service and campaign medals and ribbons.

# INDEPENDENCE DAY 2013

## 10:45 AM Introduction by Master of Ceremonies

Charles St. Laurent, Commander, USN (Ret)

### Invocation

MOWW Chapter Chaplain, CA Nat'l Guard Major Dave Korinek

### Presentation of the Colors

Color Guard, Westview High School NJROTC

### Pledge of Allegiance

David G. Epstein, Col. US Army (ret)  
*Commander, VFW Post 7766, Rancho Bernardo*

### National Anthem

Miss Samantha Belgium, Soloist, Student, RB High School

### Retire the Colors

Color Guard, Westview High School NJROTC

### National Bell Ringing Ceremony

Lieutenant Bill May, USN (Ret) and his wife, Rose, in Colonial attire  
*Past Commander, Constitution Camp, Heroes of '76, National Sojourners, Inc.,  
Flag bearers are from BSA Troop 685*

### Introduction of Principal Speaker

Commander St. Laurent

### Speaker

Roger E. Box, Rear Admiral, USN (ret.)

### Recognition of Legion of Valor members

Major Neil Black, USAF (ret.)  
*Co-Commander, Legion of Valor Chapter*

### Benediction

Chaplain Major Dave Korinek

A limited number of 4" x 6" bronze plaques are available for installation at the Veterans Memorial site for recognition of individual veterans. Donations to the Veterans Memorial are tax deductible. Please call John Cantor, (858)487-5446.