

American Legion Post 639

May 2020

Dear Legionnaires,

I expected by this issue of the newsletter we would all be looking back on a two-week closure of the post and talking about how weird that was. But, it turns out we are still closed, and as of the time I am writing this, we haven't been told when the government's restrictions on our meetings and clubroom will end.

We have been able to secure a loan through the Paycheck Protection Program, and that loan may turn in to a grant if we meet the criteria set forth by Congress. If not, we will have to pay it back over 18 months at an interest rate of 1%. This should help to ensure we have money on hand to re-open when the time comes.

In addition, we have cut our spending back to bare bones. The HVAC is shut off, the lights are out, and we are doing everything we can think of to reduce our expenses while we have no income.

On the bright side, we are positive that we will survive this both financially and medically, and we will re-open our clubroom, kitchen, Queen of Hearts, and meetings as soon as is allowed by the mayor of Springfield. We have several bands that have agreed to play on the first day we are open, and as you all know we have 23 acres to allow for some impressive social distancing.

The Traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall is still on track to be here on the weekend of July 4th, and a fundraising event for our Post and the Traveling Wall is scheduled for the last weekend in May. I'm confident these events will happen. If they are on your calendar in pencil, put them in ink.

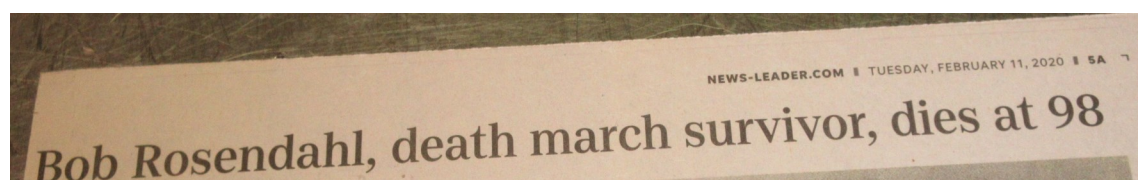
Officer elections should occur in June, but since we have not been able to have nominations and we don't know when we may be able to meet again, the Executive Committee will be discussing the best way to proceed that is fair and equitable for everyone involved. I, and many of our current officers, intend to run again for the positions we currently hold. Our rules and bylaws do not anticipate a situation where the government does not allow us to conduct regular meetings, but we are doing our best to be sure we do the right thing for our members. When we know what will be allowed, we will know what we can do. As of this writing, the Executive Committee has not yet decided, but I will do my best to get the word out as soon as a decision is made about elections, and as soon as we know when we'll be allowed to open.

On another note, I think you all know Bob Rosendahl passed on February 2nd this year. His 99th birthday would have been April 20th. I had planned, in my head, to try to do a fitting tribute to Bob at the Post; something long lasting and appropriate, given his contributions to our Post and to our community and our country. We will still do this. What I didn't want to do was fire off a few sentences in the newsletter and go forward with business as usual. It's hard to think of a way to say something about a guy like that. I personally had several opportunities to discuss woodworking, the lottery, the poor design of coffee mugs, the Philippines, China, and the merits of a 1903 Springfield rifle compared to that of the Garand. Regardless the topic, there always seemed to be a deeper lesson behind what he had to say.

I've met a lot of people traveling around the world and in the different places I have lived, and I can definitively say there are not too many like Bob. I've often wondered if his life experiences made him who he was, or if who he was enabled him to survive and thrive through his life experiences. We can't ever know. I can say, for sure, that the Post, the community, the country, our future generations, and the rest of the world lost something very valuable on February 2nd, 2020. He has already been missed.

Until we all can meet again, Semper Fi.

Darin Hargis
417-827-282



12639

ROCK for the WALL

May 29
7pm - **Art Bentley**

May 30
12-2pm - **Nathan Bryce and the Loaded Dice**
2-4pm - **Schwing Kings**
4-6pm - **Conklin and Wilhelm**
6-8pm - **Hwy 51**
8:30-10:30pm - **Wheel House**

May 31
1-3pm - **Eddie Valen**
3:30-6:30pm - **Riff Raff**

MAY 29-31

\$15 WEEKEND PASS

20

No Outside Food or Drink

American Legion Post 639 2660 S. Scenic Ave. Springfield, MO Questions 417 225-2650

VIETNAM TRAVELING MEMORIAL WALL

JULY 2 - JULY 6

American Legion Post 639
2660 S. Scenic Ave.
Springfield, MO 65804

60% scale replica of actual Memorial Wall
Help available in finding your loved one's name

Including Vietnam War Museum
"Through the Eyes"

Opening Ceremony July 3rd, 6pm

Open to the Public

Admission is free

Pass on to a Business for window Display

"Wanted, information leading to a "Nam Veteran K-9" handler. Reason; interview. Contact can be out state.....
Contact me Ed Fox at: nettleton2730@gmail.com

From the chaplain's desk:

We will soon be getting back together, and it will good to see all of you.

I hope it will not be to soon to reunite with everyone - we will not get sick!.

The last I heard we have lost a few Veterans to the virus, and we lost one of our own to health issues. My prayers are with the Richard Bee family, who was a longtime member of the newsletter Prepping committee .

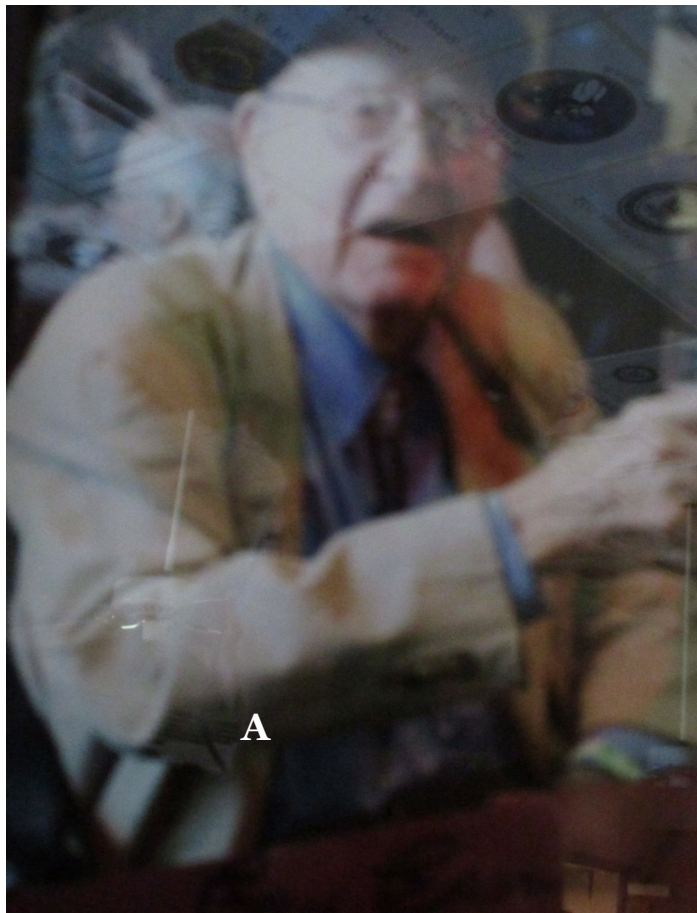
All for now see you all soon, be safe .

Chaplain Rex Krasche

For Easter I passed out some candy anonymously to some neighborhood children in the name of 409 Auxiliary Easter Bunny. We still have candy left. I have tried to keep in touch with the members. The ones who have responded seem to be fairing well. Please stay safe miss all at Post 639.

Janey Tuck

President Unit 639 Auxiliary



Picture A—Bob Rosenthal letting us know



Picture B—Bob guest speaking at a Rolling Thunder
Flag awareness event.

Picture C—Under the umbrella talking to Jolena
On memorial Day at the National
Cemetery.





Vietnam War Memorial
American Legion Post 639
2660 South Scenic Ave
.Springfield, MO 65807
www.americanlegionpost639.org

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Springfield, MO 65801
Permit Number 451

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Commander	Darin Hargis	Adjutant	Tom Newsom
1st Vice Commander	Justin Adamson	2nd Vice Commander	Nolan Moody
Finance Officer	Gary Bockman	Judge Advocate	Matt Simms
Sergeant at Arms	Ron Jackson	Service Officer	George Wright / Bob Scott
Chaplain	Rex Krasche	Historian/Editor	Jim Cooper
Member at Large	Mary Jedzinek	Member at Large	Bill Goldbach
Member at Large	Ed Fox	IFLY	