



Vietnam War Memorial Post 639



April 2019

Commander's Message:

Watching a good team work together is a wonderful sight – all focused on the common goal, using resources efficiently, helping each other to grow, and succeed, having fun and taking little while giving a lot.

We have a strong Post with a solid history, and as veterans of the greatest military force in the world we are all skilled at being good team players and good leaders. As your Commander, I see myself as the team leader, and a coordinator of leaders.

Our Post runs on volunteers and teamwork. If you see something that needs to be done around the Post, like cleaning off a table, or taking out trash, pitch in and help our team get it done instead of sitting on the sidelines. If you have an idea to make our Post better, and you're willing to make it happen, bring it to me. I rarely say no to anyone who wants to help.

This month, we have a free estate planning workshop for all veterans.

We have the Assistant Attorney General of Missouri coming, along with my wife Jenni and 12 other lawyers, to help you prepare wills, simple trusts, and powers of attorney for FREE on April 8 from 6 to 9 pm.

There are 36 spots available, but you need to call ahead to take advantage of this. Call Jenni's paralegal, Nancy King at 417-799-6137 to get your spot.

Finally, it's Post election season again. I plan to run again for Commander, and I would love to see each position on the Executive Committee with more than one candidate, with a civil discussion of issues and facts. In our elections this year, I will not tolerate any character smears or misrepresentations. The folks who run for the EC deserve our respect and appreciation for their willingness to serve.

Let's have some fun this Spring! Come down to your Post for the Spring Fun Day, a Wednesday night, or any other of the upcoming events that catches your eye. We have a great property and the friendliest bartenders in town!

Every day is a holiday and every meal is a feast.

Semper Fi,

Darin Hargis

Chaplain

Spring has sprung, so they say.

Well I don't believe it, with cold weather, hard rain, wind like I have never seen in a long time. Sometimes I thought I was in Kansas or on the ocean in a boat with hard driving rain. I will be glad when it warms up and stays warm.



Master Chief is doing better now that he is in a nice place like the Montclair. Stop by and see him if you have time.

With the weather getting nicer, the Post is starting to have more events and people to come see our facility. We need your help to work the events, and make our Post home a place to be proud of. Our Friday night dinners are on the decline at times, you need to come and enjoy the food and friends.

All for now, if you need your Chaplain give me a shout and we can get together. The Post and its members are in my Prayers.

Your Chaplain Rex Krasche

Finance



.At the time of this writing, we are near the end of WINTER and have noticed that activity at LZ639 is picking up. Many of our events were more successful; however, fish night on February 15 suffered the wrath of winter. As the finance officer and wife entered LZ639, we noted that only our Sergeant at Arms and ALR Director were present at diners. We give thanks to our Commander, his better half, Jenni and Connie for being there. .

Late in the day, the Commander made the decision to modify fish night to cooking as ordered instead of our usual mass cooking event.

Our pull tab machines have been very frequently used in the first part of February, generating a decent amount of commission to LZ639. We received a \$1,000 donation from the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association to help with Post finances. Other donors have contributed to our spring functions such as Boys State and Highway Patrol Cadet Academy.

The increases in activity and generous donations have not only permitted us to fund some of our activities, but to also to add to our savings account balance.

If finances continue in this way, you will see the Finance Officer smile periodically. Take the challenge, come out and support Post activities and see how often there is a smile.

Gary Bockman Finance Officer

Ladies Auxillary

Oh my... I think I just seen the Easter bunny running off a leprechaun!!! Yep.. it's that time... Biker Bunnies!!! But first, we have some really fun things coming up... Friday, the 29th. The ladies have joined with the Post to have a “**March in for Membership**” drive and dinner. It is also the **National recognition day of Vietnam War Veterans**. So we have a special gift to honor them, as well as new members, or **members who renew Friday night only**. We are

servicing pulled pork, and all the fixings. And of course, we have dessert. Then at our general meeting on Tuesday, the 2nd. We need all “chicks” at the nest to help us stuff Easter eggs for our annual Kids Easter party. Party is on Saturday, 13th, from 1-3. Bring all your little chicks and bunnies to color and find Easter eggs! Remember, there is also 6 Golden eggs!! Friday, the 5th, is our ladies Taco Bar. We may not be in Mexico, but we sure think we are!! Come wear your sombrero and join us for a fun evening with friends and food. And on the 8th from 6-9 is a great presentation for everyone for estate planning... So...now to the big event..... a Post Spring Fun Day... Saturday, the 6th from 10-3, the ladies are having a “Back Seat Driving” competition!! How well do you take directions??? Come try your skills.... There will also be a BBQ competition, Horseshoe contest, music, food.... Well.... All day FUN!!! Then we are going to have a Bon-fire that evening!!! You can stay the night and camp as well.... So many fun things!! (Refer to flier for more details) Also in April, we would like to recognize some pretty cool peoples' birthday. Ms Anna Day, a lifetime member. As well as some great Mr. Auxiliary members.. Bill Maxheimer and Rex Krasche. Looking back.. we had a WONDERFUL crowd and fun for our annual Corned Beef dinner! (With Cabbage) A big THANK YOU to *all* who peeled, cooked, baked, boiled, cleaned, sliced, served, ate, laughed, and wore your GREEN!! I've missed it, and it

soooo great to see it!!! We also had a strong showing for the National Vice Commander visit. You ladies looked marvelous!!! We had every executive position represented! Speaking of which, we are currently taking orders for a new set of shirts for the ladies. They will be 25 dollars for 2 shirts. One a polo, the other a ladies t-shirt style. If you would like a set, email me, call or leave a note at the bar with sizes and money. We are going to look even MORE fabulous!!! It was great to see some old faces/friends and hope to see new faces as the summer goes along. Its Spring! Stand in the sun, enjoy the spring air, and remember what the true sacrifice of Easter is about..... Welcome Home, Vietnam Veterans. And to all others who served abroad. Jo Lena, President





Landing Zone Bar

We at the bar are here to assist you with your food orders and drinks. Thanks for letting us serve you.

Connie Johnston, Bar Manager

The Galley



(To Go) orders will be prepared fresh from the kitchen. Please support our post. Enjoy our food. Friday night dinners 6-8pm . **As always open to the public to attend and eat.**

SAL

If you know anyone who qualifies to join the SAL here at 639, please bring them in and sign them up. \$20/year. The meetings are the second Tuesday of every month at 1830 hrs. We need as many members to attend our meetings as possible since we will start planning Spring and Summer events in the coming months. If you are a dual member please join us at our meetings. The SAL is proud to serve Post 639 and will continue to do so as long as there are members involved in its activities.

The Sons will be cooking breakfast on Saturday April 20th. Start at 8am.



Jared Thompson Sons
Commander



ALR

Look Twice For Motorcycles !!!, that's a yellow sign you'll see often while traveling during the year. Please LOOK twice, and look once again. It can save many lives. It could be Mine, or Yours.!! Riding season has started, for all of us. Rusty SHALLA is our ALR Ride Captain . Rusty has a great year planned for us. Please follow, our ride schedule posted at front entrance . April 6 will be a special day at the post, you won't wanna miss it !! Lots of fun , food, and music to help our veterans in need. I gotta say, I have a great group of riders to work with ,and I appreciate the work you do. I challenge each member to volunteer, a few hours a week to our post. .(kitchen, Queen of Hearts, special events, cooking lunch etc) It takes a lot of work to continue to be The Best. (I will personally throw in a free ride on my CanAm)!!!! So get ready and step right on up!! . We will be helping with the kids Easter party April 13 .Talk to Jo she has all the terrific details for a fun day. More to come for the month of MAY. Remember, Watch Twice for Motorcycles. Marsha Crom, **ALR DIRECTOR..**

AMATEUR RADIO &

THE AMERICAN LEGION

GETTING STARTED

It's easy to get the ball rolling. If there is a postmember who already holds an FCC license as a radio amateur, ask him or her to check out The American Legion Amateur Radio Club. Established

by the National Executive Committee Resolution No. 11 in May 2011, the club has a website at www.legion.org/hamradio with complete details. Membership is open to all members in good standing of The American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of The American Legion and Legion Riders who hold valid FCC amateur radio licenses. There is no fee for joining TALARC. Your licensed member can evaluate the best way for your post to get involved based on a variety of factors and provide your post commander and executive committee with recommendations. Activities can range from something as simple as conducting an amateur radio licensing class to putting in a ham radio station at the post and even starting a post radio group. While this activity might not be suitable for every post, those that have become involved have enjoyed an increased growth in membership, good media coverage and participation by young people that translates into the full range of Legion youth programs.



Send Articles to:

historianeditorlz639@gmail.com

The newsletter is also on our website

americanlegionpost639.org. If you haven't already verified your email address with Tom (Adjutant) then you need to complete it soon.

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April 2019 LZ639 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 Mar Jam Session 2pm	01 Apr	02 Apr Legion & Aux General Meet- ing Dinner 6pm (Sons) Meeting 7pm	03 Apr Wings Queen of Hearts 	04 Apr	05 Apr Taco Bar	06 Apr Fun Day At Post BBQ Event
07 Apr Jam Session 2p	08 Apr Estate and Wills Seminar 6p	09 Apr SAL Meeting 6:30pm KWVA Meeting 1pm	10 Apr CVMA Brisket Queen of Hearts 	11 Apr	12 Apr Chicken ALR	13 Apr Sub Vets Meet- ing 11 A.M. KIDS EASTER PARTY 1 to 3
14 Apr Jam Session 2pm	15 Apr Finance Meeting 6:30pm	16 Apr	17 Apr Wings Queen of Hearts 	18 Apr	19 Apr Dinner 6-8pm Fish	20 Apr CVMA Meeting Ride to Lebanon KSU 11:220 Woof Ride
21 Apr Jam Session 2pm ALR Meeting 6PM	22 Apr Ladies Eboard	23 Apr	24 Apr Wings Queen of Hearts 	25 Apr Fleet Reserve Meeting 5pm	26 Apr Dinner 6-8pm Steak Newsletter arti- cles due by 8am CVMA Spring Fling	27 Apr CVMA Spring Fling and Poker Run Sons Breakfast Pan Cakes
28 Apr Jam Session 2pm CVMA Meet- ing 1pm	29 Apr	30 Apr <u>E-Board Meet- ing</u> <u>Dept Heads</u> <u>Newsletter Team 12 Noon</u>	01 May Wings Queen of Hearts 	02 May	03 May Dinner 6-8pm	04 May Breakfast for Cops for Tots
05 May Jam Session 2pm	06 May	07 May Legion & Aux General Meet- ing Dinner 6pm (Aux) Meeting 7pm	08 May 	09 May	10 May Dinner 6-8pm Chicken ALR	11 May CVMA Meeting Masons Fish Fry



Post 639 Booth

M
A
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H
O
W



Bryan Shelton (Frost) Manning

Post 639 Booth



State Commander Shaking Hands with District Commander



Left to Right: State Historian National Vice Commander (Red) and State Commander Visit March 9 2019

Request from membership: In 2015 the traveling wall came to Post 639. If any member, a family member, friend or good associate has any pictures showing someone tracing a name on the wall, kneeling at the wall, touching the wall, close-ups preferred please. Please send those pictures to Ed Fox at nettlton2730@gmail.com. Ed is working on some ads for the wall when it comes back in 2020. If you can't email them please leave them in the historian's mailbox inside. Distant and scenery pictures won't work.

American Legion Post 639
Spring Fun Day
 Saturday, April 6th, 10-5

"Smoke Your Butt" BBQ Contest By ALR Judging at 4, Serving at 4:30 HorseShoe Competition by 40&8



THE LADIES WILL BE "BACK SEAT DRIVING"

40 & 8 to have Live Music And(for a fee) provide, Hamburgers/ Hotdogs thru-out day. Then grab a Pulled Pork sandwich for dinner. And enjoy the Bon-Fire for evening! What a Way to Spend the Day at Post 639





ALR will be sponsoring a Kenny Yeoman- "Smoke Your Butt" Memorial Amateur B-B-Q competition, 20\$ per Team Pick up your "Butt" on Friday evening or Saturday morning Ladies Aux. will be directing a "Back seat Driving" course! Something for Everyone!!!

Come for the Day, Camp for the Night! **882-8639 For Info**
 2660 S Scenic

April Through September












Wings and Wheels

Wednesdays
6pm to 9pm

American Legion Post 639
2660 S. Scenic



Play

Enjoy meeting new friends
Listen to Music
Liquid Refreshment (no lake water)

In respect of my currant Sub Veterans at American Legion 639, here is a piece of history that possibly prolonged my survival during the "Battle of Midway"

4 June 1942.

USS Tambor

"Lt. Cmdr. John W. "Spuds" Murphy, commanding the submarine *Tambor*, had been in command of that boat since the start of the war; *Tambor* had made two war patrols. During the mid watch on 5 June 1942, ignorant of the location of friendly forces, Murphy spotted four ships, at night, on the horizon, haul down. At periscope depth, Murphy moved closer.

Twice he attempted this maneuver until at the third surfacing and still unable to ID the ships sighted, he called his signal man topside to send the following lamp message, "Identify yourselves", As Murphy and the Japanese soon realized, the *Tambor* was in the middle of the Japanese fleet.

Two heavy cruiser and supporting ships began evasive maneuverings. the heavy cruisers *Mikuma* and the *Mogami* began turns at flank, each made a fatal turn. Consequently, Mogami, T-boned her sister cruiser amidships, in their haste to escape the presence of the *Tambor*.

One of the cruisers was later sunk on 6 June. Unknown at the time till my research of the Japans fleet maneuvers, these two Japanese Cruisers were headed to the south east location of Sand Island to bombard the shore line for the Japanese landing force of 5,000 the next night.

This was the location of my machine bunker. The bunker is still preserved, for historians and I to visit on anniversary dates.

As of 2012, there are only two of us Midway Island Marines as survivors

that can be located.

Thank you Submariners 639. Sgt Ed Fox WW2 Marine Veteran



Vietnam War Memorial
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Chaplain	Rex Krasche	Historian/Editor	Jim Cooper
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LZ 639 - Mess Hall

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