



Vietnam War Memorial Post 639



June 2019

Commander's Message:

Why did we volunteer to serve our country when we were younger, and why do we still serve our community today?

I don't know the answer. There are theories about this. Plenty of economists and psychologist researchers are trying to understand the motivations and incentives for doing irksome tasks and accepting weighty responsibilities without financial compensation. The conclusions are not obvious.

Professionally, I make money working with people who are all volunteering their time and expertise. At the Legion, I do the same thing for free. The challenges are very different in some ways, and identical in others.

I grew up in Aurora, and I've been involved in the veteran's community around here since before I was a veteran. I attended the Legion's Cadet Patrol Academy when I was in High School. I joined Post 639 and the VFW 3404 when I was 23. Things have changed since then, but it's surprising how much they remain the same.

In this time, I've wondered, and been asked many times, why do we do it? Why do we give our time and money to the Legion? Why do we wake up in the middle of the night worrying about the finances or the facilities or our members who are in need?

I'm writing this on my laptop at my desk in a room in my house that isn't quite finished. My yard needs mowed. My truck is a filthy mess. I haven't brush hogged at all this year. I have more to do than I will ever get done. So why am I about to put on my shoes and drive to 2660 South Scenic?

Because I love it. I am anxious for 11am to roll around so I can make cheeseburgers for people I know and don't know. Because I'm looking forward to seeing Gary and Larry and Kenny and Jeff and Chicago and Ron and everyone else that will come in today. Because I know that the post has made a positive difference in the lives of hundreds of veterans and their families, and the community. I love the challenge of making it better, of making it bigger, of being a more positive force in the community and the lives of our members. That's why I do it. I'll be proud to have my name and photo on the long wall of Commanders, and I am sure some day people will see it and wonder who Darin Hargis was, because the post will be there when I am long gone. It's a very satisfying feeling.

Sure, there are frustrations. Freezers break. People sometimes let me down. Sometimes I let them down. Disagreements arise. Nothing is perfect.

We won't remember those

things. We will remember the brotherhood, the fellowship, and the differences we made in the lives of people we know and don't know.

Thank you for your service, and if you aren't busy, come down. Pitch in. Have a beer or lemonade and swap some stories.

If you want to get more involved, tell me how and I'll help you find your place.

Semper Fi,

Darin Hargis

Chaplain

Rain rain go away come back another day, seems to be the saying now for a while.

We want rain but not so much at one time. I hope the weather will start to turn around soon. On another subject. The post has tried to start breakfast's back up again and it seems we have no to little help or no to little people to come to eat. You want the post to do good, but how can it improve when member's don't come to help or come to eat.

All for now, always the post and it's member's are in my prayer's.

Your Chaplain Rex Krasche





Finance

Common to many business ventures are ups and downs of revenue and profit or loss. We experienced an up cycle for the past months, but May has been one of the downs, but not a severe down.

Summer months typically draw our members and guests to other activities, so our bar and kitchen gross income at LZ639 has dropped and our Missouri Lottery net income has done the same.

Outdoor events by other organizations utilizing our facilities recently have helped to keep our financial status favorable. We also have other events scheduled during the summer months and expect them to help our finances.

One issue related to finance issues is the kitchen. We have been operating with volunteer cooks for several weeks, but in the weeks of May we experienced an overlapping of volunteer vacations or other events resulting in an uncertainty as to whether we had cooks and what the menu might be. One Wednesday, the uncertainty reached a very low point when the Finance Officer was the only one available to cook lunches. The good news is that those eating that day are still alive and have not complained of any food related problems. Scotty and first Vice Commander Adamson have also helped during these days of regular cooks being out of town. There may be others that I don't know about as I any food related problems. Scotty and first Vice Commander Adamson have also helped during these days of regular cooks being out of town. There may be others that I don't know about as I am not at LZ639 every day, and if

so, I thank all of the volunteers who have helped.

Our members are all military veterans who worked with their own units and often in coordination with other units so we should be able to work as an LZ639 team to continue our efforts to help veterans.

Whatever your talents, they can probably be used at LZ639. Without volunteer help, we face hiring more help.

We are doing well, but could do better, so become a doer member not just a member.

Gary Bockman Finance Officer

ALR

RAIN, RAIN,
RAIN

It certainly has put a stop to most riding days this month.

However ALR has been busy, with post activities this month. We were busy at the awareness ride event. Our activities tent stayed busy all day with sales, membership drive, and post information to future membership. Thank you Lenny & Vonnie Buis, Jim "Skippy" Cooper and Frank Butler, for working the entire day.

Our chicken night dinner was a huge success, according o many of our members. Thank you to everyone who enjoyed the "Home Cookin" at Post 639.

Queen of Hearts continues on Wednesday nights. This month, ALR has worked the 50/50 drawings. Thank you, thank you, frank Butler for the great job of selling all those precious tickets !!



The Honor Flight, support was a huge success. Many of our members turned out to welcome the Veterans, as they returned to Springfield.

Attention ALR members, Our June ALR meeting has been rescheduled to June 9th, at 6pm. Our normal meeting was scheduled on Father's Day, therefore many of our members had family events for that day.

May 27 - Ride to National Cemetery event. KSU 09:30

June 1- Joplin ride to Bonnie & Clyde apt. KSU 09:00

June 15 - "Wings Over Whiteman" air show. Whiteman AFB. KSU 07:30.

Until next month,
Ride your own ride,
and
Enjoy the Wind Therapy,
Your ALR Director, Marsha Crom

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.

1. SAL is selling glasses for\$10
2. SAL is cooking burgers, hot dogs, and prono pups on Saturday, June 15th.

Jared Thompson
SAL Commander



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.



THE AMERICAN LEGION

GETTING STARTED

It's easy to get the ball rolling. If there is a post member 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.

Coming in June 'Ham Fest' watch Calendar for dates. Come and enjoy the world of communication at work. So Far it looks like CQ CQ will be **June 22nd.**



(Adjutant) then you need to complete it soon.

June Elections require you to show your current membership card to vote.

"I want to thank every member that renewed or transferred for 2019. I want to especially thank all new members that choose American Legion Post #639 as their Veterans Service organization Home. We as a VSO can do anything we set as goals to accomplish.

As you may already know one of Post #639 biggest upcoming events is bringing The Vietnam Memorial Traveling Wall back on July 2nd 2020. This will take a lot of member hours to accomplish but with everyone helping it will be an other success.

Nolan Moody

2nd Vice Commander

Send Articles to:
historianeditorlz639@gmail.com
The newsletter is also on our website

americanlegionpost639.org.

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June 2019 LZ639 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>27 May</p> <p>National Cemetery Ceremony 11am</p> <p>Memorial Day</p>	<p>28 May</p> <p>E-Board Meeting 6:30pm</p> <p>Dept Heads 5pm</p> <p>Newsletter Team 12 Noon</p>	<p>29 May</p> <p>Wings</p> <p>Queen of Hearts</p> 	<p>30 May</p>	<p>31 May</p> <p>Dinner 6-8</p> <p>VW June Bug Event</p>	<p>01 Jun</p> <p>VW June Bug Event</p>
02 Jun	03 Jun	<p>04 Jun</p> <p>Legion & Aux General Meeting</p> <p>Dinner 6pm (Sons)</p> <p>Meeting 7pm</p>	<p>05 Jun</p> <p>CVMA</p> <p>Queen of Hearts</p> 	<p>06 Jun</p> <p>D-Day</p>	<p>07 Jun</p> <p>Dinner 6-8pm</p>	<p>08 Jun</p> <p>Sub Vets Meeting 11 A.M.</p>
<p>09 Jun</p> <p>ALR Meeting 6PM</p> <p>District Meeting 1pm-2 Lunch 2pm— Meeting</p>	10 Jun	<p>11 Jun</p> <p>SAL Meeting 6:30pm</p> <p>KWVA Meeting 1pm</p>	<p>12 Jun</p> <p>Queen of Hearts</p> 	13 Jun	<p>14 Jun</p> <p>Dinner 6-8pm</p>  <p>July 4th Day</p>	<p>15 Jun</p> <p>CVMA Meeting 1 pm</p>
<p>16 Jun</p> <p>Fathers Day</p>	<p>17 Jun</p> <p>Ladies Eboard</p> <p>Finance Meeting</p>	18 Jun	<p>19 Jun</p> <p>Queen of Hearts</p> 	20 Jun	<p>21 Jun</p> <p>Dinner 6-8pm</p> <p>Newsletter articles due by 8am</p> <p>First Day of Summer</p>	<p>22 Jun</p> <p>GI Bill of Rights Signed</p>
<p>23 Jun</p> <p>Hearts</p> <p>Run</p>	24 Jun	<p>25 Jun</p> <p>E-Board Meeting 6:30pm</p> <p>Dept Heads 5pm</p> <p>Newsletter Team 12 Noon</p>	<p>26 Jun</p> <p>Queen of Hearts</p> 	<p>27 Jun</p> <p>Fleet Reserve Meeting 6pm</p>	<p>28 Jun</p> <p>Dinner 6-8pm</p>	<p>29 Jun</p> <p>Poker chip Run</p>
30 Jun	01 Jul	<p>02 Jul</p> <p>Legion & Aux General Meeting</p> <p>Dinner 6pm (Aux)</p> <p>Meeting 7pm</p>	<p>03 Jul</p> <p>Queen of Hearts</p> 	<p>04 Jul</p> 	<p>05 Jul</p> <p>Dinner 6-8pm</p>	06 Jul



These 3 pictures from the Motorcycle Awareness Ride Day On May 5th.

Working the table is Lenny Buis

These 2 pictures from Saturday Breakfast May 11th. Start up for Saturday Breakfast again.

Left picture is Larry, Justin and Bill. Right picture is Rex and Justin.



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.



**The new Ladies
Auxillary shirts.**

Both Shirts for on-
ly \$25.



**Ladies Auxillary gifts on Mothers
Day to the Lady veterans at Mount
Vernon nursing home.**



**Ladies Auxillary Clean your closet event Saturday May 11th. A lot of cloths donated. If you didn't
attend you missed out on some great items to choose from. Maybe next time.**



ALR members at Honor Flight May 15th.



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

Non-Profit Organization
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Chaplain	Rex Krasche	Historian/Editor	Jim Cooper
Member at Large	Bill Maxheimer	Member at Large	Bryan Shelton
Member at Large	Ed Fox		

LZ 639 - Mess Hall

LZ639 Pizza Company will make available to our members of Post 639 and families your choice of 12 different pizzas that we offer to area bars. There is a minimum order of 6 pizzas and they will only be made when we are making orders for our wholesale customers and will be **take out only**.

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