



American Legion Post 639 (Vietnam War Memorial) Springfield, Missouri

OCTOBER 2022



REMEMBER

From the Commander ...



Well Summer is over, and Fall is upon us. I am always bummed that our outdoor events are coming to a close, but please plan on supporting our Post during our slow time this Fall and Winter. What a great event year we had and we are already planning for 2023.

The Queen of Hearts was chosen on September 21st. But not without a little controversy, the person was not present. I darnn near had a mutiny on my hands when I made the decision to give them 5 minutes to get here. The Covid rule was still in effect - that if you are **not** present, a representative could draw for you for 50% of the jackpot. So by rule the winner only got 50%. But the good news is we set the new board on Sunday Sept 24th, and on Sept 28th we start a new QOH with a new set of rules (established by the E-board and will be posted and displayed) with our largest starting jackpot to date, \$10k. We are making a plan for another busy Q of H round.

Remember we serve lunch M-F 11-2. Mark your calendars for Treehouse Vets **all you-can-eat Chili** on Friday night October 14th 6-8pm, and Skippy and Scotty's all-you-can pancake extravaganza on Friday night October 28th 6-8pm.

As always thanks to everyone that keeps this place running like a well oiled machine. The list is to long to put in my article. And remember, YOU can volunteer around Post 639 anytime, and if you haven't paid your dues get with our on duty staff or our Adjutant Tom Newsom.

Remember to stand tall, fly your Flag and be proud. God Bless America.

Mike Goforth

Commander

Legion Post 639

Chaplain



The Lord told us to pray always. In these times, we **NEED** to pray. Let me explain myself.

Russia's leader is so possessed in trying to take over another country. He has no feeling for people or families. I pray the Lord will put a thought in his mind that this is a bad idea.

So let's pray **HARD** and **OFTEN**.

All for now. As always, the Post and its members are in my prayers.

Rex Krasche

Post 639 Chaplain

Auxiliary



It's time for sweatshirts and shorts, pumpkin spice, candy corn, mums and trees changing colors. Happy Fall Ya'll!

ALA will kick off the fall season with our quarterly Raffle basket themed "All Things Fall", featuring a beautiful utility wagon, donated by Post member Ed Fox. Thank you, Ed! Ticket sells will start Wednesday, October 5th and can be purchased at the bar. Our drawing will be on Wednesday, October 26th at the Queen of Hearts event.

Our Community Service/Veterans Affairs Coordinator, Chaplain Tammi Grantham, arranged for guest speakers from The Kitchen and Upward Bound, to visit us at our September general meeting. We are reaching out to our area community and veteran organizations to learn more about these local groups and how we may assist them. Tammi has speakers lined up for the October and November general meetings as well.

We held our third annual Spaghetti dinner and POW/MIA ceremony on Friday, September 16th. [\(See pictures on Page 6\)](#) ALA members performed another heartfelt five-man missing table ceremony honoring the 81,536 Americans who are still unaccounted for. Our ceremony was performed by ALA members, Vice President Terra Cooperider, Historian Mikayla Criger, Chaplain Tammi Grantham, member Paula Maxheimer and member Melody Daniels and the Ceremonial Bell Ringer, Post Second Vice Commander, Adam Jamison. The Coast Guard hat was donated to us by Scott Appleby and obtained by Member at Large Sherry Hawk. The Army hat used for the ceremony was loaned to us by retired Segreant First Class Justin Adamson. Special recognition to ALA members Secretary Susan Heppard, Treasurer Hallie Scott, Member at Large Charlotte Kelly, member/ALR Director Marsha Crom and member Joyce Sanders for the Spaghetti dinner service and dessert contribution. Shout out to member/Post employee Kim Goforth, Post employee Melissa Wilson, Post Sergeant at Arms Ron Jackson and Post Historian Bob Kalwat for your assistance. Thank you all for your instrumental role in making this a very special event!

Our annual Children's Halloween Party is Saturday, October 15th from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. The event is open to the public. It will be a fun filled afternoon in the Pavilion area with games, coloring, chalk art, pumpkin decorating and of course plenty of candy. Snacks and drinks will be provided. In the event of inclement weather, the event will be cancelled.



I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our brothers from SAL for working side by side with us during Bike Nights at the Queen of Hearts event this season. We could not have done it without you! I would also like to personally say "Thank you" to member Susan Heppard for being in the Sugar Shack, every other Wednesday, representing ALA!

In Spirit of Service, not Self

Diana Cooperider

President, Post 639 Auxiliary

Sons of the American Legion



The Sons of the American Legion are looking for New and Past Members!

The Sons are made up of male descendants of Veterans who served in the US Armed Forces. Show your appreciation for your family members Service, and keep the memory of those brave Service members alive.

Our motto is "Serving Those Who Served" this great country. We do this through our events and volunteering at the LZ 639.

Annual dues are only \$25... and you get soooo much more out of your service to these brave vets, who fought to provide the freedoms each of us enjoy every day.

We are always interested in talking with individuals who want to help our beloved LZ 639. We meet at 7PM on the last Tuesday of each month.

Come out and sit in on a meeting or talk with a few of our members.

Congratulations to our SAL officers for 2022-2023, installed on September 1st. Going to be a GREAT year !!!

Curtis Meyers, Commander

Sons of the American Legion

Service Officer



EXERCISE, EXERCISE, EXERCISE

Exercise is critical to good health, particularly as we age, yet we often find it hard to get and the VA doesn't help. So what's the answer?

The Greene County Park Board certainly is part of it. They operate three fitness facilities (2511 W. Republic Rd., 2701 Blackman Rd., and 301 E. Talmage) and are open to the public in and near Greene County at a cost of about fifty cents a day (based on annual membership).

The facilities are clean, well maintained and staffed, and exceedingly well equipped. All have indoor tracks for walking or jogging, gymnasiums for sports, tons of exercise equipment,

and child care facilities. Personal trainers are also available if you need them (at reasonable rates). Both Republic Road and Talmage have pools and lifeguards. They also have exercise and sports programs for those who want group coaching.

Some of these are free, and Medicare will pay for others. If you just want to use them occasionally the rate for adults is \$8 per day and seniors is \$6 per day.

Stop in at any of these centers and grab a brochure. No commercial facility can come close to matching their quality or cost.

My permanent monthly reminder - **If you need medical equipment to help improve your quality of life, PLEASE contact me.** We have the following items available at Post 639

- Canes
- Crutches
- Wheel Chairs (both electric and manual)
- Walkers (kneeling)
- Scooters
- Walking Boots
- Bath and Shower Chairs
- Toilet Support Arms
- Bedside Commode

Bob Scott

Post 639 Service Officer

Legion Riders Chapter 639



September has been **INSANE !!** Finally got good riding weather so we could do what we're best at - serving veterans and the community (and having fun doing it).

Saturday, September 10th kicked things off with a Poker Run for the Sam Biggs Memorial Foundation (raising money for children's cancer research). The organization outgrew their regular venue, so they hosted it at Post 639, and we were glad to oblige. ALL proceeds from the Post (food/bar/event) went to support the organization. ALR manned the Sugar Shack, serving food from 11AM - 3PM, combined with an on-site BBQ Food Truck on site. All teams working together knocked it out of the park, raising around \$14K for the event.

Sunday, September 11th was Patriot Day. Several of our ALR members were on the Ride to the Wall in Perryville MO, so attendance was down a little. ALR provided a cinnamon roll breakfast before the ceremony, put together by our 2nd Vice Commander, Adam Jamieson. Red, White, and Blue balloons were released at the different times when the aircraft hit the Towers, Pentagon, and Flight 93 crashed. **(See pictures on Page 7).**

(cont'd Page 4)

September 18th - ALR Monthly Meeting, we welcomed a new member - Erik Duff (yes, he's related to Chuck Duff, the Dad)!! WELCOME to the family Erik !!

September 20th - Dinner Ride to Missouri Mike's. Kim the owner took care of us superbly. Skippy, of course, lived up to



his reputation by bringing his own supplies to ensure availability !!

We've worked every Queen of Hearts 50/50 in September. As a result, our ALR funds have grown **SIGNIFICANTLY**. We are actively reviewing options on how to use these funds most effectively in support of the Post and Veterans. We'll let you know how they're used in the near future.



Friday/Saturday, September 23rd-24th - was the Post 639 "Members-Only" Camping Event. **(See pictures on Page 8)**. This was an appreciation event for ALL Post 639 members to recognize their efforts to date for 2022. I saw many members just "hanging out" in front of their campers, enjoying a beverage, getting to know each other better. That's exactly what this event was all about. Dinner on Friday night, breakfast on Saturday and a pot luck dinner/bonfire on Saturday night. **SHOUT OUT to Jeff Gonyors, Skippy Cooper and Scotty Kelly** for handling the Saturday breakfast preparation duties on Saturday AM. **STELLAR, gentlemen !!!!** Saturday night, thanks to ALL who supplied dishes to go with the meat. **SHOUT OUT to Adam Jamieson (BBQ Pitmaster)** for smoking the brisket, giving up his Friday nights' sleep in the process. **Bravo, Sir, Bravo !!!**

Saturday September 24th - ALR Bill Maxheimer Memorial Ride to Rockbridge Trout and Game Ranch for lunch. The Rider of Honor, was, of course, Paula Maxheimer. Ron Jackson took a group of us on a scenic 150-mile route, and the weather was **PERFECT**. So was the lunch once we arrived. **(See pictures on Page 8)**.

As September comes to a close, we'll catch our breath and then dive into October. I have no doubt we'll pick up where we left off.

Don't forget, it's the season for 2022-2023 Annual Dues. Please see Bob Kalwat to get your renewals taken care of.

Have your \$20 and 2022-2023 Legion/AUX/SAL membership card ready, and you'll be good to go !!!

Riders, if you want to become part of a riding family who loves each other, loves to serve their Post, Veterans and the Community at large, please come and check us out. Rest assured, you will like what you find

Ride safe out there

Marsha Crom, Director, Chapter 639

Historian/Newsletter Editor

First of all, let me express my most heartfelt gratitude for the appreciation expressed by the Auxiliary, Legion Riders and Post 639 at the General Meeting on 9/6. Whatever I do, I do out of love for this Post and its membership, **AND** to support our Executive Board, and the other volunteers who make this Post the great organization it is.

Happy Birthday this month to the United States Navy !!

The Second Continental Congress passed a resolution on October 13th, 1775, creating the Continental Navy. With the end of the Revolutionary War, the original Continental Navy was considered unnecessary and unaffordable, as the government was heavily in debt due to the expenses of the war. And as such, it was disbanded, and the existing ships were either sold or given away. As a result, the United States was without a functioning Navy.

Now being an independent nation (no longer protected by the English Navy) and with no armed ships of its own, American merchant shipping was victimized continuously by North African Barbary pirates in the Mediterranean Sea.

During John Adams' presidency, the **Naval Act of 1794** was passed to create a permanent standing US Navy to reverse this situation. Requirements set forth were for a fleet of frigates with (1) enough firepower to engage any frigates of the French or British navies, and (2) enough speed to evade any "ship of the line". The original Congressional appropriation of **\$688,888.82** was made to cover construction. Secretary of War Timothy Pickering submitted a list of names for the ships to George Washington.

The original six frigates selected for construction by Washington (and their construction locations) were:

USS Chesapeake - 38 guns (Gosport, Virginia)

USS Constitution - 44 guns (Boston, Massachusetts)

USS President - 44 guns (New York, New York)

USS United States - 44 guns (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)

USS Congress - 38 guns (Kittery, Maine)

USS Constellation - 38 guns (Baltimore, Maryland)

Names also included in the original list were *Defender, Forti-*

tude, Perseverance, Protector, and Liberty. George Washington chose 5 of the names as those reflecting principles of the US Constitution. The 6th, **Constellation**, represented the blazon of the Arms of the United States, **"13 stars, forming a constellation."** Construction took place at six different sites, one for each ship, vs. building ALL at one single shipyard. This enabled the congressionally appropriated construction money to benefit each local economy. A civilian naval constructor was hired to direct the work, and 6 Navy Captains were appointed as Superintendents overseeing the construction at each location.

Today's Navy is 490 ships strong, with another 90 either under construction, or in the planning/ordering stage. It projects the power and principles of the United States to the far reaches of the entire world.

Bob Kalwat

Post 639 Historian/Newsletter Editor

August VSO Activities/Info

Give Vets Hope

My name is Holly Butler and I am one the founders and co-facilitator for Give Vets Hope. I have been working in the mental health profession for a few years now and have over 5 years' experience working with at risk and homeless veterans as an intake specialist. I'm not a veteran myself but I have seen the need to provide a safe space for veterans and their supports such as family or friends to have a place to openly talk freely without any judgement. Now enough about me, I will tell you about our last meeting we had at the VFW Post 3404.



On September 13, 2022, we had a great start to our meeting with pizza and soda as well as dessert. Our group had some great conversations and shared positive stories regarding some of their past military experiences and one amazing positive story from one of our members.

One of the topics that was discussed among our group involved the power of listening and being free of any judgement. I enjoy hearing how everyone has been doing and how our group is helpful for them each meeting. We all come together and show respect to one another which is amazing to see!

I do have to say, one of the best parts of sitting at group meetings is watching how quickly they are all there for each other in good and bad times. I am honored to co-facilitate this wonderful group and so grateful I have my facilitator, David Suits by my side and working hard to keep us all together. Thank you to everyone for your support in keeping our group going strong, we might not be that big...but we are a there for each other, respect one another and never judge anyone. I hope we can keep our group going for many more years to come so we can keep on Giving all Veterans Hope.

Give Vets Hope group meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at VFW Post 3404 on 1136 E Atlantic from 5:30pm to 7:00 pm with pizza and soda provided. Our next group will be

on October 11th and then again on October 25th, 2022. Everything is free and we offer this opportunity to not just the veterans but their families, friends and we welcome service animals. Unfortunately, we are unable to provide childcare at this time. If you would like more information about our group, visit our Facebook page at: [givevetshope/facebook](https://www.facebook.com/givevetshope/), or email us at davidsuits25@gmail.com.

Holly Butler

Founder/Co-facilitator



VIETNAM VET RADIO (vietnamvetradio.org)

8181 S 4230 RD

Chelsea, OK 74016

Contact: Bennie P. Blount

SFC, US Army, Retired

Chu Lai 1969, Long Binh 1970, Vung Tau 1971-72

Queen of Hearts Reset !!!

The new Queen of Hearts board has been set. As you can see we secured the cards in sealed envelopes. We had a room full of witnesses, some who shuffled the cards numerous times. They were counted and hung in random order by one person, **1st Vice-Commander Michael Chandler**. New rules were finalized at our Executive Board meeting on Sept. 26th, and will be posted in several locations.



- **YOU MUST BE PRESENT ON PROPERTY WHEN YOUR NAME IS CALLED will be the biggest change.**
- **Ticket sales for the 7:30PM drawing will be suspended at 7:20PM to allow for final preparations for the drawing PROMPTLY at 7:30PM.**



POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremony

September 16th, 2022



This table is set for five, the empty places represent the Americans still missing from each of the five military services - Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard.

- **The table is round**, to show our everlasting concern for our missing men and women.
- **The tablecloth is white**, symbolizing the pure intentions of the service members who responded to the call of duty for our country.
- **The single rose**, displayed in the vase, reminds us of the life of each of the missing, and the blood that our service members have shed, in sacrifice, to ensure the freedom of the United States of America. It also represents the faith of their loved ones and friends who wait for answers.
- **The vase is tied with a red ribbon**, which represents a love of country, that inspired the service members to serve our country, and for our continued determination to account for our missing
- **The chairs** - they are empty, because the missing and the fallen are still absent.



Auxiliary Presentation Team holding the covers of the 5 branches of Military service.



A slice of lemon, served on a plate, is to remind us of the bitter fate of those captured and missing in a foreign land.



A pinch of salt symbolizes the tears endured by those missing, and their families and friends who still seek answers.



The Bible represents the strength, through faith, to sustain those lost from our country - a country that was founded as One Nation Under God.



The glass, inverted, symbolizes the missing and fallen service men and women, who cannot partake.



Remember them, all of you who served with them and called them comrade; you, who depended on their might and aid, and relied on them. For surely, they have not forsaken you!

9/11 Remembrance Ceremony

September 11th, 2022



8:46 Flight 11 struck the North tower. We at Post 639 Remember..



At 9:03 Flight 175 struck the South Tower. We at Post 639 Remember..



At 9:37 Flight 77 struck the Pentagon. We at Post 639 Remember..



At 10:03 flight 93 crashed in PA. We at Post 639 Remember..



At 10:28 the North Tower collapsed. 3 Vietnam Veterans released red, white and blue balloons. We at Post 639 Remember..

Serenity wants **YOU** for the Freedom Food Drive. Collection box is right inside the Post 639 entrance. Let's make it happen by October 22nd !!!

FREEDOM FOOD DRIVE for VETERANS

September 1 - October 22

OUR GOAL IS 4.1 TONS

PLEASE DONATE ONLY

NON-PERISHABLE and/or UNEXPIRED GOODS

What We Need:

Canned fruits/veggies, canned pasta sauce, pasta, rice, beans, hot/cold cereal, oatmeal, mac & cheese, soups, peanut butter, snacks, granola bars, water, juice
NO GLASS PLEASE



FOR DONATION LOCATIONS
[facebook.com/serenityhonors](https://www.facebook.com/serenityhonors)
kskf.com

H.U.L.K.
HOT TUB SERVICES

Presented by
SERENITY HONORS

104.1
KSGF
Official Radio Station
of SERENITY HONORS

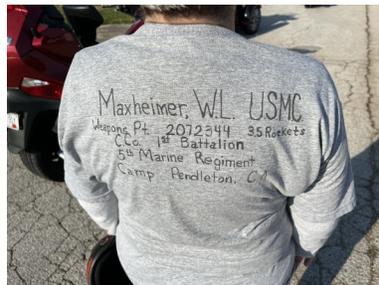
For questions call Chris at (417) 590-7500 or email serenityhenness@gmail.com
Serenity Honors is not yet a 501c3 nonprofit corporation. Any contributions are not tax deductible.



Post 639 "Members Only" Camping Event September 23rd -24th, 2022



Bill Maxheimer Memorial Ride September 24th, 2022



ENTER TO WIN
CITADEL BOSS 25
12 GAUGE SEMI AUTOMATIC

\$20 PER TICKET OR 6 TICKETS FOR \$100
****ONLY 250 TICKETS TO BE SOLD****

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT
AMERICAN LEGION POST 639, 2660 S. SCENIC
NGFIELD, MISSOURI

FOLLOWING THE SALE OF ALL TICKETS,
 PROCEEDS WILL GO TO
AMERICAN LEGION POST 639 AND TREEHOUSE.VET,
501(C)(3) NON-PROFIT CORPORATION THAT
ING THE MENTAL HEALTH OF VETERANS AND
OUGH EDUCATION, RESOURCES AND THE
OUTDOORS.

EAGLE
 THANK YOU TO TREEHOUSE PARTNER
EAGLE OUTDOORS IN WILLARD, MISSOURI.

https://mail.google.com/mail/u/1/#inbox?projector=1

1/1

EST 2017

6TH ANNUAL WESTERN GREENE COUNTY VETERANS DAY PARADE
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2022

11 AM PARADE - "HONORING WOMEN IN SERVICE" - CELEBRATING 80 YEARS OF THE WOMEN'S ARMY AUXILIARY CORPS (WAAC)

1:30 PM - FLAG RETIREMENT AT JACKSON STREET PARK
 11:30 AM-5:00PM - VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION-JACKSON STREET PARK

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 31, 2022
REGISTER HERE: HTTP://BIT.LY/WILLARDVETSPARADE
STAGING/LINE UP: WILLARD HIGH SCHOOL @ 9 AM
QUESTIONS: CONTACT DOUG JOHNSON @ 573.934.0377

20TH ANNUAL VETERANS DAY ASSEMBLY
WILLARD MIDDLE SCHOOL
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4: REGISTRATION 8:30 AM / ASSEMBLY 9:30 AM

3RD ANNUAL VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION
4TH ANNUAL VETERANS STAND DOWN
JACKSON STREET PARK

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5: 11:30 AM - 5:00 PM
ACTIVITIES INCLUDED ARTISAN VENDORS,
MUSIC, VETERAN SUPPORT GROUPS, AND
MUCH MORE!



SPONSORS
 AMVETS POST 188
 CITY OF WILLARD
 WILLARD SCHOOLS



Military, Shriners & Emergency Responders Admitted FREE

\$15 TICKET

BOB & IKE'S
WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD
Parking Lot Party Benefit

OCT. 9TH
1946 S Glenstone
12pm to 9pm

VINO ALAN
PHAT MIKE AND THE BARTENDERS

THE RIVERSIDE BAND

DJ | AXE THROWING | PICKLEBALL | CORNHOLE
BIKE SHOW | BUDWEISER TRUCK | DRINK SPECIALS
FOOD TRUCK | 50/50 RAFFLE | GIVEAWAYS

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT: SHRINERS AND THROUGH COURTNEY'S EYES

SPONSORS: SHRINERS, WHOLE HOG CAFE, BLUE ICE VODKA, TWISTED TEA, AMERICAN LEGION POST 639, US FOODS, BREAKTHROUGH BEVERAGES, BUDWEISER, SOUTHERN GLAZER'S WINE AND SPIRITS
 WHOLE HOG CAFE WILL HAVE THE SMOKER ONSITE HANDING OUT SAMPLES.

ESTATE PLANNING FOR VETERANS

October 25, 2022
3 p.m. – 7 p.m.

* Free services offered for Veterans and spouses include:

- Simple wills
- Powers of attorneys
- Living wills
- Health care directives

2223 E Bennett Street
 Springfield, MO 65804

RSVP Deadline: October 21, 2022
 Scotty Allen - 573-522-4224

*by appointment only | must be a Missouri resident

The response to the Missouri Veterans Commission’s estate planning clinic on October 25th in Springfield, MO has been overwhelming, to say the least. As you might suspect, the news coverage generated significant interest in this event and I was inundated with requests to the point that it overloaded my email inbox and voicemail box. All appointments for the 10/25 event have been filled and we are anticipating serving 41 veterans and their spouses that evening. However, in light of the huge response, I am planning to hold additional events in Springfield in the near future to serve those who could not get a reservation to this event. As future events are planned, I will report that information to the Post as well.

There are currently 146 requests for appointments on the waiting list and the calls continue to come in. If you are wanting to make a reservation, feel free to contact me at scotty.allen@mvc.dps.mo.gov and I thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.

Scotty L. Allen
 General Counsel
 Missouri Veterans Commission
 205 Jefferson Street, 12th Floor
 P.O. Drawer 147
 Jefferson City, MO 65102-0147
 T: (573) 522-4224
 F: (573) 751-6836

SUPPORT LOCAL VETERANS

Chili Dinner
ALL YOU CAN EAT FOR \$8.00

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14TH @ 6:00PM
AMERICAN LEGION POST 639
2660 S SCENIC AVE, SPRINGFIELD, MO

TREEHOUSE.VET
 FAITH & SERVICE & COMMUNITY



Operation Enduring Freedom Anniversary - October 7th



From the Bar/Galley ...

Happy Hour at LZ639 :

12PM-2PM 7 Days a Week (.50 off)

6PM-8PM, Monday thru Saturday (.50 off)

Saturday Breakfast - Morning Chow @ LZ639

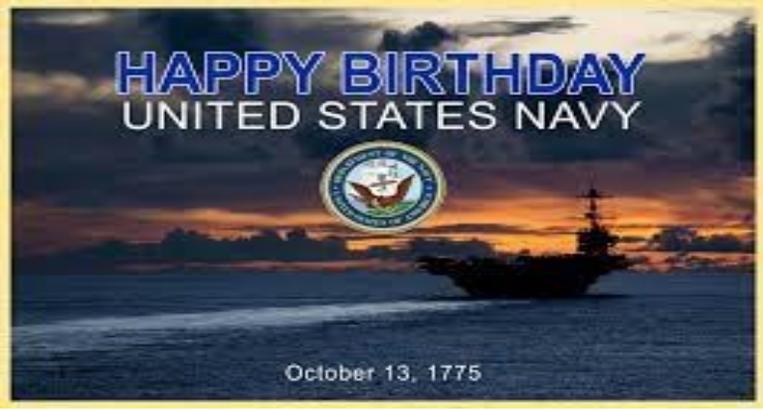
1st Saturday of the Month 8AM - 10AM

Your Saturday breakfast is made possible by the following 6AM crew - **Bob Dale, Dylan Dale, Mike Chandler with support and assistance of Scotty and Robin.** Breakfast served 8AM-10AM. Drinks separate charge. No charge for salt and pepper.

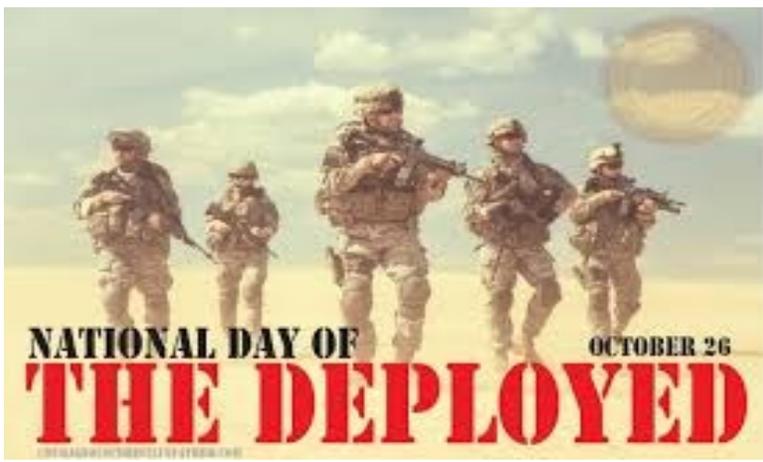


Tell your friends as it's only \$8 all you can eat. Please thank the people who give up their time to support this Post 639 benefit.

Thanks to all who supported the **September Breakfast** at the Post. It was a pleasure to see Post members coming together again. Thanks, Jeff, for stepping in and helping out. Jeff is a new member in ALR. Jeff and his wife like to volunteer and be apart of giving their time to help worthy causes. He's not afraid to peel a potato either.



US Navy Birthday - October 13th, Navy Day-October 27th



National Day of the Deployed - October 26th



Friday Oct 28th 6 to 8PM, Pancake Supper at the Post. Made possible by the labor of **Scotty Kelly.** All you can eat for only \$8. Syrup, Plates and Chairs provided at no extra charge.



National First Responders Day - October 28th

If you have a special topping you want, then bring it and enjoy the company of others. This is a Post Fundraiser for post improvements or updates.

The 6am Breakfast crew with this short message for you.

Jim "Skippy" Cooper (got peanut butter)

Your 6AM Support Team

Post 639 Schedule of Events

October 2022

- October 1 Sat - Post 639 Breakfast 8AM - 10AM
- October 4 Tue - Post 639/Aux Gen Meeting, 7PM
- October 5 Wed - Queen of Hearts/50-50, 6-8PM
- October 6 Thu - Marine Corps League Mtg VFW 3404
6PM Food/Fellowship, 7PM Mtg
- October 7 Fri - Operation Enduring Freedom Anniversary
- October 8 Sat - Sub Vets Meeting 11AM
- October 11 Tue - Korean War Vets Meeting, 1PM
- Give Vets Hope, VFW 3404 5:30PM
- October 12 Wed - Queen of Hearts/50-50, 6-8PM
- October 13 Thu - US Navy Birthday
- October 14 Fri - VFW 3404 Fish Fry 5:30-7PM
- Treehouse Vets Chili Dinner 6-8PM
- October 15 Sat - Kids Halloween Party, 1PM—3PM
- October 16 Sun - Legion Riders Meeting, 5:00PM
- October 18 Tue - Auxiliary E-Board Meeting 7PM
- October 19 Wed - Queen of Hearts/50-50, 6-8PM
- October 24 Mon - E-Board Meeting, 6:30PM
- October 25 Tue - SAL Meeting, 7PM
- Give Vets Hope, VFW 3404, 5:30PM
- October 26 Wed - Queen of Hearts / 50-50, 6-8 PM
- National Day of the Deployed
- October 27 Thu - Fleet Reserve Association 6PM
- Navy Day
NEWSLETTER CONTENT DUE
- October 28 Fri - Pancake Supper - 6-8PM
- National First Responders Day
- October 31 Mon - Halloween
- Post 639 E-Board Meeting 6:30PM



The Salvation Army is putting together the schedule for Bell Ringers for the coming season. The need is so great that ringing at certain locations will start as early as November 4th. **Sign up online at registertoring.com, or call the Point of Contact, Brook Mathews at 417-862-5509.**



Chad Albert Owner
308 East Republic Road 417.882.7788
Springfield, MO 65807 ciguy@computerinnovations.net

computerinnovations.net

Veteran owned (US Navy)

Veteran recommended (Sgt. Ed Fox USMC, Post 639)

Average Weather in October for Springfield

Daily high temperatures *decrease* by 11°F, from 74° F to 63°F, rarely falling below 49°F or exceeding 83°F.

Daily low temperatures *decrease* by 10°F, from 54° F to 44°F, rarely falling below 31°F or exceeding 65°F.

Over the course of October in Springfield, the length of the day is *rapidly decreasing*. From the start to the end of the month, the length of the day decreases by 1 hour, 8 minutes, implying an average daily decrease of 2 minutes, 16 seconds, and weekly decrease of 15 minutes, 51 seconds.

The shortest day of the month is *October 31*, with 10 hours, 40 minutes of daylight and the longest day is *October 1*, with 11 hours, 48 minutes of daylight.

The month of October in Springfield experiences *increasing* cloud cover, with the percentage of time that the sky is *overcast* or *mostly cloudy* increasing from 31% to 40%.



Volunteer Opportunities at the Legion

As always, we have several volunteer opportunities for members and non-members. Currently, we are in need of someone with excellent administrative skills and the ability to see a task through to completion. This could mostly be done at home, but it will take some familiarization with how the business here operates.

As our buildings age, maintenance has become a growing concern. If you have any skills in any of the trades, or if you are a "Jack of ALL Trades", we could use your help. There are several projects pending.

At this time, we're always looking for those with cooking skills. Special events, cooking lunch on those days when we need a sub to fill in, etc. If you want to show off your culinary skills to the membership, please contact the Post and we'll get you set up.

If you're interested, please call 882-8639, or drop by. We'll contact you and match you up with an opportunity. **Volunteers are what allow Post 639 to function. YOU ARE NEEDED. Come work and fellowship with us !!!**



OZARKS TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Joshua Boley

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Post 639 Lunch Menu 11AM-2PM, M-F

Burgers. Served with fries. Substitute Mushrooms or Onion Rings for \$1. Add bacon for \$1. Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Pickle on request.

- Hamburger \$6
- Cheeseburger \$7
- BBQ Burger \$8.50
- Classic Cheeseburger with BBQ seasoning, and onion ring, and drizzled with BBQ sauce.
- Blue Burger \$8.50 - Classic hamburger with our special seasoning, topped with Bleu Cheese crumbles.
- Brunch Burger \$8.50 - Classic with choice of cheese, topped with a fried egg and bacon.
- The LZ639 \$8.50 - Classic with a choice of cheese, garlic parmesan aioli and topped with grilled onions.

"Smashed Sandwiches" Served with fries. Substitute mushrooms or onion rings for \$1.

- Grilled Cheese \$6
- Hot Ham and Cheese \$6.50
- Reuben \$7.50 - Corned Beef, Sauerkraut, Swiss Cheese, 1000 Island Dressing
- BLT \$6

Upgraded Classics. Served with fries. Substitute mushrooms or onion rings for \$1.

- Pork Tenderloin Sandwich \$7.50
- Grilled Chicken Sandwich \$8- Topped with Swiss cheese, garlic aioli and bacon.
- Patty Melt \$8.50 - Choice of cheese, Grilled Onions, T Texas Toast

Soft Drinks \$2

Sprite/Diet Sprite, Coke/Diet Coke, Dr Pepper/
Diet Dr Pepper Unsweetened Tea, Coffee

Classic/Specialty/Extra Specialty Pizzas - see table menu for selections/prices

Money raised by the sale of Legion, ALR and Auxiliary merchandise is then used in their Veteran support activities. You are contributing directly when you purchase an item. Pay right at the bar !!

American Legion	Price
American Legion Hats	\$15.00
American Legion License Plate (Plain)	\$10.00
American Legion License Plate	\$15.00
Vietnam Memorial Wall Coin	\$10.00
Vietnam Memorial Wall T-Shirt	\$15.00
Ride For Life T-Shirt	\$20.00
Christmas Par Tee	\$15.00
RV Space Rental (Non-Veteran)	\$20.00
RV Space Rental (Veteran)	\$10.00
Legion Hall Rental	Variable
Legion Grounds Rental	Variable

American Legion Riders	Price
ALR Auto License Plate	\$9.00
ALR Auto Plate	\$11.00
ALR Belt Buckle	\$30.00
ALR Chapter Tapes	\$2.00
ALR Decal 3"	\$3.50
ALR Decal 6"	\$7.00
ALR Decal 12"	\$8.00
ALR Do-rag (Cotton)	\$13.00
ALR Do-rag Logo (Poly/Cotton)	\$13.00
ALR Do-rag (Navy or POW, Poly/Cotton)	\$13.00
ALR Hats	\$20.00
ALR Key Tag	\$3.00
ALR Motorcycle License Plate Frame	\$8.00
ALR Patch (Back - Large)	\$47.00
ALR Patch - Medium	\$10.00
ALR Patch - Mini	\$4.00
ALR Pin	\$4.00
ALR Support Our Troops Patch	\$3.00
ALR Sweat Shirt	\$29.00
ALR Hoodie	\$28.00
ALR T-Shirt (Long Sleeve)	\$20.00
ALR T-Shirt (Short Sleeve)	\$19.00
ALR Windshield Decal	\$16.00
ALR Zippo Lighter	\$23.00

Auxiliary	Price
Auxiliary Cook Books	\$1.00
Auxiliary Hats	\$20.00
Auxiliary Koozies	\$1.00
Auxiliary Patches (Large)	\$8.00
Auxiliary Patches (Small)	\$5.00
Auxiliary Pins	\$6.00
Auxiliary Necklaces	\$10.00
Auxiliary Bracelets	\$5.00



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OCTOBER 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1  BREAKFAST 8 - 10AM
2	3 LUNCH 11-2	4 LUNCH 11-2  LEGION 639/AUX GEN MEETING 7PM	5 LUNCH 11-2  QUEEN OF HEARTS 6 - 8 PM	6 LUNCH 11-2  MARINE CORPS LEAGUE MTG VFW 3404 FELLOWSHIP 6PM MEETING 7PM	7 LUNCH 11-2  OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM ANNIVERSARY	8  SUB VETS 11 AM
9	10 LUNCH 11-2	11 LUNCH 11-2  KOREAN WAR VETS MEETING 1PM GIVE VETS HOPE VFW 3404 5:30PM	12 LUNCH 11-2  QUEEN OF HEARTS 6 - 8 PM	13 LUNCH 11-2  US NAVY BIRTHDAY	14 LUNCH 11-2  VFW 3404 FISH FRY 5:30 - 7 PM TREEHOUSE VETS CHILI MEAL 6-8PM	15  KIDS HALLOWEEN PARTY 1-3PM
16  ALR MTG - 5PM	17 LUNCH 11-2	18 LUNCH 11-2  AUX E-BOARD MTG 7PM	19 LUNCH 11-2  QUEEN OF HEARTS 6 - 8 PM	20 LUNCH 11-2	21 LUNCH 11-2	22
23	24 LUNCH 11-2  E-BOARD MTG 6:30PM	25 LUNCH 11-2  SAL MTG 7PM GIVE VETS HOPE VFW 3404 5:30PM	26 LUNCH 11-2  QUEEN OF HEARTS 6 - 3PM DAY OF THE DEPLOYED	27 LUNCH 11-2  FL EET RESERVE ASSOC. 6PM NEWSLETTER CONTENT DUE	28 LUNCH 11-2  NATIONAL FIRST RESPONDERS DAY PANCAKE SUPPER 6-8PM	29
30	31 LUNCH 11-2 					

Ongoing Suicide Prevention

EVERY month is Suicide Prevention month. Always be vigilant for your brothers/sisters that might need help.

Some signs of concerning behavior include:

- Hopelessness, feeling like there is no way out
- Anxiety, agitation, sleeplessness, or mood swings
- Feeling like there is no reason to live
- Rage or anger
- Engaging in risky activities without thinking
- Increasing alcohol or drug use
- Withdrawing from family and friends

If you notice any signs of concerning behavior here are some things you can do:

- **Start a conversation:** Mention the signs that prompted you to talk to them. Stay calm and let the person know you want to help them. Don't leave the person alone.
- **Listen, express concern and reassure the individual:** Let the person know you care and that you take the situation seriously. Letting the person know you care will go a long way in establishing a support system.
- **Create a safety plan:** Ask the person if they have access to anything that could harm them and call for help if you feel the situation is dangerous.
- **Get the individual help:** Provide resources for the individual. **Call the Veteran's crisis line at 1(800)-273-8255.** Or if you feel the situation is severe, take the individual to the closest emergency room or call for help.



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Retail & Wholesale



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www.foxholetechnology.com - Wes Hester, CEO

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**.

The price is **\$6.00** per pizza for 10" pizzas. This is for personal use and cannot be resold. See **Robin** or one of the bartenders for additional information and to order.

The History of Vietnam War Memorial American Legion Post 639



What follows is the next in a series of articles that tell the story of American Legion Post 639, Vietnam War Memorial, told through the experiences of the original founders. Their experiences as Vietnam veterans form the basis of who we are today. Gary Harlan, Ron Snyder, Gary Turner, Art Stout, Mike Chandler and John Bross share their stories in the coming months.

May, June, July 2022 Issues - Gary Harlan's history

August 2022 Issue - Ron Snyder's history

September 2022 issue - Art Stout's history

This month - Gary Turner's Interview. Gary was a charter member of Post 639 / Former Commander. This is his story.

I was born August 14th, 1946, grew up on north National in Springfield. Can't remember the name of the Elementary school, but I went to Pipkin Junior High School. We lived out on the southeast part of town, had to take a bus all the way over to the school, pretty far away. Ended up going to Parkview High School until my senior year, then they opened up Glendale. I was in the first graduating class of Glendale in 1964. Then I went to what was called back then Rolla School of Mines (now University of Missouri at Rolla) for 4 years. But I drank too much beer and got a draft notice in 1968. Got it on Friday the 13th. Wasn't a good sign.

Had to go to Kansas City for induction, then to Ft Leonard Wood for basic, then went out to Washington for AIT. I was assigned to basic infantry. No special training on any particular weapon, just the M16. When I got to Vietnam I was assigned as assistant gun manager for an M60 machine gun, which meant I got to carry all the ammo. Was in country one year – July '69 to July '70. Lost some friends. What's interesting was that I started out with the 82nd Airborne. That was the first infantry outfit pulled out of 'Nam, but you had to have 10 months or more to go home. I didn't so I got redeployed to the Big Red One. Put me in artillery. Then THEY went home, and I missed going home by two weeks. THEN they transferred me to the

25th Infantry Division. I was saying like "are you trying to kill me? Let me go home early". But I was blessed, and I made it home.

As far as anti-war experiences, when I first came back, I was going to bars with friends and the like, and periodically there would be some people who knew me in high school. We weren't really good friends but they new I'd been to 'Nam. They'd say "Hi Gary, how ya doin'". Then they'd turn around and flip me the finger and walk off. Didn't come into any hand-to-hand combat here luckily. There was so much on TV when we came back that was not helping Vietnam veterans. But I did a good job of staying around guys who were either veterans or had been friends for a long time and supported me. So that helped.

Came back to the world, and I decided to go back up to Rolla for school for a while. But I only stayed one semester because my dad got cancer. So I quit, came back to Springfield and ended up going to Drury. Ended up getting my degree in Business Administration there. I was in a Sigma Nu Fraternity, but I was older than most of the other guys that were there, and I'd kinda hang out by myself. Guess you could say I was living life on life's terms, and it was not easy back then for a Vietnam veteran.

After I got my degree, I was bartending at the time. A friend of mine who had graduated from Drury called me up right before I graduated, (my nickname was "GT") and said "I'm managing a bar and I need your help. Would you come up here so you can get out of college?" I said "SURE". Here I was getting my business degree and I end up going to Columbia and went to work up there, ended up actually owning my own bar for a while. Began to consume too much alcohol with some drugs to be honest with you. That's when I was in a blackout, woke up handcuffed in a police car. I asked "What am I doin' here?". He told me I'd been outside the bar, not working but drinking, and had a guy pinned up against the wall. Police ended up taking me over to the hospital in Columbia, and they said I needed to go up to the Fulton State Mental Institution for 20 days. So I'd been there 4 days, and a guy came up to me (I was on the 5th floor, you had to work your way down to get out) and he went, "Gawy, you're a Vietnam veteran aren't you?" I went, "Yeah", he goes "You wanna get outta here - now?" I went "Yeah!". He said "Tell them you want to go to the VA in Columbia". So a friend came and they let me go and I went up there and met with a psychiatrist for 45 minutes. He handed me his card and said "Gary, you probably need to be here, but we don't have enough room. Will you call me if you're gonna do this again?" and that was in 1976. I was very blessed not to do something horrible.

I was blessed to wait 10 years but I got clean and sober in 1986. God is GOOD. God did for me what I couldn't do for myself. Of course, you know, I helped get Post 639 up and running and I was the director of the Vet Center. And even though I was drinking and still doing some drugs, I truly believe, especially after we got the Vet Center open, that we were helping save

some lives of other veterans. Because it was a place that they could come and meet other veterans and just hang out. That was one reason we got Post 639 going. We felt like we needed to unify again somehow.

As far as very early relationships with the other founders of 639, Gary Harlan and I went to school together. Ron Snyder and Gary Harlan, we all would just kind of hang out together and were communicating about "What can we do to get other veterans to pull together?". That was one of the key issues possibly on why we wanted to get the Post going. There had been rumors and a lot of discussions about the existing American Legion Posts – they were really not pursuing and trying to get Vietnam veterans to participate in their programs. So we just decided that maybe we needed to start our own Post. We would meet down at Post 69, just off the square. As far as atmosphere, they let us use it for a while. Just like Gary Harlan and Ron Snyder referenced, the members there were mainly WWI and WWII vets, who did not understand our perspectives. I think a lot of that was because they listened a lot to the news, and all the other press. Caused them to ask "Why did you guys do some of the things you did?"

I think every Vietnam veteran always had to deal with friends (maybe not heavy-duty friends), but people they knew in high school, college, etc who were against the war. They would not necessarily confront you, but they would want to visit with you, or try to. It was difficult for me to do that. "Gary, why did you guys kill babies, why did you do this, why did you do that?" WE ALL DIDN'T DO THAT. We were in combat for some time – things happen. And those things got all the attention.

Anyway, we started meeting at the Green Beret Tavern. Me, Ron Snyder, Gary Harlan, Art Stout. That's where a lot of veterans hung out, and we liked the name of it – it was an attraction for us. Those early meetings were basically support sessions. We weren't actually Post 639 yet, but that's where we hung out. That's who we were at that time. When we would go to Post 69, we'd go on Friday and have people come in and spend money. We were just trying to get it up and running. We ran Bingo games on Friday nights. And I think we had beer as well.

I was the director of the Vet Center. The building we rented for it was right across from the YMCA. We had to borrow money for it, because at that time, Springfield's population was under 100,000, not large enough to qualify for federal money to cover startup. So we went to the bank for a loan, all of us had to co-sign to get the money to get it up and running. That was a really big plus for us to get that up and running. I can for sure know for a fact that we saved lives, and it had a positive impact on being able to have a location where veterans could come. Eventually it got picked up through the Federal Government, and of course what's going on now, it's pretty amazing. Again, God did for me what I couldn't do for myself back then, to be able to get that going. We had a lot of press coverage during that time.

Veterans Center had a 24-hour hot line, job placement, counseling. I don't know how many calls we got from the hot line. I remember the Police calling me and asking me, a veteran, for help. "Would you come and talk to this veteran?" I remember we had one guy that was in a church, I knew who he was. I don't know if he had a gun or not, but he went crazy in the church. They called me up and I went in and talk to him and have him come out and give it up. That was the church right across from our house just right off of Lester, 2162 Lester in Springfield was where we lived. So every now and then, we'd get a call from the cops "Can you guys come out and help?" Preferably, now, calls like that would be answered by a therapist. We'd get a lot of calls during the day that were answered by a secretary, calls like "What do you guys do?, can I come in?" Sometimes we'd have people who would drive through town and hear about us and would just stop in. So once more and more information got out about us to veterans, we really had a positive impact with more and more calls.

My stint as first Commander was more of an agreement than anything else. I don't really remember a vote being taken. So I agreed to it, it was as simple as that. The first meetings were chaos, most of us were either drunk or stoned. No order, everyone talking (loudly) at the same time. That goes back to how we all were feeling frustrated. And the more we smoked or drank, the more intense it would get. We were living in anger and resentment, not a good place to be. And consuming a lot of alcohol just makes it worse. Eats you up from the inside.

There were many disagreements on how we went about things over my years as Commander, that's just the way it was. But we were able to move through it, even though we were "Beau Coup Dinky Dau". (Editor's note - Boocoo Dinky Dow" is how American GIs heard the French/Vietnamese phrase "beaucoup dien cai dau" for "very crazy.") I kind of started backing away from the Post when the Vet Center started. I got much more attached to that then I did the Post. When I got clean and sober in 1986, I just couldn't afford to go anywhere where there were large groups of people consuming alcohol. I had to make the decision to do what I had to do to stay clean and sober. I'd reached that point where if I didn't, it would have physically or mentally ruined me. My PTSD was having a huge impact on me because of my alcohol abuse. That also affected others besides me who were involved in getting the Post going. At the start, we did what we thought was right. And I'm glad we did get it going, because look at it now. Not just this, but the Vet Center. So glad I was able to participate in it, I really am.

November - Mike Chandler (Former Commander)



History in September

October 1, 1908 - Henry Ford's Model T, a "universal car" designed for the masses, went on sale for the first time.

October 3, 1863 - President Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation designating the last Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day.

October 3, 1990 - After 45 years of Cold War division, East and West Germany were reunited as the Federal Republic of Germany.

October 4, 1957 - The Space Age began as the Russians launched the first satellite into orbit. Sputnik I weighed just 184 lbs. and transmitted a beeping radio signal for 21 days. The remarkable accomplishment by Soviet Russia sent a shockwave through the American political leadership resulting in U.S. efforts to be the first on the moon.

October 5, 1882 - "Father of the Space Age" Robert Goddard was born in Worcester, Massachusetts. During his lifetime he was ridiculed by the public and the press over his idea of constructing a space flight machine. In 1926, he launched the world's first liquid-fueled rocket on a farm near Auburn, Mass. In 1935, his liquid-fueled rocket surpassed the speed of sound. Other developments included a steering apparatus for rocket machines, staged rockets to reach high altitudes, rocket fuel pumps, and a self-cooling rocket motor.

October 6, 1949 - "Tokyo Rose" (Iva Toguri d'Aquino) was sentenced in San Francisco to 10 years imprisonment and fined \$10,000 for treason. She had broadcast music and Japanese propaganda to American troops in the Pacific during World War II. She was pardoned by President Gerald Ford in 1977.

October 6, 1846 - Engineer and inventor George Westinghouse was born in Central Bridge, New York. He developed air brakes for trains and was later responsible for the adoption of alternating current (AC) systems for electric power transmission in the U.S. He was also the first employer to give his employees paid vacations.

October 7, 1765 - The Stamp Act Congress convened in New York City with representatives from nine colonies meeting in protest to the British Stamp Act which imposed the first direct tax by the British Crown upon the American colonies.

October 8, 1918 - During World War I in the Argonne Forest in France, U.S. Sergeant Alvin C. York single-handedly took out a German machine-gun battalion, killing over a dozen and capturing 132. He was later awarded the Medal of Honor and the French Croix de Guerre.

October 8, 1890 - American fighter pilot Ace Eddie Rickenbacker was born in Columbus, Ohio. He commanded the first U.S. aero unit to take part in World War I and was credited with 26 victories, becoming America's leading Ace. He was awarded the Medal of Honor. He later got involved in auto racing and headed Eastern Air Lines from 1934-63.

October 9, 1940 - John Lennon was born in Liverpool, England. He was a member of *The Beatles*, an influential rock group which captivated audiences first in England and Germany, and later in America and throughout the world. He was murdered in New York City on December 8, 1980.

October 11, 1939 - Albert Einstein warned President Franklin D. Roosevelt that his theories could lead to Nazi Germany's development of an atomic bomb. Einstein suggested the U.S. develop its own bomb. This resulted in the top secret "Manhattan Project."

October 12, 1492 - After a 33-day voyage, Christopher Columbus made his first landfall in the New World in the Bahamas. He named the first land sighted as El Salvador, claiming it in the name of the Spanish Crown. Columbus was seeking a western sea route from Europe to Asia and believed he had found an island of the Indies. He thus called the first island natives he met, 'Indians.'

October 12, 1960 - During a debate over colonialism in the United Nations, Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev took off his shoe and pounded his desk repeatedly.

October 13, 1775 - The United States Navy was born after the Second Continental Congress authorized the acquisition of a fleet of ships.

October 13, 1792 - The cornerstone of the White House was laid by George Washington. The building, located at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, is three stories tall with over 100 rooms, and was designed by James Hoban. In November of 1800, President John Adams and his family moved in. The building was first known as the "Presidential Palace," but acquired the name "White House" about 10 years after its completion. It was burned by British troops in 1814, then reconstructed, refurbished and reoccupied in 1817.

October 14, 1912 - Former President Theodore Roosevelt was shot by a fanatic while campaigning in Milwaukee. Roosevelt was saved by his thick overcoat, a glasses case and a folded speech in his breast pocket, all of which slowed the bullet. Although wounded, he insisted on making the speech with the bullet lodged in his chest and did not go to the hospital until the meeting ended. Roosevelt, a rugged outdoorsman, fully recovered in two weeks.

October 14, 1890 - Dwight D. Eisenhower, the 34th U.S. President was born in Denison, Texas. He served two terms as President, from January 20, 1953 to January 20, 1961. Nicknamed "Ike," he was a West Point graduate and career Army officer who became Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces in Europe during World War II. He held the rank of Five-star General of the Army.

October 15, 1946 - Nazi leader Hermann Goering committed suicide by swallowing poison in his Nuremberg prison cell just hours before his scheduled hanging for war crimes.

October 15, 1924 - Lee Iacocca was born to Italian immigrant

parents in Allentown, Pennsylvania (as Lido Anthony Iacocca). Dubbed "America's first corporate folk hero," he was a mechanical engineer who became an automobile executive at Ford (creator of the Mustang) and later helped save Chrysler from bankruptcy. He also served as foundation chairman for the rehabilitation of the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island.

October 16, 1859 - Fanatical abolitionist John Brown seized the Federal Arsenal at Harpers Ferry with about 20 followers. Three days later, Brown was captured and the insurrection was put down by U.S. Marines under the command of Col. Robert E. Lee. Brown was convicted by the Commonwealth of Virginia of treason, murder, and inciting slaves to rebellion, and was hanged on December 2, 1859.

October 17, 1777 - During the American Revolutionary War, British General John Burgoyne and his entire army of 5,700 men surrendered to American General Horatio Gates after the Battle of Saratoga, the first big American victory.

October 19, 1781 - As their band played *The World Turned Upside Down*, the British Army marched out in formation and surrendered to the Americans at Yorktown. More than 7,000 British and Hessian troops, led by British General Lord Cornwallis, surrendered to General George Washington. The war between Britain and its American colonies was effectively ended. The final peace treaty was signed in Paris on September 3, 1783.

October 20, 1944 - During World War II in the Pacific, General Douglas MacArthur set foot on Philippine soil for the first time since his escape in 1942, fulfilling his promise, "I shall return."

October 22, 1962 - President John F. Kennedy appeared on television to inform Americans of the existence of Russian missiles in Cuba. The President demanded their removal and announced a naval "quarantine" of Cuba. Six days later, the Russians announced they would remove the weapons. In return, the U.S. later removed missiles from Turkey.

October 23, 1983 - Terrorists drove a truck loaded with TNT into the U.S. and French headquarters in Beirut, Lebanon, exploding it and killing 241 U.S. Marines and 58 French paratroopers.

October 26, 1881 - The shoot-out at the O.K. Corral in Tombstone, Arizona, occurred between the feuding Clanton and Earp families. Wyatt Earp, two of his brothers and "Doc" Holliday gunned down two Clantons and two others.

October 27, 1787 - The first of 85 Federalist Papers appeared in print in a New York City newspaper. The essays argued for the adoption of the new U.S. Constitution. They were written by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison and John Jay.

October 29, 1929 - The stock market crashed as over 16 million shares were dumped amid tumbling prices. The Great Depression followed in America, lasting until the outbreak of World War II.

October 31, 1952 - The U.S. detonated its first hydrogen bomb at the Elugelab Atoll in the Eniwetok Proving Grounds in the Pacific Marshall Islands.

For the Good of the Legion ...

The USAF has a quiet and slow-moving fighter/bomber, designated the A10 Thunderbolt, known as the "Warthog", the slowest fighter/bomber in the USAF.



The Warthog is about the size of a medium-sized fighter/bomber - about 30 ft long, with a wingspan of about the same width. It is equipped with two turbofan jet engines. These engines are much quieter, with none of the thundering roar of other jets.

The aircraft has a long, big gatling gun that starts at the edge of the wings and extends out through the nose. The landing gear is offset to make room for the gun. It fires 30mm depleted uranium rounds. The aircraft is built around the gun. The A10 has a nickname from the enemy - "Silent Death".

The Warthog is different than most jet fighters in that it can hit its target, then turn around and hit it again before having to leave for home. The supersonic jet can only hit its target once, then leave for home.

The Warthog is a tank killer with the shells mentioned earlier. It is capable of blowing a tank to pieces.

Finally, the engineers made an airplane with the mechanic in mind. They put the engines high up on the aft section, with the engine panels giving the mechanics access to most of the engines for maintenance.

The pilot has a protective bathtub built around him, so he was protected against shrapnel or incoming fire. The aircraft was built strong. One pilot had a 2 foot hole shot in the wing and still made it home.

The USAF was not too fond of the A10, as they tried to retire it, but it is still around, and it's anyone's guess for how long. The slowest but very potent plane has made its mark in combat history.

Charlie Weaver



REMEMBER



Legion Post 639 Officers, 2022 - 2023

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Post 639 Sons of the American Legion Officers, 2022 - 2023

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