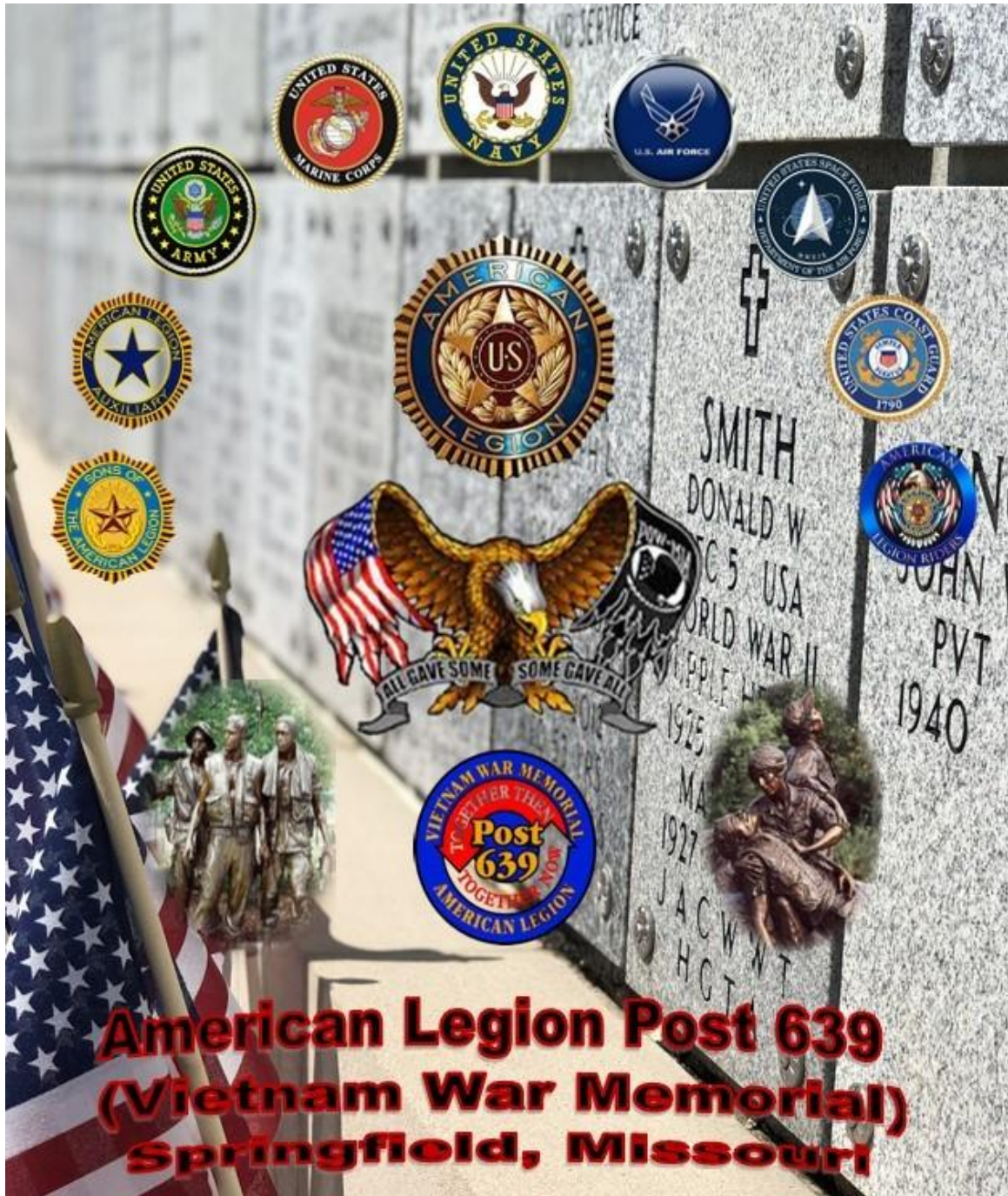


AMERICAN LEGION POST 639

May 2025 NEWSLETTER





Post 639 Commander



Hope this finds you all well. I know one thing - hopefully we get better weather with less rain this month. Our outdoor event season is kicking off.

Last month we started taking nominations for Post officers. Elections will be held at General Meeting in June. If you want to get involved, we have a few open positions. The list is up on the cork board in the clubroom.

By the time you get this our first fundraiser to help fund refurbishing our 2 helicopters will have taken place. There will be more events in the future. One will be a day of live music to help with this great cause.

Remember to pay your dues. Membership is the backbone of Post 639. We are always working hard to retain current members and gain new ones. Tell your friends and neighbors about us and all the groups that are available to join. And of course, volunteers are always welcome and needed to keep our Post and events running smoothly. I would like to thank our Dirty Dozen Bike Show trophy builders who donate them every year: Rt 66 Autobody, Curry's INC, Sign Prints, 417 Graphix and Turner of the Trades.

Always check the calendar and plan on supporting our events.

I just got news today (May 1st) that Anna Day past away. Keep her family and friends in your prayers.

Fly your Flag and be proud.

Mike Goforth Commander, Post 639





Can't wait for the May flowers, after all this dang rain! LOL There are a lot of great events being held at your post over the next few months. Please come in and support your POST!!

Remember, if you are downsizing and have furniture and kitchen ware no longer needed, please reach out to the Kitchen. They have a program for veterans that were homeless and now will be housed in an apartment. The need is great for ANYTHING for the home, including unopened, unexpired canned and boxed food items. 417-837-1500. Call them for pickup!!

Belinda Brown, USN Retired, 417-306-2504 Post 639 Service Officer





ALA has teamed up with our Post for the Children & Youth Program, under the direction of Post 1st Vice, Justin Adamson. The American Legion Children & Youth program promotes programs that protect, care for, support children and youth in our community and especially those of our military and veterans.

Our program for Children & Youth (C&Y) is “Kind Hearts for Kids” and we are campaigning this year for Isabel’s House. Isabel’s House provides immediate refuge for children whose families are in crisis. They provide local families in the Ozarks with round-the-clock care for children and support for parents facing domestic violence, homelessness, unsafe housing, mental health concerns, and other dire circumstances.

We have started our campaign by selling 50/50 tickets during the Feed the Troops breakfast on the first Saturday of every month and we will begin our raffle to win 4 tickets to the Springfield Cardinals 2025 season. You will be able to buy tickets for the raffle at the bar and through C&Y representatives. Tickets are \$15 and the drawing will be in June. Watch for our flyer and announcements on our Facebook page. We thank our sponsor, The Springfield Cardinals, for donating the tickets! On Saturday, September 27th, we have tentatively scheduled the “Kind Hearts for Kids” event and presentation for Isabel’s House, with live music, food, 50/50 and donated items for auction. Watch for more information on this event as we near September.

We have been busy submitting mandatory reports for the End-Of-the Year volunteer hours and monetary donation report. We voted to keep our dues for next year at \$36.00 for senior members and we are lowering our junior dues to \$5.00 per year and have submitted this information to ALA Department of State. We also have completed and submitted our income taxes for 2024.

Just a reminder for those of you who have not paid your 2024-2025 membership dues, please submit now. Membership for senior members is \$36.00 and there is a membership drop box by the VSO Office door at the Post, as well as, envelopes for your convenience. Once your dues are paid and recorded you will receive your membership card from our Membership Coordinator. We would hate to lose you but if you would like to discontinue your membership, please let us know.

In May, the sun comes up sooner to brighten up our day.

It goes to bed much later so we have much more time to play.

In the Spirit of Service, not Self

Diana Cooperider President ALA Unit 639



May will be a busy month for the Riders. We are having a fund raiser by having a Gun Raffle. There are 2 guns that have been donated: A Mossberg 12g 'Home Defender' and a Ruger LCP Max .380 pistol. Tickets are \$10, the drawing will be 1 October (Bike Nite). The 1st winner gets their choice of the 2 guns, the 2nd winner gets the other one. You must be able to pass the NICS/Background check to be a winner.

14 May (Wednesday) is ALR's night to be the 'chief cooks and bottle washers' for the Post Bike Nite. Volunteers are needed to help prepare, serve, and cleanup after we provide the crowd with a "chili dog" menu.

17 May (Saturday) will be our monthly ride. Ride Captain Ron has locations and routes selected.

18 May (Sunday): our monthly meeting at 1700 at Post 639. Plan on an evening dinner ride the following Tuesday (20 May) to a local restaurant.

28 May (Wednesday) is Bike Nite. Bring your ride and show it off!

30 May – 1 June is the ROMP at the Lake of the Ozarks. Registration info can be found at our Facebook website. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/167533806782606>

Plan ahead for an overnight ride in June – Ride Captain Ron will provide more detailed information.

Glenn Smith, Director, ALR 639



ESTATE PLANNING FOR VETERANS

May 12, 2025
3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

2223 E Bennett Street
Springfield, MO 65804

Veterans and spouses meet with an attorney to draft their simple wills, powers of attorney, beneficiary deeds and/or health care directives for free. Trusts are not included at this event.

RSVP Deadline: May 9, 2025
mvc.dps.mo.gov/will-clinic-reservation
or call Scotty Allen - 573-522-4224

*by appointment only | must be a Missouri resident



POST 639 Calendar of Events

These are the recurring monthly events/meetings:

Queen of Hearts Drawing: Every Sunday @ 1630
Legion General Mtg: 1st Tuesday @ 1900
Legion Auxiliary Mtg: 1st Tuesday @ 1900
Sons of the American Legion: 4th Tuesday @ 1900
American Legion Riders: 3rd Sunday @ 1700
Executive Board Mtg: 4th Monday @ 1830
Department Head Mtg: 4th Tuesday @ 1800
Finance Comm Mtg: 2nd Tuesday @ 1830
Sub Vets Mtg: 2nd Saturday @ 1100
1st Saturday Breakfast: 1st Saturday @ 0800
Fleet Reserve Assoc: 4th Thursday @ 1800
Bike Night: Every other Wednesday 1800 (beginning 30 April to 1 Oct)
Lunch (open to the public): Mon – Fri 1130 – 1400

Please check American Legion Post 639's Facebook page for more information. <https://www.facebook.com/AmericanLegion639>

POST 639 May Special Events

"Shrimp Boil":

On Friday, 2 May at 1830 hours, Post 639 is having a Shrimp Boil. The purpose is to raise funds to renovate/paint our helicopters.

DIY (Do It Yourself) Night:

8 May (Thursday) at 1800 will be a DIY class on creating a "Cookie Bouquet". The cost is \$30 per person. Everything is provided to make a really neat Cookie Bouquet. The flyer info can be found at this link.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1205700334529601>

POST 639 Upcoming Special Events

Friday Night Dinner:

6 Jun (Friday) the Auxiliary will be providing dinner from 1800 – 1930. Cost will be \$30 and there are a limited number of tickets available. You can purchase tickets at the bar. All the proceeds will go to our charities.

Cody Johnson Fund Raiser:

There will be a Bike & Car Show fund raiser to help veteran Cody Jones. There will be a band and various food trucks will be present.

Kind Hearts for Kids:

27 Sep (Saturday) 1200-1800. There will be an event to raise money for Isabell House whose mission is to provide immediate refuge for children whose families are in crisis. There will be 2 bands and food will be available. More information to follow – but plan ahead to attend!



Post 639 Officers, 2024 - 2025



Commander	Mike Goforth	commanderlz639@gmail.com
1 st Vice Commander	Justin Adamson	sfcadamson@gmail.com
2 nd Vice Commander	Adam Jamieson	Fixxer560@yahoo.com
Adjutant	Mike Walters	oteywalters@gmail.com
Finance Officer	Frank Messley	Lizzard1955@hotmail.com
Judge Advocate	Darin Dobbs	dobbster64@gmail.com
Sergeant at Arms	Ron Jackson	Ronjackson417@gmail.com
Service Office	Belinda Brown	service officer639@gmail.com
Quartermaster	Barry Greene	ibbeg@yahoo.com
Chaplain	Jerry Housley	Papatrucker9@yahoo.com
Historian		
Member at Large	Bob Dale	Justbob94@yahoo.com
Member at Large	Jeff Gonyour	Jammer797@gmail.com



Post 639
Legion Rider Officers, 2024 - 2025



Director	Glenn Smith	ozarkheart@yahoo.com
Assistant Director	Mark Wyman	mwyman7474@gmail.com
Treasurer	David Turner	dbts@hotmail.com
Secretary	Bob Kalwat	rkalwat@gmail.com
Ride Captain	Ron Jackson	ronjackson417@gmail.com
Judge Advocate		
Chaplain	David Pantleo	davidpantleo@gmail.com
Chaplain	Herman Burkett Jr.	eazydime@yahoo.com
Membership	Mike Walters	oteywalters@gmail.com
Past Director	Marsha Crom	Mjcrom54@gmail.com



Post 639
Auxiliary Officers, 2024 - 2025



President	Diana Cooperider	dlcooperider77@gmail.com
Vice president	Terra Cooperider	Tlc00011@gmail.com
Secretary	Gail Willey	lv2yrdemc@gmail.com
Treasurer	Susan Heppard	smheppard01@gmail.com
Historian		
Sergeant at Arms	Reggie Huston	hutsonregina2022@gmail.com
Chaplain	Barbara Gonynor	wewed99@gmail.com
Member at Large	Marsha Crom	mjcrom54@gmail
Member at Large	Charlotte Kelly	charlottekelly375@gmail.com
Member at Large	Tammi Grantham	runtumtrans@yahoo.com
Junior Advisor	Mikayla Criger	mikaylacriger@outlook.com



Post 639
Sons of the American Legion
Officers, 2024 - 2025



Commander	Erik Duff	jhtduff@gmail.com
1 st Vice Commander	Curtis Myers	curtis74myers@gmail.com
2 nd Vice Commander	Bobby Tonche	bobby.Tonche@GE.com
Adjutant/Historian	Mike House	mike@wemovebetter.com
Treasurer/Finance	Thomas Long	tlongmissouri@gmail.com
Chaplain	Frank Grantham	rumtumtrans@yahoo.com
Sergeant at Arms	Garrett DeBlanc	garret@midwestturfpros
Poat Laison (VFW)	Nolan Moody	nrmoodysbcglobal.net
Post Laison (AL)	Justin Adamson	sfcadamson@gmail.com

MILITARY HISTORY IN MAY

Revolutionary War: May 10, 1775 – Capture of Fort Ticonderoga: American forces led by Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold capture the British fort in New York, securing key artillery for the Continental Army.

Mexican-American War: May 8–9, 1846 – Battle of Palo Alto and Battle of Resaca de la Palma: First major battles of the war, both American victories under General Zachary Taylor.

Civil War: May 1–6, 1863 – Battle of Chancellorsville: Confederate General Robert E. Lee defeats a much larger Union force but loses General "Stonewall" Jackson to friendly fire. May 18, 1863 – Siege of Vicksburg begins: Key Union effort to control the Mississippi River, led by General Grant.

Spanish-American War: May 1, 1898 – Battle of Manila Bay: Commodore George Dewey's fleet destroys the Spanish Pacific Squadron in the Philippines.

World War II: May 7, 1945 – Germany surrenders unconditionally: Known as V-E Day (Victory in Europe Day) on May 8 in Western time zones. May 11–30, 1943 – Battle of Attu: Fierce combat in the Aleutian Islands (Alaska), as U.S. troops retake Attu from Japanese forces.

Korean War: May 17, 1951 – UN Forces recapture Seoul for the final time during the war, stabilizing the front near the 38th parallel.

Vietnam War: May 1968 – Battle of Coral–Balmoral: U.S. and Australian troops engage North Vietnamese forces in intense fighting in South Vietnam.

Modern Conflicts: May 2, 2011 – Operation Neptune Spear: U.S. Navy SEALs kill Osama bin Laden in Abbottabad, Pakistan, ending a nearly decade-long manhunt after 9/11.



REMEMBER



Vietnam War Memorial
American Legion Post 639
2660 South Scenic Ave
Springfield, MO 65807

www.americanlegionpost639.org

(417) 882-8639

Post Hours:

Mon - Sat 11AM - 8PM

Sunday Noon - 6PM