



# AMERICAN LEGION - POST 639 VIETNAM WAR MEMORIAL

## The Veterans Voice

December 2006

MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 26 ISSUE



### SEASONS GREETINGS



- Lithuanian** / Linksmu Kaledu
- Norwegian** / God Jul
- Polish** / Wesolych Swiat Bozego Narodzenia
- Portuguese** / Feliz Natal
- Russian** / Srozhdestovm Kristovim
- Spanish** / Feliz Navidad
- Swahili** / Kuwa na Krismasi njema
- Tagalog** / Maligayang Pasko
- Thai** / Suksun Wan Christmas
- Vietnamese** / Chuc Mung Giang Sinh
- Welsh** / Nadolig Llawen

with one Beanie Baby for every kid on earth: 333,333 tons.

- Number of reindeers required to pull a 333,333-ton sleigh: 214,206 plus Rudolph.
- Average wage of a mall Santa: \$11 an hour. With real beard: \$20.
- To deliver all his gifts in one night, Santa would have to make 822.6 visits per second (at 3,000 times the speed of sound).

At that speed, Santa and his reindeers would instantaneously burst into flames in Earth's atmosphere just like meteors.

### Saying "Merry Christmas" or Season's Greetings Around the World

- English** / Merry Christmas
- Afrikaans** / Gesëende Kersfees
- Czech** / Prejeme Vam Vesele Vanoce a stastny Novy Rok
- Danish** / Glædelig Jul
- Esperanto** / Gajan Kristnaskon
- Finnish** / Hyvää Joulua
- French** / Joyeux Noël
- German** / Froehliche Weihnachten
- Greek** / Kala Christouyenna
- Hawaiian** / Mele Kalikimaka
- Irish** / Nollaig Shona Dhuit
- Italian** / Buon Natale or Buone Feste Natalizie
- Japanese** / Shinnen omedeto. Kurisumasu Omedeto
- Korean** / Sung Tan Chuk Ha
- Latin** / Natale hilare

### Most Widely Spoken Languages in the World

- Language / Approx. # of speakers
1. **Chinese (Mandarin)** / 1 Billion 75 Million
  2. **English** / 514,000,000
  3. **Hindustani** / 496,000,000
  4. **Spanish** / 425,000,000
  5. **Russian** / 275,000,000
  6. **Arabic** / 256,000,000
  7. **Bengali** / 215,000,000
  8. **Portuguese** / 194,000,000
  9. **Malay-Indonesian** / 176,000,000
  10. **French** / 129,000,000

### Santa Statistics

- U.S. has 78 people registered under S. Claus and one under Kriss Kringle
- December is the most popular month for nose jobs.
- Weight of Santa's sleigh loaded



### The Christmas Gift

A guy's wife was nagging him hard for a four-wheeler but still he bought her a beautiful extravagant diamond ring for Christmas. The husband's friend was amazed at his decision and asked him in secret, "Why couldn't you buy an ATV instead of the diamond ring?" The husband smiled and answered, "Fake ATV's are not easy to find."



COMMANDERS MESSAGE



MEMBERSHIP, MEMBERSHIP.....JC, and 1st Vice Commander, Mick Dunn are pushing real hard with the help form others to get the membership to 100% by December 1 st. As of November 20th, we were at 90%. If you have not paid, (you'll be getting a phone call to renew, if not call us), there are quite a few of you that not paid for 2007. Let's git er done. Please don't forget to send them in, or better yet come by the Post. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome aboard all the new members, and thank you for selecting our Post. The American Legion Riders had their spaghetti dinner on November 10th and what a huge success it was. The Joint was jumping. For all of those who attended, thank you for making this a huge success. You made the ALR and your Post proud. November 11th, Veteran's Day, was a day to remember here at Post 639. We entertained the Mt. Vernon Veterans, as guests here at our Post and they said they had a "Wonderful Time" The day started off with coffee and donuts by Mick Dunn. Up next was The Veteran's day Parade. They really seemed to enjoy the Parade. I wanted to extend a personal thanks to Heritage Chrysler Jeep of Ozark for providing myself and the Ladies Auxiliary president, Teri Chandler with a brand spanking new convertible to ride in for the Parade. After the parade, we all returned the Post for a wonderful dinner provided by the Son's of The Legion. Entertainment was provided by the Garbonzos. The ladies and gentleman from Mt. Vernon really enjoy them. A couple of Mt Vernon's finest were up and dancing with some of our Ladies Auxiliary members. It warmed my heart to see them having such a good time here. The SAL will be hosting our Thanksgiving Dinner again this

year. Thanks to Tennessee, Lenny and their crew for all their hard work in putting this all together, and all their hard work. Don't forget the Toys for Tots Bike Run December 3rd. This is our largest fund raiser of the year. I would like to see as many of you come out as possible. If you haven't been to the Post lately, you haven't been to Thee Post. Come out and meet the new bartenders, support your Post. Come out and work Bingo with us on Friday's and if ya can't work with us, come out and play, either way you will have a good time. This helps support the Ladies Auxiliary and your Post. We have a Catfish or Steak dinner every 3rd Friday of the month. "All you can eat Catfish" for under \$10.00 bucks, plus various other menu items. So, 'Mon' out have something to eat in our newly cleaned kitchen have a drink do some socializing, who knows ya might run into a buddy ya a'int seen in a coons age. How Long you been Knowing him? For God and Country

AL Powers



ADJUTANTS REPORT

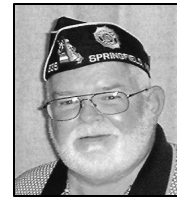


New membership cards are in for 2007 . You can mail your due's in or drop them off at the post . Special note: State due's for the American Legion Dept of Missouri will ( BE GOING UP FROM \$20.00 A YEAR TO \$30.00 A YEAR ON DECEMBER 31ST 2006 ) You will need to pay your membership due's before December15th to save \$10.00. Let's make the Holiday safe at home and on the highways. Please drive safe this month and every month. Have a happy holiday season. Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.

JT Ponder



CHAPLAINS MESSAGE



It is Christmas time again. The Christmas story in one verse of the Bible, John 3:16 has 4 key words - Love and who so ever. That's CHRISTMAS. Lance

Shockley lost his father last month and we lost Scott Osley to the post everlasting. This Christmas will be a hard time for those that have lost love ones and for those that have men and women in the military who can't make it home for the holidays. Let's not forget our POW'S and MIA'S in our thoughts and prayers. Please read the following: **Last summer** I was talking to Tom and Josephine Mabrey and I asked how the popcorn machine was working out. They told me it was holding its own. I made the comment that I had put several twenty dollar bills in the jar over the last 2-3 years (\$60 in fact). Tom mentioned that he never remembered seeing twenty's or even a five dollar bill in the jar. In October I won the NASCAR race pot of \$43.00. It either got thrown in the trash or someone took it, I don't know I was sitting talking to JC Ponder when Crystal walked up and asked what happened to LuAnn's picture. JC told her it was hanging on the back wall and Crystal said it was gone. She looked in several places and never found it. I know that LuAnn was not loved by everyone in our post but she was loved by 99.9% of us! I have a request for a Christmas present from who ever took these items - PLEASE do not renew your membership. We don't need scum like you in our post. Hope everyone of our members have a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

BOB & RUTH CARROLL

P.S. Ruth did not like the word scum but I call it the way I see it.

Bob & Ruth Carroll



Continued from page 2.....

Editors Note: AMEN BROTHER !!!



LADIES AUXILIARY

Merry Christmas Ladies!! We have a joyful and fun filled December planned and your all invited to

come out!! Don't forget our monthly meeting on Tues Dec 5th lets make it special by bringing one of your favorite Christmas treats to share. Dec 9th is our yearly kids Christmas party. Ladies, the children will be decorating sugar cookies for the Mt Vernon Vets and for themselves, so if you can, bring out undecorated sugar cookies. Sounds like there will be much fun and of course Santa and his Elf will be there, so bring the kids and grandkids out . We have also invited the Sherwood school kids ,so we are looking for a huge successful party!! Please come to help out and bring a healthy treat( fruits and veggie's), THE PARTY IS FROM 1-3 SAT DEC 9TH

THANKS FOR ALL YOUR HELP! WE had a great Veterans Day and all the vets told me how much they enjoyed the time , food and gifts and entertainment. It was really special. We will be having the Ladies Annual Christmas Party Mon Dec 11th @ 6pm, dinner around 7pm @ Jose's . We had a wonderful time last year. Don't forget to bring a wrapped ornament to exchange. Ladies this is our treat to ourselves. We deserve it . We've had a great year!! The Mt Vernon Vets will be having their party on Dec 21st if your wanting to attend, I plan to go . It would be nice to have a few ladies represent us at the party .If you have not paid your 2007 dues, this month would be great to pay them at the General meeting Dec 5th. Please come

and participate we'd love to see you there. Happy Birthday to all the November and December birthday Ladies sorry if we missed yours, we're going through a transitional period. Ladies remember "Ladies Night each Wednesday night", Nov 29th and Dec 13 & ? Dec 20th we'll have Manicures for \$5.00. I've been enjoying the pampering come out ; visit and treat yourself. It is a good time. Thanks again; have a very Merry Christmas and safe holiday time; remember our men and women serving our country and their families at this most special time of the

.....  
year!



President **Terri Chandler**

Police fee to tax Veterans Day

Parade Jane Huh News-Leader  
The Springfield Police Department's shortage of resources has

tacked on a burdensome cost for some event organizers. After celebrating Veterans Day with a parade that drew a high turnout of more than 500 people in Springfield, It's organizers are now scrambling to find additional funding sources to foot new costs for the police officers who supervise the parade. Events that are not sponsored by the city and request police presence face a "cost-recovery" charge: \$28 an hour for each officer working a minimum of four hours. It's a fee that has dismayed the parade's sponsor, the Greater Ozarks Veterans and Patriotic organization. "It bothers me that it's a parade that has been struggling all these years to keep going and now this may keep it from going," said Audra Gentry, the organization's secretary and treasurer. Early next year, the group will discuss funding solutions for the parade, which

**THIS MONTHS MYSTERY PICTURE**  
There was no winner last month. The first member to tell or call the editor where this picture was taken in the Post wins a free drink at the bar. No employees of Post 639 or past winners will be eligible.  
Ph (417) 882-8639



.....  
takes about six months to plan. The group relies on donations and \$15 dues of its 28 member organizations. The annual parade, which began the mid-1960s, spends about \$500 to insure the day's events and \$300 in dispensing celebration awards, Gentry said. About 17 Springfield police officers have supervised the parade, which runs almost two miles. That means if 17 officers will be used next year, the parade will cost an additional \$1,904. "We just don't have that kind of money," Gentry said. The police department has been increasingly strained by dwindling resources, while at the same time receiving more requests to cover events, said Sgt. Steven Licis, community service section administrative sergeant, special events coordinator. Licis said the fees were needed "because of budgetary and manpower issues." Despite the change that may upset event organizers, the "only people gaining from this is the citizens," as the measure would





**CALENDAR BACK**

**DECEMBER 2006**

**The Veteran's Voice**

strengthen local law enforcement to guard events, as

*continued on calendar back...*

well as to respond to more emergency calls, Licis said. The measure has already taken effect at some local celebrations, including the annual July 4th Independence Day event, which is sponsored by the James River Assemblies of God church, and the Sunshine Run 10K race, sponsored by St. John's Hospital. Licis said he wants to work with event sponsors like Gentry and discuss "different plans and routes" to help "alleviate costs for them." Gentry



said she understands the department's needs. "But we do it for the veterans, in memory of those who have served and to honor those serving now."

Just to let everyone know the pictures and videos Bill Roark took of



the Veteran Day event are on our web site. They turned out pretty good so check them out. Go to.....

**www.post639.com**

**NEW CHRISTMAS STAMP**

How ironic is this?!! They don't even believe in Christ and they're getting their own Christmas stamp, but don't dream of posting the Ten Commandments on federal property?

**USPS New Stamp** Now the United States Postal Service REMEMBERS and HONORS the EID MUSLIM holiday season with a commemorative first class holiday postage stamp.

**REMEMBER** the MUSLIM bombing of Pan American Flight 103!

**REMEMBER** the MUSLIM bombing of the World Trade Center in 1993!

**REMEMBER** the MUSLIM bombing of the Marine barracks in Lebanon!

**REMEMBER** the MUSLIM bombing of the military barracks in Saudi Arabia!

**REMEMBER** the MUSLIM bombing of the American Embassies in Africa!

**REMEMBER** the MUSLIM bombing of the USS COLE!

**REMEMBER** the MUSLIM attack on 9/11/2001!

**REMEMBER** all the AMERICAN lives that were lost in those vicious MUSLIM attacks!

**FREEDOM IS NEVER FREE**

**REMEMBER** to adamantly and vocally BOYCOTT this stamp when purchasing your stamps at the post office. To use this stamp would be a slap in the face to all those AMERICANS who died at the hands of those whom this stamp honors.



**To all members.**

This will be my last newsletter. I will be resigning as editor of the Veterans Voice and Historian of Post 639. This decision has not come easy because I have met some great people here and Pat and I will miss them. My concern with this Post is the lack of organization and communication. One hand doesn't seem to know what the other is doing. This

isn't something that is unique to this Post but it has escalated in the last few months. The only real reason for Pat and I being here was for the benefit of the American Legion and Post 639, period. We enjoyed what we were doing but it was a difficult thing to do when we didn't feel appreciated. Now that Pat is not here, I have been trying to do my job here without prejudice and hard feelings but I cannot do this any longer. As editor of the Veterans Voice, I need to be in the mainstream of information as to what is happening and when, but this has not happened. My new nickname is Mushroom, for obvious reasons. I have to call people to remind them that the deadline for their article is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month and still do not get it until the last week of the month. Putting this newsletter together is a very time consuming job but no one seems to realize this. When I was head of the Building and Grounds Committee, I felt this same abandonment and that is why I am no longer there. The childish bickering, the squandering of Post funds, and the selfish agendas that have plagued this Post need to stop and the job of doing what is best for the Post and the American Legion needs to begin. We are all supposed to be adults and act accordingly but I feel that this Post is falling short of that goal. Also, I would

like to thank Tom and Jo Mabrey and JC for their help while we were here. They are wonderful people and great Mentors. Pat and I wish you all well in this holiday season and hope that Post 639 increases membership and does well in the months ahead. This will be a difficult time for us as things are a little tight on this side of the



fence. We've heard a statement made since August that pretty much sums it all up. You're right when you say," **CHANGE IS NEEDED!"**

Gene Beattie

**Bar Report**

Your "commander" hired me and neglected to mention there would be a monthly column for the newsletter, so forgive me, this is my first attempt at such a feat. Hi, I'm Joyce, your new Bar Manager. I was born in K.C. MO, but I lived most of my life in Lake of the Ozarks where I worked for the Bridal Cave. For the last 5 years I was known as "The Day Girl", at Casey's Bar & Grill. I have 2 sons, David and Shawn. I am also a proud "Grandma to be". My dad was a Marine in WWII and my oldest brother served in the, dare I say it in the same sentence, ok, Air Force, yes, Ours! I am currently a member of The Lady's Auxiliary in Climax Springs, MO. I recently joined The Lady's Auxiliary here at Post # 639, where we are a making changes! We now have a perfume exchange in the ladies room, by the way can anyone tell me what the ambassador's shift is in the ladies room is for? On December 6<sup>th</sup>, Craig, from Glazers is sponsoring a "Little Black Dress Wine tasting Party" bring a \$1.00 gift for a gift exchange please. I would like to take this time to make a Special Thanks to Bobby for all her patience, hard work, help and guidance. We also have 3, yes count them Three New bartenders, Sheila, Linda and Gretchen, stop by and say hi, so they can learn your favorite libation. We are looking forward to meeting all of you! I would also like to thank you all for the opportunity to be your

