



# Vietnam War Memorial Post 639 Springfield, Missouri



## Constitution

### **Preamble**

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred per cent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard the transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

### **Article I - Name**

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be Vietnam War Memorial Post 639. The American Legion. Department of Missouri.

### **Article II - Objects**

Section 1. The objects and purposes of the post shall be to promote the principle and policies as set forth in the foregoing preamble, and the national and departmental constitutions of the American Legion.

### **Article III - Nature**

Section 1. This post is a civilian organization and membership therein does not affect or increase liability for military or police service.

Section 2. This organization shall be absolutely non-political and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles nor for the promotion of candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.

Section 3. Rank does not exist in the American Legion: no member shall be addressed by his military or naval title in any meeting of this post.

### **Article IV - Membership**

Section 1. Eligibility to membership in this post shall be as prescribed by the national Constitution of the American Legion.

Section 2. Application for membership shall be made in writing under such regulations as may from time to time be prescribed by the post Executive Committee.



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Section 3. Application for membership shall be acted upon at the next post meeting following the making of such applications, and shall at such meeting be accepted, rejected or referred for further investigation and consideration. If five (5) or more members cast their vote against the acceptance of said application, then such application shall be recorded as rejected. A rejected application shall not again be considered until after the expiration of six months from the date of such rejection.

Section 4. Any member of this post may be expelled for cause by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee after the charges are preferred under oath in writing, and a fair trial had upon the same.

Section 5. A member who has been expelled or suspended from this post for any cause may be reinstated to membership by a two-thirds vote of the membership present in the post meeting, and payment of current dues for the year in which the reinstatement occurs.

Section 6. No person who has been expelled by a post shall be admitted to membership in this post, without the consent of the expelling post, except that where such consent has been asked for and denied by such post, he may then appeal to the state Executive Committee of the department of the expelling post for permission to apply for membership in this post, and shall be ineligible for membership until such permission is granted.

### **Article V - Officers**

Section 1. The administrative affairs of this post of the American Legion shall except as may otherwise provided by the By-Laws, be under the supervision of an Executive Committee which shall consist of 3 members in addition to the officers of the post. The term of office of members of the Executive Committee shall be for one year. This post, by its By-Laws, may provide for such other standing committees as the business of the organization may require.

Section 2. The officers of this post shall be a commander; a vice commander; an adjutant; a finance officer; a post historian; a post chaplain; a post service officer and a sergeant-at-arms, and such other officers as may be deemed necessary by this organization, who shall be nominated from the floor at the meeting preceding the annual election.

Section 3. All officers and executive committeemen shall be elected annually and they shall hold office until their successors are duly installed or as otherwise provided. Any officer or executive committeeman may be removed for inefficiency by the Executive Committee, a two-thirds vote of said committee being necessary to effect such removal.

Section 4. Every member of this post in good standing shall be eligible to hold office in this post.

Section 5. The duties of officers and executive committeemen shall be those usually appertaining to such officers or committeemen and as further provided in the By-Laws.



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## **Article VI - Finance**

Section 1. The revenue of this post shall be derived from membership or initiation fees, from annual membership dues and from such other sources as may be approved by the post Executive Committee.

Section 2. The amount of such membership or initiation fees and the amount of such annual post dues shall be fixed and determined by this post.

Section 3. The post shall pay to departmental headquarters the national and departmental annual membership dues for every member of the post.

Section 4. Every donation over fifty dollars (\$50.00) must be approved by a two-thirds majority vote at a general meeting.

## **Article VII - Charter Members**

Section 1. Members who joined this post prior to November 11, 1919 (or members who joined this post prior to the issuance of charter) shall be known as charter members.

Note: The matter of charter members for the permanent charter is left to the decision of the post members.

## **Article VIII - American Legion Auxiliary**

Section 1. This post recognizes an auxiliary organization to be known as the Auxiliary Unit of Vietnam War Memorial Post 639, The American Legion.

Section 2. Membership in the Auxiliary shall be as prescribed by the national Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary.

## **Article IX - Sons of the American Legion**

Section 1. This post recognizes an organization to be known as the Sons of the American Legion Squadron 639, The American Legion.

Section 2. The membership in the Sons of the American Legion shall be prescribed by the national Constitution of the Sons of the American Legion.

## **Article X - Amendments**

Section 1. This Constitution is adopted subject to the provisions of the national Constitution of the American Legion and of the department Constitution of the Department of Missouri, The American Legion. Any Amendment to said national Constitution or department Constitution which is in conflict with any provisions hereof shall be regarded as automatically repealing or modifying the provisions of this Constitution to the extent of such conflict.



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Section 2. This Constitution may be amended at any regular post meeting by vote of two-thirds of the members of said post attending such regular meeting, providing that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing and read at the next preceding regular meeting of said post, and providing further, that written notice shall have been given to all members at least three days in advance of the date when such amendment is to be voted upon, notifying said members that at such meeting a proposal to amend the Constitution is to be voted upon.

This document is the accurate Constitution of American Legion Post 639 to the best of my knowledge as Commander of Post 639.

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Commander

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Date

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Adjutant

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Date