



Third Quarter 2020

Members Newsletter

Volume 3 Issue 1



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COVID-19 Update!!!!!!

Here are all the good things about COVID-19. It has stretched our medical system to the brink of their capabilities and it has worked.

Now let's consider all the bad things about COVID-19. China has unleashed an extremely deadly virus (accidentally or intentionally) against the rest of the world and should be paying a supreme price for it. The USA should call it as it really is and make them pay that price. Starting with undoing all the advantages that we and the rest of the world has allowed them to have. We have given them "most favored nation" status, allowed them to purchase US companies and steal intellectual properties and to send "spies" to our universities acting as "students" and sending back critical knowledge to their handlers in China. They are avowed communists and are using it to be "unfair" trading partners with the rest of the world. We are being wowed by their technology in communications and have allowed it to be used to SPY on us through it. We purchase devices from Huawei Enterprises that collect data on everything we do and send it back to China.

We need to wean ourselves off cheap shit from China (that pay their laborers almost nothing) and buy from other countries or better yet - **BUY AMERICAN.**

Now for the political ramifications of COVID-19. We are a country that is divided by Conservatives, Liberals and a number of smaller factions such as; The Green Party, Libertarians

and fringe groups. These groups include The Tea Party, Antifa, BLM (yes, they have a political agenda), Oath Keepers, The League of the South, Proud Boys, Black Guerrilla Family, SLA, Weather Underground and others. These are listed in no particular order, some left and some right.

We have seen attacks by the current administration saying each local area is responsible for itself and there should be no national mandate on masking, quarantining or other actions that could take away our individual rights guaranteed by the First Amendment. This position is supported by a lot of people and reported on by Fox News and a few other outlets. On the other side are groups including a lot of state governors that feel they can force us to stay inside our homes and if we do go out we must wear a mask. This along with the National News Media's promotion of their points makes for an interesting debate. The problem here is that both philosophies are right and both are wrong. The longer we see this working out we see advantages and disadvantages in both with no answer, so each person must weigh out what they feel is the proper way to handle it with their families and those they love.

Some decisions are being made about school closings or schools going "virtual" or getting back to normal and only time will tell.

The above has been an editorial opinion from the editor and does not represent Post 125 or The American Legion.

Commander's Desk:

COVID-19 has been a BFD and has caused everyone including our post to postpone events and projects including fund raising activities. This publication is being done in October to represent the past 3 months of activities, which have been few.

Springfield Community Gardens has now partnered with Post 125 in a project designed to assist veterans in becoming involved in farming. We agreed to assist them in getting a \$750,000 dollar grant from the US Department of Agriculture to provide training and jobs for veterans. If you go to our website www.post125.org and click on the farming link on the front page it will give you all the information including links to their site to make application for full or part time employment. We look forward to a long and successful working agreement with Springfield Community Gardens.

We would like to thank Prehistoric Brewing Company for their help and cooperation in allowing us to hold our meetings at their facility. It has given us room to have our meetings and they have allowed us to build a 4 x 2 foot cabinet with open top to place our flags, documents, and other materials for easy access for our meetings. They have also agreed to allow us to have other private get-togethers on Mondays (they are closed to the public on Mondays). They also allow us to have special access for other events during business hours such as a party for Rusty Shalla's promotion to Captain and transfer to Kentucky. I would like to thank Ron Paluska for building the above cabinet along with his helper and painter of the cabinet (me).

The Legion has announced that we will be having Boys State, Girls State and Oratorical competition in 2021. Dates for all these events are not available at publication time, but you can get the dates at www.missourilegion.org.

There was no District 17 meeting held in the 2nd or 3rd quarter, but the December 13 meeting will be held at Post 434 in Nixa. All members that would like to attend may do so.

I would like all members of Post 125 to send me their email address and phone numbers so I can update them on our records. You may email me the information at commander@post125.org or call me at 417-942-6159. A final reminder that all updates on projects and any cancellations will be posted on the website and our Facebook page, so check them often.

Bill Roark, Commander

**Membership:**

I am proud to announce that our post finished at **123.81%** of our membership goal for 2020. We finished as the #1 post in District 17, so I would like to thank all our members that paid their 2020 dues. Having said that I would like everyone to know that we are less than 40% of our goal for 100% at the end of September. I understand that a lot of us wait until our second request to pay our 2021 dues, but if you haven't paid, please do so ASAP. We are trying to hit 90% by the end of the year and 100% plus in the first quarter of 2021.

I would also like to mention that we have a booth at Mike's Unique located at the NE corner of West By-pass and West Sunshine. We are asking that all members and friends of The Legion donate any items of value that they can to the booth where they will be sold and 90% of the sales price all go to post 125.

Mike Cook, First Vice Commander

**Finance Report:**

Well, since COVID has hindered our projects and fund-raisers we don't have boundless funds on hand, but we have all our bills paid and some

cash in the bank. We will need to pay some year end costs for our incorporation and other government fees, but have money on hand to take care of all that. We have some plans to identify some unmarked veterans graves in green county and then place a small stone on them. That will require a lot of research and funds to do that. For now all is well on the money end of our post.

Ron Paluska, Finance/Adjutant



The American Legion is committed to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States as the first important part of our own "Preamble". The first 10 Amendments to our Constitution is know as The Bill of Rights and some want to water them down or "modernize" them as a "living document" while others want them to stand as written. Most veterans feel they should all be enforced as written. Here is a short version of The Bill of Rights:

1.	Freedom of religion, speech, press, assembly and petition.
2.	Right to keep and bear arms in order to maintain a well regulated militia.
3.	No quartering of soldiers.
4.	Freedom from unreasonable searches or seizures.

5.	Right to due process of law, freedom from self-incrimination or double jeopardy.
6.	Rights of accused persons, e.g., right to a speedy and public trial.
7.	Right of trial by a jury in civil cases.
8.	Freedom from excessive bail, cruel and unusual punishments.
9.	Other rights of the people.
10.	Powers not specified in the Constitution are reserved to the individual states.



Post 125 Office	Officer
Commander	Bill Roark
First Vice Commander	Mike Cook
Second Vice Commander	Terry Willey
Adjutant/Finance	Ron Paluska
Service Officer	John Foss
Sergeant at Arms	Russ Steuber
Chaplain	Darrell Smith
Judge Advocate	Bob Frank
Historian	Rusty Shalla

Mike's Unique Antiques

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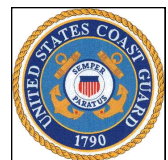


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American Legion Post 125
906 South Broadway Ave
Springfield, Missouri 658076

Postage

IS YOUR ADDRESS CORRECT?
If NOT, call 417-942-6159
or email us commander@post125.org



THE AMERICAN LEGION 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 maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a 100-percent 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 and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness."