



**AMERICAN LEGION CSM GARY W. CRISP, POST 289**

**P.O. BOX 2641 | CLARKSVILLE, TN**



**NEWSLETTER FOR JUNE 2019 | VOLUME 1, ISSUE 6**

POST 289 WEBSITE: [TNPOST289.ORG](http://TNPOST289.ORG)  
FACEBOOK: [AMERICAN LEGION CSM GARY W. CRISP POST 289](https://www.facebook.com/AMERICANLEGION.CSM.GARY.W.CRISP.POST.289)  
EMAIL: [AMERICANLEGION.POST289ADJUTANT@GMAIL.COM](mailto:AMERICANLEGION.POST289ADJUTANT@GMAIL.COM)

POST MEETING EVERY 3<sup>RD</sup> TUESDAY OF THE MONTH, 1800 HOURS, AT DAYMAR INSTITUTE ON TRENTON RD.

COMMANDER: DAVID ZEVENEY

ADJUTANT: SANDRA EMPEY

**Up Coming Calendar of Events for May**

<b>June</b>	
6 <sup>th</sup>	D-Day
7 <sup>th</sup>	Honor Guard Training Fri 6 PM · Sykes Funeral Home & Crematory
8, 15, 22	Color Guard Training -- Saturday at 9:30 AM – 11 AM @ Austin Peay State University
12 <sup>th</sup>	Youth Flag Advocacy at Clarksville's Mayor's summer night lights @ Bel Air Park
14 <sup>th</sup>	Army's Birthday and Flag Day
18 <sup>th</sup>	Post Membership meeting, 1800 Hours at Daymar Institute. Come early for a potluck and fellowship with post members
<b>July</b>	
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Executive Meeting – Daymar Institute at 1800 hours
4 <sup>th</sup>	Independence Day
Every Friday	Honor Guard Training Fri 6 PM · Sykes Funeral Home & Crematory
8 <sup>th</sup>	Clarksville's Mayor's summer night lights - July 8, 2019 at 5 PM – 9 PM @ Summit Heights in Clarksville
13, 20, 27	Color Guard Training -- Saturday at 9:30 AM – 11 AM @ Austin Peay State University
16 <sup>th</sup>	Post Membership meeting, 1800 Hours at Daymar Institute. Come early for a potluck and fellowship with post members

**NEXT MEETING**

The Post meeting is every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month and starts 1800 hours at Daymar Institute. We encourage you to come early and enjoy the potluck along with the fellowship with Post members.

**DO YOU KNOW THE NUMBER TO THE SUICIDE HOTLINE? (800) 273-5233**



Suicide is a national public health issue. Veterans are among higher risk groups, but suicide affects all Americans, which is why VA and The American Legion are working together to adopt a public health approach to suicide prevention. The public health approach looks beyond the individual to involve peers, family members and the community in preventing suicide. Preventing veteran suicide is a top priority for VA, but they need help from dedicated partners like the American Legion Family to reach veterans outside the VA health-care system. This is just an excerpt from National Commander Brett Reistad. To read the complete article click this link:

<https://www.legion.org/commander/245458/legion-va-team-approach-suicide-prevention>

## CSM GARY W. CRISP, POST 289...MEET OUR 2019-2020 OFFICERS



**Front Row** (Left to Right):Sergeant at Arm: Bob Sisson; Finance Officer: Larry Johnson; Adjutant: Sandra Empey; Historian: Robert Lamon.

**Second Row** (Left to Right): Service Officer: John Beck; Chaplain: Carmen Cherry; Membership Chairman: Tony Walters; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice: Bob Grigsby; Commander: David Zeveney.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice is Ernest Schmidt. (Not Pictured)

### AMERICAN LEGION CSM GARY W. CRISP, POST 289 FAMILY ALBUM

We are still building a “family album” of our legionnaires. We are asking that all members submit a brief bio of yourself to be added to the book.

Please include the following:

1. Branch of service(s), service periods,
2. Immediate family(i.e. Spouse, children, grandchildren, etc.)
3. Military highest rank, & highest award
4. Military history to include, any significant units, accomplishments
5. American Legion history, (how long you’ve been in, posts you’ve been in, positions you held).
6. Personal history, who are you what are your hobbies.
7. Please add a picture of you “then” and “now” or somewhat recent.

Send to: [Davenbill@yahoo.com](mailto:Davenbill@yahoo.com) or to P.O. Box 2641 Clarksville, TN 37042 or Bob Grigsby. [Bob.grigsby62@gmail.com](mailto:Bob.grigsby62@gmail.com).

## 101<sup>ST</sup> TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

The American Legion Department Convention was on the 1<sup>th</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> of June. The 1<sup>th</sup> had several seminars we could attend from all four pillars. Our Post had 10 Legionnaires attend the convention.



The 2<sup>nd</sup> was the caucus's and installation of Department Commander and District officers. Our own Commander Willie Smith was installed as 6<sup>th</sup> District Commander.



## COMMITTEES & OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED WITH THE AMERICAN LEGION

Each year after election, committee's assignments organizing the planning of activities and projects are reviewed and revitalized to meet the needs of the post membership and the community. Listed below are a few of the committees:

Americanism, Youth & Children, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Membership & Post Activities, Public Relations, Legislative, Finance, Economic, House, Graves Registration and Memorials, Uniformed Groups, Visiting or VAVs, Welcome Committee.

If you are interested any of these or have new ideas let us know! Looking for committee chairs and members. Committees meet only as needed.

More information is available online at:

<https://www.legion.org/sites/legion.org/files/legion/publications/271A0219-Officers-Guide.pdf>

Or call, eMail any of the officers for more information on how you can help.

## THE POST HAS CREATED A COMMITTEE TO LOOK FOR IT'S OWN HOME.

Our Post is growing by leaps and bounds. Last count, we now have 226 members. We are out growing Daymar Institute. Daymar has been very accommodating but with our growth the Executive Board has created a committee to start looking for our own Home. Our committee consists of the following members: Ernest Schmidt, Bob Grigsby, Larry Johnson, Fae Casper, Sandra Empey, Tony Walters, and Carmen Cherry. As you can see these are almost all of the officers of the Post. We need member like you to help in the process of getting our own Home.

If any member is interested in becoming a member of the **“House Committee”** or have ideas, you can contact any of the committee members. Their number and email are below:

<b>Ernest Schmidt:</b>	931-624-8564	<a href="mailto:Eaglewarr7@yahoo.com">Eaglewarr7@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Bob Grigsby</b>	614-208-2154	<a href="mailto:bdg-51@hotmail.com">bdg-51@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Larry Johnson</b>	931-257-8069	<a href="mailto:Americanlegionpost289.finance@gmail.com">Americanlegionpost289.finance@gmail.com</a>
<b>Fae Casper</b>	931-436-7452	<a href="mailto:fae0316@comcast.net">fae0316@comcast.net</a>
<b>Sandra Empey</b>	615-482-0406	<a href="mailto:AmericanLegion.Post289Adjutant@gmail.com">AmericanLegion.Post289Adjutant@gmail.com</a>
<b>Tony Walters</b>	931-217-3107	<a href="mailto:Bruce1bct@aol.com">Bruce1bct@aol.com</a>

## APPOINTMENTS & ESTABLISHED COMMITTEES

The Post Commander has appointed Fae Casper as the **Judge Advocate**

**Americanism Chair:** Billie Zeveney

**Newsletter Committee Chair:** Bob Grigsby (1<sup>st</sup> Vice), Members: Billie Zeveney

**Membership Committee Chair:** Tony Walters (Membership Chairman), Members: Billie Zeveney

## SCOUTS PUTTING FLAGS ON HERO'S GRAVES

The Boy Scouts, Troop 289 and Cub Scout Pack 510 worked diligently with other Cogioba District Middle Tennessee Council Scout Troops and Packs placing Flags on all the graves of Veterans buried at the Clarksville Greenwood Cemetery.



## AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY CSM GARY W. CRISP POST 289 POPPY

On May 24 and 25 The Gary W. Crisp American Legion Ladies Auxiliary Unit 289 had the privilege of setting up a poppy table at the Post Exchange on Fort Campbell. Several of us were able to take donations from 0900 to 1600 both days. I also was able to put donation cans out around the community. A few of the Legion members took cans to their businesses. The amount that was collected from those two days was approximately \$360.00. Still waiting for some cans that have not been turned in yet



*Astrag Eaglin greeting folks at poppy desk at the Fort Campbell PX*



Astrag Eaglin and Ernest Schmidt

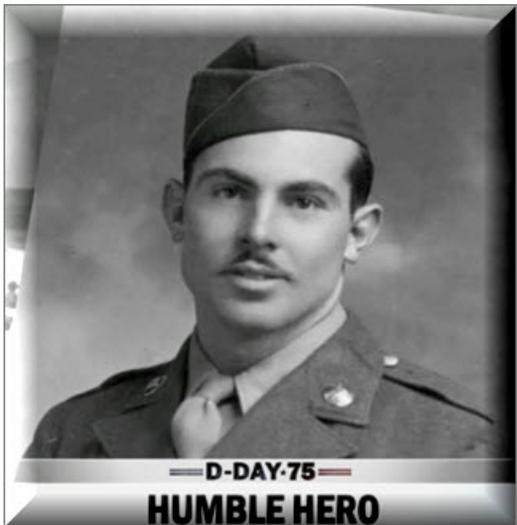


Astrag Eaglin and Dawn Schmidt



At the Poppy Desk in the PX on Fort Campbell. Astrag Eaglin, Fae Casper & Tony Walters

## D-DAY HERO RECOUNTS HORROR OF NORMANDY INVASION



On June 6, 1944, more than 150,000 American, British and Canadian troops landed on the shores of northern France as part of D-Day, a major turning point in World War II that helped lead to the defeat of Nazi forces in Europe. About 2,500 of the 73,000 U.S. soldiers who fought in the battle died.

As a 23-year-old army medic, Ray Lambert saved numerous lives in Normandy, despite being wounded himself. Now 98, he recently co-wrote a book called "Every Man a Hero," and he's one of 53 D-Day veterans who will return to Normandy this week.

On that day in 1944, Lambert was in the front of a cramped Higgins boat as it approached the shores of Normandy.

"It was very crowded, cold, guys were seasick," Lambert told CBS News correspondent Jan Crawford.

He was a young, hardscrabble country boy from Alabama turned army medic. Lambert and his brother Bill both enlisted in the war.

"We were both married," Lambert said. "And we agreed that if anything happened to either one of us that the other one would take care of our wives. I had a son that I'd never seen."

The horror of that day began well before Lambert's boat reached the shore.

"As we got in close enough ... we could see dead guys on the beach," he said.

Lambert took a bullet through the elbow just as the landing craft's ramp opened to deposit the men. He didn't stop. A man to his right was "obviously drowning," he said, and "had all of his equipment on."

"That was the first person I helped," he said.

Lambert saved at least 15 men on D-Day, pulling many of them to shore and seeking shelter behind a large rock.

"How did you keep going?" Crawford asked.

"You really didn't have a choice," he said with a slight chuckle. "You either drown or move forward."

He kept going after shrapnel later tore through his thigh. And while working to save another soldier, the two were pinned under the ramp of a boat bringing in more Americans.

"You had that conscious thought, this was it?" Crawford asked.

"That's when I asked God to give me one more chance to save this guy's life." Lambert responded.

"You didn't pray for your life?" Crawford asked.

"I was thinking of the guy I had," he said.

Miraculously, the ramp suddenly lifted. Lambert saved his man, but his own back was broken. He dragged himself ashore, looking down the beach before losing consciousness.

Lambert, now 98, says even at the time the soldiers understood the Normandy invasion was pivotal to winning the war.

"We knew that this was either a do or die situation," he said.

Lambert and his brother made it out alive. He keeps pictures and awards in the front room of his North Carolina home — but said he doesn't need objects to remember.

"There is hardly a day goes by that I haven't thought of some soldier or some incident that happened," he said.

Lambert has gone back to Omaha Beach several times since that day 75 years ago — and the rock where his men took shelter has been named Ray's Rock.

He's been reluctant to share his story, until now.

"I felt, you know, there's someone who'll say, 'Gee — you — Ray thinks he was a great hero,' or somethin' like that. I'm not. You know, I'm just — I'm a veteran."

But he decided to speak for his fellow soldiers who longer can. The title of his book says it all — aptly named "Every Man a Hero."

"When we were talkin' about a name for the book, the name came up, 'Ray Lambert The Hero,'" he said. "And so I said, 'No. Every man is a hero. Not me.'"



VA's Caregiver Support Line assistance is just a quick phone call away. Whether you're in need of immediate assistance or have questions about what services you may be eligible for, the caring licensed social workers who answer the support line can:

- Provide you with information about assistance available from VA.
- Help you access services.
- Connect you with the Caregiver Support Coordinator at a VA Medical Center near you.
- Just listen, if that's what you need right now.

If you're just getting started with VA, calling the Caregiver Support Line at 1-855-260-3274 is a great first step to learn more about the support that is available to you.

<https://www.welcomehomeveteranscelebration.com/>

