Dear Legionnaires,

As new Adjutant I can only aspire to fill the shoes of the former Adjutant and present Financial Officer Glen Foy. I hope you will have the patience to oversee this transition, while I learn this new position, my responsibilities and what’s expected of me.

The following important messages were drafted by Financial Officer, Glen Foy and I have left it as is. He states, ‘I hope that members will give our new Adjutant, Seán Rickard, the same co-operation that you gave me in my 14 years as Adjutant. Hopefully I will be able to help Sean if he needs my help.

I am still the Financial Officer and will continue to oversee membership, and will continue until I get the elbow. Membership fees— at this time of the year National Hq; send out reminders to members that their fees are due even though the fees had been sent to Hq by the end of October.

Vice-Commander Mike Devine and his son, Comrade Patrick, visited several graveyards in November and “Flagged” the graves of some thirty deceased post members. Thank you comrades.

Our late Adjutant has been approached by the son of a WWII Irish U.S. Army veteran. His intention is to establish a National Memorial to all Irish who served in the Second World War, the cost to be paid by private funds.

Three years ago an historic event took place in Ennis Cathedral. A memorial service was held in recognition of the Claremen who had died in WWI and the attendance that evening was an eye opener. The Cathedral was packed, and the ex-service organisations were well represented. From this initial ceremony it has been decided that a Cenotaph should be erected in memory of Clare’s War dead.

A group of Viet-nam veterans who are regular visitors to Ennis have approached Clare County Council with the idea of establishing a memorial to Clare’s Viet-nam war dead.

Commander Mike Sheahan is still in Victoria Ward of the South Infirmary, Cork City, and doesn’t show any improvements in his well-being.

Please remember out comrades who are not enjoying full health, Pat Healy, Dick Marbois, Peter Daly, and Maurice O’Connor.

I regret to report the death of Comrade Tom Linehan, RIP. I second his sentiments.

A meeting is scheduled to be held at 1500 (3pm) on the 10th March 2013 at the Flesk Restaurant, Killarney. All Legionnaires are encouraged to attend.

I’m informed by Rico Stein that all VA payments formerly made by paper check will end in February 2013. As of March all payments will be made electronically, so please contact the VA if you have any questions to ensure they have the proper bank details. They have a 1-800 number that may be obtained online.

I’m requested by Sean Willis who runs the American Legion Facebook site to reacquaint our members of its existence. It would be great if members could increase the traffic of the site by introducing it to other family members and or members of the public.

The Kerry County Council informs me that the annual St. Patrick’s Day Parade will commence at 1400 (2pm) on Sunday, 17th March 2013 from the garage at the end of Ross Road, Killarney. Those participating in the parade are expected to assemble there at 1330 (1:30pm), however, we would ask members to assemble at the Flesk Restaurant at this time to assign duties for the parade and then make our way down together. Those of us who can are encouraged to march, but I would remind them if they do so in caps that they are representing the American Legion, and proper dress and etiquette should be observed.

If you have any questions regarding Legion matters you may direct them to me personally at 085 763-0732 or to email address: frfrancisduffypost@hotmail.com and I will do my best my assist. However, I might remind you that Glen Foy has far greater knowledge concerning Legion affairs.

Kind regards,

Seán T. Rickard
Adjutant,
Fr. Francis P. Duffy Post Ir02.