



SWANSEA COMMUNITY POST 2007
DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS
AMERICAN LEGION

Commander: William T. Meister

Jr. Vice Commander: James Page

Finance Officer: Roger Homeier

Sr. Vice Commander: Carl V. Bales

Adjutant: George Kaigh/Robert Noonam

Chaplain: Robin Ladtrick

Sgt. At Arms: Robert Burrack

MEETING NOTICE

Due to the fact that our normal meeting date is on the same day as Memorial Day is celebrated, the meeting for May has been moved to the 19th. Same time, same place.

MEMBERSHIP

Close of books 2013 - - - 112

As of Apr 28 2014 - - - - 136

There is a goodly number of Legionnaires who belonged to Fairview Heights Post 978 who have transferred to our Post .

We want to take this opportunity to welcome them to our Post and encourage them to attend meetings

If you are one of the many members who have transferred to this Post since, March say, be aware. When you receive your dues notices for '2015' make certain it says Post 2007. Unfortunately your information goes from the Post, to the Department and then on to the National Organization. As a consequence, your data may or may not be up to date at the National level. If it is not, your dues notice will be incorrect. That's OK! Just remember to send your 2015 dues (\$30.00) to Post 2007 at address above, but not until you get your 2015 notice.

MEMORIAL DAY

The Village of Swansea will hold its annual Memorial Day service at Melvin Price Park on Caseyville Avenue at 10 AM on Monday, May 26th and will include music, singing, refreshments and speeches by Swansea dignitaries and a keynote speaker.

Wear your cap if you have one.

RAFFLE TICKETS

Norman Hake was the winner of the April 'Insurance Fund' 50/50.

If you are getting this via E-mail Raffle tickets are attached, otherwise they are enclosed.

Please consider purchasing some.

BASEBALL

The team has been renamed the Swansea—Fairview Heights Giants. Its emblem is the same as the San Francisco Giants.

The team is holding Trivia Night at the O'Fallon American Legion Post 109 Penn St. O'Fallon on Saturday, May 31 beginning at 7:00 PM.

Tables of 8 are \$100.00. Cash prizes, Silent Auction, cash bar, and BYO snacks.

Swansea community
Post 2007
American Legion
Department of Illinois
P.O Box 23944
Belleville, IL 62223

Future Meeting Dates

May 19, 2014

June 23, 2014

July 28, 2014

August 25, 2014

Sept. 22, 2014

October 27, 2014

Nov. 2014 TBD

Dec. 29, 2014

Jan. 26, 2015

Feb. 23, 2015

Mar. 23, 2015

Apr. 27, 2015

All Meetings held at
the Swansea Improvement Association Hall.
216 Service St. and
begin at 7:00 P.M.

2014 Poppy Days

May 17 at the Swansea Schnucks.

Aug. 16 at the O'Fallon Dierbergs.

Nov. 1 at the Belleville Wal-Mart.

Sales Times are from 9 AM until 3 PM.

BOYS STATE

The 2014 session of the Illinois Premier Boys State will be held 7–13 June. For those who don't know, Boy State originated in Illinois, hence the appellation "Premier". This is a one week program where young men, preferably those between their Junior and Senior grades of high school, are taught how the government of the state of Illinois is supposed to operate.

The program is held at Eastern Illinois University which is located in Charleston Illinois.

The Post generally sponsors one boy and several individuals sponsor boys.

The cost to sponsor a boy is \$250.00.

If you would like to sponsor a boy or know of an individual or organization, which might be interested in sponsoring a boy, contact our Boys State Chairman Clyde Minish @ 618-235-9497 or minish@charter.net or go to the Boys State web site illinoisboysstate.org.

POPPY DAYS

The poppy flower adorned the battlefields of Flanders field in France during WWI, and was looked upon those serving as a living symbol of their fallen comrades. In the '20's the poppy became the official flower of the Legion Family to memorialize the soldiers who fought and died during the war, and distribution of poppies became a Legion national program in 1924. To this day, the poppy is nationally recognized and worn as a symbol of sacrifice made by the men and women who served and died for their country during a time of war.

You'll notice the poppy sales dates in the lower right corner of page 1. This post distributes the proceeds of these sales to various organizations who aid and assist veterans.

Since this Post was established, we have collected and distributed over \$22,000.00 of poppy

collections to the Anna VA Home, the Central Illinois Honor Flight, the Fisher House, the Gifts to the Yanks who Gave program, the JB Christmas Fund, the Quincy Mayfest, the Quincy VA Home, the Swansea Family Christmas program (earmarked for a veteran family in need), 'The Haven', the USO, and the Marion VA Hospital.

We can always use help in selling or distributing. Those who take part always have a good time. If you can, come on out and join us. If you can't join us, and would like to contribute, stop by and visit, or drop your contribution in the mail.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

It's getting to the time of year where we have to start thinking about our next Officer elections which will be in May.

Your current Officers have held their Positions, for the most part since the Post was established. Rumors notwithstanding, none of them feel as though they own these positions. They are all willing to mentor anyone who is interested/ willing to take over. All positions are up for grabs. Some of the incumbents are getting pretty long in the tooth.

At the April meeting, they were nominated for 2015. Additional nominations can be made from the floor during the May meeting before elections are held. Come on in and get involved. After all, it is your post also.

MAILINGS

What with postage, printing and supplies, the publication of this newsletter is getting a little expensive (about 65 cents each). It would help considerably if I could e-mail it to those who have e-mail addresses. If you provide me your e-mail address, I would appreciate it.

My e-mail is cvbales@aol.com

Attend meetings. We keep them short.