



**SWANSEA COMMUNITY POST 2007
DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS
AMERICAN LEGION**

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

Commander: William T. Meister

Jr. Vice Commander: James Page

Finance Officer: Roger Homeier

Sr. Vice Commander: Carl V. Bales

Adjutant: Robert Noonam

Chaplain: Robin Ladtrick

Sgt. At Arms: Robert Burrack

MEETING NOTICE

The October meeting will be held on the 27th as scheduled.

MEMBERSHIP

As October 5 our 2015 paid membership was 91. We need 47 to reach 100%. If you haven't paid your dues, please do so at your earliest convenience. **Remember, dues are now \$30.00.**

RAFFLE TICKETS

Two tickets are enclosed. \$1.00 each. Proceeds go to the insurance fund. Winner gets 50 %. If you want more than 2 tickets send additional money & a note and we'll fill them out and enter them for you. Send to the address on the Masthead.

FUND RAISING

On October 4th, some of us invaded a Community Garage sale. We sold coffee, soda and snacks.

Another ongoing fundraising is explained in the enclosed flyer. This is one way to support Post activities that will not cost you a cent. If you shop at Schnucks, using a card makes sense.

POPPIES

The next and final Poppy Day sale will be held at the Belleville Crossing Wal-Mart on 1 November. There will be two shifts, 9 – 12 and 12 - 3. Come on out and join the fun.

SICK CALL

We're asking Post members to remember and lift up Bill Jergens in prayer, to make him strong and fit for the 'Honor Flight' at the end of this month according to Isaiah 53: 5 .."and by HIS stripes we are healed. He is really looking forward to the trip, but the Dr. says he has to improve before he can go.

TAPS

Melvin Lark 88, a 38 member of the American Legion, on the 24th of September 2014.

GIFTS TO THE YANKS

Letters have been sent to the nursing homes. Should be getting the necessary information back, very soon.

BOYS STATE

In a sense, Boys State is a political battleground where they can express concerns, develop commitment and learn compromise. It's also an opportunity for the American Legion to impress on these young people just how great the United States is.

This concern for youth development began at a 1934 Legion meeting attended by the late Hayes Kennedy, then the Illinois Department Americanism Chairman and a professor

**Future Meeting
Dates**

Nov. 2014 TBD

Dec. 2014 TBD

Jan. 26, 2015

Feb. 23, 2015

Mar. 23, 2015

Apr. 27, 2015

May 26, 2015

June 22, 2015

July 27, 2015

Aug. 24, 2015

Sept. 28, 2015

Oct. 26, 2015

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

*Executive Board meetings
begin at **6:30 P.M.***

**2015 Poppy Days
Not set up yet. Stay
tuned.**

at the Loyola School of Law, and his friend Harold Card, a state Boy Scout chairman and a Junior high school teacher in Taylorville, IL

Kennedy and Card were worried about the threat of Young Pioneer Camps being conducted by fascist organizers throughout the nation. In these camps high school boys were taught that Republicanism had outlived its usefulness and should be replaced by a new form of government—Fascism.

Both agreed that in the face of this threat, some counter-movement was necessary.

As a possible solution, Card related an experience he had operating a Boy Scout camp in northern Indiana. He had a large group of boys but a short supply of staff, so he had to devise some method to properly police the camp. He organized the camp as a city and permitted the boys to elect a Mayor and city council. Appointments were made to cover the offices of police, fire, health and sanitation. The boys became so enthusiastic about carrying out their city duties, they almost forgot their scout assignments.

From that experience developed the seeds of Boys State. Kennedy and Card believed they could muster exceptionally talented high school boys from all over the state at a central site for a week's functional study of government, supplemented by a series of lectures on the duties and responsibilities of citizenship.

With the support of the department and months of tedious nationwide promotion, Kennedy and Card gathered 235 boys for the first Boys State in 1935 at the Illinois State Fair Grounds in Springfield.

The program was so successful that the 1935 national convention incorporated Boys State into the Legion's Americanism program.

Boys chosen to attend Boys State are, upon arrival, assigned to a mock political party and to a city within a county. Citizens of each city

Nominate members of their parties to be candidates for the various city and county offices. Elections are held with the citizens conducting their own voter registration and the actual balloting. Election boards serve at city, county and state elections according to the laws of each state.

Citizens of a state are instructed in the duties of public offices, their functions, power and limitations. Instruction is provided explaining the practical operation of local and state government.

THE INFORMATION ABOVE WAS EXTRACTED FROM AN ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE IN 1985.

Graduates of Boys State include Neil Armstrong, Tom Brokaw, Garth Brooks, Robert Griffith III, President William Clinton, Mike Huckabee, Phil Jackson, Rush Limbaugh, Samuel Alito, Harry Reid, Jon Bon Jovi, Chris Christy and Dick Cheney.

Illinois Boys State includes intra-mural sports. Band, essays, etc. in their program. There are also a number of scholarships available. In addition two citizens are selected to attend Boys Nation, in Washington D.C.

BITS AND PIECES

Who said this You will probably be surprised.

“What makes us exceptional, what makes us America is our allegiance to an idea articulated in a declaration . . . “We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal. That they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, and among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”

The patriots of 1776 did not fight to replace the tyranny of a king with the privileges of a few, or the rule of a mob. They gave to us a republic, a government of, by and for the people. Entrusting each generation to keep safe our founding creed.

Answer in the next newsletter.

Schnucks

The Difference in
Community

Together,
you and Schnucks
make the difference!

*Pick up a card and support
our group*

Easy!

- Visit Schnucks and request a Community Card.
- Register your card at www.escrip.com/schnucks.
- Present your card to the cashier when you shop at Schnucks.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 2007 SWANSEA
GROUP ID - 5000 154 53

*The more you shop,
the more we earn!*



for every dollar you spend, Schnucks will contribute up to 3% of your purchase amount