

AUGUST 25, 2025



CHARLES A. WOODFORD POST 2007

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Since We Last Met

Aug 9: The Poppy crew assembled at Lowes. Pitches, Poppies, and literature available. Donations start coming in! Thanks to Andrew Dunham, Bill Martin, Barbara Page, Mary Monett, Robin Latdrick, and Todd Herzog. Special thanks to Barb for getting me there for the short period of time and making this event happen.

Aug 16: Your 22nd District Leadership travelled to Bloomington for Membership Training.

Aug 17: There was a All Star Legion Baseball Game at Grizzly Field. IL lost to MO. As I write this, the Legion Baseball Tournament is in progress in Shelby NC.

Aug 20: Fundraiser at McAlister's in Shiloh. As we were finding a parking spot, we noticed several Post members sitting outside talking. We all went in a prepared to

start our shift. Cleaning tables, delivering meals, refilling drinks, and opening the entrance doors were the mission of the night. The traffic did not seem heavy, but steady. Several conversations with customers about joining and answering questions they had. I appreciate all who came out to eat and work. Thanks to Bill Martin, Joe Ocasio, Robin Latdrick, Steve Duff, and our coordinator for this event Barb Page.

The report has us getting \$165 from McAlister's and \$125 in tips.



DID YOU KNOW?

St. Louis VA Medical Center-Jefferson Barracks

Our campus provides primary care and specialty health services, including mental health care, substance abuse treatment, treatment for spinal cord injury, extended care and rehabilitation, recreation therapy, and more. Below, you'll find our address and hours, parking and transportation information, and the other

health services we offer at our St. Louis VA Medical Center-Jefferson Barracks.

1 Jefferson Barracks Drive

St. Louis, MO 63125-4199

Main phone: 314-652-4100

VA health connect: 833-381-1943

Mental health care: 314-652-4100, ext. 66653

CALENDAR

- Aug 26, 7PM, VACCSC, 19 Public Square, 1st Floor Conference Room
- Sep 1, Labor Day
- Sep 6, 9AM to Noon, Messinger Cemetery Clean Up
- Sep 22 Post Meetings, Exec Mtg @ 6:30PM, General Mtg @ 7PM, 216 Service Street, Swansea
- Sep 24, McAlister's Fundraiser, 5PM to 8PM, Shiloh Location
- Sep 30, 7PM, VACCSC, 19 Public Square, 1st Floor Conference Room
- Oct 19, 5th Division Caucus, 1PM, O'Fallon Post 137
- Oct 22, McAlister's Fundraiser, 5PM to 8PM, Shiloh Location
- Oct 27, Post Meetings, Exec Mtg @ 6:30PM, General Mtg @ 7PM, 216 Service Street, Swansea
- Oct 31, Halloween
- Nov 2, 22nd District Mtg, 1PM, Dupo Post 485

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Meetings are the fourth Monday of the month at 7 PM.
Swansea Improvement Association
216 Service St, Swansea IL 62226

Check Out Our Facebook Page
Swansea American Legion Post 2007

Post Email:
ILLEGIONPOST2007@gmail.com

STILL SERVING AMERICA

DID YOU KNOW (CONTINUED)

VETERAN HIGHLIGHT

James R. Nichols was born in Los Angeles, California, in February 1943. He played football at the prestigious U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado, where he met his wife. Graduating from pilot training in 1966, he flew F-100, F-4 and F-16 fighter aircraft in the Air Force.

In 1967, Nichols began his first of two tours in the Vietnam War. His exploits as a fighter pilot earned him a constellation of awards, including 11 Distinguished Flying Crosses and 32 Air Medals.

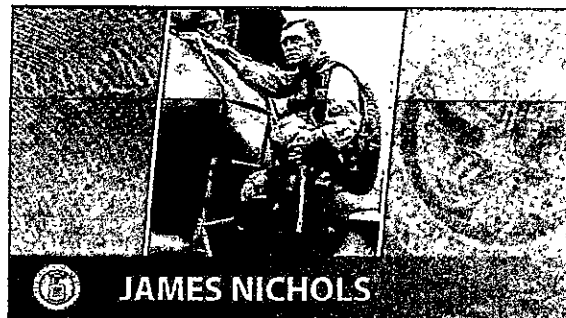
While stationed at Phu Cat Air Base, South Vietnam, in 1968, Nichols led a close air support mission under anti-aircraft fire. With his aircraft burning, he continued dropping bombs until the soldiers on the ground were safely evacuated. He received a Purple Heart for injuries sustained when ejecting from the burning F-100.

Nichols rotated out after his 100th combat mission, then returned to Southeast Asia as an F-4 aircraft commander at Ubon Royal Thai Air Base. In 1972, he led a squadron that successfully bombed Hanoi Hannah's Radio Hanoi Viet Cong propaganda radio station during Operation Linebacker. For his contribution to military operations against opposing armed forces, he was awarded a Silver Star.

Assigned to train new pilots on the F-16 in Cairo, Egypt, Nichols moved with his wife and three children. After a military career spanning just over 15 years, he died in a car accident in December 1982, and was buried in the Air Force Academy cemetery.

We honor his service.

Writers: Lara Walker, Michelle A. Shade



JAMES NICHOLS

TID BITS

This Day In History

1718 Hundreds of French colonists arrive in Louisiana and found New Orleans

1910 Yellow Cab is founded

1932 Amelia Earhart completes transcontinental non-stop flight, the first by a woman, landing in Newark, New Jersey

1952 Puerto Rico becomes a US commonwealth

1970 Elton John makes his 1st US appearance at the Troubador in West Hollywood, Los Angeles

1975 Columbia Records releases Bruce Springsteen's landmark third album "Born To Run"

1989 After 12-year, 4-billion-mile journey, Voyager 2 flies over cloudtops of Neptune & its moon Triton, sending back photographs of swamps

1990 UN Security Council authorizes military action against Iraq for invading Kuwait

2012 Voyager 1 spacecraft, becomes the 1st spacecraft to enter interstellar space (launched in 1977)

Thanks to all of you that called, texted, emailed, or sent cards during my recovery. Those Buddy Checks were nice to receive. A special thanks to Our SrV for stepping up during my absence.

Commander Out,

Jim