

JANUARY 22, 2024



CHARLES A. WOODFORD Post 2007

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Since We Last Met

Dec 16: Visiting Vets made their visits to deliver gifts. Thanks to the team, Mary, Robin, Barb, and Carol for your dedication and hard work! Andrew, thanks for going to the homes with the Committee.

Dec 25: Christmas!

Jan 1: Happy New Year!

Jan 7: Several Posts met in Aviston for the 5th Division Winter Caucus. Turn out was light, but the information was distributed and discussed. Again, membership was the main topic. While the Division is doing better than last year at this time, we are still not at 100%.

Jan 10: Robin, Mary, and Barb met at VFW 1739 to inventory items for the Visiting Vets Program. They braved the cold, there is no heat upstairs. Mission accomplished.

Jan 14: The Great 22nd District met in Mascoutah for Winter Caucus. The

weather was very cold and had an impact on attendance. The District was able to conduct business with a quorum of 7 Posts in place. There was the normal discussions about membership, poppies, Legislative, and so on. There was a discussion about adding a Standing Committee to vet members seeking office in the District. This action will be reviewed and wording made clear for possible amendment to the District By-Laws in May at the Convention.

Jan 16-17: The Department Membership Caravan is in the 5th Division. The 22nd District stop was on 17th in Collinsville. The Post turned in two cards. Thanks Bill.



DID YOU KNOW?

What do the colors of the American Legion caps mean?

The blue Legion cap is for all members of the American Legion.

There is a white top and blue bottom cap. This cap is for County and District Officers.

There is a solid white cap. This cap is for Department (State) Officers and appointees. The white cap is also for the five Division Commanders.

The all red cap is for National Officers. The Illinois representative to the National Executive Council (NEC) wears a red cap, Roy Weber.

There are two styles for the Men's Cap, Fort Knox and regular. Fort Knox is square on top.

For the women, there is a cap in the catalog. Most women select one of the men's style.

CALENDAR

- Jan 30, VAC Meeting, 19 Public Square, 7PM
 - Jan 13, McAlister's Fundraiser, Shiloh Location, 5 to 8PM
 - Feb 15, Blood Drive, 201 N. Church St, Belleville, 9AM to 1PM
 - Feb 17, Flag Collection and Recycle Event, 107 Service St., Swansea, 9AM to Noon
 - Feb 26, Post Meetings, 6:30 for Executive and 7PM for General
 - Feb 27, VAC Meeting, 19 Public Square, 7PM
 - Mar 9, Poppy Day, Green Mount Lowes, 9AM to 3PM
- ⇒ Do you need a Veteran Service Officer? Come to 300 N. Charles Street, Belleville on Thursdays, 10AM to 2PM.

CHARLES A. WOODFORD
POST 2007

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 Post 2007

Post Email: ilpost2007@gmail.com

***Robin, Andrew,
and Mary de-
livering gifts
for our Visiting
Vets Program.
Thanks to the
Committee for
your dedica-
tion through-
out the year!***



STILL SERVING AMERICA

PROTECT YOURSELF

Protect your benefits from scammers during the holiday season

November 30, 2023

By Krystle Good
Analyst, Benefits Delivery Program and Remediation

VA is committed to protecting the benefits of our nation's heroes. The holiday season is an optimal time to remind Veterans and their loved ones to remain vigilant, to protect their sensitive information, and to verify the security of websites when shopping online.

Beware of these scams

There is a spike in digital criminal activity this time of the year, especially with online scammers preying on the generous nature of Veterans with bold charity scams. Charity scammers use deception to steal money from people who believe they are donating to legitimate charities. Scammers often exploit natural disasters and other emergencies to take advantage of donors' sympathy and their generosity.

Additionally, there is a significant increase in smartphone scams. "Jack Juicing," for example, is when bad actors hack public USB ports to infiltrate malware or monitoring software. Be extra careful with charging your devices in public places like airports, hospitals, coffee shops, and other popular public re-charging stations.

The latest scam, known as "smishing," sends spam SMS text messages to your smartphone. Text messages purport to be from reputable companies, such as your bank, and are sent to obtain passwords or credit card numbers when you click on the link provided. Bad actors are crafty and will contact Veterans pretending to be government representatives, including working for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), or that they work for utility companies.

Never provide your sensitive personal information or passwords to questionable sources. We advise you to hang up and call the company or business directly.

(While this article was released prior to the holidays, the information is still valid)

TID BITS

On this Day

1930: -35°F (-37°C), Mount Carroll, Illinois (state record).

1959: USAF concludes that less than 1% of UFOs are unknown objects.

On February 10, 2024, we enter into the Chinese New Year of the Dragon.

Is your 2024 dues up to date? \$40 annual, life membership, and 5 Year (Gold cards are available).

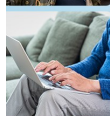
This spring, we will be holding elections for the Posts. If you are interested in holding an office, please talk to me. I can get job descriptions for you to review.

If you interested in serving the 22nd District, please let me know.

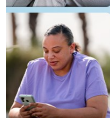
The weather has been very cold lately. Please protect yourself when your venture out. Also, ensure your vehicle is ready for the cold. How old is that battery? Do you have provisions if you get stranded? There are plenty of resources to help you prepare.



CALL Dial 988 then Press 1



CHAT VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat



TEXT 838255



Commander Out