

MAY 19, 2025



CHARLES A. WOODFORD POST 2007

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Since We Last Met

Apr 30: I travelled to The Haven for a meeting with Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). The meeting was to inform the Legion and Staff of the Haven of the construction plans and timeline for work to Route 13 between Carbondale and Marion.

They plan on starting very soon. They will be working for about a year expanding a bridge. After the bridge is done, they will start the other bridge. The second phase will require extremely reduce access to the property. At that point, the Staff will have to stop building rentals and events at the property.

IDOT has added a few small items to the contract for the property. We will be seeing a new fence, new parking lots, and the entry sign relocation.

Work is expected to take about 2 years.

May 3: Was called to Department for a meeting of the Boy Scout Committee. We reviewed applications for a few scholarships. Winners will be notified prior to the Department Convention in July.

May 10: Attended the "Be the One Walk". They started in Flora and trekked to Louisville. This event started last year and raised about \$10K. This year, attendance was up and it raised about \$12K. The National Commander is a big supporter of the Be the One program.

May 11: Barb and I went to the Haven for Armed Forces Week in the 5th Division. This dinner was to recognize those Posts reaching 100% and 103% in membership. The National Commander, Jim LaCoursiere, was the guest speaker and presenter.

CALENDAR

- May 24, Poppy Day, Greenmount Commons Lowes, 9AM to 3PM
- May 26, Belleville Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony. Parade starts at 10AM, Ceremony 11AM at Walnut Hill
- May 25, 22nd District Convention, Committees meet at 10AM, Convention at 1PM, Colombia Post 581
- May 27, VAC Meeting, 7PM, 19 Public Square
- Jun 8, 5th Division Convention, Committees at 10AM, Convention starts at 1PM, Nashville Post 110
- Jun 14, Flag Day and Flag Retirement Event, 10AM, Messinger Cemetery
- Jun 23, Post meeting, 7PM, 216 Service St., Swansea
- June 24, VAC Meeting, 7PM, 19 Public Square

HOW TO MAKE CHANGES IN THE LEGION

Legionnaires at every level have the opportunity to suggest changes in their local posts' policies, or even the manner in which the Legion operates as an organization. Legionnaires interested in initiating such processes must file a resolutions -written descriptions of a problem or situation, followed by suggestion as to how it may be corrected. A resolution may also be a statement or declaration

pertaining to an issue of concern to the Legion. It consists of two parts: the preamble (description of the problem), and the resolve clause (how the local post, department or national organization should solve the problem or support the issue). The entire resolution should be one continuous sentence, with the preamble clause(s) preceding the resolve clause(s).

**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 American Legion Post 2007

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STILL SERVING AMERICA

LEGION HISTORY

Sept. 27, 1920

The poppy is named the official flower of The American Legion during the organization's second national convention in Cleveland.

Dec. 16, 1920

With more than 5,500 war veterans hospitalized nationwide with neuropsychiatric conditions, The American Legion raises awareness of the condition later to be defined as post-traumatic stress disorder.

Aug. 9, 1921

The Legion's efforts result in the creation of the U.S. Veterans Bureau, forerunner of the Veterans Administration.

Nov. 11, 1921

American Legion leaders join Allied generals and President Warren G. Harding in ceremonies to dedicate the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery. The tomb was the culmination of Legion-supported legislation introduced by U.S. Rep. Hamilton Fish, Jr., a founder of the organization.

June 15, 1923

The first Flag Code is drafted during a Legion-organized conference in Washington, with 68 organizations participating. The code is adopted a year later and in the decades ahead is applied throughout the states and schools until Congress adopts it as U.S. Flag Code in 1942.

Oct. 17, 1923

The American Legion National Convention in San Francisco passes a resolution (still in effect) that expresses its firm support of equal rights and opportunities "without distinction as to race, color, creed or class." The resolution condemns any individual, group or organization that "creates or fosters racial, religious or class strife among our people, or which takes into their own hands the enforcement of law, determination of guilt, or infliction of punishment, to be un-American, a menace to our liberties and destructive to our fundamental law."

March 21, 1924

American Legion uniform caps are introduced.

The Haven



TID BITS

1952 "Time" magazine features 'Theseus', an electrical learning machine built by American scientist Claude Shannon - the 1st example of AI

1953 US House of Representatives votes to ratify the state constitution and admit Ohio to the Union retroactively as of March 1, 1803, 150 years after overlooking the paperwork

As we get ready for our elections this month, I wish to thank you! The membership of this Post continues to serve our community and veterans;

Buddy Checks: First complete contact

Messinger Cemetery: The clean ups, Pearl Harbor ceremony, and the upkeep of Rose's grave

Visiting Vets: This team keeps lets these veterans know they are not forgotten.

Membership Team: Reaching out to those veterans in the community to join our Post. Taking time to construct membership boxes

Flags: With our 16 new flags, we can show our patriotism on numerous dates

Boys State: We will sponsor at least one boy for this program

There are numerous other things we have done this past year.

THANK YOU ALL!

Commander Out