

OCTOBER 27, 2025



## Charles A. Woodford Post 2007

# COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

### *Since We Last Met*

**Sep 24:** We had a fundraiser at McAlister's. As always, we worked to bring food, fill drinks, and clear tables. We also talked to Veterans about joining the Legion and other veteran issues/topics.

**Sep 27:** The Executive Committee met to plan out the next membership year. A Post calendar has been developed and will be available.

**Oct 2:** I met with the Mayor of Swansea. Our talk was centered around getting more news about the Post out into the Swansea community. We also opened the door to the Post working to helping with a Memorial Day Event. More to follow. Thanks to Jim Wilson for setting the meeting up for us

**Oct 3:** The Post said good bye to Tom Sheeler. Thanks to those who were able to attend.

**Oct 18:** 'Poppy Day.' Another great day for Poppies. We had support and plenty of pop-pies and membership materials. Talked to plenty of people about the Legion and what the poppy monies support. Did I say it was a great day for poppies? Yes I did. The weather did not cooperate. We had plenty of rain, thunder, and lightening. The stream of people reduced to a trickle and weather caused us to shut down early. We still raised over \$313 in about 3 1/2 hours. Thanks team for being-there.

The Visiting Vets and Gift to the Yanks Committee placed an order to the Department for 24 bags for distribution later this year.

The bags will have a beanie hat in it. The bags may have other items included. They are not sure at this time.

Sr. Vice Dunham manned the Flag collection event at the St. Clair Township Office. Thanks Andrew!

**Oct 19:** Attended 5th Division meeting. Gifts to the Yanks, Boys State, Essay, and Oratorical programs are going forward! There will be some minor changes to some programs.

**Oct 20:** Attended Village of Swansea Council meeting. Will be meeting with the Park Board next month to plan future events.

**Oct 22:** McAlister's Fundraiser. The small team assembled to work this event. Based on early reports, we raised about \$240 between tips and McAlister's donation. Thanks to Todd, Mary, Robin, and Barb for their work. And thanks to Barb for setting up this event!

### WHO AM I?

Born in Manhattan December 28, 1922. Died November 12, 2028 (age 95).

He entered the U.S. Army in early 1942 and served within the U.S. as a member of the Signal Corps, repairing telegraph poles and other communications equipment. He was later transferred to the Training Film Division, where he worked writing manuals, training films, slogans, and occasionally cartoons. He was known for many super heroes in comic books. He was a "marvel".

If you guessed Stanley Martin Lieber you are correct. He is also known as Stan Lee Legionnaire.

### CALENDAR

- October: Continue to Work Membership
- Oct 31, Halloween
- Nov: Continue to work membership
- Nov 2, 1PM. 22<sup>nd</sup> District Fall caucus, Post 137, O'Fallon
- Nov 7, 9AM. Veterans Day Assembly at Wolf Branch School
- Nov 8, 9AM to noon. Messinger Cemetery clean up
- Nov 11, 10:45AM. Veterans Day ceremony at Belleville Square
- Nov 15, 9AM to noon. Flag collection at St. Clair Township, 107 Service St., Swansea
- Nov 24, 7PM, Post General meeting. 6:15PM Exec Council meeting
- Nov 27, Thanksgiving – Fly the Flag
- Dec: Continue to work membership. Dec. 31 is the end of Legion year
- Dec TBD. Visiting Vets team makes visits to Assisted Living Homes

## CHARLES A. WOODFORD POST 2007

Meetings are the fourth Monday of the month at 7 PM (unless changed by the Commander to observe holidays).

Swansea Improvement Association  
216 Service St, Swansea IL 62226

Check Out Our Facebook Page  
[Swansea American Legion Post 2007](#)

Our Post Email:  
[ILLEGIONPOST2007@gmail.com](mailto:ILLEGIONPOST2007@gmail.com)

## STILL SERVING AMERICA

### CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP

We talk about membership at every meeting, Post, District, and Division. That will not change.

Here is a listing of our Post members with 25 years or more in The American Legion (Dues paid through 2026):

Martin Buneta - 58 years  
Tom Sheeler - 44 Years (Deceased)  
George Ripplinger, Jr - 40 years  
Robert Fluck - 36 years  
Don Wallis - 35 years  
Eugene Breitenstein - 34 years  
Jim Page - 34 years  
Mark Kaiser - 32 years  
John Booth - 31years  
Mark Bradac - 31 Years  
Jerry Cowart - 31 years  
Gary Hoeffkin - 30 years  
Billy Reams - 30 years  
Don Fitzgerald - 29 years  
Stephen Kotas - 28 years  
Clyde Minish - 27 years  
Eric Funkhouser - 26 years  
Bill Meister, Sr - 26 years (Past Post Commander)  
Sara Statton - 26 years  
Gary and Linda West - 25 years

Thanks for supporting the work and programs of the American Legion!

## Thomas Sheeler

December 20, 1938 – September 30, 2025  
44-year member of The American Legion



Tom, you will be missed!

### TID BITS

1682 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is founded by Englishman William Penn

1775 - US Navy forms as the Continental Navy

1787 - Federalist Papers start appearing in New York newspapers under pseudonym "Publius" (written by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay)

1917 - 20,000 women march in a suffrage parade in New York

1954 - Benjamin O. Davis Jr. becomes the first African-American general in the United States Air Force

1962 - Black Saturday during the Cuban Missile Crisis: An American spy plane is shot down over Cuba and the Navy drops warning depth charges on Soviet submarines

### Recommended Programs by Month

**February** – Americanism Month

**March** – Community Service Month

**April** – Children & Youth Month

**September** – National Disaster Preparedness Month

**Reminder:** Your dues need to be paid by December 31, 2025. If your dues are not paid by that date, you are considered delinquent. If you move into that status, your life insurance (if you signed-up) is cancelled, and you will not be eligible for funds from the National Emergency Fund if a disaster occurs. Please stay current with your dues.

Commander Out

*Jim Page*