

SEPTEMBER 22, 2025



CHARLES A. WOODFORD Post 2007

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Since We Last Met

Aug 28: I and several other Veteran Service Organization representatives met with Congressman Bost. This invite was to provide Congressman Bost with some of the issues we would like him to know. The main issue was getting increased VA Doctors on this side of the river. We know that two additional Doctors are working at Scott AFB, but we do have a need in our area.

Sep 6: Messinger Cemetery Clean Up. We had a good turn out from the Post. Todd and Joe took the lead to cut up a large tree branches. We had some visiting help. The Cub Scout Pack from St. Tereasa came out to help. They cleaned some sticks. At the end of the event, they posted our flags along the road! Looked great. Thanks Steve for inviting the Scouts out.

Sep 11: Several Post members attended the Patriots Day at the PSOP in Belleville. This event has become

an event to remember the tragic events of that day. It also provides some flag history and trivia. Thanks for those attending.

Sep 20: The Scott/POW Council hosted an event at VFW Post 805 in O'Fallon. Several former POW's were in attendance. The Council provides a very nice ceremony each year. The JROTC provided a very moving POW/MIA table Ceremony. This team does a fantastic job in honoring our veterans. A local Boy Scout Troop and Cub Scout Pack joined together to offer the Pledge of Allegiance. After the ceremony, the Council provided lunch. This Council has been doing this remembrance for 34 years.



DID YOU KNOW?

THE LEGION ACT On July 30, 2019, President Donald Trump signed a bill declaring that the United States has been in a state of war since Dec. 7, 1941. The American Legion sought the declaration as a way to honor approximately 1,600 U.S. servicemembers who were killed or wounded during previously undeclared periods of war. The Let Everyone Get Involved In Opportunities for National Service (LEGION) Act opened the door for ap-

proximately 6 million veterans to access American Legion programs and benefits for which they previously had not been eligible. The American Legion's eligibility criteria immediately changed from seven war eras to two: April 6, 1917, to Nov. 11, 1918, and Dec. 7, 1941 to a time later determined by the federal government. No other restrictions to American Legion membership changed.

CALENDAR

- Sep 24, 5 to 8PM, McAlister's Fundraiser, Shiloh Location
- Sep 29, 11AM, Rededication of Veterans Square in Belleville
- Sep 30, 7PM, VAC Meeting, 19 Public Square, Belleville, 1st Floor Conference Room
- Oct 18, 9AM to 3PM, Poppy Day, Green Mount Lowe's
- Oct 19, 1PM, 5th Division Caucus, Post 137, O'Fallon
- Oct 22, 5 to 8PM, McAlister's Fundraiser, Shiloh Location
- Oct 27, 6:30PM & 8PM Meetings, 216 Service St, Swansea
- Oct 28, 7PM, VAC Meeting, 19 Public Square, Belleville, 1st Floor Conference Room
- Oct 31, Halloween. Please be safe and watch out for the kids!
- Nov 2, 1PM, 22nd District Caucus, Post 485, Dupo
- Nov 8, 9AM to Noon, Messinger Cemetery Clean Up
- Nov 11, Veterans Day

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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

Post Email:
ILLEGIONPOST2007@gmail.com

STILL SERVING AMERICA

DID YOU KNOW (CONTINUED)

Your Veterans Assistance Commission

The Veterans Assistance Commission of St. Clair County (VAC) is formed under Military Veterans Assistance Act (MVAA) as an independent unit of local government. Our Commission is governed by Primary and Alternate delegates of the federally (and now state) chartered veterans service organizations located in St. Clair County that have been accepted as Member organizations.

Our Veterans Service Officers are fully accredited with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) through the National Association of County Veterans Service Officers (NACVSO). Each of our VSOs complete annual continue education in which to maintain their accreditations. Additionally, several of our VSOs carry accreditation with various other VA recognized organizations.

The VAC meets monthly on the last Tuesday of each month. The Commission meetings are open to the public and conform to the Open Meetings Act.

Our Post is represented on the Commission by Kori Bookman (Alternate Delegate) and myself (Commission President)

Do you or someone you know need help filing a claim, how about financial aid? If the answer is yes, call and make an appointment with the VAC, 618-277-0040.

The VAC is there for you!



TID BITS

1862 US President Abraham Lincoln issues preliminary Emancipation Proclamation, threatening to free all enslaved people in the rebel southern states if those states fail to re-join the Union by January 1, 1863

1925 New York left fielder Ben Paschal hits 2 inside-the-park-home runs as the Yankees score an 11-6 home victory over Chicago White Sox

1950 Omar Bradley promoted to rank of 5-star general in the United States Army

2006 The F-14 Tomcat retires from the United States Navy

Every year the Post required to submit a Consolidated Post Report (CPR). This report is submitted to the Department and to National in late May or June. This report "captures" what our membership has done for the year. Things that we can and should report are: pints of blood donated, hours donated to veterans, hours donated for community service, monetary donations, and much more. Recently, Todd, Joe, and Steve have worked to repair a door for the school house at Messinger. These many hours count! The hours doing clean up count! You may be doing things outside of Legion functions, it may count! Please annotate what you do between the meetings and see if they can be used for the report. We all do something outside our meetings, let's capture it!

Commander Out

Jim Page