



Buckeye Boys State

HAPPY 76th ANNIVERSARY TO AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE

Happy 76th Anniversary to the founding of American Legion Boys State!

The American Legion Boys State Program is among the most respected and selective educational programs of government instruction for high school students. Boys State was founded to counter the Young Pioneer Camps of the 1930s in socialist countries, where boys of high school age were being taught that democracy had outworn its usefulness and should be replaced by Communism. Two Illinois Legionnaires, Hayes Kennedy and Harrold Card, are credited with founding the American Legion Boys State. Hayes Kennedy at the time was Illinois Department Americanism Chairman and law instructor at Loyola University Law School, and Harrold was serving as Illinois Department Boy Scout Chairman and was a high school educator. The first Boys State was conducted at the Illinois State Fairgrounds, Springfield, Illinois, in June of 1935. There were 217 young men who met at the Illinois Fairgrounds, where recently cleaned and disinfected cow barns housed the program.

We encourage you to take the time, in each of your programs this coming year, to acknowledge the founding of this premier youth program that remains so very vital in the development of young men who hold our nation's future.

For God and Country
Dennis Clausing
Department of Ohio
Commander

Post 276, Boys State and Girls State

Navy-Marine Post 276 has been supporting Buckeye Boys State for many years. For the last two years we have been going to Beechcroft High School for our Delegates. Beechcroft is a source of top notch young men and young women but with out having an Auxiliary Unit we left the responsibility of obtaining delegates for Buckeye Girls State to other Auxiliary Units. Other Units, however, have all of the schools in Franklin County that they can handle. So we will pickup the responsibility of offering the young ladies of Beachcroft an opportunity. In June of 2011 we will be sending two delegates to Buckeye Boys State and two to Buckeye Girls State. Years ago we had an Auxiliary Unit and a member of that Unit, Agnes Merrit, the Mother of our Immediate Past Commodore Croft Merritt, was instrumental in developing the rules and structure of Buckeye Girls State. So it is appropriate that we continue our support of this great program



Commodore's Notes

I will be working with the counselor of Beechcroft High School to select our delegates for Buckeye Boys and Buckeye Girls State. This is a tough process because there are so many great kids at Beechcroft.

By the time you get this newsletter we will have had our 12th District Four Chaplains Service celebrating the selfless service of the Chaplains of the USAT Dorchester that was sunk by a German U-boat in 1943. This value of selfless service has been a core principle of the American Legion since it's formation in 1919.

Membership is what it takes to do our programs. Go out and find a new member

Earle Bailey - Commodore

Commodore@alohio276.org

Officers

Commodore:	Earl Bailey
1st Vice Commodore	Rick Rozzell
2nd Vice Commodore	Norm Woehrl
Paymaster	Steve Ebersole
Surgeon	Bill Eberle
Master-at-Arms	Don Wojciechowski
Chief Yeoman	Steve Ebersole

1st Vice Commodore

The holidays are past and hopefully everyone is enjoying the New Year. In Columbus that has been a little cool but what can you expect? As we approach the middle of winter, we also approach an ominous deadline. Our recruiting year is about to end and we have not reached our goal of 62 members. We therefore need everyone to beat the bushes hard for anyone with Naval Service time to join our Post.

I would also like to encourage everyone attend our monthly business meetings at AmVets Post 89 on Westerville Road. Elections are approaching and will present an opportunity to get your views before our leadership.

Croft Merrit has lead Post 276 for many years and now has heard the call of warmer weather. We wish him the best in Florida and hope to see him up north again soon.

Rick Rozzell - 1st Vice Commodore

1stVice@alohio276.org

Chief Yeoman's Desk

We have until the end of May to meet our membership quota. I know it's hard to believe that just two and a half years ago we were considering turning in our Charter. Last year we had 61 members and we have 54 at this time. Let's beat our quota, go out and recruit a new member.

Our Legion District will be the home district for the Department Convention this year. During the Independence Day weekend we will be hosting American Legion Delegates from all over the state of Ohio. We will be highlighted in the Red, White and Boom Parade. Join us in marching in the parade to show the folks of Ohio who we are. We will have two floats and will be lead by the Legion Riders from Central Ohio. Plan on attending the Convention as we will be setting the policy of the American Legion of the Department of Ohio.

Steve Ebersole - Chief Yeoman / Paymaster

ChiefYeoman@alohio276.org

www.ALOHIO276.org

Check out the Website.

This newsletter is printed every 3 months. This is your newsletter so send your articles to newsletter@alohio276.org or get them to Steve Ebersole. Deadline for articles for the next newsletter will be April, 24th.

Join the American Legion Navy-Marine Post 276 and the Marine Corp. League, Belleau Wood Detachment on the third Saturday of the month for breakfast before the General Meeting. Amvets Post 89 starts serving at 8:00 AM and the cost is between \$4 and \$5. Cooked to order. The meeting starts at 9:30 AM

Calendar

Sunday, February 6, 6:00 PM - 12th District 4 Chaplains Service, 210 Obetz Rd, Cols. OH
Tuesday, February 8, 7:00 PM, 12th Dist meeting for Dept. Convention, Southway Post 144
Saturday, February 19, 8:00 AM – Breakfast at Amvets 89
Saturday, February 19, 9:30 AM – Post General Meeting
Tuesday, February 22, 7:30 PM, 12th District Meeting, Malcolm Jeffery Post 465
Monday, March 7 – American Legion Birthday (92 years)
Saturday, March 19, 8:00 AM – Breakfast at Amvets 89
Saturday, March 19, 9:30 AM – Post General Meeting
Sunday, March 27 – U.S. Navy Birthday
Tuesday, March 29, 7:30 PM, 12th District Meeting, Southway Post 144
Saturday, April 16, 8:00 AM – Breakfast at Amvets 89
Saturday, April 16, 9:30 AM – Post General Meeting
Sunday, April 17, 1:00 PM 12th District Spring Conference, Don Gentile Post 532

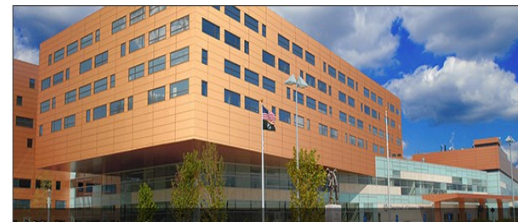
Veterans Should Seek Test For Hepatitis C

In 1969 I returned from duty in Vietnam. it was not until 1987, eighteen years later, that symptoms of the disease showed up and I was diagnosed with Hepatitis C. The Veterans Administration confirmed the problem and subsequently treated me, albeit unsuccessfully, for the Hepatitis C virus. Recently I was granted a VA Hepatitis C disability as a result of "working as a physician (dentist/oral surgeon working under combat conditions)" during my tour of duty in Vietnam 1967-69. Hepatitis C is a life-threatening condition that affects an individual's liver and might not exhibit any outward symptoms that are easily diagnosed by any means other than specific medical testing. There are tens of thousands of Vietnam veterans; physicians, dentists, medics, corpsmen and blood -transfusion recipients who have hepatitis C and are unaware of this condition. The VA has taken some steps to inform all veterans that they might have been affected by exposure to Agent Orange while in Vietnam. Many veterans may be far less aware of the dangers of Hepatitis C and the fact that they might have contracted the disease during their serving in Vietnam or military service. Studies suggest that 10 percent of all VA veterans have Hepatitis C and , of this group, more than 60 percent are Vietnam veterans. All Vietnam veterans should register with the VA and request that they be tested for Hepatitis C. Should any veteran have a question concerning this matter, please contact **the Coalition For Veterans** by sending an e-mail to me and/or come to a meeting of the Navy Marine American Legion Post 267.

Dr. Dennis M. Agin LCDR USN-Ret
n8iln@att.net

VA Parking Addition

The new parking addition has been completed at the Chalmers P. Wylie VA Clinic. The new parking is across the entrance drive, south of the Clinic. There is now free valet parking available. Tipping is discouraged.



Solving The Homeless Vet Problem

When the Honorable Eric K. Shinseki, Secretary of Veterans Affairs took office in January of 2009, he promised that within five years there would be no homeless veterans. The Chalmers P. Wylie Clinic will be making 50 units for veteran housing in June of this year at Livingston and Burnett which is just a few blocks east of the Bexley Post 430. They plan to have an additional 50 units available within the next couple of years.

Department Convention, 2011

The Department of Ohio Convention will be held from July 1 through July 3 in Columbus. The Hyatt on Nationwide Boulevard will be the convention hotel. This means that the 12th District will be the hosting district and some of our posts will be having special events. We will be participating in the Red, White and Boom parade on Friday. The Department of Ohio will have two floats and Central Ohio Legion Riders and anyone who wants to march. We will need lots of help. We will have guests from throughout Ohio, Legionnaires, Auxiliary and SAL members. We will need hosts to provide information and directions to local sites, restaurants and pubs.



There will be several meetings between now and then for organizing, planning and stuffing information bags to be handed out. Our next meeting will be at Southway Post 144, on Tuesday, February 8 at 7 p.m. For future schedules watch the District Web site at www.alohio12.org.