

American Legion
Michigan Department
Americanism Report for Sept. 2020

The following is a report of activities for the Americanism Committee for 2020.

- A. The sub committee for scouting is active and has planned the second annual scout camporee on Oct. 16-18 at Wilwin Cygnet Cove. The Eagle Scout of the Year award went to Eagle Scout Thomas Witten of Troop 360 Auburn Hills. No Square Knot awards were granted.
- B. The sub committee for Law & Order reported that Law Officer of the Year was awarded to Conservation Officer Jeffery Grinn of Newaygo, MI, the Fire Fighter of the Year Award went to Jeremy Kurek of Dearborn Hts., MI.
- C. Junior Shooting Sports reported that the committee was meeting on line and that all competitions were canceled due to the covid virus but were able to start up again in September.
- D. A vote was held on line for needed committee action items with the following results:
 - 1. Approve Law officer of the Year nomination deadline date of 1/11/21. **6 approved; 0-Rejected.**
 - 2. Approve Firefighter of the Year nomination deadline of 1/11/21. **6 approve; 0-reject.**
 - 3. Approve Student Trooper application deadline of 5/17/21. **6 approve; 0-reject.**
 - 4. Approve the increase of the Student Trooper application fee to \$475 (previously \$390) to help offset the costs for MSP to run the Student Trooper School for us. **6 approve; 0-reject.**
 - 5. Approve the Square Knot Award Checklist to be on Department website and in paper form at Department HQ (to help folks send in their Square Knot applications to the proper people before it goes to National). **6 approve; 0-reject.**(With a committee quorum participating in the online vote, all proposals were approved)
- E. Due to the increase in the Americanism Committee composition a recommendation was made to increase the annual budget. Also, we are working on updating the Rules of Procedure to reflect the committee changes.
- F, All of our American Legion youth program volunteers are dealing with added training, background checks and increased restrictions. We appreciate all that department is doing to help in this area.
- G. A special thank you to all our committee members and for departments help and support to continue to carry on in support of our many American Legion programs during this unusual time of dealing with the restriction of the covid-19 virus.

Respectfully submitted,
Carl F. Atkinson
Americanism Committee Chair.