

THE AMERICAN LEGION ALASKA BOYS STATE

TO: ALL HIGHSCHOOL JUNIORS:

The 49th Annual American Legion Alaska Boys State Program will be held starting at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday June 2, 2012 through Friday June 8, 2012. This year's program will be held at Meier Lake Conference Center off Wasilla Fishhook Road near Wasilla. The Inauguration and Reception will be held on Friday evening June 8, 2012, beginning at 7:30 p.m. The Alaska Boys State Program is open to High School Juniors (**those who will be seniors during the 2012-2013 school year.**) and are at least 16 years of age and not over 18 years of age.

Boys State is an objective citizenship training program which includes individual responsibility to the Community, State and Nation. It is our earnest hope that each young man attending Boys State sessions will return to his Community a better citizen and that we will have aroused in him a desire to demonstrate this fact by his willingness to make contributions which will help to make his Community a better place in which to live. Boys State is **NOT** a recreational camp. The Boys State Program is for qualified male High School Juniors only.

Our American Legion plays a very important role in the development of the future leaders of this State and Nation. We take great pride in offering this program to the young men of Alaska.

THE APPLICATION PAGE IS FILLABLE; IT AND THE NOTICE PAGE HAVE TO BE PRINTED, SIGNED AND TURNED IN TO THE AMERICAN LEGION POST NEAREST YOUR SCHOOL.

<u>Anchorage Area</u>	Palmer Post 15	Haines Post 12	<u>Juneau</u>
Post 1, Post 21,	Wasilla Post 35	Sitka Post 13	Auke Bay Post 25
Post 28, Post 29,	Delta Junction Post 22	Wrangell Post 6	
Post 33, Post 34	Glennallen Post 27	Ketchikan Post 3	Valdez Post 2
<u>Fairbanks Area</u>	<u>Kenai Area</u>	Kodiak Post 17	
Post 11, Post 57	Kenai Post 20	Nome Post 19	
North Pole Post 30	Ninilchik Post 18	Bethel Post 10	
Homer Post 16	Seward Post		

WHAT IS BOYS STATE?

Boys State is a program of the American Legion developed from the concept that youth should be offered a better perspective of the practical operation of government; that the individual is an integral part and responsible for the character and success of his government. As such, it is an activity of high educational value, born out of a need for youth training in practical citizenship.

TO ELABORATE - Boys State is easily classified as a Leadership Action Program where qualified male High School Juniors take part in a practical government course designed to develop in the young citizens a working knowledge of the structure of government and to impress upon them the fact that their government is just what THEY make it.

TO SUMMARIZE - Boys State is an objective citizenship-training program, which inculcates individual responsibility to the Community, State, and Nation. It is operated on the basis of the political government organization existing in Alaska, including all levels from the Municipality to the State.

OBJECTIVE OF BOYS STATE

Quite naturally, a program of this scope encompasses many objectives all of which are important, but we outline those which we, of the American Legion, feel are the most important and for which we strive the hardest.

- A. To develop civic leadership and pride in American Citizenship: It is our earnest hope that each young man attending Boys State will return to his community a better citizen and that we will have aroused in him a desire to demonstrate this fact by his willingness to make his community a better place in which to live.
- B. To arouse a keen interest in the detailed study of our government: Here we desire to create more than just a passive interest, which will be born of the desire for knowledge.
- C. To arouse in the young citizen a determination to maintain our form of government: This we attempt to accomplish in many ways but primarily by bringing them into the full realization of how wonderful it is to be an American!
- D. To develop in the young citizens of Boys State a full understanding of our American Traditions and belief in the United States of America: Here we desire to impress upon the young mind, in the strongest manner possible, the glorious traditions which have made this country what it is today.

SPECIAL NOTE: The final two objectives need no embellishment in that they are taken from the immortal Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion.

- E. To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the Community, State, and Nation.
- F. To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of Justice, Freedom, and Democracy.

For more information, you can contact Bill Jacobi, The American Legion Alaska Boys State Director at 907 957 6103 or BJacobi680@aol.com