

THE STATESMAN

A Publication of American Legion Boys' State of New York, Inc. Volume 78, No. 2
Saturday, June 28, 2014



Citizens arrive for Boys' State 2014

Citizens traveled as long as nine hours by bus to attend this year's Boys' State conference. The earliest buses rolled in at 10 a.m.; the latest did not make it to campus until after 3 p.m. In all, more than 1,000 boys are participating in the 78th annual American Legion Boys' State of New York, Inc.

Colin Schmitt, a 2007 Boys' Stater who has gone on to work in national politics, presented Program Director David O'Brien with a check from the NYS Legislature for part of the \$150,000 in funding for New York State's Boys' State and Girls' State programs. The new funding was in part a result of the work Schmitt has done with state legislators.

The Orange County native, who went on to Boys' Nation and has since graduated from Catholic University in Washington, D.C., called on this year's citizens to "become the leaders of tomorrow" in their communities.



Boys' State Weather

Saturday, June 28

A high of 83° and a low of 60°

Partly cloudy

Chance of precip: 0%

Sunday, June 29

A high of 83° and a low of 63°

Partly cloudy

Chance of precip: 0%

-BING Weather

BOYS' STATE MENU

Saturday, June 28 LUNCH: Sloppy Joes, Potato Salad, Tossed Salad, Corn, Rice Crispy Treats | DINNER: Virginia Baked Ham, Au Gratin Potatoes, Diced Carrots, Tossed Salad, Dinner Rolls, Chocolate Pie | Sunday, June 29 BREAKFAST: Scrambled Eggs, French Toast Sticks, Sausage Patties, Home Fries, Fresh Fruit, Canned Peaches, Cold Cereal, Donut Holes

DAY ONE: Long ride with a wakeup call

Matthew Dunderdale 1020

Being given the opportunity to go to Boy's State is an unbelievable honor, but being a teenager, of course, I was concerned with simple little, almost nonsensical things.

I was nervous about leaving home with little contact whatsoever with my: parents, friends, family, girlfriend, etc.....

That all changed once I got on the bus, and I'm sure that many others experienced the same feelings. It's also a near guarantee that others had a harder time dealing with this sudden change in their everyday life.

I personally left from the Legion post in Fredonia, which is in Chautauqua County (Western, New York). We left Fredonia at around 8:30 A.M. and didn't arrive at Boy's State until around 1 P.M. This left the residents of our bus to have plenty of time to get acquainted with each other.

During the bus ride I completely forgot about all of my worries and started worrying if I would get roomed with someone I couldn't stand. Boy's State Day One was a wakeup call; the marching and drilling was something that I was completely unprepared for. After all, who can be prepared for a Marine screaming in your face?

Marines are trained to be intimidating, judging by the amount of yelling that they do. Where would we be as a country however, if not for the Marines?

I am looking forward to my week however, prepared to make the most out of the week. After all, Boy's State is what you make out of it, so get involved and have fun.

Don't sit in the corner and just "ride it out"!!!! Participate in anything that even moderately interests you. You might even find that you enjoy it.

Dreaming of Grandma's cinnamon rolls

Austin Wolcott 0202

"Anyone got the number for the crisis hotline?"

It's almost a guarantee that similar thoughts were in the minds of 99.9% of the brave high school juniors who stepped off the bus into the Saharan heat today.

I can say this because as I began to admire the lungs of the soldiers scaring the crap out of any lucky citizen who passed by, I began to daydream of swimming in the pool with an iced cap and a Caesar salad waiting for me on the deck.

I can't say I've dreamt of attending Boys State ever since I left the womb; I can't say I've been on pins and needles this past week with anticipation; I can't say I'm

in love with Morrisville. I can say, however, that this morning when I left the comfort of my home, I debated jumping out the car door as I pondered my decision to enter this program I knew very little about.

But in light of all these wonderful thoughts ranging from 5 o'clock this morning to 90 degrees this afternoon, I've begun to look forward to these coming days. As I realize the honor I've had bestowed upon me and all the rest of us here, I've begun to anticipate less of my grandma's cinnamon rolls on Sunday and anticipate more the coming of next Thursday....

Just kidding. I'm now excited to participate in this revolutionary government we like to call

Boys' State, and I am thrilled to be spending this small portion of my life that will remain with me until I eat dirt with such great guys.

So here's to a great time, lost voices, and sweat.

Let the adventure begin!

TIP OF THE DAY:

DRINK WATER!

Hydrate!

Keep your water bottle full, and empty it often!

Temps will be in the 90s this week.