



**The Richard H. Stewart, Jr.**  
**American Legion Post # 543**  
**St. James, NC 28461**  
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## **American Legion Post 543 Thanks St. James Service Club**

**Each summer The North Carolina American Legion and Auxiliary conduct a statewide “Boys’ and Girls’ State” leadership programs.**



**This year, St. James Post 543 and its partners Calabash Post 503 Auxiliary, the St. James Service Club, the Southport/Oak Island Kiwanis and Mark Bachara, were able to provide scholarships which allowed 7 Juniors from Brunswick County High Schools to attend.**

**<Pictured from left to right are: Chuck Blackburn, Past Commander Rick Sessa, St. James Service Club President Barbara Bliss.**

**At most Boys’ and Girls’ State programs, participants are divided into subgroups referred to as cities. The citizens of each “city” elect [municipal officials](#) and representatives to the mock [state legislature](#). Many programs also have a [county](#) level as well. The participants also elect state officials, such as [governor](#), [lieutenant governor](#), and other state officials. The mock legislature then meets to organize, elect leaders, and to pass bills, in a way similar to how the North Carolina State Legislature operates. In some states, programs tend to have a more traditional education focus, providing speakers and training throughout the week and then concluding with mock political functions. Other states take a more hands-on approach by running the mock government activities all week.**

*Please give photo credit to John Muuse*