



## The American Legion Department of Maine

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### Weekly Update



April 9, 2010

☺ **SMILE** ☺

**If you were arrested for being kind, would there be enough evidence to convict you?**

Congratulations to the following for achieving 100% in membership:

**Strong Post 78   Lebanon Post 214   N. Berwick Post 87   Lubec Post 65**

**Milo Post 41**

#### Department Testimonial

The Department Testimonial for Department Commander Andy Olson, Department President Lois Hubbard, and SAL Detachment Commander Bruce Pierce will be held Saturday, May 15, 2010 at The American Legion Post 5 in Waterville. Social hour will be at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 6:30 p.m., with program to follow. There will be entertainment in the canteen following the ceremony. Dinner choices are Roast Beef or Chicken Cordon Bleu with baked potato, peas, salad, rolls and cheesecake with strawberry topping for \$20 per person. Send check for dinner reservations to the Department of Maine, P.O. Box 900, Waterville 04903-0900 indicating your choice of Roast Beef or Chicken Cordon Bleu. Cutoff date for reservations is May 7, 2010. Tickets may be picked up at the door upon arrival. For anyone who may wish to stay overnight, please call the Fireside Inn and Suites at 873-3335 to make your hotel reservations, and don't forget to mention the **Legion**. Cost/night is \$59.95 (plus tax).

#### Annual Post Data Report

The deadline for the Annual Post Data Report for the 2011 Membership year is April 15th and at the present time we still have many posts that have not sent them in. Failure to get this report in by the deadline may cause the first 2011 renewal notice to be mailed with incorrect information. These posts are listed on the next page.

First District

55 Limerick  
56 York  
57 Old Orchard Beach  
87 No. Berwick  
96 Saco  
130 Bars Mills  
143 Wells  
159 Kennebunkport  
188 Eliot  
214 Lebanon

Second District

35 South Portland  
67 Bridgton  
86 Gray  
91 Yarmouth  
128 Standish  
142 Peaks Island  
152 Cape Elizabeth  
155 Naples  
212 Great Diamond Island  
215 Casco

Third District

10 Livermore Falls  
31 Auburn  
135 Sabattus  
150 Mechanic Falls  
153 Auburn  
158 Lisbon

Fourth District

28 Farmington  
61 Kingfield  
64 Phillips  
78 Strong  
120 Rangeley  
203 Weld

Fifth District

24 Rumford  
58 Buckfield  
82 Norway  
112 Oxford  
137 Fryeburg  
199 Peru

Sixth District

18 Vinalhaven  
30 Camden  
33 No. Haven  
110 Union

Seventh District

42 Damariscotta

Eighth District

202 Topsham

Ninth District

2 Augusta  
6 Hallowell  
40 Winthrop  
51 Oakland  
90 Togus  
132 Richmond  
181 Litchfield  
195 China  
205 Augusta

Tenth District

14 Fairfield  
122 Jackman  
141 Hartland

Eleventh District

43 Belfast  
50 Unity

Twelfth District

25 Bar Harbor  
63 Ellsworth

Thirteenth District

12 Bangor  
13 E. Millinocket  
75 Old Town  
77 Lincoln  
80 Millinocket  
84 Orono  
97 Howland  
105 Newport  
201 Dixmont  
211 Glenburn

Fourteenth District

29 Dover-Foxcroft  
53 Dexter  
92 Brownville Jct.

Fifteenth District

9 Machias  
59 Pembroke  
65 Lubec  
108 Jonesport

Sixteenth District

15 Caribou  
47 Houlton  
48 Washburn  
52 Oakfield  
118 Mars Hill  
121 Monticello  
187 Easton  
208 Masardis

Seventeenth District

133 Ft. Kent  
136 Stockholm  
145 Frenchville  
176 Eagle Lake  
180 St. Francis

**Past National Commanders'  
Leadership Awards**

There are a couple of awards that probably should be brought forward more. One is the Outstanding Post Commander Award and the other is the Outstanding District Commander Award. Both of these awards are presented to the respective recipient at department convention and are known as the Past National Commander's Leadership Award.

The District Commander award will be known as the Past National Commander William J. Rogers's Award and the symbol awarded will be a Roger's Ranger.

The Post Commander award will be known as the Past National Commander Anthony G. "Tony" Jordan Award and the symbol awarded will be a Tony's Tiger.

Both awards will be presented by Past National Commander Anthony Jordan and both Department Vice Commanders after they review all of the submitted nominees to determine the winners.

Each recipient will be notified by the Department Adjutant to confirm his/her presence at convention and he will also procure the awards to be presented.

Each of these awards has a submission date of no later than May 1. Please consider nominating an individual to be a recipient of one of these awards. As of this date, April 7, Department has not received any nominees for either of these awards. I know there are some individuals out there that are worthy of these awards and hope that others are also.

**Camp Tall Pines  
Clean-Up Day**

The annual Camp Tall Pines Clean-Up Day will be on Saturday, May 1, 2010 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Camp Tall Pines is the summer camp for the Maine Special Olympics and has been supported by The American Legion for over 40 years. The camp is located on Middle Range Pond just off Route 26 in Poland.

If you are available to help, just show up wearing work or painting clothes. There will be something for everyone to do – male, female – young, young-at-heart and the good looking. There will be cleaning, washing, painting, installing docks, raking the beach, picking and chipping brush, cutting trees, inventory of supplies and more. The American Legion/Auxiliary Camp Tall Pines Committee will host a luncheon cook-out for all who join them this day.

Please call 879-0489 prior to April 29, if able to volunteer. This helps plan for the right amount of food for lunch.

## District Meetings

**District 3 – Androscoggin:** April 11, Sabattus Post 135, 2 p.m.

**District 6 – Knox:** April 11, Thomaston Post 37, 3 p.m.

**District 13 – Penobscot:** April 11, Masonic Hall behind the Grange next to the Fire Station in Carmel, 12 noon lunch, 1 p.m. mtg.

**District 17 – N. Aroostook:** April 11, Eagle Lake Post 176, 1 p.m. dinner, Nominations

**District 15 – Washington:** April 11, Lubec Post 65, 2 p.m., nominations

**District 10 – Somerset:** April 12, Skowhegan Post 16, 6 p.m. refreshments, 6:30 mtg., elections

**District 2 – Cumberland:** April 13, Gray Post 86, 5 p.m., PC & PP night

**District 12 – Hancock:** April 13, SW Harbor Post 69, 6:30 p.m. dinner, 7:30 p.m. mtg.

**District 9 – Kennebec:** April 14, Richmond Post 132, 7 p.m.

**District 14 – Piscataquis:** April 17, Dover-Foxcroft Post 29, 6:30 p.m. supper, 7:30 mtg.

**District 11 – Waldo:** April 18, Unity Post 50, 2 p.m.

**District 5 – Oxford:** April 20, Rumford Post 24, 7 p.m., installation of District 5 and Post 24 Officers. A light meal will be served at 6 p.m. All Legion Family members are welcomed.

## What's Happening?

**Benefit Dance:** Apr. 9, Fairfield Post 14, 8 p.m. – 12 p.m. Benefit dance in honor of Sgt. Richard Parker (soldier killed in Iraq while on duty). Members and guests are welcome. \$4 cover charge, all proceeds for benefit. Come enjoy this night with music by Coyote Drifters. 50/50 Raffle and Chinese Auction

**Texas Hold'em Tournament:** Apr. 10, hosted by The American Legion, Stockholm Post 136, 11 a.m.

**Maine Tartan Day Celebration:** Apr. 10, The Maine Military Museum and Learning Center, 50 Peary Terrace, South Portland, 1 – 3 p.m. This event is free and open to the public. FMI, please call Dianne Bergstedt at 239-1118 or e-mail [dianne@thescotsinamerica.com](mailto:dianne@thescotsinamerica.com)

**Presentation on New VA Facilities in Bangor:** Apr. 11, Masonic Hall behind the Grange next to the Fire Station Hall in Carmel, 1 p.m. Bridget Brozyna, Supervisor of the Bangor VA Clinic will be giving a presentation on the new VA facilities being built in Bangor and what services will be provided. She will be speaking at the District 13 meeting. Also James Doherty, Staff Assistant to the Director of the VA facilities in Togus will be there to answer questions. This is an opportunity for those veterans in the greater Penobscot County area to be brought up to date on the new services that will be provided locally.

**The Portland Pirates Hockey:** Apr. 11, Cumberland County Civic Center, 4 p.m. The Portland Pirates want to recognize and show their appreciation for veterans, service members and their families with free tickets for the Portland Pirates game. Please visit the [www.rayrichardson.com](http://www.rayrichardson.com) website and fill-out the form online. The tickets are free to all service members, veterans and their families. On game day, visit the table with the Ray & Ted banner and provide your name and they will have your reserved tickets. Please be prepared to show some

type of identification to verify that you are a veteran or service member. The military appreciation event is focused for the entire family by providing complimentary tickets.

**Cumberland County Council Past Presidents and Past County Commanders and the Old First District Past Presidents and Past Commanders Night:** Apr. 13, Gray Post 86, Lewiston Rd., Gray. All are cordially invited. Social hour (downstairs) 5 – 6 p.m., followed by Boneless Prime Rib supper at 6 p.m. Chicken will be made available for those who cannot eat prime rib, if requested. Tickets are \$15; please mail reservations to Gray Post 86, Attn: Nancy True, P.O. Box 428, Gray 04039. You may also call 657-2661 or e-mail [dtrue5@maine.rr.com](mailto:dtrue5@maine.rr.com). **Reservations must be made by Apr. 6.** Please make checks payable to Gray Auxiliary Unit 86, Inc. Let's have a real nice turn-out for the Past Presidents and Past Commanders of Cumberland County Council and the old First District. District 2 will hold their meeting following the program at 8 p.m. The nomination of officers shall be held at this meeting. All post commanders are encouraged to insure that their delegates, alternates and members are in attendance.

**Maine Military & Community Network Event:** Apr. 15, at the Topsham Red Cross, 6 p.m. A discussion will be held on "What Will I Do For Support When the Naval Base Closes? and Resources for Service Members and Families". For more information please visit [www.MaineMCN.org](http://www.MaineMCN.org).

**Second Pocket Flag Ceremony:** Apr. 15, Seabasticook Valley Middle School in Newport, 9 a.m. This will be in tribute to the 286th. The Nokomis JROTC Color Guard will demonstrate the Flag Folding Ceremony, there will be a variety of music, members of the 286th will be joining us and a few speakers. Following this, students and attendees will be invited to create a message and fold a Pocket Flag which will then be distributed to deployed or deploying troops. This was a wonderful event last April and one that the students wanted to recreate. We welcome all veterans, family members and supporters. For more information, contact Kitty Mitchell at [kmitchell@rsu19.org](mailto:kmitchell@rsu19.org).

**Veterans Benefits Seminar:** Apr. 17, Stockton Springs Post 157, 5 Sandy Point Rd., just off Route 1 North. 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. The seminar is free. All veterans and spouses are encouraged to attend. Refreshments will be served. Questions may be directed to Commander Robert Hanish at 567-3391 ([rhanish@msn.com](mailto:rhanish@msn.com)) or Ed Burns, Seminar Coordinator at 567-6005 ([mentor@roadrunner.com](mailto:mentor@roadrunner.com)). RSVPs welcome.

**Potluck Supper:** Apr. 17, Palermo Post 163, 5 – 7 p.m. Cost is \$7.50, all you can eat. FMI, please call Bud Horridge at 993-2003. All are welcome.

**Benefit Spaghetti Dinner:** Apr. 24, Thomaston Post 37, 5 -7 p.m., spaghetti with garlic bread and pies for dessert. All proceeds go to the Iraq Star Foundation. Adults-\$7 and children-\$4.

**Breakfast:** 2nd Saturday of the month, Feb thru Oct, Palermo Post 163, 7 – 9:30 a.m., again all are welcome. The menu includes eggs to order, home fries, bacon, pancakes, french toast, fresh fruit, juice and coffee all for a donation of \$5.00, all you can eat. FMI, please call Bud Horridge at 993-2003.

**Orono Post 84 Raffle:** Henry Repeating Arms, Golden Boy, Boy Scout Centennial Edition. Tickets are \$10 each, 5 for \$40, or 15 for \$100. Only 500 tickets to sell. All proceeds benefit local Boy Scouts.

**Maine Military & Community Network Event:** May 6, Cary Medical Center, Caribou, 6 p.m. A discussion will be held on "To War and Back Again: Your Neighborhood Service Member Talks about Coming Home". For more information please visit [www.MaineMCN.org](http://www.MaineMCN.org).

**Donations**

**THANK YOU**

Winthrop Post 40

**THANK YOU**

**THANK YOU**

\$200 – Cemetery Flags

**Kudos**

The State of Maine Senate put into the official record of the Senate, two Senate Legislative Sentiments (SLS) honoring two more American Legion Posts of the Department of Maine for their work in supporting our troops and for their efforts in promoting the Blue Star Banner program of The American Legion. Sentiments SLS 451 and SLS 452 honored Post 153 Auburn and Post 186 Clinton. Congratulations to all.

Old Orchard Beach Post 57 for their donation of \$1,000 to the Captain Christopher Cash Scholarship Fund.

**Letters**

Friends:

Memorial Day is almost here, and so is the time of year where we remember those who have gone before us.

With Memorial Day 2010, your help is needed to remember our Maine Heroes who are buried in the three MVMC's. **We will gather at 9 a.m. on Saturday May 29<sup>th</sup> at the Civic Center Drive Cemetery and the Caribou Cemetery of the MVMC System to flag our fallen heroes.**

Again this year we need your help to place the flags so that we never forget the sacrifice given by these veterans when their country asked! While doing this you are making sure every veteran buried in the cemeteries has two visitors each year, and you could be one of those visitors. We need you and all your friends, young and old, to donate 2 hours to help remember these heroes. The feeling you will get in your heart from helping in this project will live within you forever. When you look out upon the green grass of the cemetery and see how the thousands of American Flags look, it will bring joy to your heart, that you were part of this great project!

So please if your Post - Unit - Squadron - Organization does one project this year, please help make this your project, even if you can only donate a few minutes or want to be the person to flag a special Veterans grave, join us. Please contact your schools - Scouts - 4H - OMK - Elks - Eagles - VFW - AmVets - DAV and all you know and ask them to join you and all of us to honor our Maine Veterans.

We will gather again on **June 1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9 a.m. (weather needs to be DRY) to remove the flags for use again another year.** The day will be announced on the day we put the flags out as best as we can! We really need help when we remove these flags after Memorial Day. It is a tough time because it is done mid week, and that limits volunteers who work or who are school age. So if you are free we sure could use your help.

Each year we lose around 700+ veterans who are buried within these cemeteries so the need for additional and replacement flags is always needed and appreciated. If you or your Post - Unit - Squadron, or group want to help but cannot get to the MVMC for this project, maybe you want to donate to the Flag Fund that is needed each year to purchase grave flags for these cemeteries. A special account has been set up for that purpose. **Send your donation to the Dept of Maine, PO Box 900, Waterville, ME 04903-0900, note Veterans Grave Flags.**

For God & Country  
Donald Simoneau

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sons of The American Legion Detachment News</b></p>
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The next Membership target is 90 percent by April 14. We have five days to get those transmittals in to Detachment in order to achieve the goal. Recruitment of new members is always important and I know our Detachment has a strong record in that area. The thing we need to work on here and now is renewals. It stands to reason that it is easier to renew a member than to find a new one. Our National goal is 85 percent renewal rate but we have been doing better, 87 percent just last year. If we improve upon that, we make it that much easier to achieve the big one, 100% by May 12.

The spring report packages have been sent out. If your squadron has not yet received theirs, please let me know as soon as possible. On a related note, The Detachment Adjutant is going on vacation and therefore the Detachment office will be closed for the next two weeks.

This week, we salute the Sons of Squadron 19, Sanford. They lost their Squadron Commander and an outstanding Son this year. Squadron Commander Arnold Pierce was called by the Supreme Commander of us all. The Sons of 19 are continuing on by the fine example that he set both in their program and the overall post program. There will be a bench installed outside of the post where Arney used to park his bike. There will be a dedication; the time and date are to be announced.

Post 92, of Brownville Junction is working on restarting their SAL. If you know anyone that is eligible up there, get them an application and in contact with the post. They plan to be up and running by the end of the month.

Post 5 Waterville will host a benefit concert on June 6 for the Homeless Veterans of Maine. Nashville recording artists; Debbie Myers, Sonny Perry and the Nashville North Band, and Maine Academy of Country Music founder Bob Elston and the Road Rangers Band will be performing live on stage from 11 to 4 p.m. SAL Squadron 5 will be selling hamburgers, hot dogs and chicken. There'll be a 50/50 raffle and a silent auction. Adult admission is \$10, under sixteen is \$5 and under five free. For more information, call Brian Danforth at 314-0222. Remember, this event benefits our homeless veterans. Let's support the Commanders'/President's joint project.

If your Squadron has an event and would like it in the SMILE or would like a Detachment visitor at your next meeting, contact me at [unclebru2@aol.com](mailto:unclebru2@aol.com).

Yours in service.  
Bruce Pierce, Detachment Commander.

**Auxiliary Corner**

Here we are in a new month and spring has truly arrived. April is CHILDREN & YOUTH month and the perfect time to put together items for backpacks for children who often move from home to home. These backpacks give them something to call their own. Contact Children & Youth Chairman Helen Audet at 657-5141 for more information

National President Rita will be visiting the Scarborough Veterans Home on Monday, 4/19/10 and will be enjoying lunch there. On Tuesday, 4/20/10 she will be touring The Rockland Coast Guard Base and taking a spin around the bay to view the "Rocky Coast" of Maine, followed by lunch at Rockland Post #1. Do hope many of you can join us during the President's visit.

This week, the Dept. of Maine is standing at 88 percent in paid memberships. You see, our "Circus Train" is moving toward "Station 100" at a steady pace, but I would ask each of you to make sure your Unit is at 100%. If not, work together to get ALL your members signed up for 2010. We are running short on time.

-----**WORKING TOGETHER BRINGS RESULTS**-----

**Lois M. Hubbard**  
**ALA President**  
**Email:misslois@mgemaine.com**

**1561 Mason Bay Rd.**  
**Jonesport, ME 04649**  
**TEL: 207-497-5949**  
**FAX: 207-497-5949**

Best Wishes,

Lloyd Woods,  
Department Adjutant

**CERTIFICATION FORM  
TOP RECRUITER AWARDS  
POST/DEPARTMENT/NATIONAL**

**\* POST ADJUTANT SENDS TO: DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS**

In Post No. \_\_\_\_\_, the TOP NEW MEMBER RECRUITER of membership enrolled for current membership year as of May 11, 2010, and transmitted to Department Headquarters is: **(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ POST NO. \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBER ID NO. \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of NEW MEMBERS enrolled (minimum 10): \_\_\_\_\_

(Attach list of names and ID numbers of new members [do not include transfers].)

**Next Highest New Member Recruiter (Make additional copies if needed)**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ POST NO. \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBER ID NO. \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of NEW MEMBERS enrolled (minimum 10): \_\_\_\_\_

(Attach list of names and ID numbers of new members [do not include transfers].)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Post Adjutant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**MAIL TO REACH DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS  
ON OR BEFORE May 11, 2010**