

THE LEADERSHIP LEDGER

Vol. 6 Issue 19
SEP. 25 2025

The American Legion, Department of Maine

5 Verti Drive, Winslow, Maine 04901-0727

www.mainelegion.org | legionme@mainelegion.org | 207-873-3229

www.facebook.com/TALDepartmentofMaine



Welcome to the 147th Edition of The Leadership Ledger. It includes Post, Department and National reports, leadership training events, upcoming conferences/conventions as well as rules and regulations pertaining to local, state and national laws. The Ledger is available by visiting the Department's website at mainelegion.org under "News & Events" or on the home page. If you have any information to be published in The Leadership Ledger, please forward to Dept. HQ via email at: legionme@mainelegion.org

District Meetings

Be Connected · Be Heard · Be Informed

OCTOBER 2025

District 1 – York: Oct. 11, Kezar Falls Post 123,
12:00 p.m., Nominations for Officers Begins

District 2 – Cumberland: Oct. 19, Windham Post 148,
2:00 p.m., Lunch at 1:00 p.m.

District 3 – Androscoggin: Oct. 20, Auburn Post 31,
6:30 p.m.

District 5 – Oxford: Oct. 15, Buckfield Post 58, 6:00 p.m.,
Pumpkin Pie After

District 13 – Penobscot: Oct. 5, Etna-Carmel Post 107,
2:00 p.m., Lunch at 1:00 p.m.

District 14 – Piscataquis: Oct. 18, Milo Post 41,
12:00 p.m.

District 15 – Washington: Oct. 12, Pembroke Post 59,
2:00 p.m., Meet and Greet at 1:00 p.m.

District 17 – Aroostook: Oct. 5, Frenchville Post 145,
1:00 p.m., No Meal



Fall Sweepstakes Raffle Drawn at Fall Conference
in Brewer, ME on Sept. 13, 2025

Richard O Wagner, Bath Post 21.....	\$1,500
Mike N Hirst, Winslow Post 178.....	500
Russell L Hubbard, Augusta Post 2.....	300
Bruce D Macomber, Auburn Post 153.....	200



Email & Text Scam Alert!

****Attention Legion Members****

Commander McKenzie and Don Allisot are **NOT** sending out emails requesting your time or asking for you to purchase gift cards! [Click Here](#) to see an example of a scam email recently sent to a Maine Legionnaire.

The links in these emails and texts are part of a phishing scam. **Please do not respond or click on the links, and do not use the email or texts they are using.** Past commanders are still being scammed as well. Some people are using the emails that they've received from the scammers thinking they are actually sending out emails to these commanders.

Please check the emails and phone numbers when you are sending out legitimate emails trying to reach past commanders or when sending group emails that include past commanders.

High School Oratorical Scholarship Program



Thomas College
180 West River Rd.
Waterville, ME 04901

February 14, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

****All contestants should plan to arrive between 8 and 8:30 a.m.****

Snow Date: February 21, 2026

All pertinent information regarding the HS Oratorical Scholarship Program has been submitted [via email](#) and **USPS Mail** to all schools and post adjutants & commanders. **Applications must be received at the Post level by Dec. 6. At the District level, applications for the WINNER ONLY representing your District should be submitted to Department HQ by Jan. 24 for the State Competition to be held Feb. 14.**

[Department of Maine HS Oratorical Scholarship Application](#)

[Department of Maine Oratorical Brochure](#)

[2026 Oratorical Official Rules](#)

[One Sheet Oratorical Program Flyer](#)

[Oratorical Promotional Brochure - National](#)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Volunteers are needed to help with the program (judges, tabulators, room monitors, etc.). Those who are interested are to please call Dept. HQ at 207-873-3229



COMMANDER'S PROJECT 2025-26

*Department Commander
Leroy McKenzie asks that each
Post and Legionnaire support his goal!*

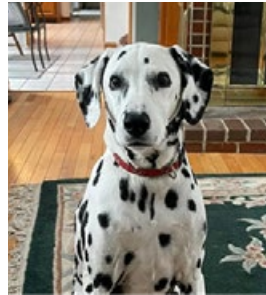
EMBER'S PAWS OF HOPE



EMBER'S PAWS OF HOPE: A nonprofit organization dedicated to providing emotional and mental support to veterans and first responders through the use of future certified therapy dog(s). Members of our team have a diverse background which include being trained in critical incident stress management and peer support, and we visit fire

stations, police stations, hospitals, and veterans facilities to offer comfort and companionship to those who serve our communities.

THE ANGEL: Ember was 9 weeks old when she moved in with Tim Nickels, the goal was to have Ember become a therapy dog. It was discovered that Ember was too attached to Tim but no one knew that would save him later on. Anytime Tim was having a hard day or a bad shift Ember would sit with Tim. Tim was diagnosed with PTSD in 2020, Ember wouldn't leave his side. Ember knew something was up. Tim became suicidal and made attempts to end his life. Ember stopped him at least three times. When the days were dark, Ember wouldn't let him leave without her.



THE PROJECT: National American Legion asks Departments to partner with local organizations to support BE THE ONE. Commander McKenzie has chosen to partner with Ember's Paws of Hope (EPOH), an organization committed to provide, comfort, support, and emotional healing to veterans and first responders through the unconditional love and companionship of therapy dog. EPOH is dedicated to enhancing the wellbeing of those who serve our communities and country, offering a source of solace in times of stress, trauma and hardship.

THE PLAN: We are asking all American Legion Posts and/or members to financially contribute to Ember's Paws of Hope. This new 501-c-3 needs funding to provide more trained therapy dogs and make more appearances to provide physical, emotional and social well-being to others in need.

Donations can be made to The American Legion Dept. of Maine, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, ME 04901-0727. Please place in the memo line of the check: Ember's Paws of Hope or Commander's Project 2025-2026

If you would like to donate with a Debit or Credit Card, please call 207-873-3229 or visit: www.mainelegion.org and click on the DONATE button.

Show Your Support to Maine Veterans by Donating Today & Make Your Name Part of American Legion History

Deadline for Submission May 15, 2026

DONATE \$25	DONATE \$50	DONATE \$100
Receive Challenge Coin & Name in Yearbook	Receive Challenge Coin, Lobster Lapel Pin & Name in Yearbook	Receive Challenge Coin, Lobster Lapel Pin, Name in Yearbook, & 2026 Convention Yearbook



Maine American Legion BE THE ONE Challenge Coin, left, and
Maine American Legion Lobster Lapel Pin, right.



Become a sponsor today by donating to the Maine American Legion Convention Yearbook Program and make your name part of The American Legion history! Your name will be listed in our 2026 Maine American Legion Yearbook made available in print and online in digital format by visiting www.mainelegion.org.

To donate with Debit/Credit Card, click the button below, or simply scan the QR code with your phone. You may also visit www.mainelegion.org and click on the Maine American Legion Convention Yearbook Donations Welcomed button. If donating by check, please make payable to The American Legion, Department of Maine earmarked "Yearbook Program" and mail to: The American Legion, Department of Maine, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, ME 04901-0727.

For more information, please call 207-873-3229 Ext. 2 or email rachael@mainelegion.org.



Q. What are four of the most distinctive facts about the West Point Military Academy?

★ ★ DONATIONS ★ ★

The American Legion Department of Maine

Commander's Project - Ember's Paws of Hope

Various People @ Fall Conference.....	\$523
Topsham Post 202.....	\$202
District 10 - Somerset.....	\$200
Madison Post 39.....	\$100
Joy Haddad.....	\$25

Oratorical

Caribou Post 15.....	\$150
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VA&R

James Nelson.....	\$50
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Thank You!

Maine American Legion College

Registration Now Open!

Oct. 24, 9:00 a.m. – Oct. 26, 3:00 p.m.

Location: Department Headquarters Training Center,
5 Verti Drive, Winslow.

The coursework prepares Legionnaires for leadership positions in posts, districts, and departments through education, development, and motivation. The curriculum challenges student leaders to think critically and creatively about issues confronting The American Legion. [Click Here](#) for more info on the training.

Prerequisites: Students applying must have completed The American Legion Basic Training Online Course and send the certificate of completion to jason@mainelegion.org by Oct. 15.

TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY, EMAIL:

jason@mainelegion.org

No cost to students, lunch provided.

Priority seating for Legion members.

Auxiliary and Sons, if there is space, can attend as well.

Received Your 2025 Labels But Haven't Donated Yet?

Label donations can be made online by [Clicking Here](#), scanning the QR code with your phone, or by visiting www.mainelegion.org and clicking on the "Donate" button. **Please be sure to notate "Labels" in the notes so we can identify your donation.** Thank you!



Label Donations over \$50 receive special donor gift(s) as our thanks to you:

Donate \$50-99 and receive a Distinguished Donor Lapel Pin

Donate \$100-149 and receive a Distinguished Donor Lapel Pin, AND the Challenge Coin

Donate \$150 or more and receive a Distinguished Donor Lapel Pin, a Challenge Coin, AND a Lobster Lapel Pin!



Celebrate the nation's semi-quincentennial by taking part in **The American Legion's USA 250 Challenge**

[Click Here to Register](#)

ABOUT THE CHALLENGE: The American Legion Family is honoring the nation's 250th birthday with a commitment to embracing physical activity, supporting mental health and serving its communities. The USA 250 Challenge encourages American Legion Family members, other veterans and all Americans to participate, and even raise additional money to support our disabled veterans and families in need through The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation.

The year-long initiative offers three categories — fitness, mental wellness and community service — in order to engage more American Legion Family members and others to participate.

Participants may engage in one, two or all three activities as an individual or as part of a team like an American Legion post, American Legion Auxiliary unit, Sons of The American Legion squadron and/or an American Legion Riders chapter.

For a \$30 registration fee, participants will receive their choice of a USA 250 Challenge tech shirt. The proceeds will go to the Veterans and Children Foundation (VCF).

[Click Here or See Pgs. 12-14 to View the Flyer for Ideas on How to Participate](#)

Plan Now for Homecoming 250 Navy, Marine Corps Events



Festivities, commemorations, exhibitions and more are scheduled in Philadelphia and Camden, N.J., for two big weeks in October and November.

A parade of historic Navy ships, tours of the vessels, air shows, music, ceremonies, a block party and more are planned as part of Homecoming 250 to celebrate the 250th birthday of the Navy Oct. 9-16 and the Marine Corps Nov. 7-11 in and around Philadelphia and Camden, N.J.

[Click Here to Learn More & Attend or Visit \[www.homecoming250.org\]\(http://www.homecoming250.org\)](#)

2026 Membership Renewal Schedule

Cutoff Dates	Renewal Mail Dates
May 14, 2025	July 1-8, 2025
September 10, 2025	October 4-10, 2025
October 15, 2025	November 8-14, 2025
December 10, 2025	January 3-9, 2026
February 11, 2026	March 1-8, 2026
April 8, 2026	May 2-8, 2026

Transmittals not received by the cutoff date may not prevent a subsequent renewal notice from being delivered at or around the renewal date. Please note, renewals transmitted and received by the cutoff (which is also a National Target Date) will be updated prior to printing renewal notices, assuming they can be successfully scanned. Membership that must be hand-keyed (new members and renewals that can't be scanned) will take longer to process. Please transmit as early and as often as possible in advance of the Target Dates to help avoid delays in processing.

2025-2026 National Membership Target Dates

Early Bird/NEF Kickoff	September 10, 2025	50%
Fall Meetings	October 15, 2025	55%
Veterans Day	November 13, 2025	65%
Pearl Harbor Day	December 10, 2025	75%
Mid-Winter	January 14, 2026	80%
President's Day	February 11, 2026	85%
Legion Birthday	March 11, 2026	90%
Children & Youth	April 8, 2026	95%
Armed Forces Day	May 13, 2026	100%
Delegate Strength	30 Days Prior to National Convention	

Target dates fall on the second Wednesday of the month unless there is a holiday on that day or at the beginning of that week. The October Target Date is moved a week to allow departments to participate in Fall Meetings without affecting membership processing for that week. Since Veterans Day falls on a Monday, the November target date will be on a Thursday.



SONS OF THE
AMERICAN
LEGION

Squadron Forms/ Applications

[Print a SAL Membership Application](#)

[Squadron Officers Form](#)

[Consolidated Squadron Report - fillable](#)

[Annual Squadron Data Report - fillable](#)

[Click Here for the Latest Membership Report](#)

District Awards

American Legion Jacket: Awarded to District Commanders who reach **100% by December 31, 2025**.

American Legion Ball Cap: Awarded to District Commanders who reach **100% by March 11, 2026**.

Highest District Overall Membership Percentage (1st Place - \$500 | 2nd Place - \$250):

Awarded to District Commanders who reach the highest overall membership percentage 30 days prior to National Convention (**July 29, 2026**).

Highest District Overall Membership Renewal Percentage (1st Place - \$500 | 2nd Place - \$250):

Awarded to District Commanders who reach the highest overall membership renewal rate 30 days prior to National Convention (**July 29, 2026**).

All District Incentive Awards must be verified by the District Adjutant.

**For more Information [Click Here](#) and find:
2025-26 Membership Goals & Awards Manual**

Membership **IMPACT** Reports

The American Legion's success depends entirely on active membership, participation and volunteerism. The following monthly reports located on: www.legion.org/about/reports/membership-impact provide a summary of membership, participation and volunteerism making an impact in the lives of veterans, families and communities. American Legion Posts can share the many ways Legionnaires are making a difference in their communities by [submitting consolidated post reports online](#). To visit the impact American Legion posts made throughout the year, visit: www.legion.org/about/reports or www.legion.org/about/reports/membership-impact

== ★ == **Attention: District** == ★ ==
Commanders & Adjutants

District Meeting Calendar Forms Available Online!

[Click Here](#) or visit:
www.mainelegion.org
under Forms/Application

Warrant Templates All Post/District Officer Positions

Available online at:

mainelegion.org or go to:

[www.mainelegion.org/pages/
formsapplications.php](http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/formsapplications.php)

It's fast *and* easy!

****Attention District Commanders and Post Adjutants****

**MyLegion.org training lessons
are available at State Headquarters.**

If you are interested in learning how to use the site,
please call The American Legion, Department of Maine
Headquarters at 207-873-3229 Ext. 2 or email rachael@mainelegion.org to set up an appointment.

Training lessons last between 1-2 hours.

Is Your Post Utilizing Its' Sales Tax Exemption?

All Legion Posts in the state of Maine qualify for Sales Tax Exemption. If your Post currently does not have a Certificate for Sales Tax Exemption, please call Dept. Headquarters for assistance at 207-873-3229 so we can send you a packet containing detailed instructions on how to obtain this status.



Member Engagement Ideas From the 21st Century Report

The online report shares best practices for The American Legion to continue to serve veterans, their family and community members.

The American Legion 21st Century Report focuses on three areas to ensure the organization continues to serve community, state and nation: Legacy and Vision; Membership and Member Engagement; and Training. It is to be implemented at all levels of the organization.

[Download the Report Here](#)

Honor Flight Maine Upcoming Charter Flight:

**Flight #4 from Bangor
International Airport
will be October 10-12th.**



All Maine Veterans interested in going on a trip should go to HonorFlightMaine.org to apply. The site also contains applications for those wishing to be Guardian for a Veteran and for Volunteers. Honor Flight Maine is an all volunteer organization.

QUICKLY & EASILY RENEW ONLINE TODAY!

Simply Scan the QR Code with
the camera on your phone or visit:
www.legion.org/renew



PAST COMMANDERS CLUB



PAST COMMANDERS CLUB

Please note that the annual dues for Past Commanders Club are \$5.00 per member. [Click Here](#) or visit www.mainelegion.org under Forms/Application to download an application. ***If you haven't paid your Past Commanders Club dues yet, please do so today!***

[See Page 10 for PCC Form](#)

The Maine Legionnaire [Click Here](#) to read the latest issue



Submission Deadlines

November 2025 Issue

Deadline: October 17, 2025

February 2026 Issue

Deadline: January 23, 2026

May 2026 Issue

Deadline: April 17, 2026

MILITARY TRIVIA

A. Originally named Fort Arnold, West Point was the site of the betrayal of Benedict Arnold, the name changed to Fort Clinton and it was officially renamed in 1802 as the United States Military Academy. West Point was the first American college to have an accredited civil engineering program, its technical curriculum became a model for other engineering schools, and it was also the first college to have class rings.



Purchase an American flag by The American Legion

[SHOP NOW](#)



Unable to Lower Your Flag?

Attaching this black ribbon to the top of a U.S. flag is an acceptable alternative for flags that cannot be lowered to half-staff.

[SHOP HERE](#)



Flag Display FAQ

[LEARN MORE](#)

Legionnaire Insurance Trust (LIT) No Cost LegionCare

Your valued status as a member of the Legion Family makes you eligible for LegionCare.



Current members only are entitled to the \$5,000 No-Cost-To-You Accident Insurance Protection. If your membership was expired at any point, you will have to sign up again to receive coverage.

[Click Here To Learn More and Sign Up](#)

Windows need replacing? You'll want to work with a company you can trust. Renewal by Andersen.

U.S. MILITARY MEMBERS AND VETERANS:
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We also offer an additional Military Discount to those who've served to say Thank You for your service & sacrifice. Call 855-993-5147 or [Click Here](#) for this great offer!

American Legion Cribbage Boards

Get your American Legion Cribbage Board in time for the holidays!

Purchase yours today at:

The American Legion
Department of Maine
Headquarters, 5 Verti Drive
Winslow, ME 04901-0727

\$30/each - Pickup Only
*Proceeds Support Warren
Post 218 Members*



FRONT



BACK



USAA is proud to be the Preferred provider of Insurance and Financial Services to The American Legion. Please visit usaa.com/legion or call 877-699-2654.



THE OFFICIAL MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PROVIDER
OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

The Annual Enrollment Period runs from October 15th through December 7th and we're here to help you understand your options as well as select the plan that best suits your needs.

Wellcare is honored and excited to be the exclusive Medicare Advantage partner to The American Legion. [Wellcare Medicare Advantage plans](#) work alongside your VA coverage to give you more of the things you both want and deserve. More access. More benefits. More support. With clear answers to every question you may ask, and a willingness to help in any way we can. It's more of everything you need with no extra costs.

If you have Medicare and Medicaid, limited income, recently lost employer coverage, are turning 65 or you've just moved, you may be eligible for one of many qualifying events that allow you to enroll now.

For straight answers and help evaluating your coverage options, call 877-880-8196 (TTY: 711) 8 a.m.-8 p.m., 7 days a week, scan the QR code or [click here](#).



Coverage You Can Trust, Service You Deserve.

The #1 Rated Home Warranty in America!

Exclusive Discount for Legionnaire Members: Get \$225 OFF + 3 FREE Bonus Months!

[Sign Up Today!](#)



As an American Legion Member, here's what you'll receive:

\$225 OFF Per Year!

- ✓ Up to 7 FREE bonus months
- ✓ FREE limited roof leak protection
- ✓ Fast, dependable repairs on covered systems and appliances
- ✓ 24/7 claims support with real-time tracking in our mobile app
- ✓ Service rooted in integrity, built for peace of mind

30-Day Money-Back Guarantee

How to Register for a MyLegion.org Account

Why Register for a [MyLegion.org](https://mylegion.org) Account?

Manage your account. View updated contact information and demographic information, manage subscriptions, view discounts, set up auto-renew, print your membership card, and other member-only tools.

Access MyLegion leadership tools. Manage post and squadron membership information, view reports, access materials and process memberships, along with how to assign others permission to use administrative tools.

BEFORE YOU REGISTER PLEASE READ

Register using the email on your membership record. Registering with a different email will not include membership details or officer/committee activity.

Do not register with a post, squadron, county, or district account. All MyLegion accounts are individual member accounts. Access to post and squadron membership management and online membership processing, reports and rosters are provided to members that hold an Adjutant or Commander position.

Do not share e-mails. Only one email can be registered. The same email on multiple records will allow only one registration. Other accounts with the same email will not be allowed to register.

To update or verify the email on your membership record contact your department headquarters.

How to Register a New Account

1. Go to [MyLegion.org](https://mylegion.org) and select "Register"
2. Enter email in the [Register window](#) and click "Next". Register with the email address on your membership record. Registering with an email other than the one on your membership number will not include membership details or officer/committee activity.
 - i. Mobile No (Optional) – no functions at this time. Future enhancement.
 - ii. Two-Factor Authentication –not recommended unless you wish to add extra security each time you log in. Setting two-factor authentication requires the password and a security code emailed with each log in.
3. Enter your Last Name, First Name and check consents and click "Next". [View](#)
4. Create your password in the [welcome window](#). - The email entered must be verified. The email is verified one of two ways.
 - i. Enter the OTP [sent to your email](#) and click "Finish Registration". This is sent after step 2.
 - ii. Do not enter OTP and click "Finish Registration". [An email will be sent](#) with a link to confirm and returns to the login page.
- 5 Click My Account from your myLegion home page view your membership information. Officers registering for post and squadron access will find that information on the My Account window.

[Click Here For More Resources on How to Use MyLegion.org](#)

National Regional Information Conference

Join us in Indianapolis, Indiana on Saturday, January 31, 2026 and Atlanta, Georgia on Saturday, February 7, 2026.

Attendees will gain valuable insights into Constitution & Bylaws, Post Operations, Be The One, and more, with sessions designed to enhance member engagement and leadership.

[Learn More & Register Now](#)

Register Now for the Service Officer Symposium

Oct. 19 - Oct. 24 at the National Conference Center in Leesburg, VA.

The American Legion is conducting its second annual DSO symposium to provide representatives with education, resources and tools to help veterans and their families obtain their benefits.

Service officers interested in attending must register by Oct. 3.

To register for the symposium, [use this link](#). For more information, contact Brandon McClain at bmcclain@legion.org or Tim Martinez at tmartinez@legion.org.

Training Tuesdays

The last Tuesday of each month American Legion National Headquarters staff will present 60 to 90-minute sessions on topics aimed at post commanders and adjutants. Each session will be recorded and made available for later viewing.

[Click Here to Watch Previously Recorded Sessions](#)

BE THE ONE

2025 TRAINING DATES

October 18 & December 20

The next training will be at Department Headquarters on October 18th with guest from the Department of New York and the National President in attendance.

Where: Dept. of Maine Training Room

5 Verti Drive, Winslow, ME 04901

For more details on the Be The One campaign

visit: betheone.org

To reserve your spot or for questions, email:

betheonedeptme@gmail.com

Humanitarian Committee Update:

I hope that everyone is doing well and feeling their best as we head into fall. I have a huge favor to ask! We need your support to find those in your community or throughout the state that are deserving of the Humanitarian Award. This award is awarded at our Annual Convention in June. Lately we have had one or two submitted. We CAN do better than this. We should be flooded with applications for this award. There are many people out there going above and beyond to make others' lives better.



What qualifies as humanitarian?

“Humanitarian action includes a wide range of activities, such as providing food, shelter, water, healthcare, and protection to those in need, as well as advocating for their rights and ensuring their participation in decision-making processes”.

Traits include: Selflessness, Compassion, Motivation, Communication, Insight, Open-mindedness, Flexibility, and Sensitivity.

Basically, anyone who improves the lives of others without expecting something in return.

Criteria: An American Legion Post must endorse candidates for the annual Humanitarian Award. Accomplishments of the individual must be over and above his or her usual vocation; in most cases his/her deeds would not be in his/her chosen field of endeavor; but consideration would be given to someone whose activities in his/her field of work was far in excess of what one would expect in that field. Applicants may be male or female, veteran or non-veteran, Legionnaire or non-Legionnaire. If there is a very close competition, a veteran should be chosen over a non-veteran, and a Legionnaire over a non-Legionnaire, all other things being equal. A majority vote of the Humanitarian Award Committee will be final.

Deadline for submission of nominations will be May 1 of each year. Please ensure that the entire application is complete and at least two letters of support from parties having actual knowledge of the candidate's activities must also be submitted with the form.

You can find the form on our website www.mainelegion.org under the tab labeled forms/applications. You will find the Humanitarian Award form under the award/nomination forms. We look forward to hearing from you and reading your submissions.

Until next time keep on doing the wonderful work you all do for veterans and our communities!

PDC Tricia Thurston
Humanitarian Committee Chairperson



Shop Legion apparel, flags, accessories, and more at Flag & Emblem.



Membership Tools to Support Youth

Americanism program one-pagers, videos, school awards and comic books engage youth.

Americanism program one-pagers. A one page printout about American Legion Boys Nation, Junior Shooting Sports Program, Oratorical Contest and Legion Baseball are [available here](#) under each program. As American Legion youth programs begin ramping up for the 2025-2026 season, American Legion posts can print these flyers and deliver to local schools to hang in classrooms, or Legionnaires can hand them out at youth sporting events and community events.



American Legion School Medal Award. The award is given to a boy and a girl in the graduating classes of elementary school, junior and senior high school, and college who exemplify six qualities that define character: courage, honor, leadership, patriotism, scholarship and service. School Award Medal certificates, medallions and a lapel pin are available [for purchase](#) for presentation to the awardees. [Download the School Medal Award brochure.](#)

Youth comic books. [“I Pledge Allegiance”](#) is an interactive activity book for elementary students that educates on why we recite the Pledge of Allegiance, what each word means, and why our flag is important. The comic book features an American flag for kids to color, a set of pictures that asks students to put an X where people are showing allegiance to the flag, a blank box to draw what freedom means, space to write in our freedoms, a connect the dots and a matching game. [“Our Country's Flag”](#) is a story about how the U.S. flag inspired four friends to lead different careers – a teacher, congresswoman, police officer and Army nurse. The comic book also walks youth in ways they can show what freedom means to them such as paying respect to the flag by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, respecting and obeying the law, and volunteering for public service. And it gives examples of how to treat the flag with respect.

Videos. The less than 3-minute videos for the [National Oratorical Contest](#), [Boys Nation](#), [Junior Shooting Sports Program](#) and [Legion Baseball](#) highlight the organization's premier youth programs for posts and Legionnaires to share. A combined video of all four programs is [online here](#).

HOMELESS VETERANS MOBILE STAND DOWNS



Connecting homeless & at-risk veterans to:

Housing resources, benefits, healthcare services, employment & training opportunities, personal care items, winter clothing, haircuts, food, & other community resources!

OCT. 8

10 A.M. - 2 P.M.

**TRI COUNTY CAREER CENTER
45 OAK STREET, BANGOR**

OCT. 15

10 A.M. - 2 P.M.

**VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK
2-20 MAIN STREET, LEWISTON**

OCT. 29

10 A.M. - 2 P.M.

**HANNAFORD
295 FOREST AVENUE, PORTLAND**

NOV. 5

10 A.M. - 2 P.M.

**MILL PARK
2-32 ME-104, AUGUSTA**

Thank you to our participating resources & sponsors:

Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services, VA Maine Healthcare System, VA Maine Homeless Veterans Program, Veterans Benefits Administration, Vet Center, Maine Veterans in Need, Veterans Forward / Fedcap Veterans, Veterans Inc., VFW, Elks Lodge, Maine DOL CareerCenters, Sport Clips, Preble Street, Boothbay V.E.T.S. Trailers, American Red Cross, Veterans Upward Bound, Health Affiliates of Maine, Masonic Charitable Foundation, Hannaford, Wabanaki Public Health & Wellness, Volunteers of America NNE, Operation Brotherhood, & more!

Maine Bureau of
Veterans' Services
Homeless Veterans
Coordination Team:
207-287-7019
HVC.MaineBVS@maine.gov



Maine Bureau of
Veterans' Services

Maine Veterans' Benefits
and Resource Guide
Scan QR Code:



Post Service Officer Training

Presented by Department Service Officer Carl Curtis

Join us for training, free of charge, to learn more about the benefits afforded to veterans and dependents and to learn how to serve as valuable resources to veterans in your community.

Upcoming Training Dates:

- Tuesday, October 28
- Saturday, November 15

[Click Here For More Info & View Training Flyer on Page 11](#)



DEPARTMENT OF MAINE THE AMERICAN LEGION

PAST COMMANDERS CLUB

It is with great pride and pleasure that we the membership of Post # _____ submit the names of all our living Past Commanders for membership to the Past Commanders Club. Along with the names, we have enclosed the annual dues of **\$5.00** per member with the understanding that this will continue to provide two (2) \$500.00 scholarships. The recipient must be the son/daughter, grandson/granddaughter of a member of The American Legion.

Membership in the Past Commanders Club goes from January 1 to December 31 of each year.

Post Adjutant

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

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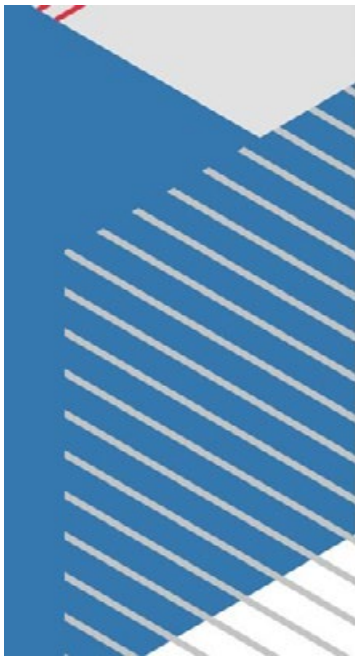
Use back side if additional space is required.

SUBMIT TO:

The American Legion, Dept. of Maine
5 Verti Drive
Winslow, Maine 04901-0727

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
PAST COMMANDERS CLUB**

Past Commanders Club form is also available in fillable format by visiting www.mainelegion.org/pages/formsapplications.php



Post Service Officer Training

Presented by Department Service Officer- Carl Curtis

Department Service Officer Carl Curtis has announced four training dates for Post Service Officer training.

A Post Service Officer (PSO) is a very important volunteer position in your post. They are often the first Legionnaire your post members or dependents turn to for help with veteran benefit issues. The PSO's primary duty is to serve as a link between the veteran or dependent and an accredited Veteran Service Officers (VSO) in the Department of Maine.

Join us for training, free of charge, to learn more about the benefits afforded to veterans and dependents and to learn how to serve as valuable resources to veterans in your community.

Tuesday, 29 April

Saturday, 20 September

Tuesday, 28 October

Saturday, 15 November

All training will be at the training center at
Department Headquarters (5 Verti Drive, Winslow) with a 10 am start.

Email the Department Adjutant to reserve your seat: Jason@Mainelegion.org



American Legion Family USA 250 Challenge

The American Legion Family is honoring the nation's 250th birthday with a commitment to embracing physical activity, supporting mental health and serving its communities. The USA 250 Challenge encourages American Legion Family members, other veterans and all Americans to participate, and even raise additional money to support our disabled veterans and families in need through The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation.

American Legion National Commander James LaCoursiere launched the USA 250 Challenge on July 3, 2025. The year-long initiative offers three categories — fitness, mental wellness and community service — in order to engage more American Legion Family members and others to participate.

Participants may engage in one, two or all three activities as an individual or as part of a team like an American Legion post, American Legion Auxiliary unit, Sons of The American Legion squadron and/or an American Legion Riders chapter.

For a \$30 registration fee, participants will receive their choice of a USA 250 Challenge tech shirt. The proceeds will go to the Veterans and Children Foundation (VCF).

Click here to [REGISTER](#)

Since its inception in 1925 as the American Legion Endowment Fund, the foundation has assisted millions of veterans, their families and children in need. In 2019, the American Legion Endowment Fund began doing business as the American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation to more clearly state who benefits from tax-deductible donations to the separate non-profit 501c3 element of the nation's largest veterans organization.

The USA 250 Challenge – What Can I do? *

AMERICANISM

Promoting patriotism, civic education, and national pride

- Host a 250-minute patriotic concert
- Plant 250 flags around town
- Distribute 250 American flags to local homes
- Paint a community mural with 250 symbols
- Host 250 minutes of civic education
- Light 250 candles in a remembrance ceremony
- Display 250 historical photos
- Launch a 250-follower challenge on social media
- Have a 250-question trivia night
- Display 250 stars with names of fallen heroes
- Share 250 reasons to love America online
- Conduct a 250-minute POW/MIA vigil
- Post 250 American facts leading to July 4
- Host 250 flag-folding demonstrations
- Invite 250 youth for a flag retirement ceremony
- Decorate 250 gravestones for Memorial Day
- Visit 250 senior veterans
- Display 250 coins from history
- Play 250 seconds of taps each evening
- Host a 250-step honor march
- Display 250 state flags from history
- Present 250 flag etiquette cards
- Lead 250 youth in a unity pledge
- Conduct a 250-vote mock election
- Share 250 quotes from the Founders
- Post 250 patriotic memes
- Offer 250 military discounts

VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION

Supporting veterans, caregivers, and their well-being

- Organize a 250-veteran parade
- Hold a 250-donor blood drive
- Collect 250 care packages for deployed troops
- Sponsor 250 free meals for veterans
- Collect 250 hygiene kits for homeless vets
- Offer 250-minute veteran oral history marathon
- Deliver 250 thank-you cards to veterans
- Create 250 buddy check calls
- Share 250 stories from NM veterans
- Deliver 250 thank-you gifts to first responders
- Gather 250 military patches for a display
- Showcase 250 photos of Legionnaires in action
- Host a 250-military unit reunion
- Offer 250 free rides to VA appointments
- Promote 250 veteran businesses
- Recognize 250 women veterans
- Display 250 dog tags to honor service
- Record 250-second veteran stories
- Fund 250 hours of therapy support
- Celebrate 250 birthdays of youth & vets

- Record 250 intergenerational interviews
- Gift 250 lap quilts
- Highlight 250 women in uniform

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Engaging youth and supporting families

- Host a 250-kid youth sports day
- Assemble 250 blessing bags for shelters
- Donate 250 books to a school or library
- Have 250 rocks painted by schoolkids
- Create a 250-penny drive for youth programs
- Host a patriotic coloring contest with 250 entries
- Run a 250-student essay contest
- Host a 250-youth scavenger hunt
- Print 250 coloring sheets
- Offer 250 youth flag pins
- Invite 250 youth to a flag retirement
- Run a 250-word essay contest
- Create 250 sidewalk chalk tributes
- Lead 250-second youth civics lessons
- Build 250 Lego flags
- Plant 250 sunflowers at schools
- Present 250 student flags
- Lead 250-step PE challenges
- Create 250 paper chains of patriotism
- Encourage 250 students to write to vets
- Host a 250-student Constitution Day
- Offer 250 student leadership awards
- Host a 250-point spelling bee
- Display 250 posters from students
- Build a 250-block community puzzle
- Launch a 250-mile classroom walkathon
- Share 250 student veteran tributes
- Craft 250 star pins
- Run a 250-youth citizenship workshop
- Invite 250 parents to Post open house
- Create 250 student art cards
- Sponsor 250 youth meals
- Host a 250-family carnival
- Sponsor 250 scouts
- Offer 250 music lessons or instruments
- Deliver 250 educational posters
- Organize a 250-item backpack drive
- Offer \$250 in school supplies per school
- Post 250 "Know Your Rights" cards
- Fund 250-mile trip for students
- Coordinate 250 volunteer youth hours
- Share 250 reasons to serve
- Host a 250-person youth talent show
- Donate 250 flags to classrooms
- Display 250 crayons for freedom wall
- Offer 250 student merit badges
- Build 250 classroom kits
- Invite 250 homeschoolers to Legion event

NATIONAL SECURITY

Readiness, response, and safety

- Host 250 minutes of service challenge
- Organize 250 hours of community service
- Deliver 250 thank-you gifts to first responders
- Conduct 250 hours of VSO outreach
- Host 250-minute open house tours
- Display 250 military rank insignias
- Promote 250 veteran businesses
- Send 250 cards to deployed NM troops
- Offer 250 free rides to VA appointments

Post and District-level celebrations, fundraisers, and membership drives

- Host a 250-person BBQ
- Perform 250 random acts of kindness
- Serve 250 hot dogs at a picnic
- Display 250 Legion memories on a wall
- Create a 250-member goal
- Print 250 custom 250th t-shirts
- Give away 250 souvenir cups
- Host a 250-slice pie bake-off
- Sell 250 raffle tickets
- Host 250 minutes of karaoke
- Create a 250-themed bingo night
- Decorate with 250 red, white & blue balloons
- Make a 250-bead necklace craft night
- Host a 250-follower photo contest
- Create a 250-brick fundraiser for a memorial
- Install a 250-light display
- Display 250 flags along your building
- Organize a 250-minute dance
- Make a 250-word patriotic poem board
- Host a 250-minute movie marathon
- Give away 250 bracelets
- Have a 250-point trivia game
- Prepare 250 cupcakes
- Post 250 names of members on a wall
- Launch a 250-follower campaign
- Decorate with 250 streamers
- Host a 250-guest open house
- Display 250 Legion patches
- Create a 250-names legacy wall
- Host 250-minute dominoes tournament
- Serve 250 servings of chili or stew
- Sell 250 commemorative coins
- Paint a mural with 250 brush strokes per student
- Host a 250-dollar silent auction
- Award 250 service pins
- Collect 250 old Post newsletters
- Share 250 veteran quotes
- Decorate your post with 250 stars
- Set a goal for 250 volunteer hours

Preserving heritage and promoting The American Legion legacy

- Fundraise \$250
- Plan a 250-mile motorcycle tour
- Conduct 250-mile Freedom Ride
- Host a District 250 Night of Honor
- Send 250 letters to schools
- Print 250 commemorative calendars
- Compile 250 Legion essays in a booklet
- Print 250 memory books
- Host a 250-minute podcast
- Record 250 family military legacies
- Launch a 250-second history shorts
- Share 250-second videos from Posts
- Host a 250-light tribute event
- Create a Department of Maine 250 Honor Roll
- Sell 250 branded lapel pins
- Offer 250 legacy bricks
- Display 250 family service photos
- Make a 250-honor coin display
- Launch a "250 Strong" Legion campaign
- Partner for 250 business flags
- Hang 250 ribbons of remembrance
- Collect 250 letters from alumni
- Add 250 names to a memorial plaque
- Print 250 posters for statewide use
- Launch a 250 seconds of unity challenge
- Send 250 email tributes
- Issue 250th anniversary medals
- Design 250-badge scout patch
- Compile 250 Post newsletters
- Host a 250-mile American history tour
- Make a 250-Year Timeline Wall
- Conduct 250-minute strategic planning
- Distribute 250 "How to Join" kits
- Give out 250 "I Served" stickers
- Celebrate 250 Legion birthdays
- Hold a 250-minute livestream
- Send 250 thank-you texts to volunteers
- Create 250-minute legacy video
- Sponsor 250 wreaths for holidays
- Design 250 patches for riders
- Mail 250 invitations to alumni

*Ideas compiled by Department of New Mexico and
National American Legion