

THE LEADERSHIP LEDGER



The American Legion Department of Maine High School Oratorical Scholarship Program

Thomas College, 180 West River Rd., Waterville, ME
February 10, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

All contestants should arrive between 8 and 8:30 am

(Snow Date: February 17, 2024)

For More Information Please Visit:
<https://mainelegion.org/pages/programs/oratorical.php>

ATTENTION ADJUTANTS & COMMANDERS

The Annual Post Data Report forms have been mailed. Please fill out the form accordingly, making sure your Post Dues rate reflects **\$41 or more**. Mail the form back to Dept. HQ as soon as possible but **no later than April 15th**, or e-mail: legionme@mainelegion.org.

Note: In the next couple of weeks, please expect to receive the Consolidated Post Report (CPR), Post Officers Form and Notification of Post/Squadron Commanders & Adjutants Form, including instructions relating to submission information and Deadline requirements.

For more information please call Department HQ
@ 873-3229.

Thank you for your prompt reply!



The American Legion Department Headquarters and the Service Office will be closed on Monday, February 19th, in observance of President's Day.

~ Please plan accordingly. ~

Welcome to the 108th 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 www.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

2024-2025 OFFICER CANDIDATES

The following individuals have announced their candidacy and intent to seek election to the Department office indicated at the upcoming annual convention in June at Jeff's Catering and Event Center in Brewer:

Department Commander

Patricia "Tricia" Thurston, Rumford Post 24

1st Vice Commander

Leroy McKenzie, Madawaska Post 147

2nd Vice Commander

Joseph Michaud, Madawaska Post 147

Americanism Officer

Liam Nedredd, Etna-Carmel Post 107

Historian

Louis Marin, Rumford Post 24

Jeff Sukeforth, Camden Post 30

Sergeant-at-Arms

Ryan Coffin, Damariscotta Post 42

Ryan Simpson, Etna-Carmel Post 107

Finance Officer

MULTIYEAR MEMBERSHIP OPEN TO 2025 RENEWALS



The American Legion
JAN 22, 2024

If you renewed for the 2024 American Legion membership year prior to the new multiyear membership rollout on Dec. 4, you can now take advantage of a three-year membership starting with the 2025 membership year.

Visit legion.org/renew for the multiyear membership of 2025, 2026 and 2027.

Legionnaires still needing to renew for 2024 or veterans joining the organization for the first time can also lock-in a three-year membership (2024, 2025 and 2026) by visiting legion.org/renew or legion.org/join.

Here is what you need to know about the three-year membership:

- Multiyear membership sign-up is only available on the national American Legion website (legion.org/renew and legion.org/join). Current or potential members cannot renew or join for a three-year membership at the post level or through MyLegion.org.

- Payment for the three-year membership will be upfront.
- There is not a discounted rate with the three-year membership.
- Membership cards will still be sent annually by Legion posts.
- Those who sign up for a multiyear membership will not receive a renewal notice during the time they have signed up for the multiyear membership.

Please note that the multiyear membership will work just like PUFL. Whatever rate the member renews at is what the post/department/national will receive for the duration of that timeframe. For example, if a member renews today (before national per-capita \$5 dues increase come July 1, 2024), National will receive \$18.50 for the next three years. For example, if a department's per capita is currently \$10 and is going to be raised to \$15 on July 1, 2024, then the department will receive the \$10 for the next three years. Once the member renews after the three-year renewal is up, the renewal rate will adjust to the rate at that time.

A multiyear membership was approved by the National Executive Committee of The American Legion during the organization's Spring Meetings last May. Resolution 1: Purchase of Multiple Years of Membership approves "a five-year pilot program offering the purchase of three consecutive 12-month member terms at the then current dues rate."

NATIONAL COMMANDER CAMPAIGN DONATIONS



January 13, 2024

Dear Legion Members,

Each year, the Department of Maine supports the incoming National Commander with a donation to their campaign seeking such position. Our own Tony Jordan, when seeking the position of National Commander received financial support from the various departments of The American Legion for his campaign and it is only appropriate that we do the same for anyone seeking that position.

As a part of the process of supporting the individuals seeking the National Commander position, we like to present the donations of individuals who have submitted support of the campaign to the individual as soon as we possibly can after receipt. Sometime we have presented the check to the individual at the Fall Meetings or the Spring Meetings or at our Department Convention. Generally, individuals who have been selected to receive an official call in to the Washington Conference are ones of the first to donate to the campaign. We wish to present the donations as soon as we possibly can.

Individuals who have been selected to receive an official call or are listed as members in the National Commission/Committee book are asked and encouraged to donate to support the campaign. Donations from posts are encouraged as well.

Please make the check payable to The American Legion, Department of Maine and note in the "Memo" section "National Commander's Campaign".

Your assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Lloyd Woods
Nat'l Exec. Comm

Anthony "Tony" Jordan
Past National Commander

For God and Country

2024 WINTER CONFERENCE

SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS

Winter Sweepstakes Raffle Drawn at
The Mid-Winter Conference in Brewer, ME
January 13, 2024

James Farragher, Falmouth Post 164..... \$1,500
Wayne G. Thibodeau, Brunswick Post 20..... 500
Raymond E. Vance, Westbrook Post 197..... 300
Yvan D. Gagne, Greenville Post 94..... 200

Congratulations!

COMMANDER'S PROJECT 2023-24

*Department Commander Al McKay
asks that each Post and Legionnaire
support his goal!*



The American Legion, Department of Maine has a long history with the Maine Veterans' Cemeteries across the State. A chapel that had stood at the Maine Veterans Cemetery in Augusta since the burial space at Togus was closed, fell into disrepair and was torn down years ago. The committal building that replaced it is heavily utilized and in need of some massive structural renovations. The committal building is an essential tool needed to conduct an interment Service for our fallen comrades. If you would like to support Commander McKay's project in renovating this necessary building, please mail checks to:

The American Legion Department of Maine
Attn: Committal Building
5 Verti Drive, Winslow, ME 04901-0727

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.

Make sure to type: **"Commander's Project"**
in the Note section.

Thank You!!!

Show Your Support to Maine Veterans TODAY & Make Your Name Part of American Legion History

**Donate \$100 or More and Receive
Yearbook and Centennial Coin!**

Deadline for Submission May 10, 2024



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 2024 Maine American Legion Yearbook made available in print and online in digital format by visiting: www.mainelegion.org.

To donate with Debit/Credit Card, scan this QR code with your phone or visit www.mainelegion.org and click on the Maine American Legion Convention Yearbook Donations Welcomed button to donate today. 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 info, please call HQ at 873-3229 Ext.2 or email: rachel@mainelegion.org.



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

*A Message from the Detachment of Maine
Sons of The American Legion*

Word of the Month: Membership. The total number of members belonging to an organization. Please help our memberships grow by recruiting, renewing, and retaining members.

George Rice

The Detachment of Maine Adjutant
E-mail jbg1rice@gmail.com
Cell 207-841-9148

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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](#)



**Volunteers
Needed for 2024
State Tournaments
Mansfield Stadium
Bangor, ME**

Senior League State Championships, July 27 – 30/31
Junior League State Championships, August 3 – 6
Junior Regional Championships, August 9-11
(CT, MA, ME, NH, NY, RI, VT)



**The 100th Anniversary of
American Legion Baseball**

The 100th Anniversary of American Legion Baseball will be recognized during the 2025 season. Every Post in the state is invited to do something special and now is the time to brainstorm any ideas!

For more information contact American Legion
State Adjutant Jason Hall at:
207-873-3229 | 207- 522-5471 or
via e-mail at jason@mainelegion.org

*"There are three types of baseball players:
those who make it happen, those who watch it
happen, and those who wonder what happened."*

~ Tommy Lasorda

BE THE ONE

TRAINING - 2024

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2024 Training Dates

January 27th March 30th May 25th
July 27th Sept. 28th Nov. 30th

Training Location

Department of Maine Training Room
5 Verti Drive, Winslow, ME 04901.

For more details on the **Be The One** campaign
visit: betheone.org

American Legion Be the One Campaign

To Reserve Your Spot Email:
jason@mainelegion.org

Today, the #1 issue facing those who served is veteran suicide. According to the National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report, 17 veterans still die by suicide each day, or more than 6,000 each year. The rate of suicide for veterans is more than 50% higher than that of non-veteran adults.

The American Legion is activating a national platform to end veteran suicide. The **Be the One** campaign will: Destigmatize asking for mental health support, creating opportunities for those with mental health issues to speak freely and get the support they need; Provide peer-to-peer support and resources in local communities; Deploy FDA-approved therapeutics for veterans to identify issues and find resources for support.

BE THE ONE A FOCUS FOR MAINE LEGION FAMILY

The American Legion
JAN 31, 2024



As Maine American Legion Auxiliary president from 2022 to 2023, Debra Rumery's project was "You Will Never Walk Alone," a veteran suicide prevention and suicide awareness program. The project raised more than \$60,000 for the psychiatric ward and suicide prevention outreach program at the Togus VA Medical Center in Augusta, Maine.

After her tenure ended, Rumery saw the current American Legion Family national leadership – National Commander Daniel Seehafer, Auxiliary National President Lisa Williamson and Sons of The American Legion National Commander Donald L. "JR" Hall – were continuing to make the Legion's [Be the One](https://betheone.org) veteran suicide prevention program their top priority. And she wanted to make sure that continued in her state as well.

"I just knew our members needed to know that this wasn't something that I was only going to talk about for one year,"

said Rumery, who now serves as Maine's Alternate National Executive Committeeman and is a member of Unit 86 in Gray. "I was not going to stop talking about it. It was important for the whole (Legion Family) to know there is training out there, and I'd be willing to do the training for them."

That led Rumery to collaborate with Maine Legion Family leadership for a free Be the One training session on Jan. 27 at department headquarters. The session also [included VA S.A.V.E. Training](https://betheone.org), which Rumery already had taken. Rumery provided the training alongside Maine Legionnaires Julie Flynn (Post 86) and Jennifer Kimble (Roderick-Crosby Post 28 in Farmington).

The trio delivered the S.A.V.E. Training, but Rumery said they wanted to offer more to those who braved the weather to attend the session. "We didn't want our members to travel all the way to department headquarters, which is a long way for a lot of people, for just 17 minutes (of training)," she said. "So, we elaborated on the VA S.A.V.E. We talked about the mission of Dan, Lisa and Don, and how The American Legion is going to have this mission to help destigmatize our veterans asking for mental health support.

"We also added empathetic listening. I really believe that that was a huge part of this training: giving our members the tools to actually listen to a veteran when they're in mental health crisis. Not to dismiss them. The right things to say to them. Make sure that the empathetic listening feels like (the veteran) is being listened to, which I think, a lot of times, veterans don't feel that way."

Rumery said 18 Legion Family members attended the training. "It was the perfect amount of people because I felt like they felt comfortable being able to share their own experiences and feel safe in that environment," she said. "I'm not quite sure if they were in a larger environment ... if they would have been as transparent as they were. It worked out really, really great."

Three similar training sessions at department headquarters are planned, while Rumery said requests are being taken to travel to posts and deliver the training in person. She added that as Be the One has continued to grow since its inception in 2022, "People really started wanting more information. 'What can we do to help?' 'How can we learn more?' At the end of the training, we gave out resource packets to every single person that came, so they can go back to their post/unit/squadron/Riders chapter, whatever the case may be, so they can share the information.

"We didn't want this to just be the 18 people that were there. We wanted them to share this mission as well."



Legionnaire Julie Flynn, American Legion Auxiliary member Debra Rumery and Legionnaire Jennifer Kimble recently provided Be the One and VA S.A.V.E. Training to fellow Maine Legion Family members.

MyLegion Q&A

MyLegion.org is a One-Stop-Shop for Managing Your American Legion Membership!

But Wait... There's More Eligibility Questions!

- Q. I served active duty as a SPAR, WAC, WASP, or WAVES during the one of the qualifying periods. Am I eligible?
- A. Yes, you are a veteran. Even though women served separately than men, their service is equal.
- Q. I served with allied military forces during one of the qualifying periods. Am I eligible?
- R. A. Yes, you are a veteran, only if you were a U.S. citizen at the time of entry.
- Q. I served with the Civil Air Patrol/Civilian Technical Corps/USPHS as a civilian during two qualifying periods. Am I eligible?
- A. No. Eligible members must have federal military service during a qualifying period and received an honorable discharge or discharge under honorable conditions.
- Q. I enlisted and went to basic training, but received an uncharacterized discharge due to a medical condition. Am I eligible?
- A. Yes, you are a veteran. Uncharacterized discharges for medical discharges are assumed to be under honorable conditions unless specifically stated otherwise. There are other categories of uncharacterized discharges and before they are determined eligible for membership the discharge should be sent to National for determination and a record will be maintained at National on final determination.
- Q. I'm eligible for The American Legion, but do not have a copy of my DD214 to show as proof of eligibility. How can I get one?
- A. You can go to archives.gov/veterans to request another copy of your discharge papers. A copy of orders putting you on federal active duty can be used as proof of eligibility as well.

Contact us:

Customer Service: (800) 433-3318 | Fax: 317-860-3001
E-mail: mylegion@legion.org
The American Legion National Headquarters
5745 Lee Road, Indianapolis, IN 46216

Print 2024 Membership Cards in MyLegion

American Legion post and squadron group leadership can print a current membership card for Legion and Sons of The American Legion members.

To start:

1. Go to your My Account page in www.mylegion.org.
2. Enter My Groups to access Group Profile.
3. Click on "View Members."
4. Search the member and click on their name from the list to view Member Profile.
5. Click "Membership Cards" and click on the link to view and print card image.

MEMBERSHIP IMPACT REPORTS

The American Legion's success depends entirely on active membership, participation and volunteerism. The following monthly reports located on: <https://www.legion.org/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](https://www.legion.org/membership/impact). To visit the impact American Legion posts made throughout the year, visit:

<https://www.legion.org/bythenumbers> or
<https://www.legion.org/membership/impact>

Attention: District Commanders & Adjutants

District Meeting Calendar Form now available online!

Click Here or visit:
www.mainelegion.org
under Forms/Application



QUICKLY & EASILY RENEW ONLINE TODAY!

Simply Scan the QR Code with the camera on your phone or visit:

www.legion.org/renew



Warrant Templates

All Post/District Officer Positions

Available **on-line** at: MaineLegion.org

or go to:

<http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/formsapplications.ph>. ***It's fast and easy!!!***

MILITARY TRIVIA

Q What do General James Doolittle, first General of the Air Force, General John "Black Jack" Pershing, first General of the Armies and General Henry "Hap" Arnold, the only 5 star General of the Army & General of the Air Force, have in common?

~ Submitted by Dwayne Hatfield
Mars Hill Post 118

CANADIAN FRIENDSHIP AND INTERNATIONAL AMITY AWARDS



These awards shall be given to individuals in recognition of outstanding service in the field of veterans affairs and for service and contributions made in the development of international goodwill and comradeship between the United States, the ally and between their veterans organization and The American Legion.

Nominations may be made by any member of The American Legion is good standing filed with the National Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials Committee under such rules and regulations as shall be approved for such award. Nominations are limited to one (1) per post.

**Nomination forms may be found on
pages 12 & 13 of this Ledger.**

For more information [click here](https://www.legion.org/sites/legion.org/files/legion/publications) or go to:
[https://www.legion.org/sites/legion.org/
files/legion/publications](https://www.legion.org/sites/legion.org/files/legion/publications)

NAT'L VETERANS EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION AWARDS



The National Veterans Employment & Education Commission annually presents several awards at The American Legion's national convention to honor employers who hire veterans, disabled veterans and older workers. Those who help veterans find employment are also recognized.

The awards include:

- Employer of the Year - Small Business, Mid-Sized Business and Large Business
- Employer of the Disabled Award
- Employer of Older Workers Award
- Local Veterans Employment Representative of the Year
- Outstanding Disabled Veteran Outreach Program Specialist of the Year
- Outstanding Employment Service Office of the Year
- Michael Guty Homeless Veterans Outreach Award

Nomination forms for each award are available through American Legion department headquarters or [by clicking here](#). All entries must be accompanied by an official nomination form with no more than two pages of narrative, along with supporting documents. Departments will send reminders to all posts about nominations.

For more information:

(202) 263-5771 | ecruz@legion.org

DISTRICT MEETINGS

Be Connected • Be Heard • Be Informed

FEBRUARY 2024

District 2 – Cumberland: Feb. 18

Naples Post 135, 12PM
Legion & ALA 1pm luncheon 2PM meetings

District 5 – Oxford: Feb. 20

Buckfield Post 58, 7:00PM
2025 Nominating Committee

District 6 – Knox: Feb. 18

Camden Post 30, 1PM

District 9 – Kennebec: Feb. 14

Oakland Post 51, 7:00PM

District 14 – Piscataquis: Feb. 29

Dover-Foxcroft Post 29, 12 Noon Lunch
w/Business Meeting at 1PM

District 15 – Washington: Feb. 11

Machias Post 9, 2PM
1PM meet and greet



**Age independently,
but not alone,
with GoGoGrandparent**

GoGoGrandparent makes it possible to call a single number to book on-demand rides, meals, groceries and more.

At GoGoGrandparent, our mission is to serve you as you have served our nation. We are dedicated to providing solutions that cater to your needs, ensuring you live a life full of independence and dignity. You deserve to age on your own terms and have options that help you thrive at home.

GoGoGrandparent makes it possible to call a single number (1 (855) 464-6872) and get access to convenient services like rides, meals, groceries, prescription delivery, and home services! Founded in 2016, GoGoGrandparent serves hundreds of thousands of customers across the United States, Canada, and Australia.

YOUR SPECIAL OFFER

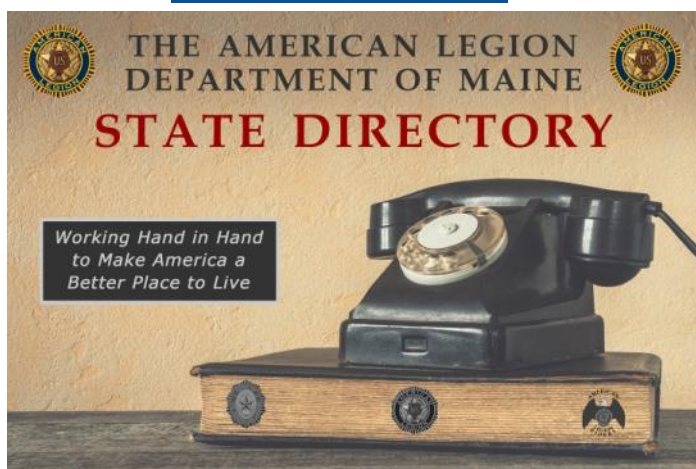
As a *Thank You Thursday* reader, you have exclusive access to a special GoGoGrandparent offer: Get 2 free rides upon registering for GoGo! Just call 1 (855) 464-6872 to choose a plan and register, and tell our operators this **promotion code: AmericanLegion24**

EXPLORE GOGO

Stay Connected with Your Fellow Legionnaires!



[Click here to see the
Latest Post Events](#)



Call Dept. HQ at
873-3229 or e-mail:
legionme@mainelegion.org
to get the Password!!

[Click Here
for the State
Directory!](#)

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**IMPORTANT
INFORMATION
ABOUT THE
STATE DIRECTORY!**

The State Directory has been posted on the Department Website in the past however it is now password-protected. Please call Dept. HQ at: 873-3229 or e-mail legionme@mainelegion.org to get the password, or if you have any questions or concerns.

"Honesty saves everyone's time."

~ Anonymous

PAST COMMANDERS CLUB

Please note that the annual dues for Past Commanders Club are \$5.00 per member. See Page 18 for an application.

2024 Digital Catalog:

A New Way to Shop!



[Click Here to Preview](#)

Full printed catalog arriving in mailboxes soon!

American Legion Flag & Emblem

5745 Lee Rd.

Indianapolis, IN 46216

(888) 453-4466

emblem@legion.org

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• [View Online](#)



MILITARY TRIVIA

A. They are all buried at Arlington National Cemetery, beneath the same plain marble head stones as the troops & airmen they commanded.

TECHNOLOGY 101

is a resource for those who wish to learn basic skills with the powerful technology of today's world. Increased proficiency with computers and cell-phones et al is good both personally and professionally.



How to Copy and Paste on an iPhone

To copy and paste text, you first need to select it:

- To select non-editable text (such as text on a web page), press and hold on any part of a word until it's highlighted.
- To select editable text (when the on-screen keyboard is showing), double-tap on a word to select it, or triple-tap on a paragraph to select it.

Whichever method you use, you can keep your finger pressed down and then move it to expand the selection. You'll also see handles at each edge of the selection, which you can tap and drag to change where the selection starts and stops. (Note: some apps handle text selection differently, but the press and hold action will usually work.)

Once you're done, a pop-up bar will appear above your selection. What appears in the bar can vary:

- Depending on the app and the text, you may see a Select All option listed. Tap this to select all the text on a page or in a section.
- If you see Cut and Copy options, just tap either to perform the action. If Cut isn't showing, the text can't be moved.
- If you prefer gestures, pinch closed with three fingers on the selection to copy the text, or pinch closed with three fingers two times to cut it.

You're then ready to paste the text:

- With the on-screen keyboard visible, tap on the screen where you want the text inserted.
- Pick Paste from the pop-up bar that appears.
- You can also pinch open with three fingers to paste text.
- If you're working on an editable document and want to move the text, you can simply select the text, tap and hold it, then drag it to a new location.

Copy and paste images

Copying and pasting images is a little more straightforward. To select an image in most apps, including Notes and Safari:

- Press and hold on the image.

- Tap Cut or Copy on the pop-up bar that appears. (Cut will only appear if you're working in an editable document).

Apple Photos doesn't work in the same way. To copy an image using that app:

- Tap the image thumbnail to make it full screen.
- Then tap the Share button (the square with the arrow, lower left), and choose Copy Photo.

That sends the image to the clipboard. To paste it somewhere else:

- With the on-screen keyboard showing, tap where you want to paste the image.
- Tap Paste on the pop-up bar.

If the app that you're pasting the image into supports image resizing, you'll see handles around the image that you can use to change its size. Note that you can't use the pinch gestures with images as you can with text.

[~ The Verge](#)



When I was a little kid, I had an imaginary friend. I just found him on Facebook

DONATIONS

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MAINE

Commanders Project

Gray Post 86.....	\$100.00
Danielle Begert, Lewiston Post 22,.....	\$28.00
Lloyd Woods, Madawaska Post 147.....	\$50.00

Blind Camp

Gray Post 86.....	\$150.00
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National Commander's Campaign

Gray Post 86.....	\$200.00
Lloyd Woods, Madawaska Post 147.....	\$200.00

General Fund

Donald Peck, Auburn Post 153.....	\$25.00
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Thank You



Vietnam-Era Veterans Breakfast

Wednesday, March 27, 2024, Augusta Civic Center

Hosted by the Travis Mills Foundation



Who: Vietnam-Era Veterans and one guest.

What: FREE full-service breakfast, program and ceremonies

When: 9 a.m., Wednesday, March 27, 2024

Where: Augusta Civic Center, 78 Community Drive

RSVP Below or Scan Code



<https://give.classy.org/vietnameraveteransbreakfast>

US Army SSG (Ret.) Travis Mills is an ardent supporter of our Vietnam Era Veterans. SSG Mills and the Travis Mills Foundation Team are honored to hold this event as a way to say 'Thank You' and 'Welcome Home' to those who served during the Vietnam War.



The American Legion
International Amity Award
NOMINATION FORM – PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY

Nominee's Full Name _____

Address _____

Nominee is a veteran (in the accepted meaning of the term) of the military forces of _____, and served during _____, during which time that nation
(Country Name) (Name of War)
was allied with the United States of America. The nominee is a member of _____,
(Name of veterans organization) an authentic veterans organization of said nation.

The award is recommend in recognition of outstanding service in the field of veterans affairs and for service and contributions made in the development of international goodwill and comradeship between his/her organization and The American Legion as is evidenced by the following:

(Additional supporting documentation may be attached to this form...the more the better)

NOMINATIONS ARE LIMITED TO ONE PER POST.

The member of The American Legion submitting the nomination completes the following section:

Name:	Department:	Post #:	Member ID #:
Street Address:	City:	State:	Zip Code:
Submitting Member's Signature		Date Submitted	

Mail Completed Nomination(s) to:

The American Legion
Attn: Internal Affairs Commission
PO Box 1055
Indianapolis, IN 46206
Fax: (317) 630-1413
E-mail: ia@legion.org

DUPLICATE AS NECESSARY



**The American Legion
Canadian Friendship Award
NOMINATION FORM – PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY**

Nominee's Full Name: _____

Address: _____

Nominee is a member of _____, an authentic veterans organization in Canada.
[Name of Veterans Organization/Branch or Chapter #]

Nominee is a veteran of the armed Forces of Canada and served during _____, at which time Canada was allied
with the United States of America. [Name of War]

Nominee holds, or has held, the following offices in _____
[Name of Veterans Organization]

[Additional information may be attached to this form]

This nomination for the Canadian Friendship Award is recommended in recognition of outstanding service in the field of veterans affairs and for service and contributions made in the development and preservation of goodwill and comradeship between the veterans organization of the nominee and The American Legion, as evidenced by the following:

[Additional supporting documentation may be attached to this form...the more the better]

**THE RECEIPT OF THIS AWARD IS LIMITED TO ONE PER BRANCH AND
NOMINATIONS ARE LIMITED TO ONE PER POST.**

The member of The American Legion submitting the nomination completes the following section:

Name:	Department:	Post #:	Member ID #:
Street Address:	City	State	Zip Code
Submitting Member's Signature		Date Submitted	

Mail completed nomination form to:

**The American Legion
Attn: Internal Affairs Commission
PO Box 1055
Indianapolis, IN 46206
Fax: (317) 630-1413
E-mail: ia@legion.org**

ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL



THE GOLDSTARS TRIBUTE WALL (TM) MAY 25 - MAY 27, 2024



The Augusta Elks Lodge #964 is honored to be hosting The GoldStars Tribute Wall this memorial day weekend. Join us for opening ceremonies Saturday May 25th at 10am to pay tribute to those who gave the ultimate sacrifice during the Gulf, Afghanistan, and Iraq wars.

For more information on the Tribute Wall visit:

<https://www.tributewall.org/>

- ✓ Free to the public
- ✓ Available to view all weekend
- ✓ Sponsorships available



TRIBUTEWALL@AUGUSTAEELKS.ORG



<https://www.facebook.com/events/1125170752173336>



TRIBUTEWALL@AUGUSTAEELKS.ORG

Donation Information

Circle One

\$250 \$500 \$750 \$1000 OTHER \$

☐ This Donation is in HONOR/MEMORY of:

Donor Information

Name _____
Organization _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Phone _____
Email _____

Payment Information

☐ Cash ☐ Check

Please send this form and your donation to:

**Augusta Elks Lodge #964
P.O BOX 2206
Augusta ME., 04338
Care of: Tribute Wall Donation
Memo: Tribute Wall Donation
Tax ID: 01-0027741**

Questions? Email tributewall@augustaelks.org

Sponsorship Packages

Platinum Sponsor : \$1,000 +

Sponsor Recognition at Opening Ceremony
Full Page ad in event Program
Sponsor Name on Electronic Sign
Social Media Spotlight leading up to event

Gold Sponsor: \$750 +

Sponsor Recognition at Opening Ceremony
1/2 Page ad in event Program
Social Media Spotlight leading up to event

Silver Sponsor: \$500+

Sponsor Recognition at Opening Ceremony
1/4 Page ad in event Program
Social Media mention leading up to event

Bronze Sponsor: \$250 +

Sponsor Recognition at Opening Ceremony
Logo in event Program
Social Media mention leading up to event

**Please send in your high resolution logo and ad to
tributewall@augustaelks.org by May 3rd, 2024**



Dear Sir or Madam,

I hope this letter finds you well. As Memorial Day approaches, we at Augusta Elks Lodge are embarking on a special initiative to honor and pay tribute to our fallen heroes – the GoldStars Tribute Wall. This poignant memorial serves as a powerful reminder of the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country during the Iraq, Afghanistan, and Gulf Wars.

Enclosed with this letter, you will find information on sponsorship level opportunities and a donation form. Your contribution, whether big or small, will directly contribute to the success of this initiative and help us honor the fallen soldiers who bravely served during the Iraq, Afghanistan, and Gulf Wars.

To facilitate your generous donation, please fill out the enclosed donation form and return it along with your contribution at your earliest convenience, to help us in our mission to bring the GoldStars Tribute Wall to Maine. If you choose to become a sponsor, kindly send in your high-resolution logo to tributewall@augustaelks.org by May 3, 2024 . Your logo will be prominently displayed, showcasing your commitment to honoring our servicemen and servicewomen.

If you have any questions about your donation, the sponsorship levels, or want more information about a specific part of the event, please email tributewall@augustaelks.org.

Your generosity will not only help bring a heartfelt tribute to Maine but will also demonstrate our collective appreciation for the sacrifices made by our heroes.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to support our mission. Together, let us make this Memorial Day a time of remembrance, gratitude, and unity in honoring those who gave everything for our freedom.

**With heartfelt thanks,
James Orr
Tribute Wall Committee Chair**

How to File a Claim

How can a Veteran prepare before starting their application?

- Be sure to fill out their claim completely.
- Gather any evidence (supporting documents) they'll submit themselves when they file their VA disability claim. We encourage them to send in all their supporting documents along with their claim. This will help us process their claim quickly. [Learn about fully developed claims](#)
- Find out if they'll need to turn in any additional forms with their claim. [Learn about additional forms Veterans may need to file](#)

What evidence does a Veteran need to support their claim?

They can support their VA disability claim by providing these documents:

- **VA medical records and hospital records.** These could relate to their claimed illnesses or injuries or they could show that their rated disability has gotten worse.
- **Private medical records and hospital reports.** These could relate to their claimed illnesses or injuries or they could show that their disability has gotten worse.
- **Supporting statements.** These could be from family members, friends, clergy members, law enforcement personnel, or people they served with. These statements could tell us more about their claimed condition and how and when it happened or how it got worse.

Depending on the type of claim a Veteran files, they may gather supporting documents themselves, or they can ask for our help to gather evidence. We'll also review their discharge papers (DD214 or other separation documents) and service treatment records.

[Learn more about the evidence we'll need for their claim](#)

Does a Veteran need to submit evidence with their claim?

No. A Veteran doesn't have to submit any evidence to support their claim. But we may need to schedule a claim exam so we can learn more about their condition.

[Learn more about VA claim exams \(C&P exams\)](#)

A Veteran should also know that they have up to a year from the date we receive their claim to turn in any evidence. If they start their application and need time to gather more supporting documents, they can save their application and come back later to finish it. We'll recognize the date they started their application as their date of claim as long as they complete it within 365 days.

Should a Veteran submit an intent to file form?

If they plan to file for disability compensation using a paper form, they may want to submit an intent to file form first. This can give them the time they need to gather their evidence while avoiding a later potential start date (also called an effective date). When they notify us of their intent to file, they may be able to get retroactive payments (compensation that starts at a point in the past).

Note: If they file for disability compensation online, then they don't need to notify us of their intent to file. This is because their effective date gets set automatically when they start filling out the form online— before they submit it.

[Find out how to submit an intent to file form](#)

How to File a Claim (cont.)

How does a Veteran file a claim for compensation?

They can file for disability compensation in any of these 5 ways:

1. Online:

Veterans' can file a claim online now at www.va.gov [File for disability compensation online](#)

2. By Mail:

File a Veteran's claim by mail using an Application for Disability Compensation and Related Compensation Benefits (VA Form 21-526EZ).

[Get VA Form 21-526EZ to download](#)

Print the form, fill it out, and send it to this address:

Department of Veterans Affairs
Claims Intake Center
PO Box 4444
Janesville, WI 53547-4444

3. In Person:

Bring the application to a VA regional Office near them. [Find a VA regional office](#)

4. By Fax:

If they're in the U.S., fax their application to [844-531-7818](tel:844-531-7818)

If they're outside the U.S., fax their application to [248-524-4260](tel:248-524-4260)

With the Help of a Trained Professional:

A Veteran can work with a trained professional called an accredited representative to get help filing a claim for disability compensation.

There are five Veterans Service Organizations located on the Togus Campus: American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, Maine Veterans' Services, Paralyzed Veterans of America, and Veterans of Foreign Wars

[Get help from an accredited representative](#)

What happens after a Veteran files their VA disability claim?

[Find out what happens after a Veteran files](#)

A Veteran doesn't need to do anything while they're waiting unless we send them a letter asking for more information. If we schedule exams for them, they should be sure not to miss them.

[Check a VA claim status](#)

Look for a Togus Representative at one of the following locations:

January 16, 2024 – Veteran Employment and Resource Event, Clinton Town Office
27 Baker St., Clinton, ME, Time: 10:00am to 3:00pm, Open to the Public

January 19, 2024 – Veteran Employment and Resource Event, University of Farmington
246 Main St., Farmington, ME, Time: 10:00am to 3:00pm, Open to the Public



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

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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

This form may be filled out on-line at: www.mainelegion.org/pages/formsapplications.php

***** Please note that the annual dues for Past Commanders Club have increased to \$5.00/member)*****