

THE LEADERSHIP LEDGER



INCOMING NATIONAL COMMANDER

FEB 13, 2023



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 donations in support of the campaign to the individual as soon as we possibly can after receipt. Sometimes we have presented the check to the individual at the Fall Meetings or the Spring Meetings or even at the National Convention.

Generally, individuals who have been selected to receive an official call into the Washington Conference are the first ones to donate to the campaign. We wish to present the donations as soon as we possibly can.

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 will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Lloyd Woods, National Executive Committeeman
Anthony "Tony" Jordan. Past National Commander

The Department Headquarters Office and the Service Office will be closed on Monday, February 20th, in observance of President's Day. Please plan accordingly.



Welcome to the 84th 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 Department HQ via email at: legionme@mainelegion.org.

URGENT!!!



Department of Maine has received reports of multiple break-ins at non-profits and American Legion Posts.

We are told the break-ins are conducted by a professional team and they are on the move.

The criminal team is tracking your functions on social media. Your event flyers and monetary goals posted on social media are being observed.

Now is the time to ensure your alarm systems are up to date, your cameras are in working order, your entryways are well lit, your insurance is relevant, and please ensure you are making deposits into the bank daily



The American Legion, Department of Maine

High School Oratorical Scholarship Winners!!!

Congratulations once again to Shawn Jiminez of West Gardiner for winning The American Legion Department of Maine's High School Oratorical Contest on February 11th at Thomas College in Waterville! Shawn represented District 9 and Litchfield Post 181. The title of his oration was "March 4th 1789." In April he will travel to Indianapolis to compete at National. For winning the contest on the State level, Shawn received \$1500 and has a chance of winning up to \$25,000 at National.

Congratulations also go to 2nd place winner Kylie Thibodeau, representing District 2 and Gray Post 86; 3rd place to Alecssander Freitas, representing District 14 and Milo Post 41; 4th place to Conor McPherson for representing District 1 and Eliot Post 188. Emily Reed took 5th place representing District 5 and South Paris Post 72, Kassidy Cote took 6th Place representing District 3 and Lisbon Post 158, and Grace Cooley took 7th place representing District 10 and Pittsfield Post 32.



From Left to Right: 1st Row, Conor McPherson, Alecssander Freitas, Kylie Thibodeau, Shawn Jiminez, Emily Reed, Kassidy and Grace Cooley. Back Row: Judges Sean Currie, Jennifer Rinko, Angela Armstrong, Kirk Schaub & Mark Marsolais, Ph.D.

Many thanks to all contestants who competed at the State level!

EMAIL SCAM

ATTENTION LEGION MEMBERS

Once again, someone is trying to scam members using an e-mail address with State Cmdr. Kirk Thurston's name.

THIS IS A SCAM!

Kirk's e-mail address is: fuzzyt3@roadrunner.com

Please disregard and delete any other e-mail address with his name in it.

This is a scam!

Repeat: THIS IS A SCAM!!!

Kirk Thurston

Department of Maine Commander's Project



Operation Reboot Outdoors

Support the American Legion Commander's Project!

Please send and make all donations payable to:
American Legion Dept of Maine
5 Verti Drive - Winslow, Maine 04901.

Remember to earmark for Commanders Project O.R.O.

Operation ReBoot Outdoors invites you to join in their Mission to provide outdoor recreational therapy to Veterans, service members, and law enforcement personnel who struggle with trauma from war or traumatic events serving our nation and our communities. Operation ReBoot Outdoors shows these heroes they can find purpose after service through the outdoors as well as empowerment in camaraderie. We hope you will be the one to join our Mission to stop the high percentage of suicides that plague our families, community, and country.

We hope that you will "Be the One" to reach out to a veteran and to support Operation Reboot Outdoors!

The American Legion Family Department Testimonial



Saturday, May 20, 2023

Napoleon-Ouellette Post 24
184 Congress St., Rumford, ME 04276

[Click here](#) for more information
or turn to page 11.

MILITARY TRIVIA

Q. During World War I, a large group of men served & wore the uniform of this nation with many paying the ultimate sacrifice, but they were not permitted to be US Citizens....who were they?

~ Submitted by Dwayne Hatfield, Mars Hill Post 118

SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOMES FOR VETERANS TO BE BUILT IN YORK COUNTY, MAINE



Seacoast Land Acquisitions and Home Innovations are planning to build a number of Specially Adapted Homes (SAH) for severely injured Veterans from all conflicts who live in Maine and qualify according to Veterans Administration guidelines.

The single-family homes will be built in a small subdivision and will include a community center where Veterans and their families can gather for special events and socialization.

All applicants for SAH will have to apply to the Veterans Administration to determine their eligibility. In addition, special SAH grants are available to eligible Veterans to assist in the purchase of these homes. A VA approved lender will be able to provide additional financing for the purchase of these homes, if needed.

All Veterans, who are interested, are urged to email Dale Midgley at midgleyd@earthlink.net to request information and an application for the Specially Adapted Housing. You can also call the Downing Real Estate Agency at 207-985-3328 or email: info@downingagency.com, attention Dale Midgley.

Sincerely,

Dale Midgley
US Army Veteran, Captain
Medical Service Corps
Cell phone# 207-590-3532



Maine Legion College Class 2023



The Department of Maine invites you to take part in the Maine Legion College. The curriculum is spaced out over 3 separate weekends with Phase I scheduled for April 15th and 16th at Department of Maine headquarters.

Those interested in attending must complete American Legion Basic Training prior to April 15-16. Visit: <https://www.legion.org/alei>

For more information [CLICK HERE](#) or e-mail Jason Hall: Jason@MaineLegion.org

Let's Get The Word Out to Our Veterans!



In honor of the New Year, ask a Veteran to JOIN Maine American Legion!



Have them Scan the QR Code with the camera on their phone or visit: www.mainelegion.org

Print 2023 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.

"I think of a hero as someone who understands the degree of responsibility that comes with his freedom."

~ [Bob Dylan](#)

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](#). To visit the impact American Legion posts made throughout the year, visit:

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

Post Service Officer Training

Date: March 25th, 2023

Time: 10 am to 2pm

**Location: American Legion HQ,
5 Verti Drive, Winslow**

Limited space, to enroll please

Email: jason@mainelegion.org

**QUICKLY & EASILY
RENEW ONLINE
TODAY!**

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



www.legion.org/renew

IN YOUR OWN WORDS

Your story is important to The American Legion. That is why the **"In Your Own Words"** forum is now available. If you have a memoir, poem, photo, video, book or link to another site, you are invited to submit it here. Submissions are carefully reviewed and may be subject to editing or rejection in some circumstances. Just enter your information, upload the image or any other elements you wish to publish, and your submission will be posted on the forum.



Please sign in to enter your own words.

How-to instructions for "In Your Own Words"

The articles, photos, etc. in the posted publications are the sole opinions of the author/photographer. Absolutely no content within the publication is reviewed, endorsed or pre-approved by The American Legion.

For questions, or assistance please [click here](#).

Categories:

- [All Categories](#)
- [Books](#)
- [Film / Documentary](#)
- [Music](#)
- [Personal Experiences](#)
- [Poetry](#)
- [Visual Arts](#)

**JOB
OPENING**

**AMERICAN LEGION
ASSISTANT DEPT. SERVICE OFFICER**

Part-time position, 28 hours (4-day work week)
Term of Office. [CLICK HERE](#) for a full job description and qualifications or go to:

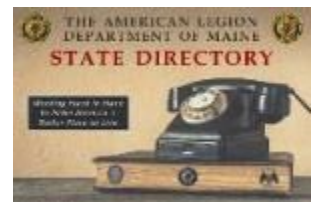
http://www.mainelegion.org/media/misc/Job_Description

Resumes can be sent to Department Headquarters,
5 Verti Drive, Winslow, 04901

*Stay Connected with
Your Fellow Legionnaires!*



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



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

**Attention: District
Commanders & Adjutants**

District Meeting Calendar
Form now available online!

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



**Post
Commanders
& Adjutants**

If you are currently processing your dues on MyLegion.org, you will no longer have to submit the 2-part card to HQ. All other Posts mailing dues to HQ will still have to submit the 2-part card along with \$31.00 per member.

Attention: Post Adjutants

The **Membership Target Date** to reach 90% is fast approaching and we still have a ways to go! Please **PROCESS** your membership at the Post level or **SUBMIT** to Department Headquarters before the March 15th 2023 target date arrives!!!

[CLICK HERE](#) for the Latest Membership Report!

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 is good both personally and professionally.



Computer Chuckles & Groans (*cuz we take this stuff way too seriously!*)

1. How many programmers does it take to change a light bulb?
A: None because it's a hardware issue.
2. Why did the computer wear glasses?
A: To improve its web sight.
3. Why do apps need insurance?
A: They keep crashing.
4. How does a computer get drunk?
A: By taking screenshots.
5. Why won't elephants use a computer?
A: They're afraid of the mouse.
6. Why did the computer parts salesman quit?
A: He lost his drive.
7. Why are developers so energetic?
A: They have too much Java.
8. What did the spider do on the computer?
A: Surf the web.
9. What did the computer do for dinner?
A: Grabbed a byte.
10. Why was the computer coughing?
A: It had a virus.
11. What did the baby computer call its father?
A: Data.
12. Why do alien's love keyboards?
A: They love the space bar.
13. Why was the computer late?
A: It had a hard drive.
14. Why did the person throw their file cabinet in the air?
A: They wanted to store it in the cloud.
15. Why did the computer come with airbags?
A: In case it crashed.
16. What do computers eat as a snack?
A: Microchips.



[~ 25+ Hilarious Computer Jokes](#)

FLAG REWARDS

Tips & Suggestions

Thank Your Sponsors!

A free Citation of Appreciation is available for your use on our web site. Give this certificate to anyone who purchases a flag to benefit your Post.



[Microsoft Word Document \[DOC\]](#)

[Fillable PDF](#)

Success Stories

Congratulations! The following Posts have earned big credit in 2023 to spend at Emblem Sales in 2024:

Over \$700 earned

1. Libertyville, IA Post 494

Over \$600 earned

2. Newton, IA Post 111

Over \$200 earned

3. Cicero, NY Post 787

Over \$150 earned

4. Sioux City, IA Post 697
5. Athens, WI Post 4

Over \$100 earned

6. Harrisville, RI Post 88
7. Portsmouth, IA Post 314
8. Sedgwick, KS Post 268

Remember: Your Post earns 10¢ for each \$1 spent on American flags by your Post or sponsors!



MILITARY TRIVIA

A. Over 15,000 Native American men, [born in this country](#), put on the uniform voluntarily, but US law at the time did not permit them to be US Citizens, despite the [Civil Rights Act of 1866](#), which stated that "all" persons born in the US would be citizens.



Show Your Support to Maine Veterans in the New Year & Make Your Name Part of American Legion History!



Donate \$100 or more & Receive a **FREE** 2023 Yearbook & Centennial Coin!

CLICK HERE TO DONATE TODAY!

Deadline for Submission, May 6, 2023

Click the 2022 Yearbook above to check it out!

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 2023 Maine American Legion Yearbook made available in print and online at www.mainelegion.org. Donate \$100 or more and receive a FREE yearbook as well as one of our most popular centennial coins. Click the above link to donate today, or send a check payable to The American Legion, Department of Maine earmarked "Yearbook Program." 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.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR SUPPORT

PAST COMMANDERS CLUB

Please note that the annual dues for Past Commanders Club are \$5.00 per member. See Page 13 for an application.

DISTRICT MEETINGS

Be Connected • Be Heard • Be Informed

District 14 – Piscataquis: Feb. 18
Dover-Foxcroft Post 29, 12 Noon Lunch w/Bus. Mtg. at 1PM

[Click Here](#) to view all District Meetings!

Warrant Templates - All Positions

Available on-line at: MaineLegion.org

or go to: <http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/formsapplications.ph>

2023 MID-WINTER

SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS

Winners of the Winter Sweepstakes Raffle Drawn at The Mid-Winter Conference in Brewer, ME on January 14th, 2023:

- Ike Hubbard, Machais Post 9..... \$1,500
- Terri Mingo, Gray Unit 86..... 500
- Danny Blanchette, Lisbon Post 158..... 300
- Robert Cameron, Trenton Post 207..... 200

Congratulations!



No Veteran should go through a crisis alone. Save the new Veterans Crisis Line number—Dial 988 then Press 1—in your phone in case you or a Veteran loved one needs support.



“Year by year the complexities of this spinning world grow more bewildering and so each year we need all the more to seek peace and comfort in the joyful simplicities.”

~ [Woman’s Home Companion](#)

DONATIONS

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MAINE

2022-23 Commanders Project – Thurston “Operation Reboot Outdoors”

Machias Post 9..... \$50.00

General Fund

Anonymous..... \$1,000.00

Dirigo State

Ike Hubbard, Machias Post 9..... \$300.00

~ Donated from 2023 Winter Sweepstakes Earnings ~

Thank You!



Winter **Softball** Classic

*"We play in the cold to help stop
Veterans from living in the cold"*

SATURDAY FEB. 18TH 9AM

LEGION POST 202
79 Foreside Rd. Topsham, ME



Registration: min. \$200 donation per team
***Proceeds will be donated
to Homeless Veterans***

Winner receives Trophy.

First game starts at 9am at the Topsham American Legion.
Free Hot Cocoa and Hot Apple Cider provided.

For more information
go to www.post202me.com/winter-classic
Contact Post 202 at 729-9870 for details

Tax free donations can be made to American Legion Post 202 EIN 01-6036492



18
FEB
9AM-2PM

VETERANS RESOURCE FAIR



Learn about programs & benefits for Veterans & their dependents. Federal, State, and Local agencies, resources and Veteran opportunities onsite for our Veterans to connect with.



Vet Center
 VA Maine Healthcare
 V.E.T.S Trailer
 Career Center
 VFW
 Veterans Resource Center
 Mid-Coast Veterans
 Council
 Sen. King's Office



Corey E. Garver
American Legion Post 202
79 Foreside Rd
Topsham, ME 04086
nanslaf@gmail.com
www.post202me.com

American Legion
 MVN, Inc.
 Quilts of Valor
 Preble Street
 VBA
 Northern Light Home
 Care & Hospice
 Martin's Point
 Vet's, Inc



We are all **'PACT'** up and headed to Bangor!

For a family friendly event for Veterans to learn about the PACT Act and other benefits and resources available through the state and community.



Saturday February 25th 10AM – 2PM

- Agent Orange, Radiation, Toxic Exposures
 - Expanded locations to presume conditions
- New presumptive conditions
 - Respiratory conditions, MGUS, Cancers, Hypertension

Veterans and Family Indoor Expo

Anah Shriners, 1404 Broadway, Bangor, ME

Sponsored by Masons, Bethlehem Lodge #35

Stop in to see the: VBA, VHA, Bureau of Motor Vehicles, CDC - Suicide Prevention, Department of Labor - Career Center, Disabled American Veterans, Hope for Healing, House in the Woods, Maine Bureau of Veteran's Services, Maine Veterans Project, Maine Veterans' Services, Marine Corps League, Martin's Point, Travis Mills Foundation, Vet Center, Vet2Vet Maine, Wabanaki Public Health and Wellness, and many other Veteran-centric organizations

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Wednesday - March 8th

WINDHAM VETERANS CENTER



**AMERICAN
LEGION**

FAIR

BE THE ONE

**-FIELD-ALLEN POST 148-
-Portland VETCENTER-**

JOIN US FROM 9 AM - 1 PM

**DOZENS OF VETERAN'S RELATED INFORMATION
TABLES:**

**Town of Windham Social Services Field-Allen Post 148/Unit 148
Veterans of Foreign War Post 10643 Operation Ray of Light
Martin's Point Vet 2 Vet VAST VA Mobile Vet Center
VA Suicide Prevention Coordinator Post 9/11 VETS
VA Interpersonal Violence Coordinator VA Whole Health Team
VA Caregiver Support Team VA Homeless Veteran Program
Honor Flight Maine Quilts of Valor VBA (Vet Benefits Administration)
VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic Paws for Pets**

VETCENTER | Connection,
Camaraderie
Community.

 **Veterans
Crisis Line**
DIAL 988 then **PRESS 1**

**Windham Vet Center-35 Veterans Memorial Drive, North Windham, Maine
(Behind Reny's North Windham) Info: 207 892-1306**

The American Legion Family Department Testimonial



Join us on Saturday, May 20, 2023 as we honor our 2022—2023 leaders.

The American Legion Department Commander Kirk Thurston

American Legion Auxiliary Department President Debra Rumery

Sons of The American Legion Detachment Commander Mike Hustus

Location: Napoleon-Ouellette Post 24, 184 Congress St., Rumford, Maine

Post doors open at 2 p.m.

Time: 4 p.m. social; 5 p.m. dinner, followed by ceremony and possible entertainment

Menu: **Choice 1:** Maple, bacon wrapped pork loin **Choice 2:** Shrimp stuffed Haddock

Both include green beans, mashed potatoes, gravy, roll and dessert. Either meal can be requested gluten-free.

Cost: \$25 per person

Mail reservations to: American Legion Post 24, Attn: Tricia Thurston, 184 Congress St., Rumford, ME 04276 by **May 5, 2023**. Make Checks payable to American Legion Post 24 and indicate on the check your meal choice when making reservation.

Local Hotels:

Best Western—(207) 507-4061

Blue Iris—(207) 364-4495

Hotel Rumford—(207) 364-3621



**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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23. _____
24. _____

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 *****