

THE LEADERSHIP LEDGER



The American Legion Family Dirigo State Program

Colby College

4000 Mayflower Drive, Waterville 04901
Sunday, June 16, 2024 - Friday, June 21, 2024

Registration: Sunday, June 16 at noon
Graduation: Friday, June 21 at 3:00 pm

Cost per student is \$400

2024 DIRIGO STATE APPLICATION PACKET- FILLABLE
DIRIGO STATE POSTER

Completed forms (Dirigo State Application, Parental Consent, Medical Authorization, and Performing Arts if participating) should be mailed to The American Legion, Department of Maine along with a check in the amount of \$400/student. Checks should be made payable to The American Legion, Department of Maine and mailed to The American Legion, Dept. of Maine Attn: Dirigo State, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, ME 04901-0727. FMI contact 873-3229 Ext. 1, or email: jason@mainelegion.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

STATE CONVENTION
June 7-8, 2024

Jeff's Catering & Event Center, Brewer

DIRIGO STATE
June 16-21, 2024

Thomas College, Waterville

NATIONAL CONVENTION
Aug. 25 - Aug. 31, 2024
Charlotte, NC

Welcome to the 110th 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



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.



PLEASE BE ON THE LOOKOUT!!!

Post Officers Forms, Consolidated Post Reports (CPR), and Notification of Post/Squadron Commanders & Adjutants Forms, including instructions relating to submission information and Deadline requirements, were mailed on March 5th. Please complete and return to Dept. HQ as soon as possible! For more information please call Department HQ @ 873-3229.

ANNUAL POST DATA REPORTS NEEDED IMMEDIATELY!

Reports are needed **ASAP** from the following posts:

1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 12, 15, 18, 19, 21, 27, 31, 32, 33, 34, 37, 40, 42, 43, 45, 47, 50, 51, 52, 53, 55, 56, 57, 61, 64, 65, 66, 68, 69, 72, 73, 78, 81, 83, 87, 90, 92, 94, 99, 108, 110, 111, 112, 115, 118, 123, 127, 130, 132, 133, 134, 136, 138, 139, 141, 151, 152, 153, 157, 158, 159, 161, 163, 164, 171, 172, 176, 180, 186, 187, 188, 195, 200, 201, 202, 204, 205, 208 & 213

Thank you for your prompt reply!

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



- Q. We all know of the President's retreat at "Camp David" which is guarded by Marines & the Secret Service, but it also had 3 other names.....what were they?



~ Submitted by Dwayne Hatfield
Mars Hill Post 118

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 jbglice@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](#)

Maine American
Legion Baseball



**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's no crying in baseball!"

~ [Jimmy Dugan, A League of Their Own](#)

HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF AMERICA'S WOMEN VETERANS

The American Legion
MAR 05, 2024



A feature article in the March issue of *The American Legion Magazine*, “For Gallantry in Action,” profiles the women who have earned the Silver Star, one of the United States’ most prestigious military awards. One recipient, Sgt. Leigh Ann Hester, has been immortalized as a bronze statue that stands as part of a recent set of monuments to women veterans in Florida.

The [Women Veterans Monuments at Veterans’ Park](#) – on Okaloosa Island in Fort Walton Beach – were dedicated on Veterans Day 2021. Eight bronze statues feature real women who served in various U.S. conflicts, all the way back to the Revolutionary War. Retired Air Force Lt. Col. Janet Place, an initiative committee member who uploaded it to The American Legion’s online Memorial Database, stated on the entry that “the intent was to honor women who have served and made significant contributions in the U.S. military throughout history.”

While many military and veteran memorials don’t get particular in their names, and some explicitly honor both men and women – such as the [Men and Women of Anson County WWI Memorial](#) in Wadesboro, N.C. – memorials focusing on women can be found from coast to coast. Among the entries on the Legion database:

- the [Female Veterans of Idaho Memorial](#) in Idaho Falls, dedicated in December 2018

- the [Women's Veterans Monument](#) at Patriot Park in Del City, Okla., dedicated on Veterans Day 2014 with, according to the entry, “five life-size bronze statues of women servicemembers surrounding (the) pole, standing at attention, facing outward and holding hands in an unbroken circle around (the) flag”

- [“In Honor and Remembrance of America's Women”](#) in Memorial Park in Blue Island, Ill., installed in 1991 by American Legion Post and Unit 50, which “memorializes the contributions of American women in peace and war”

See the entire Memorial Database, with more than 3,300 entries, at www.legion.org/memorials

WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH 2024

Why Do We Celebrate Women’s History Month? Women’s History Month is a dedicated month to reflect on the often-overlooked contributions of women to U.S. history. From [Abigail Adams](#) to [Susan B. Anthony](#), [Sojourner Truth](#) to [Rosa Parks](#), the [timeline of women’s history milestones](#) stretches back to the founding of the United States.

The actual celebration of [Women’s History Month](#) grew out of a weeklong celebration of women’s contributions to culture, history and society organized by the school district of Sonoma, [California](#), in 1978. Presentations were given at dozens of schools, hundreds of students participated in a “Real Woman” essay contest and a parade was held in downtown Santa Rosa.

A few years later, the idea caught on within communities, school districts and organizations across the country. In 1980, President [Jimmy Carter](#) issued the first presidential proclamation declaring the week of March 8 as National Women’s History Week. The U.S. Congress followed suit the next year, passing a resolution establishing a national celebration. Six years later, the National Women’s History Project successfully petitioned Congress to expand the event to the entire month of March.

[Women’s History Milestones: A Timeline](#). Women’s history is full of trailblazers in the fight for equality in the United States. From Abigail Adams imploring her husband to “remember the ladies” when envisioning a government for the American colonies, to suffragists like Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton fighting for women’s right to vote, to the rise of feminism and Hillary [...]

[International Women’s Day](#), a global celebration of the economic, political and social achievements of women, took place for the first time on March 8, 1911. Many countries around the world celebrate the holiday with demonstrations, educational initiatives and customs such as presenting women with gifts and flowers.

The [United Nations](#) has sponsored International Women’s Day since 1975. When adopting its resolution on the observance of International Women’s Day, the United Nations General Assembly cited the following reasons: “To recognize the fact that securing peace and social progress and the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms require the active participation, equality and development of women; and to acknowledge the contribution of women to the strengthening of international peace and security.”

Women’s History Month Theme 2024

The [National Women’s History Alliance](#) designates a yearly theme for Women’s History Month. The 2024 theme celebrates “Women Who Advocate for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.” This theme recognizes women who understand the need to eliminate bias and discrimination from individuals’ lives and institutions.



“How important it is for us to recognize and celebrate our heroes and she-roes!”

I am a woman.
I served.
I am a veteran.

~ Maya Angelou

Honoring ALL Women Veterans – THANK YOU!!!



Captain Debra Couture
MSC USN, Ret., 1987-2012

Debra Couture served in the U.S. Navy from 1987 to 2012. She is the first and only [Sea-
bee Warfare qualified Medi-
cal Service Officer](#). She is featured in the Military Womens Memorial calendar for Womens History Month, March 2024.

Seabee Combat Warfare Officer

She served at many naval hospitals around the country; the USCentcom, Tampa; the Pentagon; and also deployed to South Korea, Guam, Okinawa, Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar and Bahrain. She retired as a Captain.

She has been a Legionnaire for over 30 years and served as the American Legion Department of Maine, Commander for 2021-2022.

Debra continues to serve other veterans, she is a 9th District Officer, an officer at WILLIAM R. BOLD POST NO. 181 in Litchfield, a counselor at DIRIGO State (as well as a committee Advisor), a member of the Scholarship Committee, and a busy member of numerous community groups.

Tricia Thurston
USN



Tricia Thurston joined the US Navy in 1978 fresh out of High School and turned 18 in boot camp. In boot camp she was offered an A School rating of Cryptologic Technician Receiver (CTR).

After graduating in Pensacola from A School she was sent to Edzell, Scotland where she received awards for her ability to copy Morse code. She received Sailor of the Quarter while serving in Edzell. Tricia served another 4 years in the Reserves.

Tricia later became a member of both the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary. At that time she became President of Unit 24 serving for 4 years. She then became 1st Vice Commander of Post 24 and eventually the Post Commander.

Tricia has held an office at both Post and Department levels for many years and served on multiple Department Committees including DIRIGO State, Education Committee, and others. She attended National American Legion College in 2019, received Legionnaire of the Year in 2019 and Citizen of the Year in Rumford 2019.

Tricia is currently the 1st Vice Commander and Membership Chair for the Department of Maine American Legion. Tricia also just represented the Dept. of Maine and all veterans in Washington, DC while visiting Senators King and Collins last week.



Amanda Brilliant, USN

As a Disbursing Clerk, Amanda was stationed at Naval Hospital Bremerton WA and earned a navy Marine Corps achievement medal. She left the Navy as a Disbursing Clerk Third class, and is currently the Service Officer at Post 20.



Lorna Withers, USA

Lorna served in the US Army, she was a 68 whiskey, combat medic air ambulance. Lorna was a drill sergeant at Fort Dix in New Jersey. Lorna is now the Commander of Post 21 and continues to serve other veterans and her community.



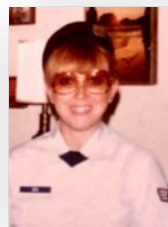
Zakia Thiesen, USN

Zakia attained the rank of Culinary Specialist Third Class. Now she's a proud member of Post 54 in Wiscasset. Zakia is a graduate of Maine American Legion College and is the first female District Commander for the 7th District.



Joy Stevenson, USMC

Joy attained the rank of MOS: 3043 Supply Chain and Materiel Management Specialist, she also served as a Chaser. She has served as Sgt-at-Arms and Service Officer at Post 24 and was District 5 Commander 2018-2019.



Patty Smith, USAF

Patty joined the Air Force in 1975. She was a computer switching systems specialist. She was awarded the Air Force Commendation and Meritorious Service medals and retired as an E-6 Technical Sergeant.



Julie Flynn, ANG

Julie joined the Air National Guard in 1979. She was the 183rd Tactical Fighter Group's first Female First Sergeant. She later obtained the rank of Senior Master Sergeant.



Joy Haddad, USA

Joy served 6.5 years active duty, with an Iraq deployment from Mar 04 - Mar 05. She has also been an active volunteer for the DoD STEM Outreach Program (out of PNS).

[Click Here](#) to read more of these remarkable women's stories or go to <https://www.facebook.com/TALDepa`rtment of Maine/>

NEW PODCAST SERIES: 'TRAILBLAZING WOMEN VETERANS'

The American Legion
MAR 06, 2024



Dr. Mary Edwards Walker. The Angels of Anzio. Col. Alison Black. Pvt. Shoshana Johnson. Four women who served with the U.S. Armed Forces in distinctive eras of our nation's history are saluted in March for Women's History Month with a special podcast series hosted by Army National Guard veteran Ashley Gorbulja and American Legion Media & Communications Director Jeff Stoffer.

A new episode of "Trailblazing Women Veterans" will be posted every Wednesday throughout March:

- **In part one**, the journey begins with the story of Dr. Mary Edwards Walker, the only woman so far to receive the Medal of Honor. The Civil War surgeon and prisoner of war broke ground for women not only in the military but in medicine, as well.
- **Episode 2**, which airs March 13, tells the story of the "Angels of Anzio" and their brave, dangerous and life-saving service in Italy during World War II, which made them the first female recipients of the Silver Star.
- The series shifts in **Episode 3** from angels of mercy to the U.S. Air Force aviator known as the "Angel of Death" – Alison Black, whose combat action and "death ray" in the early stages of the war in Afghanistan befuddled enemy targets on the ground and inspired a new era for women in combat specialties.
- **The final episode** shares the harrowing experience of Pvt. Shoshana Johnson, the first Black female held as a prisoner of war and the determination it took for her to survive captivity with bullet wounds in her ankles and abuse from her captors.

Included in each episode is a roundup of figures in women's military history – from the Revolutionary War to the Global War on Terrorism – and how each new generation trailblazed for the next.

"Trailblazing Women Veterans" is available in video and audio formats at legion.org/tangoalphalima. The series can also be downloaded on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts and other popular podcast hosting sites. Listeners of the series are asked to share stories of extraordinary military service among women using the hashtag:

#MilitaryWomenWednesday.

Click Here to Watch



BE THE ONE

TRAINING - 2024



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](https://legion.org/be-the-one)

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.

NATIONAL COMMANDER'S INCENTIVE PROGRAM

American Legion National Commander Daniel J. Seehafer will award his national commander "**Be the One**" dog tag coin to any Legionnaire who obtains two new members into The American Legion. One to replace you and one for growth.

A new member is any eligible person joining for the 2024 membership year who was not a member of The American Legion during the 2023 membership year. Transfers do not count as new members.

Each member listed must be eligible for membership in The American Legion. New Auxiliary members and Sons of The American Legion members do not count toward this incentive. Forward names of Sons of The American Legion members or Auxiliary members to your squadron or unit for use in their respective incentive programs.

Only one coin will be awarded per individual. Upon receipt, national membership staff will confirm the names in the national database and mail the coin directly to the person who earned it.

[Download the National Commander Incentive fillable PDF form.](#)

MyLegion Q&A

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

More General Questions

Can I submit an address change online?

Sign into myLegion.org and visit "My Account" to change your address online. National can also take your address change over the phone at (800) 433-3318. Normal business hours are Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern time) Members who are moving to a foreign address should submit their address changes via email to cs@legion.org and include their name, Member ID number, current address and new address.

You can also set-up a myLegion.org account and manage your membership information and print a membership card. The myLegion.org site allows members to see their information on file at National Headquarters, view messages and events published through the department and post myLegion.org sites, and even network with other myLegion.org members using networking tools. Go to Legion.org and look for the myLegion.org link to get started.

I submitted an address change a month ago but my latest issue of the magazine went to the old address. What happened?

Although address changes are immediate when your record is updated, the preparation for mailing each issue of the magazine actually begins about 6 weeks in advance of the mailing. This is simply because of the time it takes to prepare a mailing so large. The United States Postal Service (USPS) will forward your magazines until the address change catches up with the magazine production providing you notified them of your move.

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](#). 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](http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/formsapplications.ph). *It's fast and easy!!!*

*"Nothing in life is more liberating than to fight
for a cause larger than yourself, something
that encompasses you but is not defined
by your existence alone."*

~ John McCain

*"Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come.
We have only today. Let us begin."*

~ [Mother Teresa](#)

AMERICAN LEGION TURNS 105 ON MARCH 15

The American Legion
MAR 04, 2024



The American Legion is turning 105 on Friday, March 15 – the day in 1919 when the first American Legion caucus, held by members of the American Expeditionary Force, convened in Paris.

Each year, Legion posts across the country hold events – public, private or both – to commemorate this anniversary. Posts are encouraged to upload recaps and photos of their birthday celebrations (and other community activities) to legiontown.org.

A 105th birthday speech has been drafted by the Legion’s Media and Communications staff as a way for Legionnaires to emphasize what the Legion represents, both to themselves and to the community at large. They are not meant to be recited verbatim; members are encouraged to amend them to taste and audience. The speech can be downloaded [here](#).

To read more [CLICK HERE](#) or go to:

<https://www.legion.org/news/261215/american-legion-turns-105-march-15>

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

MARCH 2024

District 5 – Oxford: Mar. 20
Norway Post 82, 7:00PM
District 5 Election

District 7 – Lincoln: Mar. 13
Waldoboro Post 149, 6:00PM
Nominations and Vote for
2024/25 District Officers

District 9 – Kennebec: Mar. 13
Gardiner Post 4, 7:00PM

District 14 – Piscataquis: Mar. 16
Brownville Jct. Post 92, 12 Noon Lunch
w/Business Meeting at 1PM

DONATIONS

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MAINE

General Fund

Leo Dubay, Post 12.....\$100.00

Commanders Project

Robert E. Jordan, Post 149..... \$220.00
Sanford Post 19..... \$100.00
Joseph T. Donahue, Brunswick Post 20..... \$25.00

Beals House

Guilford Post 119..... \$100.00
(Previously, mistakenly, listed as Sanford Post 119)

Blind Camp

Richmond Post 132..... \$300.00
Auburn Post 31..... \$200.00
Guilford Post 119.....\$100.00
(Again, previously, mistakenly, listed as Sanford Post 119)
Brownville Post 92..... \$100.00
Stockholm Post 136.....\$100.00
Biddeford Post 26..... \$100.00
Monson Post 116.....\$100.00
Harpwell Post 171..... \$50.00

National Commander’s Campaign

Kirk & Patricia Thurston, Rumford Post 24... \$200.00
Scott Paradis, Corinna Post 73..... \$120.90
Harold Goodridge, Farmington Post 28..... \$100.00
Joseph T. Donahue, Brunswick Post 20..... \$50.00



Thank you!

Stay Connected with Your Fellow Legionnaires!



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



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

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.

PAST COMMANDERS CLUB

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

American Legion School Awards

Reward your outstanding high school seniors with these time-honored awards



Medal with Ribbon



Medallion



School Award Certificate



Honorable Mention Certificate



Medallion Lapel Pin



Medal with Certificate



AMERICAN LEGION **FLAG & EMBLEM**
SERVING VETERANS. SERVING AMERICA.

American Legion Flag & Emblem
5745 Lee Rd.
Indianapolis, IN 46216
(888) 453-4466
emblem@legion.org

MILITARY TRIVIA

A. In 1942, the National Park service was charged with finding the right location for a Presidential retreat as the yacht (USS Potomac) was no longer considered safe & they selected a 200 acre site in the Maryland Hills known then as “Hi-Catocin” (1) because it was in the Catocin Hills; it is officially known as “Naval Support Facility Thurmont (2); however, FDR & Truman fell in love with the facility & called it “Shangri-La” (3) and the name stuck, until Dwight Eisenhower was elected President and found the name “too fancy”; he renamed it “David” (4) after his father and grandson & “Camp David” it remains to this day.

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 Prevent Your Smart Devices From Getting Hacked

You might have seen or heard stories about hackers getting to home smart devices and having your refrigerator start randomly making ice cubes and, in turn, making you think your home is haunted.

What Can You Do to Prevent Your Smart Home From Getting Hacked?

Smart home device owners must secure their connected appliances and their own online accounts, especially email. Hackers relentlessly send phony emails with links or executables for people to click on so the hackers can ensnare their user names and passwords.

Use Multiple Factor Authentication

A password simply isn't enough to safeguard you and your home from hacking. The extra level can be achieved with a security key or a code received by a call or text. Many apps and sites have two-step authentication that users can set up under their settings. Some smart locks and other devices use biometric authentication, which means a thumbprint or eye scan will unlock a device or app. The Ultraloq UL3 is one smart lock product that offers biometric authentication. Discover what's available in smart locks by taking a look at these 15 products.

Stay Up-to-Date on Security Updates

Security updates are made to prevent new malware from attacking phones and smart home devices. The trouble is, many smart home devices don't automatically update, so it becomes vitally important that users check at least monthly to see if there are security updates and to install them if there are updates. Learn more about the evolution of smart home technology.

Install Malware Protection

You should download antivirus software like Norton Antivirus or McAfee antivirus to provide another level of protection.

Stay Off Public Wi-Fi

By now, most people should know the risk they run if they connect to public Wi-Fi. Often, people can be unaware they're connected to public Wi-Fi because they use the automatically connect function. But you

should disable that. You can set up a mobile hot spot or a VPN service for protection against potential hacks.

Keep Your Devices on a Separate Server

If a hacker can get into one device, which is on the same server as the other devices, they will be able to hack all of them. It's important to keep your computers and devices on separate servers to curb a potential hack. Users can set up a virtual local area network to split an internet connection. A VLAN makes it so if a device is hacked, others will not be affected. A VLAN can be built through an internet connection portal online or through an IT company.

Change Defaults

Online forums often reveal the default passwords and usernames of popular products so it's vital to change those settings immediately after installation.

As for what those strange sounds in your house might be, apply a little logic and find out what's really haunting your home.



~ Nick Gerhardt, The Family Handyman



'Hangover' actor Rob Riggle joins American Legion

Marine Corps veteran, "The Hangover" actor and comedian **Rob Riggle** talks about his service, work as an entertainer and more on this week's episode of [The American Legion Tango Alpha Lima podcast](#). And you don't want to miss the "involuntary balloon raise."

Riggle, a retired lieutenant colonel, served for 23 years and earned more than 20 medals and ribbons. His deployments include Albania, Kosovo, Liberia and Afghanistan. [Click Here to Listen!](#)

"I wouldn't trade a thing. I would take all the pain, all the mistakes, all the blunders, all the foolish things I may or may not have done," said Riggle, a member of **American Legion Post 43 in Hollywood, Calif.** "I wouldn't trade it because that is how you grow. I don't know anyone who was born perfect."



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.



**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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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)*****