

THE LEADERSHIP LEDGER



Welcome to the 117th Edition of The Leadership Ledger. It includes Post, Department and National reports, leadership training events, upcoming conferences/conventions as well as rules and regulations pertaining to local, state and national laws. The Ledger is available by visiting the Department's website at mainelegion.org under "News & Events" or on the home page. If you have any information to be published in The Leadership Ledger, please forward to Dept. HQ via email at: legionme@mainelegion.org

Attention: Post Adjutants!!

2025 Membership Cards have now been mailed to Posts who didn't pick them up a State Convention.

Adjutant's packets with informational material are available for **pickup only** at Department HQ Monday-Thursday from 8-4 pm. Please call 873-3229 if you have any questions.

Thank you!

2024 Digital Convention Yearbook Now Available Online!



Lots of New Information Including Hyperlinked Business Ads to Websites, Photos, Legion Programs & More!

Check it Out Today!

105th National Convention

New Orleans, LA

August 23-29, 2024



2024 National Convention Reservation/Registration/Banquet Form

This year's National Convention will be held in New Orleans, LA Aug. 23 - 29, 2024. The hotel assigned for members from the Department of Maine will be Hyatt Place New Orleans Convention Center, 881 Convention Center Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70130. If you are thinking about going to National Convention, please fill out the registration form by clicking on the link above, or email jason@mainelegion.org. For more info, please visit: www.legion.org/convention/resources

2024-25 DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

Patricia Thurston, Post 24..... Commander
Leroy McKenzie, Post 147..... 1st Vice Commander
Joseph Michaud, Post 147..... 2nd Vice Commander
Jason Hall, Post 86..... Adjutant
Liam Nedredd, Post 107..... Americanism
Mary Brown, Post 202..... Finance Officer
Jeff Sukeforth, Post 30..... Historian
Ryan Coffin, Post 42..... Sergeant-At-Arms
Danielle Begert, Post 22..... Chaplain
Julie Flynn, Post 86..... Judge Advocate
Lloyd Woods, Post 147..... NEC
Matthew Jabaut Post 202..... NECA



Important Information



- ♦ **SWEEPSTAKES DELAY:** Due to mailing issues The American Legion, Dept. of Maine has delayed it's summer sweepstakes drawing originally due to take place at the Annual State Convention in Brewer. The sweepstakes drawing will take place at the American Legion State HQ in Winslow on **Wed., July 10th.**
- ♦ **INDEPENDENCE DAY:** State HQ will be closed on Thurs., **July 4th** in observance of the holiday.

Please Plan Accordingly!



COMMANDER'S PROJECT

2024-25

Department Commander

Tricia Thurston asks that each

Post and Legionnaire support her goal!



Mission Working Dogs

Their MISSION: To improve the lives of their community members who are living with a disability by providing them with properly trained service dogs to help them live more independently despite a physical disability and by providing therapy dogs which will bring mental well-being to the people of Maine such as those in nursing homes, hospitals, and schools.

Their VISION: At Mission Working Dogs, we train purpose-bred dogs to aid individuals with disabilities so that the handler can live a life to the fullest and more independently.

Their GOAL: Service dogs can assist those with physical disabilities such as mobility impairments by fetching dropped items, opening doors, and turning on and off lights. They can also help individuals with PTSD by learning to recognize an increase in anxiety, carrying medications, and providing deep pressure therapy to calm or redirect the handler. Dogs working as facility dogs are often trained to recognize a patient's affected side in the case of a stroke and to approach on the side the patient is able to pet with or throw the ball. Patients are able to work on fine motor movements in petting or caring for the dog as well as gross motor skills playing fetch with a dog that's able to bring the ball exactly to where the patient needs, such as on a side table or directly into their hand, rather than on the ground or trying to play tug with it inappropriately.

Their PLAN: Service dogs are generally trained for approximately two years and undergo a wide range of assessments on their physical health, temperament, and tasks or skills to make sure they can properly support their handler throughout life.

Donations can be made to the **American Legion Dept. of Maine**, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, ME 04091

Please place in the memo line of the check:

Commander's Project 2024-2025

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.



BE THE ONE

TRAINING - 2024

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2024 Training Dates: Sept. 28th & Nov. 30th

Where: Dept 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.

DONATIONS

THE AMERICAN LEGION

DEPARTMENT OF MAINE

Commander's Project "Mission Working Dogs"

Kelly Deroche, ALA Unit 24 Rumford.....	\$100.00
Jo Chapman, ALA Unit 24 Rumford.....	\$100.00
Lynn McAloney, ALA Unit 24 Rumford..	\$100.00
Rumford Post 24.....	\$418.00
Rumford Post 24 (Hats).....	\$75.00
Previous Donations (Hats).....	\$530.00
Previous Cash Donations	\$630.00

Dirigo State

Gregory & Debra Couture,	
Litchfield Post 181.....	\$970.00

National Commander's Campaign

Julie & Richard Flynn, Gray Post 86.....	\$100.00
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Thank you!!!





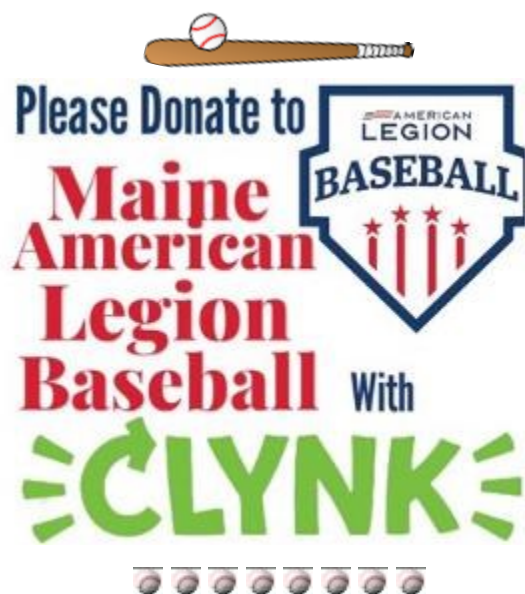
**Volunteers
Needed for 2024
State Tournaments
Mansfield Stadium
Bangor, ME**

**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



**“Never let the fear of striking out
keep you from playing the game.”**

~ Babe Ruth

**SONS OF THE
AMERICAN
LEGION**

Squadron Forms/Applications

[Print a SAL Membership Application](#)

[Squadron Officers Form](#)

[Consolidated Squadron Report - fillable](#)

[Annual Squadron Data Report - fillable](#)

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

**FINAL DAYS TO BEAT THE
NATIONAL DUES INCREASE**

The American Legion

JUN 26, 2024



Effective July 1, The American Legion's national per-capita dues will increase from \$18.50 to \$23.50. Now is the time to renew or join to beat the \$5 dues increase, and take advantage of the Legion's multiyear membership option.

Over 30,000 American Legion members have selected the multiyear membership option to renew or join since its launch in early December 2023. The multiyear members locked in the current national per-capita rate of \$18.50 for the next three membership years (2025-2027) to beat the \$5 dues increase. You too can beat the dues increase by either selecting a one-year membership or a three-year membership before July 1.

Here's how:

- To renew starting with the 2025 membership year, visit legion.org/renew and check the one-year or 3-year membership option.
- To join, visit legion.org/join and check the one-year or 3-year membership option.

What you need to know about a multiyear membership:

- The 3-year 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 3-year membership is upfront.
- There is not a discounted rate with the 3-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.

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>



Q. Having heard many barracks' renditions of it, we wondered, as the 4th approaches, from where did the song "Yankee Doodle Dandy" originate & why?

~ Submitted by Dwayne Hatfield, Mars Hill Post 118

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 Often Should You Turn Off Your Phone? Here's The NSA's Advice

Story by [PC World](#)

Many people need to learn how to use a smartphone properly. After all, these all-rounder devices require regular maintenance and important updates in order to stay protected against wear and tear as well as attacks.

Turning your phone off completely protects it

Surprisingly, this includes a very basic function that not many people do: switching off the smartphone completely. According to [security experts at the NSA](#), this alone helps to protect the device from some hacking attacks. It is now not only common to gain access to smartphones via malicious links, but also via so-called [zero-click exploits](#).

This involves bypassing the smartphone's security features step-by-step. Starting with a missed call, then the first installed files, which gradually allow access to the system and tap into information. This usually goes unnoticed, but can fortunately be prevented by completely rebooting the device.

So how often should I turn off my phone?

The simple answer from security experts as to how often a phone should be turned off completely is: **at least once a week**. In the best case scenario, however, you should remember to reset our phone even more often. This is because, in addition to eliminating the security risk, it also allows the smartphone's operating system to run all functions smoothly.

By the way: To see how long your device has had to go without switching off, you can easily check the system settings.

On Android devices, this can usually be found under "Device" and then "Status." The uptime is displayed there in hours.



MyLegion Q&A

[MyLegion.org](#) is a One-Stop-Shop for Managing Your American Legion Membership!

What are the eligibility dates for membership in The American Legion?

Thanks to the LEGION Act (Let Everyone Get Involved In Opportunities for National Service Act), Congress expanded the current eligibility period to cover Dec. 7, 1941, to the present, and includes the current war campaigns. Previously, there were seven declared war periods. Now there are two, the current war period dating back to World War II and another war era covering World War I. No other restrictions to American Legion membership changed.

RENEW TODAY

How much does it cost to rent a post for a special event, like a birthday or reception?

You'll need to contact the post you're interested in renting. Each post runs its own business affairs, including whether or not the facilities can be rented, and National Headquarters isn't involved in any way. If you're looking for a Legion post in your area, please visit [the post locator](#).



Multi-Year Membership is now Available. *Save Today!*
Lock in your current dues rate simply by selecting:
[Multi-Year Membership.](#)



**Warrant Templates
All Post/District Officer Positions
Available on-line at:
[MaineLegion.org](#)**

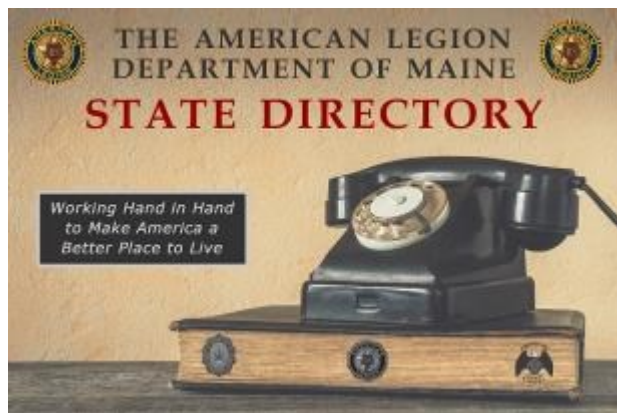
or go to:

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

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!](#)

.....
**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.

POST/DISTRICT FORMS

[CLICK HERE](#)

To see which forms your post still needs to submit

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



PAST COMMANDERS CLUB

Please note that the annual dues for Past Commanders Club are \$5.00 per member. See [Page 6](#) for an application. If you haven't paid your Past Commanders Club dues yet,
please do so today!

MILITARY TRIVIA

A. The song "Yankee Doodle Dandy" seems as American as apple pie, the Fourth of July, and flying the Stars and Stripes, doesn't it? It's a song every school kid, gray-haired grandpa, and kazoo band can sing and play together with gusto. But did you know that the words to this song were written as a **slap in the face—to Americans?** "Yankee Doodle" is a famous example of an insult that backfired. The "Yankee Doodle" tune was already well known by the 1750s, but tradition says that in 1755 a British doctor named Richard Schuckburg penned new words to mock his American allies. He portrayed the colonists as rude, crude, and cowardly. In the song, Schuckburg referred to the American fighter as both a "doodle" - a country hick, and a "dandy" - a conceited jerk. No one has ever figured out exactly where the term "Yankee" comes from, but one guess is that "Yankee" started as the nickname "Little Jan" used by Dutch settlers at the time and the Brits used it to mock all American colonists. Later, of course, it became the name of a very famous New York baseball team.





DEPARTMENT OF MAINE THE AMERICAN LEGION

PAST COMMANDERS CLUB

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

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

Post Adjutant

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

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Use back side if additional space is required.

SUBMIT TO:

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

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

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)***



2024 Dirigo State Winners

Award	Delegate's Name	Dirigo Town	Maine Town
Boys Nation Delegate #1	Jack Fenton	Muskie	Portland
Boys Nation Delegate #2	Tristen Wing	Muskie	Hartland
Boys Nation Alternate #1	Cole Doherty	Daggett	Dexter
Boys Nation Alternate #2	Michael Chase	Daggett	Rumford
Girls Nation Delegate #1	Dahlia Verrill	Pinkham	Falmouth
Girls Nation Delegate #2	Emma MacMahon	King	Poland
Girls Nation Alternate #1	Penelope Fyfe	Chamberlain	Augusta
Girls Nation Alternate #2	Kate Higgins	Muskie	Orono
The American Legion Scholarship Winner	Arsen Mikaelyan	Daggett	New Castle
The American Legion Scholarship Alternate	James Foss	Muskie	Rollinsford
ALA Scholarship Winner	Naomi Cabana	Chamberlain	Westbrook
ALA Scholarship Alternate	Lilly Rosa	Daggett	New Harbor
Samsung Scholarship - Boy	Jackson Thombs	Chamberlain	Kennebunk
Samsung Scholarship - Girl	Caroline Benson	Pinkham	Scarborough
Governor	Arsen Mikaelyan	Daggett	New Castle
Senate President	Tristen Wing	Muskie	Hartland
Speaker of the House	Jack Fenton	Muskie	Portland
Chief Justice	Dahlia Verrill	Pinkham	Falmouth
Municipal Outstanding Citizens			
Blaine	Wade Desroisers	Blaine	Turner
Blaine	Divina Gomes-Jaque	Blaine	South Portland
Chamberlain	Chase Farnsworth	Chamberlain	Ripley
Chamberlain	Naomi Cabana	Chamberlain	Westbrook
Daggett	Isabel Hayes	Daggett	Lewiston
Daggett	Conner Bowles	Daggett	Morrill
King	Alessandra Williams	King	Bath
King	Sepp Zammuto	King	New Castle
Muskie	George Donahue	Muskie	Mexico
Muskie	Sophie Yates-Paul	Muskie	New Harbor
Pinkham	Albin Darby	Pinkham	Brownfield
Pinkham	Baylee Lord	Pinkham	St. Albans

For Immediate Release
Contact: Sarah Sherman
Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services
207-430-5816
sarah.sherman@maine.gov



Consulate General of the Republic of Korea and the Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services Seek Korean War Veterans and Their Families

AUGUSTA, Maine (June 10, 2024) – The Consulate General of the Republic of Korea and the Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services have partnered to identify and invite Korean War Veterans (Boots on the ground 1950-1953, and in country service up to one year following the July 1953 armistice), and their families to attend a Korean War Veterans Ceremony at the State House – Hall of Flags in Augusta on July 26, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.

“From 1950 to 1953, many young men and women from the State of Maine left the comfort of home to serve on the rugged terrain of the Korean Peninsula. Their courage helped to secure the freedom and liberties and safeguard the rights of millions,” stated The Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Boston Kim Jae-hui, Consul General, “To our Korean War veterans, we owe a debt that can never be fully repaid. We thank you for your heartfelt gratitude and for the ways in which you enrich our nation. We promise to carry your legacy of bravery and sacrifice with pride and honor. For commemorating you, we host a special ceremony with the Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services. The ceremony will serve not only as a reflection of our past but as a commitment to our future.”

Pre-registration is required for veterans and their families (even if the veteran has passed) to receive the Korean Ambassador for Peace Medal from Kim Jae-hui, Consul General and State of Maine Veterans' Recognition (certificate and Korean War challenge coin) from David A. Richmond, Director of the Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services.

“Maine has a long-standing history of military service, and our Korean War Veterans are so deserving of this recognition,” noted David Richmond, Director of the Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services, “We hope veterans and their families will join us for this very special event.” Please pre-register at your earliest convenience for this event on the Bureau's website, www.maine.gov/veterans or by emailing the Bureau at mainebvs@maine.gov or calling 207-287-7020. If it is too far for the veteran to travel to Augusta, arrangements will be made to deliver the ceremonial medal and recognition to him or her.

About Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services

The Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services was established in 1947 by the State of Maine and is part of the Maine Department of Defense, Veterans, and Emergency Management. Our mission is to help Mainers who served, and their loved ones, understand and navigate the benefits, services, and programs available to them. The Bureau does this by being a responsive, experienced, and dedicated advocate. The Bureau is headquartered at Camp Keyes and has seven field service offices located throughout the state and a claims office located at the U.S. Department of Veterans

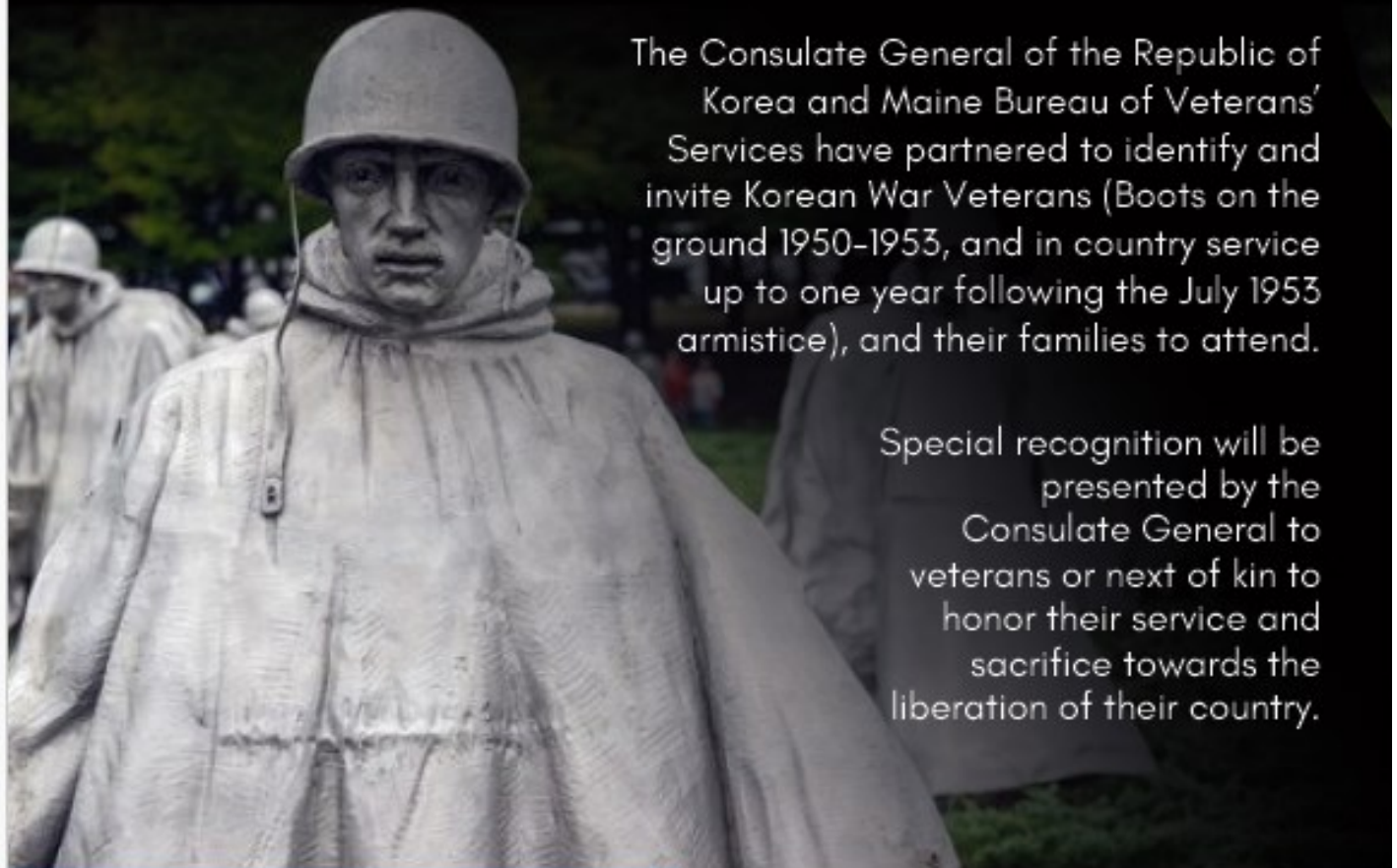
Affairs, Togus, Maine. The Bureau also operates the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery System which includes four veterans' cemeteries. For more information about the Bureau or to request assistance, please visit our website at www.maine.gov/veterans.

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KOREAN WAR VETERANS RECOGNITION DAY

MAINE STATE HOUSE | HALL OF FLAGS
1:00 P.M. | JULY 26, 2024



The Consulate General of the Republic of Korea and Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services have partnered to identify and invite Korean War Veterans (Boots on the ground 1950–1953, and in country service up to one year following the July 1953 armistice), and their families to attend.

Special recognition will be presented by the Consulate General to veterans or next of kin to honor their service and sacrifice towards the liberation of their country.



Maine Bureau of
Veterans' Services

To pre-register (required)
please visit our website:
www.maine.gov/veterans
or scan the QR code.



VETERANS HOLISTIC RESOURCE FAIR

A VETERANS WAY OUT

AUGUST 3, 2024

10AM-10PM

THOMAS POINT BEACH PARK BRUNSWICK, MAINE

FREE ENTRY TO ALL
VETERANS
*PARK FEES APPLY



VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Veteran Resource Expo & Engagement Session

VA Maine welcomes Veterans to the Maine Military History Museum and Learning Center for a **FREE** Resource Fair.

Do not miss this event.

MEET WITH:

Veterans Benefits
Administration
Veterans Health
Administration
Maine Bureau of
Veterans' Services

ONSITE:

File a Claim
Enroll in healthcare
Learn about State
Veteran Benefits

from **10^{AM}** to **2^{PM}**

SUNDAY

AUG 18, 2024

50 Peary Terrace, South Portland



Female Veteran Roundtable:
11:00am - 11:30am



Veteran Town Hall:
11:45am - 12:15pm

Get Information about Federal, State and Community Resources that are available to service members, Veterans, and survivors. There will be two breakout sessions for Veterans to engage directly with VA leadership regarding the care and benefits they earned.

MEN'S WEARHOUSE® MILITARY APPRECIATION EVENT

FOR
ACTIVE MILITARY AND VETERANS
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

ENJOY
**25%
OFF**

YOUR NEXT IN-STORE PURCHASE*

Qualifying Military ID required at time
of purchase.

JUNE 29 – JULY 6

*You must present Qualifying Military ID required in-store at checkout to receive 25% off your entire purchase (before taxes and shipping). Offer valid for Military family members with valid ID. Excludes Rental product and gift card purchases. One time use only. No cash or credit value. Customers returning items purchased with this coupon will forfeit the portion of the discount used for those items; the Men's Wearhouse return policy will apply to the remainder of the purchase. Product selection varies by store and online. Not combinable with other coupons. May be modified or canceled anytime. Perfect Fit® points are earned only on amounts expended by you in connection with the purchase and are deducted for any returns. Redeemable starting June 29, 2024. Expires July 6, 2024 11:59 PM CT.