https://www.facebook.com/TALDepartmentofMaine

THE LEADERSHIP LEDGER



Welcome to the 119th 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: legion-me@mainelegion.org



DONATIONS

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MAINE

Commander's Project "Mission Wor	king Dogs"	
Madawaska Post 147	\$200.00	
Ron Sailor, Orono Post 84	\$100.00	
Unity Post 50	\$100.00	
Rumford Post 24 (Hats)		
General Fund		
Marlborough Volunteer Fire Company		
In Memory of Chief Romeo Jordan	\$100.00	
Homeless Vets		
ALR Chapter 19, Sanford	\$1,000.00	

Thank you!!!



Please Join Us in Attending American Legion Baseball Games!

Click on the Links Below for More Information:

2024 SR Legion State Tournament Schedule

Schedule & Standings - Senior Legion Baseball Schedule & Standings - Junior Legion Baseball

> For further information, please contact State Adjutant **Jason Hall** at 207-873-3229 or 207-522-5471

105th National Convention



New Orleans, LA August 23-29, 2024



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 Ctr 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

Click Here for the 2024 National Convention App

DISTRICT MEETINGS

Be Connected · Be Heard · Be Informed

AUGUST 2024

District 16 – S. Aroostook Caribou Post 15 Prayer & Meal at 12PM, Meeting at 12:45 Northern Maine Veterans Cemetery 2PM

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.





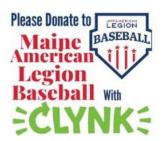
NOTEWORTHY- Bangor Daily News Letter: American Legion donation will make a huge difference

n an effort to improve equipment reliability and Libring the most up-to-date emergency medical services to the Island community, Memorial Ambulance Corps — Isle au Haut, Stonington, Deer Isle — has ordered a new ambulance that is scheduled for delivery in the first quarter of 2025. On July 4, Rodney Stinson Post #102 of the American Legion presented us with a \$20,000 check to help defray the cost of the new ambulance.

We are extremely grateful to the American Legion for this wonderful gift. It will make a huge difference to our efforts to pay for the new ambulance.

We would like to thank the members of the American Legion for their service to the nation and to the island community. They are an inspiration to us all.

Bill Wiegmann, President, Board of Trustees Memorial Ambulance Corps, Deer Isle



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

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!





TRAINING - 2024

2024 Training Date: 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: Destignatize 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.



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

MILITARY TRIVIA

Q. What is the significance of Fort Myer, Va. in the past & in the present?

~ Submitted by Dwayne Hatfield, Mars Hill Post 118

2024 AMERICAN LEGION COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF MAINE

"Life is a moving, breathing thing. We have to be willing to constantly evolve. Perfection is constant transformation."

-Nia Peeples

The Maine American Legion College originally was a student commitment to 3 weekends per year. To assist Legion members with their busy schedules and other commitments, the 2024 American Legion College will assess a condensed 3-day college. Evaluating the waters to see what is best for members.

This year's college will be Friday, October 18th to Sunday, October 21st.

Maine American Legion College will enhance knowledge and appreciation of The American Legion and teach the core values and contributions of the organization. The coursework prepares Legionnaires for leadership positions in posts, districts, and departments through education, development, and motivation. The curriculum challenges student leaders to think critically and creatively about issues confronting The American Legion.

The curriculum is administered by graduate facilitators of the National American Legion College. We will cover Legion history, leadership traits, putting good practice to use, and active participation in practice ceremonies and hands-on exercises. Topics include public outreach, fundraising strategies, community relations, and a bonus is the network created with fellow students.

The course work makes students more valuable to their posts and departments, increasing effectiveness and productivity.

Maine American Legion College takes place in the Training Center at Department Headquarters (5 Verti Drive, Winslow).

Limited space, reserve your spot today by email: jason@mainelegion.org

Service Officer Training

September 14, 10 am, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow

The Department of Maine will be offering Post Service Officer training on Sept. 14, 10 am. The training will focus on providing information on benefits to veterans and survivors, claims processes, education and assistance to veterans in need, do's and don'ts, and help one become more versed in state and local benefits.

Great course for new PSOs or any member that would like to learn more.

Department Service Officer Carl Curtis from Togus VA will be the lead facilitator.

To book your seat, email: jason@mainelegion.org

A NAVY PILOT BECOMES THE FIRST WOMAN AVIATOR TO KILL AN AIR-TO-AIR CONTACT IN COMBAT

JOE HERNNDEZ, NPR

JUL 22, 2024

A Navy aviator has become the first woman U.S. pilot to "engage and kill an air-to-air contact" in combat.

The military branch said last week that the unnamed Navy pilot, a member of the strike fighter squadron known as the "Fighting Swordsmen," recently notched the achievement against an attack drone deployed by Yemen's Houthi rebels.

The squadron was deployed aboard the Dwight D. Eisenhower aircraft carrier, which was sent to the Middle East just weeks after the Hamas-led attack against Israel on Oct. 7.

The carrier strike group ended its nine-month combat deployment on July 14 when it returned to Naval Air Station Oceana in Virginia.

"The success of the entire squadron over the past nine months is a testament to all the members of the command and their friends and family at home that support them," Cmdr. Jason Hoch said in a statement.

"I couldn't be prouder of the Swordsmen's performance day-in and day-out in incredibly demanding conditions. We proved over and over again that the flexibility a carrier strike group brings to the fight is unmatched, and that is solely due to the highly trained and motivated Sailors who go above and beyond the call of duty each and every day," he added.

Throughout their deployment, the Fighting Swordsmen completed nearly 1,500 combat missions in support of Operation Inherent Resolve and Operation Prosperity Guardian, an effort the U.S. announced in December to respond to Houthi attacks in the region.

The U.S. and several allies, including the United Kingdom and Bahrain, joined forces to combat attacks against commercial ships and other vessels in the Red Sea, which the Iran-backed Houthis said they were doing in response to Israel's invasion of Gaza following the Oct. 7 attacks.

According to the Navy, the Fighting Swordsmen fired more than 20 air-to-air missiles against Houthi one-way attack drones in the Red Sea and Bab-al-Mandeb Strait. The group also led two of seven "self-defense strikes" into parts of Houthi-controlled Yemen, which destroyed "munitions and command and control facilities which were used to target civilian vessels," officials said.

"Some people live an entire lifetime and wonder if they have ever made a difference in the world. A veteran doesn't have that problem."

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/membership/impact

Attention: District Commanders & Adjutants

District Meeting Calendar Form now available online!

<u>Click Here</u> 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 7** for an application. If you haven't paid your Past Commanders Club dues yet, please do so today!



Be The One Coffee

- Available in whole bean, ground, bulk or singleserve pods.
- Use code LEGION for 15% off.
- Free shipping on orders over \$50.

"Healing is a matter of time, but it is sometimes also a matter of opportunity.

~ Hippocrates



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

Donor Questions

Doesn't The American Legion get funds from the federal government?: Contrary to popular belief, The American Legion receives no money or grants from the federal government. Our service programs are sustained by contributions such as yours.

Do Legion service programs overlap or duplicate government programs?: No. The American Legion programs pick up and fill the void left by government agencies. This is especially true given government budget cut-backs which have made the need greater over the past several years.

Is my donation tax-deductible?: Yes, American Legion Charities is a tax-exempt organization, and all contributions are tax-deductible according to IRS regulations.

Where is The American Legion located?: The American Legion is located at the following address: The American Legion National Headquarters, 700 North Pennsylvania Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204 (317) 630-1200



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

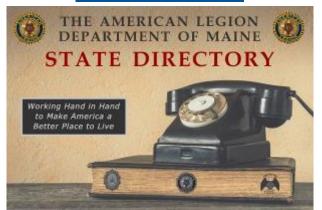
or go to:

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



To see which forms your post still needs to submit

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.



SUMMER VACATION COMPUTER JOKES SURE TO MAKE YOU GROAN

- © Life before the computer: Memory was something that you lost with age. An application was for employment. A program was a TV show. A cursor used profanity. A keyboard was a piano. A web was a spider's home. A virus was the flu. A CD was a bank account. A hard drive was a long trip on the road....
- © My son was spending too much time playing computer games, so I said, "Son, when Abe Lincoln was your age, he was studying books by the light of the fireplace." He considered this for a moment and replied: "When Abe Lincoln was your age he was The President of the United States."
- © How did the computer hacker escape the police? He just ransomeware....

© I give to you a joke I made up when I was seven: Why did the computer crash? Because it had a bad

driver!

 How do computers get drunk?? You know... they just take SCREENSHOTS!!

© The best joke on mankind is that computers ask humans to prove they are not robots...

More to Come!!

(groan...)



70 YEARS OF LEGION BASEBALL RULE BOOKS NOW AVAILABLE ON DIGITAL ARCHIVE

THE AMERICAN LEGION
JUL 26, 2024

Learn about American Legion Baseball with more than 70 years of digitized <u>rule books</u>, starting with the 1928 season. The newly available books demonstrate changes in Legion Baseball over the last nearly 100 years.

Visit the <u>Digital Archive</u> to discover something new about American Legion Baseball.

FLAG = REWARDS

Tips & Suggestions

Get Organized & Talk It Over

Flag Rewards Committee TO DO LIST

- Put together a Flag Rewards Committee at your Post.
- Designate a Flag Officer to lead the committee.
- Include the **Auxiliary** & **Sons** on the committee.
- Decide on a plan to gain **sponsors**.
- Discuss how your Flag Rewards credit will be used.

Open communication is key!

Success Stories

Congratulations! The following Posts have earned big credit in 2024 to spend at Emblem Sales in 2025:

Over \$150 earned: Brunswick, ME Post 20 Madawaska, ME Post 147

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

IMPORTANT DATES IN

MILITARY HISTORY

August

Antiterrorism Awareness Month

- > Aug. 4 Coast Guard Day
- > Aug. 7 Purple Heart Day
- > Aug. 10 U.S. Department of Defense Birthday
- > Aug. 10 Agent Orange Awareness Day
- > Aug. 14 Navajo Code Talkers Day
- > Aug. 16 National Airborne Day
- > Aug. 29 Marine Corps Reserve Birthday

MILITARY TRIVIA

A. <u>Fort Myer, Virginia</u>, traces its origins as an Army post, to the Civil War. It has been an important Signal Corps post, an Army cavalry site, the site of the first flight of an aircraft at a military installation and the <u>first military air fatality</u>. It is also the site of

ceremonial cannon fire for special occasions and is sometimes used to train the cannoneers of the 3rd Inf. Reg. (The Old Guard who protect Arlington National Cemetery).





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		
1	13	
2	14	
3	15	
4	16	
5	17	
6	18	
7	19	
8	20	
9	21	
10	22	
11	23	
12	24	
11	23	

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) ***

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 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.

KOREAN WAR VETERANS RECOGNITION DAY

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





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









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**

OMSITE:

File a Claim Enroll in healthcare Learn about State Veteran Benefits



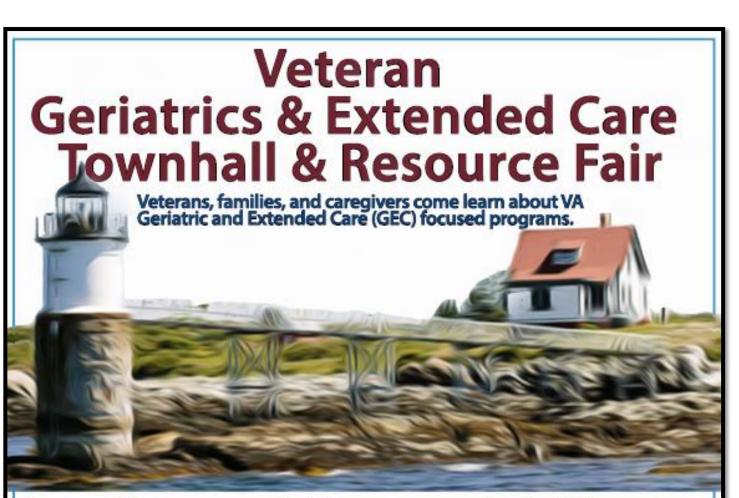
Female Veteran Roundtable: 11:00am - 11:30am

from 10 AM to 2 PM

SUNDAY AUG 18, 2024

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 50 Peary Terrace, South Portland Veterans to engage directly with VA leadership regarding the care and benefits they earned.



Are you a Veteran, spouse of a Veteran, or a caregiver to a Veteran who has questions or concerns about Geriatric and Extended Care (GEC) focused programs available to ageing Veterans who are enrolled with the VA Maine Healthcare System? Come meet with:

from 2^{PM} to 4^{PM}
SATURDAY

JULY 27, 2024

25 Industrial Park Rd, Boothbay

Home Based Primary Care Caregiver Support Program Geriatrics Extended Care

Veteran Directed Care

Homemaker Home Health Aid Community Adult Day

Contract Nursing Home Coordinator

State Veteran Home Coordinator

Medical Foster Home

Veteran Benefits Administration MyHealthyVet

See you there!



Please join us in celebrating you!

2nd annual Female Veterans Lunchean and High Tea

Sunday September 8th, 2024 | 11-4 PM
American Legion Post 132
52 Carding Machine Rd. Richmond,
Maine 04357

RSVP by August 25th via QR code, Facebook page, or email alaunit132deptofmaine@gmail.com



Join us for delicious food, crafts, massages, speakers, comradery and tea!



MERICAN LEGION RIDERS SUMMER RALLY

2024

FRIDAY AUGUST 23, 2024

- 4PM Meet and Greet
- Pool, Darts, Karaoke (downstairs) and Cornhole (outside)
- Registration and meal tickets (Taco Bar)

SATURDAY AUGUST 24, 2024

7am to 9am Breakfast at The Masonic Lodge (the building

next door to the post)

• 9am start of long ride (Group Picture)

*New castle River Rd to Southport Island and back to Post 42

For those not attending the ride, there will be a Cornhole Tournament at the Post.

• 11am Lunch on the Grill (Burgers, hotdogs, and sides

(Donation)

1pm Meeting (upstairs)

• 3pm Short Ride (Group Picture)

*Rt. 32 Coast to Pemaquid Lighthouse and back

to Post 42

5pm Dinner

6pm to 9pm Live Music and Karaoke!

SUNDAY AUGUST 25, 2024

 7AM TO 9AM Buffet Breakfast (French Toast, Eggs, Hash browns, Toast, Sausage, Bacon)

Volunteer at Wreaths Across America

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wreaths Across America mobile educational unit to make a stop in Brunswick, Maine.



REMEMBER the fallen.. HONOR those who serve... TEACH our children the value of freedom.

These are the mottos of Wreaths Across America.

July 31st at Post 20 Brunswick American Legion of Maine the touring mobile educational unit from Wreaths Across America will be at Post 20 for a public showing. The unit is being hosted by American Legion Post 20 of Brunswick at 1 Columbus Drive. This unit is returning back to Maine after a multi-state tour across America. All are welcome and encouraged to come visit; it's free! The unit has a 20 seat theater and many interactive computers stations which:

- Allows guests to sponsor wreaths
- Search for participating location
- Sign up to be a part of the Honor Fleet.

For detailed info contact:

Richard Barter, Post 20 Brunswick Brunswick, Maine (207) 240-5552 moto2646@gmail.com

