



The American Legion, Department of Maine

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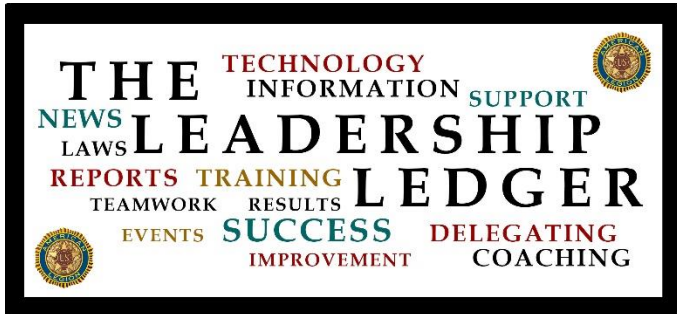
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THE LEADERSHIP LEDGER



Welcome to the 42nd Edition of The Leadership Ledger. It includes Post, Dept. and Nat'l 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.

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPT. OF MAINE ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION

Delegates/Alternates are Required to Pre-register Prior to Convention

Pre-Registration Required!

June 11-12, 2021

Jeff's Catering & Event Center

15 Littlefield Way, Brewer, Maine 04412

Due to Covid-19 guidelines and restrictions on occupancy, preregistration is mandatory with no exceptions in order to maintain proper head-count. To register, please visit:

<http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/news-events/state-convention.php> and click on the **Member/Guest Registration Form & Elected Post Delegate/Alternate Form**

All elected delegates and alternates are to fill out the Post Delegate and Alternate form. If you are not a Delegate/Alternate, please fill out the Member/Guest Registration form.

YOUR NAME SHOULD ONLY APPEAR ON ONE FORM. FEE/PERSON IS \$10.

RATES FOR LEGION FAMILY FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Holiday Inn: 404 Odlin Rd. Bangor, Maine 04401.

Ph: 207-947-0101 || Room Rate: \$111 + sales tax

Microwave, Refrigerator, Coffee/Tea Maker,

Elevator(s), Limited Lounge ||

Please state "Legion" when calling for reservations

Deadline: May 30, 2021

Quality Inn: 250 Odlin Rd. Bangor, Maine 04401.

Ph: 207-942-8272 || Room Rate: \$89.00 + sales tax

(incl. breakfast); Microwave, Refrigerator, Coffee/

Tea Maker, Pool

Please state "Legion" when calling for reservations

Fairfield Inn: 300 Odlin Rd. Bangor, Maine

04401. Ph: 207-990-0001 || Room Rate: \$149.00-

\$169.00 + sales tax. Refrigerator, Coffee/Tea Maker.

Please state "Legion" when calling for reservations

DEPARTMENT H.Q. WILL NOT BE MAKING HOTEL

RESERVATIONS THIS YEAR. RESERVATIONS ARE

TO BE MADE BY EACH INDIVIDUAL

DISTRICT MEETINGS

Be Connected – Be Heard – Be Informed

Upcoming District Meetings

District 2 – Cumberland: May 16, Scarborough

Post 76, 2 p.m. Election of officers and memorial

ceremony.

District 14 - Piscataquis: May 15, Greenville Post

94, lunch noon, 1 p.m. mtg

District 15 – Washington: May 16, Woodland

Post 23, 2 p.m

MEMORIAL DAY CRUISE ON THE SONGO RIVER QUEEN II

Fifth Annual Memorial Day Free Cruise for Veterans and Active Duty Military

The Naples Lions Club invites you and your family to a one and a half hour Memorial Day cruise on the Songo River Queen II on Memorial Day, Monday, May 31 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. (rain or shine) to honor and pay tribute for your time served in the United States military. Veterans or Active Duty Service men or women and their immediate family board for **free**. Please inquire, in advance, if additional guests are desired.

We will be taking reservations starting May 1 and are limiting the number of attendees this year due to Covid-19. All attendees must present proof of Covid vaccination and wear a face mask in order to board the vessel.

Please bring an ID or documentation to show active or prior military involvement. Boarding begins one hour before departure. We hope you will come and enjoy a leisurely cruise along beautiful Long Lake. Complimentary snacks will be served. A snack bar and cash cocktail bar are also available on board.

Advance reservations are highly recommended.

Secure your seat(s) as follows:

- Search on the web for "[Naples Maine Lions Club](#)" and click on Vet Cruise tab.
- In person or call the Naples Public Library (207-693-6841)
- In person or call the Naples American Legion Post #155 (207-693-6285)
- For more information or to make a reservation call: Rolanda Leary at 207-627-7117 or Dave Gerrish, Event Coordinator, at 207-693-6854 / email: atozdave@yahoo.com.

COVID-19 FUNERAL ASSISTANCE

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought overwhelming grief to many families. At FEMA, our mission is to help people before, during and after disasters. We are dedicated to helping ease some of the financial stress and burden caused by the virus.

Under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, FEMA will provide financial assistance for COVID-19-related funeral expenses incurred after January 20, 2020. FMI, click on the link above or [HERE](#), to watch an informative video.

UPDATES FROM THE NATIONAL COMMANDER

Dear American Legion Family,

This week is National Law Enforcement Week.

Like our veterans, law enforcement officers entered a profession in which they are expected to sacrifice their lives to protect others if called upon. It is not surprising that so many law enforcement officers are also military veterans.

The American Legion thanks these men and women for their service to our country and to their communities. I look forward to honoring the 2021 American Legion National Law Enforcement Officer of the Year at our convention this summer in Phoenix.

May 11, 2021

Bill Oxford

National Commander

Dear American Legion Family,

Every year approximately 5,000 Americans are diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), better known as Lou Gehrig's disease. For reasons still unknown, veterans are more than twice as likely to be diagnosed than the general population. Your American Legion National Executive Committee passed a resolution in last week's meeting **strongly encouraging American Legion Baseball teams to observe a moment of silence before games every June 2** in honor of the great New York Yankees' legend, who lost his life on that day in 1941. Veterans diagnosed with ALS should immediately contact the Department of Veterans Affairs, which has recognized the disease as a condition eligible for service-connected benefits.

10 May 2021

Bill Oxford

National Commander

MILITARY TRIVIA:

Q • What happened at Dutch Harbor, Alaska on June 3-4, 1942, for only the 2nd time in US history?

Submitted by Dwayne Hatfield, Mars Hill Post 118



SHOP AMERICAN FLAGS FOR MEMORIAL DAY

Your purchase directly supports [American Legion programs](https://www.americanlegionflags.com/American-Flags/departments/1077/), which help America's children, veterans & military families. Click on image or follow this link <https://www.americanlegionflags.com/American-Flags/departments/1077/>

DONATIONS

American Legion Department of Maine Foundation

Al McKay, Damariscotta Post 42	\$ 50.00
Kirk Thurston, Rumford Post 24	\$ 50.00

American Legion Department of Maine

General Fund	
American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.	\$ 50.00
David King, Lisbon Post 158	\$ 50.00

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NEW MY LEGION.ORG UPDATE

Now that the myLegion site is live, all accounts are now MEMBER accounts. This includes Legion and SAL members. The first requirement to access post and squadron data is to create a myLegion member account using the email address on your membership record. The new myLegion Home page will look like the image above. It provides links to your subscriptions, discounts and resources. MY ACCOUNT provides more information about your own membership. Please click on Video Presentation / PowerPoint to learn more.

[Video Presentation](#) / [PowerPoint](#) / [Q&A](#)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR NEW MYLEGION.ORG MEMBERSHIP PROCESSING & GROUP PERMISSION

Go to
“New MyLegion.org is live!”
for more information.

MAINE LEGION COLLEGE CLASS FOR 2021

We are currently working on the next Maine t past, you have to make a commitment but we know that you will gain much from these classes and from other Legionnaires from all over the State of Maine.

ONLY 8 MORE SPOTS AVAILABLE. This is the schedule we will follow:

Classes start at 8:30 a.m. each day

Phase 1: May 22 & 23 (cancelled)

Phase 2: July 24 & 25

Phase 3: Sept. 18 & 19

To attend these classes, you must first go online at: www.legion.org/alei and complete the Basic Training Course. After completion, please forward a copy of the Certificate to us at State HQ. You may scan the document and send it by email to paul@mainelegion.org along with your **Name, Post No., and Cell Phone No.**

THE AMERICAN LEGION CALLS FOR EXPEDITING VISAS FOR AFGHAN INTERPRETERS

WASHINGTON (April 29, 2021) – Stating that “time is of the greatest essence,” American Legion National Commander James W. “Bill” Oxford wrote to President Joseph Biden and Secretary of State Antony Blinken and called on the administration to speed up the processing of visa applications for interpreters who assisted U.S. troops in Afghanistan.

Oxford explained that he sent the letters because of the dire consequences that interpreters face. “A Michigan Legionnaire who served in Afghanistan described the situation in stark terms. Interpreters who are discovered by the Taliban will be swiftly beheaded. The unlucky ones will have to watch their families die first,” he said. “While we welcome an end to these endless wars, we must never abandon the brave Afghan and Iraqi allies who took great personal risk to assist our military with its missions. We must not leave them behind. They have earned safe passage to America.”

Oxford directed his Washington staff to work with the Biden administration on the best way to fix what has been described by Brown University as a “slow and inefficient” processing program that takes over two years. In his letters to Biden and Blinken, Oxford noted that Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) recipients “go through the strictest vetting and approval process of any category of person coming to the U.S. already, but we must balance security concerns with a commitment to those who fought alongside us.”

The American Legion foresaw this issue in 2018 when its National Executive Committee unanimously passed Resolution No. 16, which called for Congress and the president to recognize Afghan and Iraqi SIV recipients who “stood shoulder to shoulder” with U.S. troops and diplomats.

Oxford further promised that “The American Legion will not let this go. Military equipment is being removed from Afghanistan right now. But people are our greatest asset. We urge every American to contact their congressional delegations and insist that they prioritize the protection of our heroic allies and their families.”

About The American Legion

[The American Legion](http://www.legion.org) is the largest veterans service organization with nearly 2 million members in more than 12,000 posts across the nation. Chartered by Congress in 1919, The American Legion is committed to mentoring youth and sponsoring wholesome community programs, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting a strong national security and continued devotion to servicemembers and veterans.



MORE WAYS TO HELP DISABLED VETERANS' FAMILIES IN NEED

The American Legion makes it easier for **100 Miles for Hope** participants to ask family members, friends and other supporters to help the V&CF (Veterans & Children Foundation). Click on the image or follow this link:

https://www.legion.org/donate/endowment_fund

MILITARY TRIVIA:

A: The Japanese Navy attacked the US Naval Base, as well as Fort Mears, at Dutch Harbor, AK from 2 aircraft carriers. This was only the second time that the continental US was ever attacked by air bombardment from a foreign power.



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

VETERAN'S EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (VEFAP)

Do you know of a veteran in your community in need of assistance? Someone who during these challenging times just needs a little help to keep them going? Maybe a veteran that is homeless? Or worst of all, a homeless veteran with children? If so, we want to remind you that The American Legion, Department of Maine can assist you to help these veterans during their difficult and troubling times. You can call us at 207-873-3229 Ext. 3 or visit our website: <http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/resources/va-resources.php>

We will contact you as soon as possible and we hope to enable you to help veterans in need.

PAST COMMANDERS CLUB

If you are a Past Post Commander of The American Legion, Department of Maine and have not yet paid your annual dues to the Past Commander Club in support of the James V. Day Scholarship, please do so as soon as possible.

Visit the Maine Legion website <http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/formsapplication.s.php> and click on the **Past Commanders Club (Fillable)** form under Membership/Post Forms & Manuals. Mail form along with \$2.00 per member to The American Legion, Past Commanders Club, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, Maine 04901-0727.

It is because of you, and the members and officers of your Post that The American Legion, Department of Maine can authorized 2 students to receive a \$500 scholarship each year. Thank you for your support!

MISSION BLUE POST ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

At the 2020 Fall National Executive Committee Meeting, Resolution #36, Subject: Mission Blue Post Assistance Program was approved. Posts impacted by a government's public health restrictions implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic may apply for a grant up to \$1,000. Posts must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- A post must have a current consolidated post report on file.
- A post must must have filed an IRS 990 within the prescribed due date.
- A post must have filed all other required forms and reports as prescribed by the departments.
- A post must have actively participated in one or more The American Legion(s) within the last 18 months.
- A post must have a financial need.
- A post must provide a certificate of insurance naming The American National Headquarters as an additional insured (copy of insurance declaration will be attached to application).
- A post must provide documentation indicating that the post is properly incorporated. The funds from this grant program shall be used exclusively for the following: Current and past due mortgage principal and interest or Current and past due real estate rents or Current and past due insurance premiums or Current and past due utilities.

The American Legion posts receiving this grant are required to submit a true and accurate report outlining

how the funds were used, signed by the post finance officer, and certified by the post commander or post adjutant within six-months of receipt of the grant funds or no later than February 22, 2022. Whichever comes first.

To access instructions and application [Click Here](#) or visit

https://www.legion.org/documents/pdf/Mission_Blue_PAP_Application_1.pdf

Mission Blue Post Assistance Program Grant App is also available by visiting <http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/formsapplications.php> under Membership/Post Forms & Manuals. Also made available is the MISSION BLUE CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INS – EXAMPLE which is required when submitting the Mission Blue App.



COMPUTER 101

Computer 101 is a resource aiming to help those who wish to learn basic skills with the powerful technology of today's world. Increased proficiency with computers and the Internet has positive outcome across all fronts, both personally and professionally.

Computer Tricks You Should Know
Tricks for Typing - Here are a few tips that will save you lots of time when typing documents

- Move the cursor quicker to the beginning of the previous word by pressing CTRL+Left Arrow, instead of doing it manually.
- To get the cursor to the beginning of the next word, use CTRL+Right Arrow.
- Recover a deleted item with ALT+Backspace.
- Delete an entire word by pressing CTRL + Backspace.
- Select a word you want to highlight quickly, without dragging the mouse, by double-clicking on it.
- Highlight a whole paragraph by triple-clicking on it.
- Make superscript and sub text by pressing CTRL + = for sub, and CTRL + Shift for superscript.
- Paste in plain text and not what was originally formatted, after copying, by pressing CTRL + Shift + V.

WARRANT TEMPLATE CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE



**ATTENTION
POST & DISTRICT
COMMANDERS/
ADJUTANTS**

Are you Installing Officers at Your Post or District? The Template for Warrant Certificates is available:

1. [HERE](#) or follow this link: <http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/formsapplications.php>
(FORMS/APPLICATIONS)
 - a. Scroll to Award/Nomination Forms
 - b. Choose WARRANT TEMPLATE CERTIFICATES
 - c. It is a Fillable Form for All Officer Positions**OR**
2. Call Dept. HQ, 207-873-3229 to have the Fillable Warrants e-mailed to you.



CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) – INFORMATION-

For a complete listing of up-to-date information, cancellations and rescheduled events, please visit www.mainelegion.org or click the following link: [CORONAVIRUS \(COVID-19\) – INFORMATION](#)
Including Cancellations & Rescheduled Events