



Sons of the American Legion Detachment of Maine
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Call 207-250-0444



Detachment Officers

Commander
Steve Doyle
Vice Commander
Steve Amergian
Vice Commander
Gunnar Gunderson
Adjutant
George Rice
Finance Officer
Robert Farrington
Chaplin
Paige Morneault
Historian
Phil Skillin
Sgt-at-Arms
Vincent Plummer
Americanism
Llewellyn Buxton
NEC
George Rice
NECA
Steve Amergian
Parliamentarian
Gary Gamage
2nd Dist Cmdr
George Mallard
3rd Dist Cmdr
Robert Farrington
6th Dist Cmdr
Eric Perry
7th Dist Cmdr
Gunnar Gunderson
8th Dist Cmdr
Phil Skillin
13th Dist Cmdr
Sonny Buxton
16th Dist Cmdr
Anthony Benn
17th Dist Cmdr
Douglas Morneault
Department Advisor
Ryan Coffin

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Commanders Message,

Congratulations! on meeting and exceeding our February 11th membership goal. We are signing up new members which helps each squadron grow. However let's not forget about our existing members who haven't renewed yet. Make a point to reach out to these members and encourage them to come back to the fold, better known as a buddy check.

My year is winding down so I am looking for ways the Maine Sons of The American Legion can move forward. Wouldn't it be nice if there was a full slate of officers at the detachment level. If you have ever thought about serving veterans and their families in a new way, here is your opportunity. Reach out to an officer for more information.

We are moving forward to change from in person to zoom meetings for DEC and committee meetings. This will be highly beneficial and reduce the time and travel burdens to our officers, just another reason to consider becoming an officer.

Everything we do is rooted in our mission to serve veterans and their families. Thank you for your continued dedication, your willingness to step up, and your commitment to service—not self.

All the best,
Steve Doyle
Detachment of Maine

Membership Status:

As of Febuary 11, 2026

2025 is at 2898 Members

2025 percent of year end goal is 100.1%

As Febuary 11, 2026

We are #27 out of 55 Detachments for 2026 Memberships

2026 is at 2236 Members

2026 percent of year end goal is 78.93%



Target Date:

March 11, 2026
80% of 2026's
Membership

Squadron Planning

February

Americanism Month
16 President's Day

March

11 Membership Target Goal 80%
19 Start of Operation Iraqi Freedom (2003)
25 Congressional Medal of Honor Day

April

6 US entry into World War 1 (1917)

May

8 V-E Day (1945)
14 Membership Target Goal 60%
17 Armed Forces Day
23 National Poppy Day
25 Memorial Day
26 National Day of the Deployed

Let us know about your Squadron's upcoming events so we can fill this space.

Send in pictures and details of your Squadron's events.



BE THE ONE

For more details on the Be The One campaign

visit: betheone.org

To reserve your spot or for questions,

email:

betheonedeptme@gmail.com

Legionnaire Insurance Trust (LIT)

No Cost LegionCare

Your valued status as a member of the Legion

Family makes you eligible for LegionCare.



Current members only are entitled to the \$5,000 No-Cost-To-You Accident Insurance Protection. If your membership was expired at any point, you will have to sign up again to receive coverage.



SQUADRONS IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Squadron #86 Gray

Just want to give a big shout out and thank you to the community for supporting the new bottle shed at the Post. Located in the back of the parking lot, drop off your bottles to support Vets!



Sons of The American Legion

As of Febuary 11, 2026 SAL National membership stands at **326,369** members. This is 80.24% of the yearly goal of **409,244** members

Maine reached 100.1% with 2898 members for 2025

**Membership = A B C
easy as 1 2 3!
Always Buddy Check**

Continue to renew, recruit and help us make more history by reaching 105% for 2026.

Let's get it DONE!

Agencies & Organizations Supporting POW/MIA Efforts

Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA)



The primary U.S. government agency responsible for locating, identifying, and repatriating missing service members from past conflicts.

U.S. Service Casualty Offices

Each military branch (Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard) has a casualty office that works directly with families, coordinating notifications, updates, and long-term support related to missing or fallen service members.

Armed Forces Medical Examiner System (AFMES)

Provides forensic and DNA analysis to help identify recovered remains, often working in partnership with DPAA scientists and laboratories.

National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)

Preserves military records, operational reports, and historical documents that researchers use to help locate and identify missing service members.

Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) (Historical)

JPAC was the predecessor to DPAA. Its mission and responsibilities were absorbed into DPAA in 2015 to streamline and strengthen POW/MIA accounting efforts.

Veteran & Advocacy Organizations

National League of POW/MIA Families

A leading advocacy organization representing families of POW/MIA service members. They work closely with DPAA and Congress to ensure transparency, accountability, and continued government commitment.

American Legion / Sons of The American Legion / Auxiliary

Advocate for POW/MIA recognition, accountability, and remembrance through legislation, public education, and ceremonial observances.

Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA)

Actively supports POW/MIA accounting efforts and family advocacy, especially relating to the Vietnam War.



Celebrate the nation's semiquincentennial by taking part in The American Legion's USA 250 Challenge. Your participation, whether as an individual or part of a team, helps honor our veterans and uplift communities nation wide while promoting physical fitness, mental wellness, and community service. Participants may engage in one, two or all three activities as an individual or as part of a team like an American Legion post, American Legion Auxiliary unit, Sons of The American Legion squadron and/or an American Legion Riders chapter. For a \$30 registration fee, participants will receive their choice of a USA 250 Challenge tech shirt. The proceeds will go to the Veterans and Children Foundation (VCF).

Register Here
[www.legion.org/get-involved/
community-programs/usa250/
challenge](http://www.legion.org/get-involved/community-programs/usa250/challenge)

SONS OF THE

AMERICAN
LEGION

CSR Reporting

The online submission forms for this year's **CSR** is now active on MyLegion.org. Please make your squadron is aware. Should a squadron choose to submit their consolidated report using this method, it is recommended that they continue to work in "draft mode" until we get closer to the submission window (April through June).

If needed, CSR refresher training can be accessed from the Training Tuesday page. There was a session on this topic on May 27, 2025 and the video, PowerPoint and recap are available there.

Please feel free to reach out to mylegion@legion.org for any online submission issues. Thank you.

<https://mylegion.org/>

February may be the shortest month of the year, but there is no shortage of activity within the Maine Sons of The American Legion. Memberships continue to arrive from squadrons across the state—thank you for your continued efforts in strengthening our organization.

As your squadron completes its 2026–2027 elections, please remember to submit the

Squadron Officer and Directory Form

This ensures that your newly elected officers receive timely and accurate information from the Detachment.

Elections for the Detachment of Maine Executive Board are currently underway. If you are interested in serving at the state level and trying something new, please submit a letter of intent so your name can be placed on the ballot. Elections will take place at the State Convention on June 13, 2026, at Jeff's Catering in Brewer, Maine.

REPORTS

Several important reports will also be due soon:

Consolidated Squadron Report (CSR):

The CSR is one of the most critical documents a squadron completes. Information from all squadrons is compiled into a final report used by The American Legion, forwarded to the U.S. Congress, and utilized to apply for and verify awards at National Convention. Squadrons should report activities conducted between June 1 and May 31.

Squadron Data Report (SDR):

This report contains essential squadron contact information and is vital for both Detachment and National Headquarters. The completed SDR must be returned no later than April 15. Failure to meet this deadline may prevent members from renewing online through mysal.org and could result in renewal notices being mailed with incorrect information.

Thank you for all you do to support the Sons of The American Legion and the veterans, families, and communities we proudly serve.



American Legion Americanism Programs

The American Legion's Americanism pillar includes a wide array of programs designed to promote patriotic values, civic engagement, and character-building in youth and the community. These initiatives cover areas from government and constitutional education to athletic leagues and scholarships.

Youth and Education Programs

- Boys State / Boys Nation and Girls State / Girls Nation (In Maine these programs are administered under Dirigo State): These are summer programs where high school juniors learn about the U.S. government through hands-on experience. Delegates set up and run their own mock city, county, and state governments, which includes electing officials, debating legislation, and operating the judicial system. Two male and female delegates are chosen to attend Boys and Girls Nation in Washington, D.C.
- National High School Oratorical Contest: This competition, in place since 1938, allows high school students to win college scholarships for delivering speeches on the U.S. Constitution. It is designed to develop public speaking and leadership skills.
- Junior Shooting Sports Program: This initiative provides a safe environment for young people to learn and practice marksmanship and firearms safety.
- Junior Law Cadet Program: Some American Legion departments offer a one-week program in collaboration with state police or highway patrol academies. Cadets receive training similar to that of a trooper, including defensive tactics, firearms safety, and law enforcement technology.
- School Award Medal Program: Since 1926, the Legion has presented medals to graduating students who demonstrate high qualities of character and good citizenship. Students are selected based on the six defining qualities of courage, honor, leadership, patriotism, scholarship, and service.

- Legacy Scholarship: This fund is for the children of U.S. servicemembers who have died on active duty since September 11, 2001.
- Samsung American Legion Scholarship: Samsung, in partnership with the Legion, awards scholarships to undergraduate students who are descendants of U.S. wartime veterans.
- Support for Scouting: The American Legion has officially supported the Boy Scouts of America (now Scouting America) since 1919.

Flag and Civics Education

- Flag Education Program: The Legion provides educational materials and presentations on flag etiquette and proper care for the U.S. flag. They encourage the daily display of the flag and recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in schools.
- Voter Awareness and Citizenship: Local posts encourage voter registration and participation and offer assistance to immigrants pursuing U.S. citizenship.
- Patriotic Observances: The Legion promotes respectful observance of patriotic holidays and sponsors activities that foster community spirit.

Athletic Programs

- American Legion Baseball: Founded in 1925, this is one of the nation's oldest and most respected amateur athletic programs. It teaches lessons in sportsmanship, loyalty, and fair play to nearly 100,000 young athletes each year.
- Other sporting activities: Depending on the local post or department, other sports programs, such as marksmanship, may be organized.

BECOME THE LEADER YOUR POST NEEDS

The American Legion Department of Maine

The American Legion depends on strong, informed, and confident leaders. This training is your opportunity to strengthen your skills and join a network of legionnaires committed to excellence.

MARCH 20-22, 2026
DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS
5 VERTI DR, WINSLOW ME

WHY SHOULD YOU ATTEND?

- BUILD A STRONG FOUNDATION FOR YOUR POST
- STRENGTHEN LEADERSHIP, COMMUNICATION AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION SKILLS
- LEARN BEST PRACTICES FOR RUNNING EFFECTIVE MEETINGS AND MANAGING POST OPERATIONS
- GAIN INSIGHT WITH FELLOW LEGIONNAIRES AND SHARE IDEAS THAT STRENGTHEN THE ORGANIZATION
- PREPARE FOR GREATER LEADERSHIP ROLES

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- ALL POST OFFICERS
- FUTURE LEADERS READY FOR GREATER RESPONSIBILITY
- ANY LEGIONNAIRE COMMITTED TO STRENGTHENING THEIR POST
- AUXILIARY AND SON MEMBERS (IF OPEN SEATS)

DAY ONE

This is the American Legion
Flow of Communication
Post Service Officer
Parliamentary Procedures
Elections and Constitution and By-laws
Saluting, Traditions and Ceremonies
Practice meeting

DAY TWO

What makes a Great Post
Servant Leadership
The Legion Family
Conflict Management
Risk Management
Organizational Life Cycle
Current Topics

DAY THREE

Public Speaking
Child and Youth Programs
Americanism
Understanding District and National
Consolidated Post Report
Legislative Issues



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jason@mainlegion.org



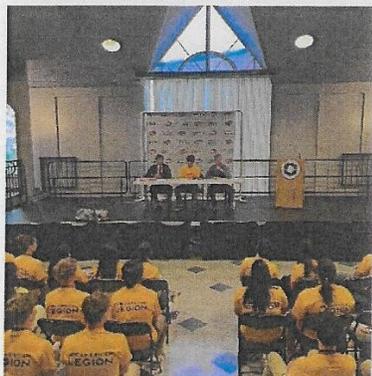
www.mainelegion.org



THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY **DIRIGO STATE**

COLBY COLLEGE * WATERVILLE, ME

JUNE 21-26, 2026



High School Juniors Can Apply!

Provides training in citizenship, leadership, and character development

- Debate current and future leaders
- Create your own legislation
- Learn the art of persuasion
- Focus on participation and personal experience
- Form a sense of individual pride in the community, state, and nation
- Delegate returns to the community a better citizen and display willingness to make a greater civic contribution
- Eligible to earn scholarships
- Opportunity to be in a Band or Chorus
- Life-long friends made
- \$400 per student traditionally sponsored by American Legion Posts, American Legion Auxiliary Units, businesses, and civic, faith-based, or fraternal groups

FOR MORE INFORMATION

207-873-3229

www.mainelegion.org- DirigoState@gmail.com- legionme@mainelegion.org

 **AMERICAN
LEGION
FAMILY**

2025–2026 National Membership Target Dates & Goals



- March 11, 2026 — 80%
- April 8, 2026 — 90%
- May 13, 2026 — 100%
- July 29, 2026 — 105%

(Delegate strength target,
30 days prior to the
National Convention)

Important Dates for Squadron Interactions

Four Chaplains Service
February 8, 2026

Oratorical Contest
February 14, 2026
Thomas College
Waterville, Me

**Training at Legion
Headquarters**
March 20-21, 2026
Department of Maine
5 Verti Drive
Winslow, Me

State Convention
June 12 - 13, 2026
Jeff's Catering and Event
Center
Brewer, Me

Dirigo State
June 21 – 26, 2026
Colby College
Waterville, Me



POW/MIA Memorial Wall

Commander Steve Doyle is proud to announce his Commander's Project for this year. Two years ago, his project focused on the restoration of the POW/MIA Memorial Wall at the Department of Maine Headquarters — a goal that was successfully completed thanks to the dedication and support of many across our organization.

This year, Commander Doyle's project is to support perpetual care for the POW/MIA Memorial Wall. This initiative will ensure that the memorial continues to serve as a lasting tribute to the brave service members who are Prisoners of War or Missing in Action — and to their families — reminding them that they are never forgotten.

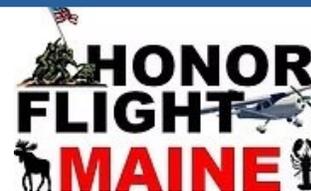
If your Squadron would like to make a financial contribution to this important project, please send your donation to:
Detachment of Maine
5 Verti Drive, Suite B
Winslow, ME 04901
Please write "POW/MIA" in the memo line of your check.
Your support helps preserve the legacy and memory of those who have sacrificed so much for our nation.



EMBER'S PAWS OF HOPE

EMBER'S PAWS OF HOPE

A non profit organization dedicated to providing emotional and mental support to veterans and first responders through the use of future certified therapy dog(s). Members of our team have a diverse background which includes being trained in critical incident stress management and peer support, and we visit fire stations, police stations, hospitals, and veterans facilities to offer comfort and companionship to those who serve our communities



2026 Honor Flight Maine Dates:
Flights are all charter flights on Allegiant:

- April 10-12 Portland Jetport
- May 29-31 Bangor International Airport
- Sept 18-20 Portland Jetport
- Oct 16-18 Bangor International Airport

CLICK ON LINKS

[SAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION](#)

[SAL MEMBER DATA FORM](#)

[SAL SQUADRON MEMBERSHIP 02/05/2026](#)

[CSR FORM](#)

[DETACHMENT OF MAINE OFFICERS LETTER OF INTENT](#)

[DISTRICT COMMANDERS LETTER OF INTENT](#)

[DETACHMENT OF MAINE FACEBOOK PAGE](#)

If your Squadron has held elections for the upcoming year, please fill out the forms including emails for all your officers to ensure they get recognition and receive updates from Detachment.

[SQUADRON OFFICER AND DIRECTORY FORM](#)

[LEGION LEADERSHIP LEDGER](#)

[THE MAINE LEGIONNAIRE](#)

HIGH IMPORTANCE

**See You at the Detachment's
State Convention
SATURDAY
JUNE 13, 2026**

Sons of the American Legion Detachment of
Maine
5 Verti Drive, Suite B Winslow, Maine 04901
<mailto:saldetmaine@gmail.com>
Call 207-250-0444

'Til Next Time

Thank you for your continued
membership and dedication to
The Maine American Legion Family.