

# **SALute Maine**



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

Commanders Message,

Reflections of Service: The Purpose Behind What We Do



#### Detachment Officers

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

> VOLUME 1 ISSUE 7 Oct 20 2025

Ryan Coffin

Fall is officially here, bringing with it a time of change, reflection, and renewed purpose. As Sons of The American Legion, everything we do — in our communities, for our Legionnaires, for veterans in need, for our own Sons, and for the families who stand beside us — has meaning. Our actions are guided by a shared mission: to serve, to honor, and to preserve the legacy of those who have sacrificed for our freedoms. Our value is found in our commitment — in showing up, lending a hand, raising funds, and being present for those who once stood in defense of our nation. The work we do may seem small at times, but collectively, it has a powerful impact.

Now is a great time to look at what we're accomplishing at the squadron level.

What fundraisers are you organizing?

How are you supporting our veterans and their families?

Every event, every project, and every volunteer hour strengthens our Legion Family and the communities we serve.

Together, we continue to live our purpose — one act of service at a time.

All the best, Steve Doyle Detachment of Maine

Membership Status: As of October 15, 2025

2025 is at 2819 Members

2025 percent of year end goal is 97.61%

AS of October 15, 2025

We are #48 out of 55 Detachments for 2026 Memberships

2026 is at 567 Members

2026 percent of year end goal is 20.01%



Target Date:

November 13, 2025 35% of 2026's Membership

### **Squadron Planning October**

26 National Day of the Deployed November

10 Marine Corps Birthday 🥮



Birthday (

11 Veterans Day

13 2026 Membership 35% Target Date

16 Detachment of Maine DEC Meeting at Headquarters

### **Decmber**

7 Pearl Harbor Day 1941

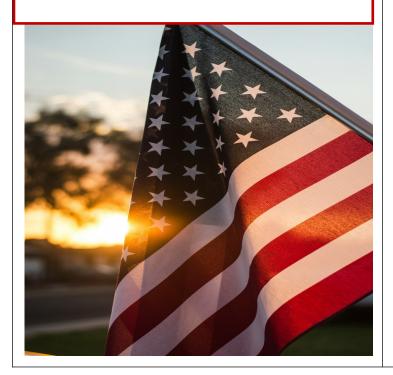
13 Wreaths Across America Day

20 Space Force Birthday



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.





### **SQUADRONS IN THE SPOTLIGHT**

Squadron #86 Gray It is with great honor that our new presentation check got to be debuted with **Honor Flight Maine!** An amazing organization honoring our Veterans!



### **National Commander's Maine Itinerary**

The Department of Maine welcomes National Commander Dan Wiley, his wife, and Aide to our state.

You are cordially invited to attend one of our "patriot stops" or RSVP to one of the lunches or evening events.



### Friday, October 31:

- American Legion Post 93-Bucksport, 9 am
- Frank D. Hazeltine Post 43-Belfast, 11 am

### Saturday, November 1:

- Bangor 9 am Coles Transportation Museum
- Dow-Lougee Post 115-Corinth, 11:30 am light lunch \*
- Tedd-Lait Post 75- Old Town, 5p Evening meal \*

### Sunday, November 2:

- West Penobscot Post 107-Carmel, 9:30 am
- Barrows-Skidgell Post 105-Newport, 12 noon Lunch \*
- Poulliot-Seavey Post 53- Dexter, 2:30p
- Corinna Post 73- Corinna, 5p Evening meal \*

### Monday, November 3:

- Chadbourne-Merrill Post 29-Dover Foxcroft, 12:35 pm light lunch \*
- Joseph P. Chiasson Post 41- Milo, 2:15

<sup>\*</sup>If you plan on attending a lunch or meal, contact Department Adjutant Hall no later than 10/24 at: Jason@Mainelegion.org



Consolidated Reports Summary Published: July 22, 2025

### Where would these numbers be if all squadrons turned in their reports!!!

National Overall Totals	
<b>Dollars Donated</b>	\$12,150,235
Hours Volunteered	7,740,001
Value of One Vol. Hour*	\$34.79
Volunteer Hours Value	\$269,274,628
Total Volunteer Value	\$281,424,863

Pillar	Donations	Hours	Hours Value*
Americanism	\$5,379,768	6,570,287	\$228,580,267
Children & Youth	\$1,675,501	345,958	\$12,035,861
Vets Affairs & Rehab	\$2,274,325	249,837	\$8,691,838
Vets Employ & Edu.	\$134,989	32,307	\$1,123,961
Internal Affairs	\$2,685,652	541,613	\$18,842,701

Americanism	
Boys State / Girls State	\$404,976 in Donations to Boys State / Girls State with 46,549 Hours of Participation
Legion Ed. Programs	\$19,711 in Donations to 5-Star / 10-Ideals Progs. with 15,564 Hours of Participation
Flag Programs	\$245,337 in Donations to Flags Presented (All) with 855,050 Hours of Participation  437,794 Flags Presented (All Sizes / Events)
Flag Education	\$37,268 in Donations to Flag Education Progs. with 35,548 Hours of Participation
Other Ed. Programs	\$688,251 in Donations to Scholarships Awarded with 19,561 Hours of Participation
Oratorical Contest	\$18,815 in Donations to Oratorical Contest with 4,006 Hours of Participation
Color Guard	\$287,500 in Donations to Color Guard with 107,967 Hours of Participation
Community Service	\$1,613,514 in Donations to Other Organizations with 4,816,041 Hours of Participation
Scouting	\$260,704 in Donations to Scouting with 122,726 Hours of Participation
Jr. Shooting Sports	\$92,758 in Donations to Jr. Shooting Sports with 14,249 Hours of Participation
Am. Legion Baseball	\$426,654 in Donations to Am. Legion Baseball with 34,908 Hours of Participation
Other Teams	\$240,958 in Donations to Other Teams with 20,288 Hours of Participation
Blood Drives	\$25,134 in Donations to Blood Drives with 10,351 Hours of Participation
Natl' Emer. Fund	\$136,022 in Donations to Nat'l Emergency Fund with 9,749 Hours of Participation
Legacy Schol. Fund	<b>\$85,424</b> in Donations to Legacy Scholarship Fund with <b>7,007</b> Hours of Participation
Other Amer. Projects	\$796,742 in Donations to Other Amer. Projects with 450,725 Hours of Participation

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	Children and Youth	
CWF	\$297,511 in Donations to Child Well-Being Found. with 84,969 Hours of Participation	
Special Olympics	\$247,187 in Donations to Special Olympics with 75,237 Hours of Participation	
Children's Miracle Net.	\$44,749 in Donations to Children's Miracle Net. with 62,087 Hours of Participation	
Ronald McDonald House	\$20,881 in Donations to R. McDonald House with 2,175 Hours of Participation	
Children's Organ Transplant Assn	\$67,688 in Donations to Child. Org. Trans. Assn. with 3,465 Hours of Participation	
TAL Vets. & Child. Found.	\$82,223 in Donations to T.A.L. Vets. & Child. F. with 14,696 Hours of Participation	
Other C&Y Projects	\$915,263 in Donations to Other C&Y Projects with 103,329 Hours of Participation	

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation	
VAMCs & Facilities	\$281,271 in Donations to VAMCs & Facilities with 34,469 Hours of Participation
State Vets Facilities	\$184,280 in Donations to State Vets Facilities with 18,059 Hours of Participation
Nat'l Vets Assist. Day	\$15,018 in Donations to Nat'l Vets. Assist. Day with 5,516 Hours of Participation
Op. Comfort Warriors	\$82,117 in Donations to Op. Comfort Warriors with 15,680 Hours of Participation
Fisher House	\$93,053 in Donations to Fisher House with 8,208 Hours of Participation
Other VA&R Projects	\$907,183 in Donations to Other VA&R Projects with 167,906 Hours of Participation
Homeless Veterans	\$423,618 in Donations to Homeless Veterans with 26,826 Hours of Participation
Troop & Famil Support	\$287,784 in Donations to Troop & Family Support with 60,293 Hours of Participation

Internal Affairs	
Other Totals	\$2,685,652 in Donations, Not Covered Above with 541,613 Hours, Not Covered Above

Veterans Employment and Education	
VE&E Projects	\$134,989 in Donations to VE&E Projects with 32,307 Hours of Participation

<sup>\*</sup>As reported by:  $\underline{\text{Independent Sector}}$  in  $\underline{\text{April 2025}}$ .

### Stars of Service and Sacrifice

### **Honoring America's Military Families**



### **Blue Star**

Represents a **family member currently serving** in the U.S. Armed Forces during times of conflict or war. The Blue Star Service Flag is proudly displayed in homes, churches, and organizations. Each blue star represents one loved one actively serving.



Honors a **family who has lost a loved one in military service** to our nation. The gold star replaces the blue star when a service member makes the ultimate sacrifice. "Gold Star Families" are forever honored for their loved one's courage and sacrifice.



Displayed by a **family whose loved one was wounded or disabled in military service** to our nation. The silver star symbolizes sacrifice and enduring impact of injuries.



Recognizes a **family who has lost a loved one to the effects of military service ---** such as illness, injury, or suicide related to their time in uniform. The White Star honors their service and reminds us that sacrifice continues beyond the Battlefield

These stars are symbols of love, pride, and remembrance.

They remind us that behind every uniform stands a family who serves too.

Honor their service. Remember their sacrifice.

## **Sons of The American Legion**

As of October 15, 2025 SAL National membership stands at 108,652 members.

That means currently we are at 26.55% of our year end GOAL of 409,652

# 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%. Let's get it DONE!

### 2025–2026 National Membership Target Dates & Goals



- November 13, 2025 35%
- December 10, 2025 45%
- January 14, 2026 60%
- February 11, 2026 75%
- 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

# **Detachment of Maine DEC Meeting**

November 16, 2025 Headquarters 5 Verti Drive Suite B Winslow, Me

### **Mid-Winter Conference**

January 10, 2026 Jeff's Catering and Event Center Brewer, Me

### **Oratorical Contest**

February 14, 2026 Thomas College Waterville, 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

### 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.







## 2025 TRAINING DATE December 20

The next training will be at Department Headquarters on October 18th with guest from the Department of New York and the National President in attendance.

Where: Dept. of Maine Training Room 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, ME 04901

For more details on the Be The One campaign visit: betheone.org To reserve your spot or for questions, email: betheonedeptme@gmail.com



All Maine Veterans interested in going on a trip should go to **HonorFlightMaine.org** to apply. The site also contains applications for those wishing to be Guardian for a Veteran and for Volunteers. Honor Flight Maine is an all volunteer organization.



### **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

### Honoring the Missing: The POW/MIA Memorial Wall

The POW/MIA Memorial Wall stands as a solemn reminder of those who were Prisoners of War (POW) and those who remain Missing in Action (MIA) — brave service members who have not yet returned home. It represents a nation's enduring promise: You Are Not Forgotten.

### **Key Aspects of the Memorial Wall:**

Symbol of Commitment:

The wall serves as a visible commitment to remember and honor those who sacrificed their freedom for ours. Each name inscribed tells a story of courage, duty, and love of country.

A Place of Reflection:

Families, veterans, and visitors come to reflect, grieve, and find peace — knowing that their loved ones' service is remembered and respected.

Recognition and Awareness:

It raises awareness of ongoing efforts to account for the more than 80,000 American service members still missing from past conflicts, from World War II to the present.

1 Ceremonies and Tributes:

Annual POW/MIA Recognition Day observances, wreath-laying ceremonies, and candlelight vigils remind us that remembrance is an active duty, not a passive memory.

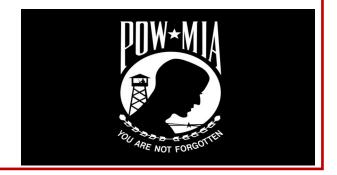
Unity and Gratitude:

The wall connects generations — veterans, families, and citizens — through shared gratitude and the unwavering belief that no one who served should ever be forgotten.

### **A Lasting Legacy**

The POW/MIA Memorial Wall is more than a monument — it's a promise kept. It calls on all Americans, especially members of The American Legion Family, to continue advocating for the fullest possible accounting of every missing service member.

"Until they are all home."



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.

### **CLICK ON LINK BELOW**

**Squadron Officer Directory Information** 

### **High Importance**

# See You at Mid-Winter Conference

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.