



**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  
2<sup>nd</sup> Dist Cmdr  
George Mallard  
3<sup>rd</sup> Dist Cmdr  
Robert Farrington  
6<sup>th</sup> Dist Cmdr  
Eric Perry  
7<sup>th</sup> Dist Cmdr  
Gunnar Gunderson  
8<sup>th</sup> Dist Cmdr  
Phil Skillin  
13<sup>th</sup> Dist Cmdr  
Sonny Buxton  
16<sup>th</sup> Dist Cmdr  
Anthony Benn  
17<sup>th</sup> Dist Cmdr  
Douglas Morneault  
Department Advisor  
Ryan Coffin

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# 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,

Happy New Year!

Thank you to everyone who attended our Mid-Winter Conference in Brewer this past weekend. It was wonderful to hear about the many activities and events taking place throughout our squadrons. Your time, dedication, and commitment truly make a difference for our veterans, their families, and the many causes that support them.

Another proud moment for Maine is achieving our 100% membership goal for 2025! Congratulations to all who helped make this possible. Memberships for 2026 continue to flow into headquarters, keeping us on track to reach the milestones set by National Headquarters so far this year. Keep up the outstanding work!

As we move forward through the rest of the year, let's continue this momentum by staying engaged, supporting our programs, and working together to strengthen our squadrons and communities. Every effort, big or small, helps ensure we remain a strong voice for our veterans and their families. Together, we can make 2026 another successful and impactful year.

All the best,  
Steve Doyle  
Detachment of Maine

## Membership Status:

As of December 31, 2025

2025 is at 2890 Members

2025 percent of year end goal is 100.07%

As January 15, 2026

We are #46 out of 55 Detachments for 2026 Memberships

2026 is at 1869 Members

2026 percent of year end goal is 65.97%



Target Date:

February 11, 2026  
75% of 2026's  
Membership

## Squadron Planning

### January

14 Membership Target Goal 60%  
26 National Day of the Deployed

### February

Americanism Month  
8 Four Chaplains Ceremony  
11 Membership Target Goal 75%  
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)

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](http://betheone.org)*

*To reserve your spot  
or for questions,*

*email:*

*[betheonedeptme@gmail.com](mailto: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 #115 Corinth

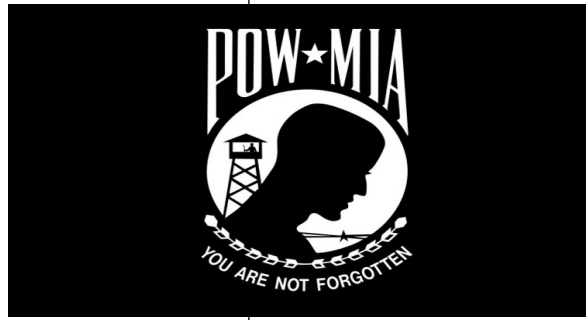
During Mid-Winter Conference, Department of Maine Commander Leroy McKenzie presented a National Charter to Commander Roger Gray of Squadron #115 Corinth. Detachment of Maine Commander Steve Doyle presented him a gavel and Vincent Plummer, Detachment of Maine Sergeant at Arms presented him a tabletop American and Squadron flag.



**Did you know?  
Detachment of Maine  
family is growing  
again!**

We welcome **Dow-  
Lougee Squadron  
#115** in Corinth!

Also, **Kinney-Melquist  
Squadron #34** in  
Tenant's Harbor  
package is at National  
Headquarters waiting  
on final approval!  
Welcome to the family.  
We look forward to  
seeing what you are  
doing to support our  
veterans, families and  
your community



Honoring Those Accounted For and Those Still Missing  
Since World War II, more than 600,000 American service members were once listed as Prisoners of War or Missing in Action. Through decades of dedicated recovery efforts, forensic science, and international cooperation, over 520,000 of those heroes have been accounted for and returned home. Each recovery represents a promise kept and a family given long-awaited answers.

Despite this progress, approximately 81,000 American service members remain unaccounted for from past conflicts. Current estimates include:

- World War II: ~71,800
- Korean War: ~7,400
- Vietnam War: ~1,560
- Cold War incidents: ~126
- Gulf War and later conflicts: ~6

These service members were lost in battles across land, sea, and air, often under chaotic and dangerous conditions. Their absence is still felt by families, comrades, and a grateful nation.

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency continues its vital mission around the world—recovering remains, identifying the fallen, and bringing them home. As members of The American Legion Family, we remain committed to remembering their sacrifice and honoring the solemn pledge made to every service member:

You are not forgotten.



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)



### 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](mailto:mylegion@legion.org) for any online submission issues. Thank you.

<https://mylegion.org/>

## NEC

Zoom meetings slowed down during the holiday season but will resume in full force starting week of January 11<sup>th</sup>

Areas of focus are

- \* Celebrating our 250th year with country wide 4th of July Celebrations
- \* The ABC's of membership(Always Buddy Check)
- \* Send in pictures and writeups of your squadron activities to let everyone know what you are doing for our veterans,families and community

Respectfully submitted,  
George Rice  
NEC/Adjutant  
Detachment of Maine

## Sons of The American Legion

As of December 31,  
2025 SAL National  
membership stands at  
**404,941** members.

Maine reached 100.07%  
with 2890 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!**





## **The Meaning of The Sons of The American Legion Logo**

- The star in the center represents our country, and the five points of the star represent the five-point program American Legion
- The sub background represents The Sons of The American Legion and the rays represent the loyalty of it's membership
- The blue of the emblem, like the blue of our flag is for justice.
- The two stars in the border stand for freedom and democracy.
- The wreath below the star is in memory of our comrades and those who willing gave their lives for their country
- The ten points of the emblem represent the ten ideals of every Legion son

*The 10 Ideals: teaches the elements of patriotism, health, knowledge, training, honor, faith, helpfulness, courtesy, reverence and comradeship.*





## 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.



# **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



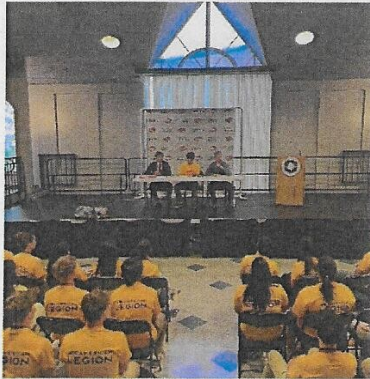




## THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY **DIRIGO STATE**

**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](http://www.mainelegion.org) - [DirigoState@gmail.com](mailto:DirigoState@gmail.com) - [legionme@mainelegion.org](mailto:legionme@mainelegion.org)

**AMERICAN  
LEGION  
FAMILY**



## 2025–2026 National Membership Target Dates & Goals



- 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

**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



All Maine Veterans interested in going on a trip should go to [HonorFlightMaine.org](https://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.

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](#)**

**CSR**

**High Importance**

**See You at the Detachment's  
State Convention**

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.