

THE MAINE égionnaire



AUG-NOV 2021

Vol. 36, Issue 3

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER

AMERICAN LEGION

DEPARTMENT OF MAINE

40 Pages

Commanding The American Legion

Commander Couture Leads Maine American Legion for 2021-22

Debra Couture was elected as the Department of Maine Commander of The American Legion during the 102nd State Convention in Brewer, Maine on June 12, 2021. Deb was born in Augusta, Maine and attended Hall-Dale High School and the University of Maine. She graduated from Hawaii Pacific University in 1978 and Central Michigan University in 1986 with a Masters in Health Care Administration and was commissioned a LTJG



**STATE COMMANDER
DEBRA COUTURE**

in the US Navy in 1987. Deb retired as a Captain in the Medical Service Corps in 2012 after over 24 years of active and reserve service. She served in South Korea, Guam, Kuwait, Qatar, Iraq, and Spain and at several bases in the US, including Little Creek, VA, The Pentagon, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, USCENTCOM, and at several Naval Hospitals. Deb is also a Seabee and is Seabee Combat Warfare Qualified.

Deb has been a member of The American Legion for over 27 years and is a member of the William R. Bold, American Legion Post 181 in Litchfield, Maine. She has served on several National Committees and in many officer positions at the State, District and Post levels.

Deb and her husband Greg reside in West Gardiner, Maine and have 2 daughters and 6 grandchildren.

Veteran from Lake Kiowa, Texas, Elected National Commander of The American Legion

Paul E. Dillard was elected national commander of the nearly two-million member American Legion today in Phoenix on Sept. 2, during the organization's 102nd national convention. He first joined the nation's largest veterans organization in 1969.



**NATIONAL COMMANDER
PAUL E. DILLARD**

A native Texan, Dillard graduated from Whitesboro High School in 1965 before joining the U.S. Navy and serving in Vietnam through four campaigns including the Tet offensive. He later received an honorable discharge as a radarman second class petty officer from the Navy Reserve before attending Grayson County Junior College and East Texas State University.

Dillard worked several years in the manufacturing business as an Engineer, Plant Manager and Director of Manufacturing in Tennessee. Upon returning to Texas, he accepted a sales representative position with Sherman Foundry and became its airplane pilot. A career change was made when he and his wife, Donna, began their family and he entered into the insurance business specializing in Employee Benefits and later forming Dillard & Gann Insurance.

As a paid-up-for-life member of Post 265, Lake Kiowa, Texas, Dillard served as post commander, vice commander, adjutant and judge advocate.

He coached American Legion Baseball for more than 10 years and served as his post's Boys State chairman.

He served the 4th District as commander and vice commander and served the department as sergeant-at-arms, Membership & Organization chairman, National Security chairman, Uniformed Organization chairman, Board of Trustees chairman, and he served on the Finance Committee and the Long-Range Planning Committee. He was elected as Department of Texas (state) commander in 2007. His theme as national commander is "No Veteran Left Behind."

On the national level, Paul has served as Alternate National Executive Committeeman, consultant to the Insurance Committee, Distinguished Guest Committee, Children and Youth Committee, Media and Communications Council. He has served as chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, chairman of the Veterans Employment & Education Commission and chairman of the Legislative Commission. He was elected as national vice commander in 2013.

He married Donna in 1983. They have two sons, William and his wife Allison, and Jonathon and his wife Karri and two grandsons Jarrett and Lukas. All are members of the American Legion Family. Donna has been an active and dedicated member of the American Legion Auxiliary for several years and has served in numerous positions of leadership at all levels of the organization, including department president in 2017 – 2018.

John Raughter
(317) 630-1350, jraughter@legion.org



State Commander Installation Ceremony: Guest speaker, and then leading candidate for National Commander Paul Dillard, installs newly elected state commander of The American Legion, Department of Maine, Debra Couture of West Gardiner during the installation ceremony held at the Annual State Convention in Brewer on June 12. Left to right, State Commander Debra Couture, Auxiliary National Executive Committeewoman Joan Caron, Past National Commander Anthony "Tony" Jordan, National Commander Paul Dillard, and National Executive Committeeman Lloyd Woods.



Commander's Comments

Fellow Legionnaires, I am extremely honored to serve as your Department Commander for the year 2021-2022. I would like to thank all of you for the opportunity to be Commander of the best Department in the American Legion.



**DEBRA
COUTURE**

The past 18 months have been a struggle at times but we have continued to persevere and now have reached that light at the end of the tunnel. We have continuously completed "buddy checks" and have reached out to help our fellow Veterans in any way that they needed us. I thank you all for all that you have done to help.

I am very proud of how hard our Legionnaires have worked this past year on membership. The Department of Maine ended the 2019-2020 year at approximately 92% of its membership goal. The Department of Maine reached 97% of its goal and finished #4 when compared to all other states in the US and its territories for this past 2020-2021 membership year. GO TEAM MAINE. Keep the momentum going and forge ahead with the new 2021-2022 membership year, too!

It was great to see so many of you at the 102nd State Convention in June. What a great event to re-invigorate us to move forward with a new vision for this coming year. The National Com-

mander, Paul Dillard, has stated that his theme for 2021-2022 is "No Veteran Left Behind". We need to keep reaching out to our fellow veterans wherever and whenever they need our help. Our posts in Maine are doing great things for their Vets every week...building wheelchair ramps, sheltering the homeless, feeding and clothing those in need. Let your communities know what you are doing and that you are ready and willing to help. I am asking all of you to "Be the Inspiration" this year to keep our posts moving forward by renewing your current members and keeping them active and included in your post activities; reaching out and connecting with your communities; writing those newsletters and sending them to your post members and other local organizations; connecting with your schools, the National Guard and Reserve forces, and other organizations to educate them about what the Legion has to offer; and informing your local newspapers, TV, and radio stations about what you are doing. Promote yourselves. The American Legion, Department of Maine is constant, dependable, and unstoppable... You will be an inspiration to others and increase that connection to Veterans in your communities. Communication is the key. That communication also helps to bring in new members.

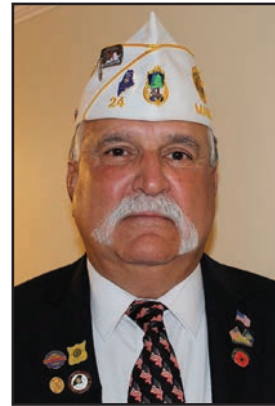
Be kind to others. Have a safe and blessed Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. I hope to see you all at the Mid-Winter Conference in January. Keep reading the Leadership Ledger for more information.

May God Bless You All.

For God and Country,
Deb Couture, Commander
The American Legion, Department of Maine

A 'First' Look

It is an honor and a privilege to be your 1st Vice Commander for the upcoming year. Our annual convention is now behind us and I must admit, it was well attended and went pretty smooth. It was great to be able to gather and see old and make new friends of the American Legion family.



**KIRK
THURSTON**

I look forward to working with the newly elected officers for this year. When we work as a team, we can achieve great things and if one fails, we all fail. I don't mean just department officers, but all officers at all levels, post, district and area. To be successful, we must work for one common goal, and that goal is membership. We must work hard on retention of our members. Yes, new and younger members are important for our future, but do not forget our senior members. They have knowledge and concerns that can be used at all levels. Speaking of new members, use the DMS listing to transfer members into your post. These are members that have already shown interest in being a Legionnaire and are paid up for that year. Yes, they may not count for that year, but they will be counted on the roster next year and can hopefully replace the members that have gone to the Post Everlasting. Once members are transferred into your post, the Adjutant will receive the information with a letter explaining what to do. If you have any questions, you can call Rachael at Department or myself. Make sure you reach out to these new post members and make them feel welcomed. This is an important step to getting them involved.

Speaking of "Membership", I have been involved with The American Legion since 2006. I have held an office at some level ever since. I do not remember the department ever having a 'Membership Theme'. It may have, but I do not recall one. So, with that said, this year's 'Membership Theme' is "Membership, Don't Delay, Pay Today". I know, I hear you; has he gone mad? Maybe! The next time you think about renewing your membership, do it! Don't Delay, Pay Today! Also, if you know of a member of your post or another that is in a bad place, pay it forward and pay that member's dues. If you do, ensure the post adjutant sends

a quick note with the membership card explaining the situation and have them pay it forward when they are able. It is a WIN, WIN for the post, member, and department. As we all did while serving this great country, we looked after each other, let's continue that trait. The word DUES has many meanings. Maybe we should look at it as a DONATION to further the Programs of the American Legion, Department of Maine instead of DUES. Let's try that! Remember each post is named after a veteran that paid the ultimate sacrifice. Let's honor that sacrifice by paying our membership donation early.

By the time you read this, National will have sent out the first renewal notices. Let's try something different this year and save National postage; have everyone renew their membership by December 31, 2021. Now that goal is obtainable and would be great bragging rights within the Northeast Region. I know that it will not be easy, but nothing worth doing is easy. As the saying goes, "When the going gets tough, the tough get going". We can do this, and this is my challenge to you. Remember, "Membership is the responsibility of each and every Legionnaire", do your part!

Buddy Check spotlight from our National magazine mentions that the Buddy Check program has proven vital since it was installed as a formal nationwide initiative in 2019. Thousands of veterans and their families have heard from legionnaires and received assistance, camaraderie, and assurance that they have friends who can help. To learn how your post can conduct Buddy Checks, go to www.legion.org/buddy-check. You can find many tools to assist you in conducting this vital program. Contact me if you need assistance.

Most posts and districts are conducting meetings. For districts, please ensure you have sent a schedule of your meetings with date, time, and location to Department so it can be included in the Leadership Ledger. For posts, ensure you have sent the Annual Post Data report (Due April 15) to Department along with the other 3 reports, so the Department Directory can stay current. That means the Officer's Form should be sent in from each post and district even if you do not have any changes from the previous year. With this current information, department officers can make arrangements to attend post/district meetings.

Winter Conference is January 15 at Jeff's Catering & Event Center, Brewer,

[More on "FIRST LOOK" Page 3](#)



Maine American Legion Takes Part In Celebrating Maine's 200th Birthday: Members of the American Legion, Department of Maine marched in the Maine Bicentennial Parade which took place in Auburn/Lewiston in celebration of Maine's 200th Birthday on August 21. State Commander Debra Couture, right, is seen here being interviewed by WGME following the parade.

NEC Update

Greetings fellow Legionnaires. I truly hope this finds you all in good health and spirits and enjoying the fall colors again this year. It is hard to believe that as I am writing this article, we are half way thru the month of October. My land, where has the time gone. I only wish it would slow down some. Oh well, guess will have to take it as it comes.



LLOYD WOODS

To start off, I want to thank all of the Legionnaires and Auxiliary members who attended the Fall Conference in Westbrook this past fall. There was a lot of comradery and information given out and the presenter for The American Legion, Kevin Mook, was great. Thank you again Kevin you made the information interesting to learn. Both Post 62 and 197 are to be congratulated for hosting The American Legion and The American Legion Auxiliary meetings respectively. Your posts worked well together and hope that remains into the future as well.

What I am about to report, I hope doesn't upset anyone and if it does, please accept my most sincere apologies. I have attended a number, too many to count, of Department Executive Committee meetings over the years past and to my recollection the following has happened only ONE other time in all those years. I have travelled from my home in Northern Maine (Madawaska Lake near Stockholm) to either Waterville, or Winslow or Westbrook

or any other southern location to attend a DEC meeting. I know that the miles driven and time spent going to and from those locations is on my dime and I accept that. Four or five hour drives is a lot and I accept that as part of my wanting to support this great department of ours and our veterans.

What I am very disappointed about and upset about is that at the 2021 Fall Conference the Department Executive Committee DID NOT have a quorum in order to do the business of our department. I want everyone to know that three of us from the Northern part of Maine travelled to Westbrook and attended the conference and the DEC. However, very few from the areas close to the Westbrook area felt it necessary to attend the DEC meeting. The information given out at the conference and that which would have been relayed at the DEC is important. Those that did not attend and the areas which they represent and cover lose as no one was there to get the information and take it back to the Blue Hat Legionnaire. That is the worst of it all.

The members of the DEC are there to partake in the business of the department and must always remember "it is important business that we do", to borrow a phrase, for both the department and our veterans. By not attending a meeting when called, the posts, the districts and the veterans of your areas are losing out and you are not doing your sworn duty. I know that family should come first however we have 17 District Commanders, 7 Area Commanders and each district commander has a vice that can represent them at the DEC. The area commanders also have someone who can represent the area. There was only one Area Commander and only five Districts Commanders who attend-

[More on "NEC WOODS" Page 5](#)



Patiently Waiting: National Executive Committeeman Lloyd Woods, left, and 1st Vice Commander Kirk Thurston, right, wait patiently while final preparations take place for the Department Executive Committee meeting to begin at Jeff's Catering and Event Center in Brewer on June 12.

On the Agenda

NOVEMBER MEETINGS

District 3 – Androscoggin: Nov 14, Turner Post 111, 2 PM
 District 5 – Oxford: Nov 16, Bethel Post 81, 7 PM, Refreshments after.
 District 9 – Kennebec: Nov. 10, Gardiner Post 4, 7 PM
 District 10 – Somerset: Nov. 8, Madison Post 39, 6:30 PM
 District 12 – Hancock: Nov. 9, Stonington Post 102, Dinner at 6:30 PM, Meeting at 7:30 PM
 District 13 – Penobscot: Nov. 7, Bangor Post 12, Bangor Armory, 2 PM
 District 14 – Piscataquis: Nov. 20, Monson Post 116, 12 noon lunch w/Business Meeting at 1PM
 District 17 – No. Aroostook: Nov. 7, St. Francis Post 180, St. Francis Community Ctr., 857 Main St., St. Francis, 1 PM

DECEMBER MEETINGS

District 2 – Cumberland: Dec 12, Westbrook Post 197, Holiday Party, 2 PM
 District 5 – Oxford: Dec. 21, Locke Mills Post 68, 7 PM, Appoint Nominating Committee, District Christmas Party
 District 12 – Hancock: Dec. 14, Northeast Harbor Post 105, Dinner at 6:30 PM, Meeting at 7:30PM - Christmas Party

JANUARY MEETINGS

District 3 – Androscoggin: Jan. 9, Mechanic Falls, Post 150, 6:30 PM
 District 5 – Oxford: Jan 18, South Paris Post 72, 7 PM, Oratorical Contest, refreshments after.

FEBRUARY MEETINGS

District 2 – Cumberland: Feb. 13, Naples Post 155, 2 PM
 District 3 – Androscoggin: Feb. 13, Lisbon Post 158, 2 PM
 District 5 – Oxford: Feb. 15, Dixfield Post 100, Light supper at 6 PM, Meeting and Nominations at 7 PM
 District 9 – Kennebec: Feb. 9, Augusta Post 2, 7 PM
 District 14 – Piscataquis: Feb. 19, Dover-Foxcroft Post 29, 12 Noon Lunch w/ Business Meeting at 1 PM
 District 15 – Washington: Feb 13, Machais Post 9, 2 PM
 District 17 – No. Aroostook: Feb. 6, Van Buren Post 49, 1 PM

A 'Second' Look

It is a great pleasure and privilege to serve as your Department of Maine 2nd Vice Commander, for the upcoming year.

I am looking forward to working with Commander Couture and 1st Vice Commander Thurston, to continue the outstanding work the Department has been doing. Especially the accomplishment done with the assistance, to an in-need veteran. As someone who has had the privilege as being able to do this, the joy you feel is nothing compared to the look on their face and joy in their voices is so rewarding.



ALFRED MCKAY

As always, we must support the 1st Vice task of getting memberships paid and turned into the Department as soon as possible. I do want to thank the post, district and area commanders for the assistance given to our now 1st Vice and other department officers as we called you for support. Now we need to ensure the Post Officers Report, the Consolidated Post Reports (CPR's), as well as any required forms are sent to Department. All forms except the CPR can be sent electronically to headquarters. Also, all state forms, except the Annual Post Data Report, can be found and downloaded by visiting the Department website at www.mainelegion.org.

All members, especially post officers, need to subscribe to and read the Leadership Ledger. This will keep you informed of upcoming events and other useful information. I am looking forward to working with you and seeing you at the upcoming conferences.


■ "FIRST LOOK" (Continued from Page 2)

more information will be in the Leadership Ledger and by visiting www.mainelegion.org. I hope to see a lot of posts represented. The conferences are where you learn about the nuts and bolts of The American Legion pro-

grams. These are very informative and are meant for the attendees to take what they learn back to their posts and educate their membership. Hope to see you there.

Remember Membership!

DON'T DELAY, PAY TODAY!



THE MAINE Legionnaire

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MAINE

Official Newspaper of The American Legion, Dept. of Maine
Published at Maine Today Media, 295 Gannett Drive
South Portland, ME 04106

By The American Legion, Department of Maine
Business Office, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, ME 04901-0727

Website: www.mainelegion.org

Tel.: 207-873-3229 Fax: 207-872-0501

Email: rachael@mainelegion.org

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/maineamericanlegion>

Paul L'Heureux, Editorial Director
Rachael Currie, Managing/Layout Editor
Jeanette Glidden, Assistant Layout Editor

Third Class Postage paid at Waterville, Maine
Subscription for Maine Legionnaires \$2 as a part of their dues.
Other subscription Rate \$10 a year.
Average Circulation: 18,000.

Americanism Report

I thank you for the opportunity to be your Americanism Officer for 2021-22. With 2020 behind us, it is time to look forward to a wonderful year ahead. Please start



PATRICIA THURSTON

by deciding what your post will focus on for the year. Choose a few things and do them very well. It is never too early to begin thinking about our Dirigo State Program or the Oratorical Program. Get into the schools early to motivate the staff and students to be involved. Educate schools and the public on how the Dirigo State Program has changed. Work towards sponsoring a student by having an Oratorical contest at post level so they are then able to compete at district level then onto department and national level. It would be a proud moment to have Maine represented at the National Oratorical contest.

Has anyone ever heard of the Daniel J O'Connor award? It was previously known as the WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST award. This award is awarded annually to the department selected from among the top three departments attaining the greatest number of percentage points which are derived from the activities reported on the Consol-

idated Post Report (CPR) and which submits the best narrative statement supporting the claim of points shown. Did you catch that? It is chosen from a CPR that shows the greatest number of percentage points for what we do and do well here in this great State of Maine for our Americanism programs. This is just another reason why we should strive to ensure the Consolidated Post Report is filled out and submitted on time to Department. The other piece of this award is that a narrative statement also accompanies it. Maine previously won this award from 1976 to 1980. It has not been won since then. Wouldn't it be nice to bring it home next year for all we do? My challenge to you is for you to keep a record of all Americanism activities/programs you are able to do throughout the year. From there, be sure you submit the CPR with the information needed on time for 2021/2022 to the Department. As you record and complete your activities/program, send them my way via email. This will support me to gather narratives from your posts to support what is needed to submit for the trophy.

Please check in with your local schools to see if they are ready and able to allow visitors into their school. Doing this sooner than later will support you to get in to provide important education. It's time to get the veterans in the classroom program up and running as well as the Flag Education Program started after a very long gap during Covid.

[More on "AMERICANISM" Page 7](#)

The Adjutant Speaks

To all members receiving this issue of The Maine Legionnaire, I must first apologize for the time extension needed to get this paper out.

These past 2 years have been very challenging for all of us and it has been no different at your Department HQ.

We started out 2021 with a goal of having our Department Oratorical in February and as you are aware many obstacles prohibited this from happening. It was as simple as no facility would allow us to hold a function and still be able to follow CDC guidelines and the potential of what may happen caused parents, students, and Legionnaires as it should be, to air on the side of caution.

During this period, we were also meeting to combine our BOYS STATE with the Auxiliary GIRLS STATE program and our team was making tremendous progress. Many of you are probably unaware but this program needs to be on course months before the actual date of the event. Again, we were not able to secure a facility ahead of time and many of the schools were waiting for changes in the CDC guidelines to allow for these types of gatherings. Again, parents, schools and students as well the Legion Leadership had to make the decision to cancel. This was a very hard decision and we saw the effects at your Department Headquarters as your staff had worked so hard to meet all the time frames, printed material, emails, contacts with schools, committee meetings, facility, and food issues and then we had to shut it down.

Also, during this time, we were planning for a State Convention which needed to be adjusted continuously due to ongoing changes with the CDC guidelines. We were reducing the number of days and speakers trying to come up with a formula for seating and keeping all our members safe. The emails and phone calls from so many telling us at HQ that we want a Convention made us hope for some changes.

Again, we started planning months ahead and during this time we also had to meet with committees to get the Legion Baseball program going as well. This program had a little more flexibility as some of the schools had already started sports programs for the summer and the guidelines made it



PAUL L'HEUREUX

possible to promote approximately 30 teams made up of Jr. & Sr. team players.

Meanwhile as we approached the date for the Convention, more openings in the guidelines allowed us to be more flexible and we moved forward with the help and support of "Jeff's Catering and Event Center" to make it happen. The Convention was a challenge, but because of our staff support and planning, knowing that like other past events it might be canceled, it did not deter them from moving forward and making the Convention a success. Thank you, Rachael, Kierra, Rebecca and Jeanette for all that you did and do everyday during these challenging times.

All during this process, many Legion posts started to move forward and started to plan for events in their community and doing what they had been doing before Covid-19 had shut them down. The success stories started coming into HQ with new membership attained during the successful "takeout meals" that was mentioned in my previous articles.

Those who started to do "Buddy Checks" caused a new wave of caring for our fellow veterans and members and were able to assist those in need. Using our new VEFAP funds, we were able to assist those with some financial support and then we saw those posts that actually formed teams that went out to assist those veterans in their apartment and homes with small repairs and projects to show them that The American Legion was there for them. It was unbelievable to see this happening on a daily basis from those who had not had much interest in the past. We started to come alive in different areas with a term we use and sometimes forget, Veterans helping Veterans!!!

I hope your post was part of these who made a difference, but if they did not, then what are you waiting for? Start attending meetings and get involved with your post and your community and the success stories will evolve like they used to in the past. There is no age requirement and no project guidelines to help those in need. And if you want new members, watch what happens when others watch you make a difference by setting the example as a veteran's organization.

I want all those who have succeeded during these challenging times to know you are making a difference everyday. We thank those posts who took the time to send in all these articles and know that we could not place them all in this largest issue ever printed but will attempt in the next issue. Thank you for your patience and support. Be safe and remember to move Forward and stay Focused.

Judge Advocate

WELCOME....

NOW GET TO WORK.

Have you ever been a part of a team and one of the members isn't doing their part? Is it because they were not told? Was it a popularity vote and they just weren't prepared for the work? Was it to have a title? Or was it because no one mentored them or educated them on the duties involved with that role?

Now that we have new officers at 12,000 posts across the world, I just wanted to give you a basic background on the roles of officer positions. Keep in mind each post may have slightly different descriptions based on their bylaws and constitution.

Commander - Shall be the chief executive officer of the post and shall ensure the bylaws and standing rules are implemented and followed; security and fund controls exist; finances and business activities are on sound footing; facility meets current and future needs of veterans; officers and committees function per their assignments and they properly represent the needs of veterans and the community; preside at meetings; and shall perform such other duties as directed by the membership.

First Vice-Commander - Shall assume and discharge the duties of the office of the commander in the absence of, disability of, or when called upon by the post commander, shall be concerned with matters concerning the post's membership, and shall perform such other duties as may be required.

It is recommended that the first vice commander execute a plan to conduct a Buddy Check twice a year at a minimum.

The four W's of planning

- **WHO** - Who's going to execute each step necessary to reach the goal?
- **WHERE** - Where do you want to go? What's the objective?
- **WHAT** - What steps are required to reach the objective?
- **WHEN** - When is the work going to be done?

Second Vice Commander - Shall



**JASON
HALL**

assume and discharge the duties of the office of the first vice commander in the absence or disability of such officer, is charged with the business aspects of the post, and shall perform such other duties

as may be required.

The second vice commander is responsible for building an atmosphere in which Legionnaires have fun while accomplishing the mission of your American Legion post. The commander depends on the second vice commander to help run operations to spice up meetings and attract members to the post. The second vice commander could provide post entertainment or guest speakers at meetings, a calendar should be filled months in advance with activities designed to engage members. The second vice commander should be looking for ways to involve members in post activities, operations, and programs to assist the first vice commander by providing improved member retention.

Adjutant - Shall have charge of the post's administrative files; complete and file appropriate forms as required by federal, state, and city entities; keep a full and correct record of the proceedings of meetings; process and account for membership; administer election requirements; manage correspondence needs of the post; and perform such other duties as may be required.

Finance Officer - Shall be charged with the custody of post funds and maintain funds in the post only; prepare and follow the annual budget, advising when adjustments are needed; keep its accounts current and report thereon at regular meetings of the post; advise and consult with the commander and executive board; receive and receipt the

funds of the post; pay approved bills; shall prepare, or have them prepared, sales tax forms and the annual Federal and State Income Taxes; function as a representative to any and all post committees; and perform such other duties as may be required. This position shall be bonded under a blanket bond.

Chaplain - Shall be charged with the spiritual welfare of all post comrades; offer divine but non-sectarian service in the event of dedications, funerals, public functions, meetings, etc. The chaplain will adhere to such ceremonial rituals as are recommended by the National or Department Headquarters from time to time.

Judge Advocate - Shall be to advise at various meetings and Robert's Rules of Order, advise on the construction and interpretation of the posts' bylaws and standing rules, perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office, and shall perform such other duties as may be required. Ideally, the incumbent of this officer position is a past post commander.

Historian - Shall be charged with the individual records and incidents of the post and Post members; assist with maintaining the post's website; and shall perform such other duties as may be required. There should be close cooperation between the post adjutant and the historian. The former works with records on matters of current interest, the latter on matters of historical interest. The post historian should also keep in touch with the department historian and be prompt in answering inquiries. An annual report should be made to the department historian prior to the department convention. Copies of printed material regarding the post should be deposited in local and state libraries, as well as in the post and department archives. This will prevent complete loss of records through fire or other catastrophe, as well as provide source material for those looking for information about The American Legion.

Service Officer - Shall be generally that of assisting members with the VA

claims process and protecting the rights and privileges of all veterans, their dependents and survivors; and shall perform such other duties as may be required. A good service officer should be retained. The value of a post service officer increases with length of service. As the service officer's reputation grows, so will the value of the organization in the veteran community. The job requires a competent, dedicated, and organized person, preferably one is readily available to provide assistance. The post service officer is responsible for bringing awareness to all veterans and their dependents the rights and benefits granted them by law.

Sergeant-at-Arms - Shall be to preserve order at all meetings; help conduct opening, closing, and other special ceremonies; and shall perform such other duties as may be required. The sergeant-at-arms arranges the meeting hall and assists the post commander and adjutant in preliminary arrangements for meetings, including leading the color detail during presentation and retirement ceremonies. This person is the expert on flag etiquette, knows proper flag etiquette, and plays a leading role in the post color guard, burial detail and other pageantry. The sergeant-at-arms should also be person welcoming new and current members to make them feel they are important to the Post.

Each of the above positions should have a little background on The American Legion. The best place to start is here, American Legion Basic Training: <https://www.legion.org/alei>

The Department of Maine also offers American Legion College, keep an eye on the Leadership Ledger and see when the next classes start. They are free but it is up to you to commit.

You were elected to a position to represent your post and community. It is like the old saying when you went into boot camp, "you get out what you put in".

Congrats to all the newly elected officers, work hard, represent well, and above all-have fun!

"NEC WOODS"

(Continued from Page 3)

ed. Everyone must remember that by accepting a position as District or Area Commander, you are stating you will do your best to fulfill that obligation. By not attending, you hurt the veterans you represent, the fellow committee members and the department.

I would like to thank everyone for all that you do for The American Legion

and our veterans. I will report on the Fall Meetings of the National Executive Committee in the next edition of the TML.



Photo Op: Department of Maine Adjutant Paul L'Heureux, left, and Judge Advocate Jason Hall pose for a quick photo before the Department Executive Committee meeting on June 12 at Jeff's Catering & Event Center, Brewer.

President's Message

Greetings, Legionnaires!

I'd like to introduce myself as your American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) President, Department of Maine. I am a 24-year member of William J. Rogers American Legion Auxiliary Unit #153 in Auburn, and I am the wife of Paul L'Heureux, Adjutant of the American Legion, Department of Maine. Most of you know him! Paul and I both look forward to the year ahead in our respective roles, especially now that we can get out and visit safely. We have missed our American Legion family!

We are at the beginning our new administrative year, and our ALA Department officers recently spent a weekend at Department Headquarters training on our respective offices, learning our roles and making connections with each other. Our training weekend is also the time we learn our new 2021-2022 membership theme, which was presented by our Department Vice President and Membership Chairman Debra Rumery. It's a theme that means so much to us as ALA members, both individually and collectively.

"I Will Remember You—Who Is Your 'Why?'" is her theme for us this year, and when she presented it with a touching video accompanied by the song "I Will Remember You" by Sarah McLachlan, there was not a dry eye in the house. At the end of the video, she had photos submitted by the officers in

attendance of a veteran who reminds us of why we joined the ALA and who we are honoring with that privilege of membership. Most of us in attendance had several veterans in our family, and one honored a Legionnaire from their post home who is dear to them. Those photos were inserted in a button with the words of the theme encircling them, and you will soon see many of us proudly wearing our individual "Why" as a patriotic pin. Yes, we are very proud.

While we are remembering the veteran(s) whose service we want to honor, most of whom allowed us to be eligible for our membership, I can't help but think of the preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary and the last lines..."to participate in and contribute to the accomplishment of the aims and purposes of The American Legion; to consecrate and sanctify our association by our devotion to mutual helpfulness." There can be no greater way to show our collective "Why?" than with those words; the words we speak before every ALA meeting. We joined under one veteran, but we are now honored to serve with all of you.

It is in that spirit that I extend my sincere desire to work alongside our American Legion and Commander Debra Couture, and with my fellow officers and members across our great state, to maintain our devotion to mutual helpfulness. YOU, our Legionnaires, are our WHY...and it is an honor to carry that association with The American Legion as we enter the new membership year for 2021-2022.

I hope to see you soon at Winter Conference!

For God and Country, In Service Not Self,
Audrey L'Heureux, President
American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Maine



AUDREY
L'HEUREUX



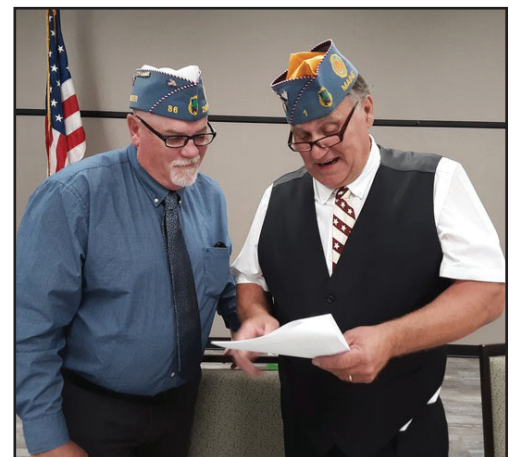
2021-22 Auxiliary State Officers: Left to right, Department President Audrey L'Heureux, Department Chaplain Pat Grant, Maine's candidate for Eastern Division National Vice President Veronica Gurney, Department Treasurer Nancy True, Department Vice President Debra Rumery, Department Secretary Michelle McRae, Department Sergeant-at-Arms Charlotte "Kitty" Doyle, and National Executive Committeewoman Joan Caron.



SAL Greetings: SAL National Vice Commander Gary P. Nelson of New Jersey gives greetings to those in attendance during the Annual State Convention in Brewer on June 11 as Lead Candidate for SAL National Vice Commander, Eastern Region Richard Huntley looks on.



SAL Review: Son's of the American Legion (SAL) Detachment Commander Ron Marr, right, and SAL Detachment Adjutant Russ Taylor, left, review the agenda before the start of the Annual State Convention in Brewer on June 11.



A Special Moment: Paul L'Heureux pins newly installed Auxiliary President and wife Audrey L'Heureux at the Installation Ceremony held at Jeff's Catering & Event Center in Brewer on June 12. Back, left to right, National Executive Committeeman Lloyd Woods, and then, Leading National Commander of The American Legion Paul Dillard.



Riders Plaque Presentation: Department Commander Matt Jabaut, left, awards Maine Legion Riders Director Mike Lallemand a 2019-2020 / 2020-2021 plaque for his support during these challenging times. The plaque was presented at State Convention in Brewer on June 11.



Historian's Bunker

New Writing Guidelines Are Now in Place Additional Writing & Media Contests Are in the Future

In the last Issue of The Maine Legionnaire, I wrote about the new guidelines that were coming and let you Post Historians know some of the things that were coming. The Media and Communications Committee (MCC) remained busy and updated the guidelines to their present form. As of the last Department of Maine Convention in June, the guidelines are approved and are to be used for all future historian writing contests. Beginning with the Department Executive Meeting on July 17, copies of the guidelines will begin to be distributed to each Post, District and Area, either to the appropriate historian or to the commander.



**GEORGE
ROBINSON JR**

Competition categories have been established and they are as follows:

a. Post Size:

Small = 1 to 100 members

Medium = 101 to 200 members

Large = 200+ members

District – Newsletters and Articles only

b. Contests:

Post Narrative History up to National
Post Yearbook History up to National
Newsletter up to Department
Newspaper, Newsletter, Magazine
Individual Articles up to Department (new).

Multi-Media Award (Facebook) up to Department (new)

Multi-Media Award (Web Page) up to

Department (new).

4th Estate Award will be presented to a Historian or submitter in the Article Contest (new).

There will be new procedures to follow beginning with the 2022 contest year. This will begin with preparing histories, newsletters, and articles for submission to the Media and Communications Committee for judging. Each category contest will have its own Submission Form to accompany the entry. The form is to be filled out fully to include a recommendation from the Post Commander. District entries need to have a recommendation from the District Commander.

There will be a 3-step process to reach the National level for Post Narrative History and Post Yearbook History Contests. Additional writing contest awards will be presented as they are developed. The Article Contest will be new in 2022 and Post Recruitment Tri-Fold Contest may be developed for 2022 as well. Judging will be done in the following steps.

1) Step 1: Each post will compete against other posts of their same size.

2) Step 2: Each winner (3) of a post size category will compete against each other for a Department of Maine winner.

3) Step 3: The Department of Maine winner will be sent to American Legion Headquarters to compete for the National winner.

The number of awards presented will be increased. This will give more Historians, and other contributors, the opportunity to be recognized for their hard work during the year. A Historian, and other contributors, will be able to compete in multiple categories. The following awards will be presented.

i) Each place winner will receive a

Certificate of Appreciation.

ii) There will be up 4 awards for each post contest.

(a) 1st Place

(b) 2nd Place

(c) 3rd Place

(d) Honorable mention, unless there is a tie for 3rd Place

(e) Plaques will be awarded to each 1st Place winner.

(f) Certificates of Participation will be awarded to all other authors and submitters.

iii) The Department of Maine winner will receive a different certificate and larger plaque.

New awards will be presented in the Multi-Media category. For 2022 these will be for Post Facebook pages and Post Web Sites. Additional multi-media awards will be presented as they are developed.

Areas of consideration for additional contests have already begun to be discussed by the MCC. We are considering expansion at the Department of Maine level, the writing contests to tri-fold brochures, poster/fliers, and submissions to The Maine Legionnaire or local newspapers/magazines. In addition, we are looking at creating guidelines for Facebook and Web Site creations by a post.

I would like to bring your attention to an article that was written by Colleen Condon that will be posted in the next Maine Legionnaire. She is the new Historian at the Cobscook Post 59 and introduced to me by Dale Shannon. I met her at the District 15 Meeting at the Baileyville Post in March. We discussed her joining the Media and Communications Committee and it led to asking her to write a short, 2-page, story, with one photo, as her "audition". It turned out that she could not find a great deal of in-

formation about her post (this might be a hint to all of our historians). We emailed back and forth, and it turned out that she had just attended a Cobscook Cup Cake Day. I asked her to do an article about that.

What she submitted was outstanding. I passed it on to the Committee members and Adjutant L'Heureux and they raved about it. In the meantime, I "judged" the article and sent back a red marked-up copy to give her an idea of how the judging for a submission to a writing contest could go. The Committee and Adjutant L'Heureux all felt that the way Colleen wrote her article was something we could use and make it a part of the writing contests. Colleen's article is in this issue of the TML on page 35. Please read it. Any of the Department posts can have somebody that can accomplish the same thing.

If your post has not done so yet, I urge all historians/authors to think about submitting something from your post. Who knows, you could be the next submission to one of the American Legion National History Contests or be a 4th Estate – Historian winner.

On behalf of the Department of Maine and the Media and Communications Committee, I would like to congratulate all of the individuals, Posts, and Districts for their 2020 and 2021 submissions and places. Your quality of work does not go unnoticed. Keep up the hard work, follow the new guidelines and may all of you throughout the Department of Maine make submissions for your Post or District.

"History is being made every day. Don't let it pass you by."

■ "AMERICANISM"

(Continued from Page 4)

Your chairperson for the following committees are *Americanism*, Tricia Thurston tricia425@roadrunner.com; *Boy Scouts*, Peter Duston dkassociates@myfairpoint.net; *Dirigo (Boys State)*, Pete Johnson rumridge27@gmail.com; *Junior Shooting Sports*, David Watson wdwatson1@comcast.net; and *Oratorical*, Dale Midgley midgleyd@earthlink.net. Please feel free to reach out for support as needed.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with questions, comments or concerns. I can be reached at 207-357-3289 or by the above email address. I look forward to hearing from all of you around your

successes with the Americanism programs. One last thought, if you have an idea for any of these programs that have worked, please share it so others can then implement it into their list of things to try. Don't forget to share pictures and your successes on Facebook. You can also send these successes to me and I will add them to the Department of Maine's Facebook page. One idea that has been tried and deemed successful is to recognize local businesses that fly the beautiful flag of our country. Share these photos on Facebook. You can take it a step further by presenting them with a certificate for Flag Appreciation. Remember, we are all in this together. As Deo would say "One Team, One Fight". Thank you for reading!



Recruiting Assistant Sgt.-At-Arms Pays Off: Department Sgt.-At-Arms, far right, Patricia "Trisha" Thurston's job went smoothly this year during State Convention at Jeff's Catering & Event Center in Brewer June 11-12, thanks to the help of the Assisting Sgt.-At-Arms, left to right, District 8 Commander Nancy Laffin, Topsham Post 202 Member Caroline Yarmala, Asst. Dept. Service Officer Maureen Malley, and Dept. Sgt.-At-Arms Patricia "Trisha" Thurston.



Enhancing the Quality of Health Care at VA Facilities

Our nation's veterans deserve access to the high-quality health care that they have earned through their service to our country, and many health providers at Veterans Affairs (VA) facilities provide excellent care. There are, however, alarming exceptions. As the daughter of a World War II veteran, I was shocked and outraged by investigations that found too many instances of patients' care being mismanaged by some medical providers at U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs facilities. The bipartisan VA Provider Accountability Act I am supporting would help protect veterans and enhance the care that they receive at the VA.

A troubling Government Accountability Office report revealed an unacceptable trend of VA facilities failing to report providers who made major medical errors to the National Practitioner Data Bank and the relevant state licensing boards responsible for tracking dangerous practitioners. As a result, these practitioners can go into



**SENATOR
SUSAN COLLINS**

private practice or move across state lines without disclosing prior mistakes to patients or state regulators. In addition, a USA Today investigation uncovered specific, horrific medical care failures and mistakes that the VA allowed to continue and then concealed. This includes a podiatrist at Togus here in Maine who was found in 88 cases to have harmed veterans and allowed to quietly resign to work in private practice.

In 2017, legislation I co-sponsored to help address these serious issues and reform the VA was signed into law. The VA Accountability and Whistleblower

Protection Act addressed many of the systemic problems that led to the 2014 VA wait time scandal by increasing the VA's authority to remove bad employees at all levels of the department, shortening their removal process, and ensuring an individual removed from the VA is not kept on the VA's payroll while appealing that decision. It also made it easier for the VA to remove poor performing senior executives and replace them with qualified candidates.

That legislation was an important step forward, but more protections for our veterans are needed. The VA Provider Accountability Act would build upon this effort by requiring the VA to verify and continuously monitor certain VA health care professionals' licensures, certifications, and registrations with the Drug Enforcement Administration, the National Practitioner Data Bank and the applicable state licensing boards.

In addition, the VA would be required to conduct ongoing, retrospec-

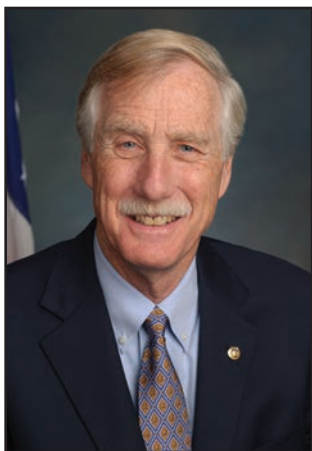
tive, and comprehensive monitoring of the performance and quality of the health care delivered by each health care professional. This monitoring would include concerns of competency or quality of care delivered by a health care professional and ensure that they are reported, as appropriate, to the state licensing, registration, or certification body of the health care professional.

The bill would also prohibit the VA from entering into a settlement agreement involving a VA employee that conceals a serious medical error or lapse in clinical practice.

By requiring the VA to report these issues in a timely manner and prohibiting the cover up of serious transgressions that jeopardize patients' health and safety, this legislation would help restore accountability at the VA and ensure that our veterans receive the high-quality care they deserve.

Stepping Up to Support Our Servicemembers

America's servicemembers are national heroes who have made — and continue to make — extraordinary sacrifices for the defense



**SENATOR
ANGUS KING**

of our nation. They have answered the call to serve, and put their lives on the line to protect the United States. We must honor their work by providing them with the support and resources

they need to support both their physical and mental health. Unfortunately, it is clear that too many of our armed forces are fighting another, internal battle — and they need our help. In 2020, military suicides rose by a shocking 15%, and we lost nearly 600 dedicated servicemembers. The numbers are heartbreaking, and the trend is heading in the wrong direction. Clearly, we need to take immediate action to address a devastating crisis that continues to grow worse.

That is why I've joined with a bipartisan group of my Senate colleagues to introduce the Save Our Servicemembers Act. This legislation would require the Department of Defense to improve its suicide prevention efforts — because it is clear that our current approach is not meeting the seriousness of this

challenge. Our bill will ensure that the DOD implements commonsense recommendations from the Government Accountability Office, allowing the Department to create and operate more effective suicide prevention efforts.

Put simply: this bill can save lives. As a nation, we have an obligation to serve those in uniform, just as they serve us; our bipartisan effort is part of meeting that responsibility, and ensuring that no servicemember is left facing a mental health crisis without the support they deserve.

If you or someone you know is facing mental health challenges and needs help, please call the Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255, or reach out to your healthcare provider. You are deeply valued, and help is just one phone call away.



Holding the VA Accountable



CONGRESSMAN
JARED GOLDEN

After years of work, we got the VA to announce last year that it would build a new inpatient facility for patients seeking treatment for substance abuse and connected mental health issues at Togus. Once this facility is built, it will make a huge difference for Maine veterans struggling with mental health issues across our state.

Getting that announcement is just the first step, and we'll have to hold the VA accountable to build this facility quickly and fulfill their commitment to veterans. That's why, when I heard the new facility's construction wasn't proceeding on schedule, I led my colleagues in the Maine delegation to push the VA for answers earlier this month.

Recently, we got the information we were looking for. The VA told us they aim to award a design next month and break ground late next year. That would mean veterans could start receiving care in the new facility by early 2024.

Nearly three years is a long time to wait to bring long-term residential mental health and substance abuse care to veterans in our state. Until then, when a Maine vet needs this kind of care, they'll have to go out of state. That puts them far away from their family, friends, and support system. This is urgent, so I'll keep the pressure on the VA to hit their deadlines, and expedite them if possible.

I know we also need to make sure the VA has the resources it needs to complete the project, so I worked to secure language in federal appropriations legislation that will provide additional funding to the VA for construction next year in part to help build this new facility.

I'll keep updating you about what I'm hearing from the VA on this project. And I'll keep holding the VA accountable so we can get this done.

In the meantime, please, let me know if there are other issues you think need close attention. My office is here to solve problems for you. We can also work one-on-one with you to get your paperwork squared away to receive care from the VA, get you started on claiming the benefits you've earned, or help with other federal programs.

- Bangor Office: Phone: (207) 249-7400
- Caribou Office: Phone: (207) 492-6009
- Lewiston Office: Phone: (207) 241-6767

Office of Congressman Jared Golden (ME-02)

Shop "AmazonSmile" & Give While You Shop!

Support the American Legion Department of Maine Foundation when you shop on AmazonSmile. It's the same as shopping on Amazon with the extra bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the price of eligible purchases.

How to shop AmazonSmile:

1. Go to <http://smile.amazon.com> and sign in with your Amazon.com credentials. If you already have an Amazon account, there is no need to create another one.

2. In the search box, type American Legion Department of Maine Foundation and start shopping. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases to the American Legion Department of Maine Foundation.



3. Add a bookmark for smile.amazon.com. You must log in through the AmazonSmile portal each time you shop in order for our Foundation to receive the donation, so remember to add a bookmark to make it easier

to return and start shopping on AmazonSmile.

The funds go directly to the "American Legion Department of Maine Foundation to help Maine Veterans in need and support Legion programs in Maine!"

Please help us get the word out to your friends and family!

Shop "AmazonSmile" and make a difference Today!



Increased Mental Health Support for Maine Veterans

Representing Maine's 1st Congressional District for many years, I'm extremely proud of the services provided by Togus and Maine's VA. However, I know how desperately Maine veterans still need increased mental health support from the VA, and I want to update you on some efforts to provide more funding and help from the federal government.

As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, I worked to secure increases for VA mental health programs. The FY2022 bill passed by the House Appropriations Committee includes \$13.2 billion in funding for mental health care, an increase of \$2.9 billion above last year, including \$599 million for suicide prevention outreach. This much-needed funding will support the nearly 2 million veterans who receive mental health services in a VA specialty mental health setting, as well as support suicide prevention services like the Veterans Crisis Line, which saw an increase in demand by over 59% in the last year. There is also funding set aside for homelessness assistance programs, gender-specific care for women, and opioid abuse prevention.

As many of you know, there is a significant need for expanded mental health care services for Maine veterans, including need for a permanent, long-term mental health and substance use disorder treatment facility at Togus. Currently, the VA sends Maine veterans in need of treatment for substance use disorder or related mental health issues to medical centers in Massachusetts or Connecticut. Maine veterans shouldn't have to leave the state just to find the



CONGRESSWOMAN
CHELLIE PINGREE

help they need and deserve. Thankfully, after consistent advocacy from the Maine congressional delegation, the VA has plans to use federal funds to

construct a mental health and substance use treatment facility here in Maine.

Along with Senators Collins and King and Representative Golden, we've pushed to take care of Maine veterans who need overnight substance use or mental health care. Together, we urged the VA to put this project at the top of the VA Secretary's Priority Projects list, working to push for necessary construction funding and expedited priority. I also fought to secure increased funding for VA construction projects and included language in the House FY2022 VA funding legislation to direct VA to prioritize these funds for new Substance Use Disorder facilities. As a delegation, we will continue to push for timely completion of this project and will continue our advocacy for all Maine veterans in need of mental health care.

If you or any veteran you know needs immediate mental health support, call 1-800-273-8255 or text 838255.



Legionnaire Of The Year 2019-2020:

Brunswick Post 20 Commander W. David Watson is awarded with the 2019-20 Legionnaire of the Year from The American Legion, Department of Maine during the Annual State Convention in Brewer on June 11. Left to right, Past District 8 Commander Joseph Donahue, Department 1st Vice Commander and current Department Commander Debra Couture, Brunswick Post 20 Commander David Watson, Past Department Commander Scott Paradis, and Department Sgt.-At-Arms Patricia "Trisha" Thurston.

The 2020-21 LOTY was awarded to District 1 Service Officer and Sanford Post 19 Adjutant Dale W. Midgley ([See pg. 15](#)).

Your Letters

Scholarship Helps With Chasing Dreams!

Dear Paul,

I just wanted to say thank you for choosing me as a recipient of the American Legion, Department of Maine Children & Youth Scholarship of 2021. It really means a lot that you are helping me chase my dreams! Thank you so much!

Sincerely,
Courtney Francis

Scholarship Supports New Start at Maine Maritime Academy

Dear Mr. L'Heureux,

Thank you for awarding me with the Daniel E. Lambert Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1000! I'm very excited to start this new chapter of my life at Maine Maritime Academy! I have always loved the ocean and will make sure to put the money to good use. Again, thank you!

Sincerely,
Benjamin R. Wildes

An Act To Exempt Certain Disabled Veterans from the Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

Maine state democratic representative Heidi Brooks originated and sponsored a bill passed into law by Governor Mills to exempt any disabled veteran receiving compensation from the VA to be exempt from paying vehicle excise tax.

STATE OF MAINE _____ IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-ONE _____ H.P. 871 - L.D. 1193 An Act To Exempt Certain Disabled Veterans from the Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as

follows: Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §1483, sub-§12, as amended by PL 2009, c. 434, §20, is further amended to read: 12. Certain veterans. Automobiles owned by veterans who are granted free registration of those vehicles by the Secretary of State under Title 29 A, section 523, subsection 1 or who are disabled by injury or disease incurred or aggravated during active military service in the line of duty and are receiving any form of pension or compensation from the United States Government for total, service-connected disability.

Share How You're Commemorating Veterans Day



With Veterans Day less than one month away, many American Legion posts are well into planning for various ceremonies and events. Once again, The American Legion National Media & Communication Division is looking for potential coverage opportunities.

If your post, district or department is hosting, sponsoring or participating in a Veterans Day event, please share it with us. Email sbrooks@legion.org with details that include the time, date, location and what the event will entail. We'll be looking for events to cover in person; other events may be featured

in an advance Veterans Day story and follow-up after the events have concluded.

Posts, districts and departments also are encouraged to share stories and photos of their Veterans Day events on Legiontown. And remember that if you are conducting an event and in need of a speech, we have one available for download by visiting <https://www.legion.org/publications/247280/veterans-day-speech-here>. The speech is not meant to be recited verbatim; members are greatly encouraged to amend them to taste and audience.

www.legion.org/veteransday/253877/share-how-you%E2%80%99re-commemorating-veterans-day

10/21/2021

The American Legion, Department of Maine High School Oratorical Scholarship Program

Thomas College

180 West River Rd., Waterville, Maine 04901

February 12, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

(Snow Date: Feb. 19, 2022)

The American Legion, Department of Maine High School Oratorical Scholarship Contest will once again be held at Thomas College in Waterville on February 12, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. Snow Date: February 19, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

The main purpose of The American Legion Oratorical Contest "A Constitutional Speech Contest" is to develop a deeper knowledge and appreciation for the U.S. Constitution among high school students. Other objectives of the contest include the development of leadership qualities, the ability to think and speak clearly and intelligently, and the preparation for acceptance of the duties, responsibilities, the rights and privileges of American citizenship.

Young orators will have the opportunity to earn some of the most generous scholarships. At the Post and District level, scholarships offered range from \$50 - \$100, and at the State level \$50 - \$1500. At the National level, each department (state) winner who is certified and participates in the National Oratorical Contest's 1st round receives \$2,000 scholarship. Each first round winner who advances to and participates in the second round, but does not advance to the final round, will receive an additional \$2,000 scholarship to pursue education beyond high school. The overall national contest winner

gets an \$25,000 scholarship. Second place takes home \$22,500, and third gets \$20,000. The members of the Oratorical Committee will be working with both Area and District Commanders to prepare Posts and Districts for their local contests. We hope to have all Post contests completed by Mid-December 2021 and all District contests completed by the end of January 2022.

The 2022 **National Finals is April 22-24** in Indianapolis, at the Wyndham Indianapolis West. Quarterfinal and semifinal contests are scheduled for Saturday, April 23, with the finals scheduled for Sunday, April 24. **Certification of Department winners is due to National by March 14, 2022.**

For additional questions and/or information pertaining to the Oratorical Contest in Maine, please contact Oratorical Co-Chairman Dale Midgley at 207-590-3532 | e-mail: midgleyd@earthlink.net or Oratorical Co-Chairman Maureen Malley at maureen-malley.66@gmail.com. More information can be obtained by visiting www.mainelegion.org, your local American Legion Post, or The American Legion, Department of Maine Headquarters at 207-873-3229. Please check out the State and Local Oratorical Contests by visiting National's website at www.legion.org/oratorical.

Legion Family to Gather in Brewer for Winter Conference

The annual Mid-Winter Conference will be held Jan. 15, 2022 at Jeff's Catering & Event Center, 15 Littlefield Way, Brewer, ME 04412. The conference will be hosted by Commander Debra Couture and 2nd

Vice Commander Alfred McKay. Please watch future editions of the Leadership Ledger for further information regarding, meals, lodging and speakers.

DIRIGO STATE PROGRAM



Thomas College, Waterville
June 19-24, 2022

State Convention Awards

(2019-2020 & 2020-2021)

Convention Awards

2021 Children & Youth Scholarship - \$500 scholarships: Aaron Barker of Westbrook, Grace Chapman of Sumner, Nicholas Cox of Waldoboro, Rowan Hurlburt of Lincolnville, Samantha Bierman of Sorrento, Courtney Francis of Princeton, Jayde Violette of Van Buren.

2021 Daniel E. Lambert Scholarship - \$1000 scholarships: Katherine Worster of Greenville, Benjamin Wildes of Gray.

James V. Day Scholarship - \$500 scholarship to Kaila Roy of Hamlin.

2021 Post Americanism & Youth Program Award to David Tanguay, Field-Allen Post 148, Windham

2021 Post Americanism & Youth Program Award: Honorable Mention to Stephen W. Manchester Post 62, Westbrook

2020 Post Americanism & Youth Program Award to David Tanguay, Field-Allen Post 148, Windham

2021 Humanitarian Legionnaire Award to Brian McCarthy, Windham

2020 Humanitarian Legionnaire Award to Mitzi Sequoia, Rumford

2020 Humanitarian Citizen Award to Linda Carpenter, Greenville

2020 Educator of the Year Award to Alfred McKay, Dept. Americanism Officer; Matthew Jabaut, Dept. Commander

2021 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year to Officer Ernest MacVane of Windham

2020 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year to Sergeant Arthur R. Smith of Rockland

2021 Firefighter of the Year Award to Captain Christopher L. Allen, Wells

2021 EMT/Paramedic of the Year Award to Captain Wayne L. Seeley, Edmunds TWP

2020 NE Region Law Enforcement Officer of the Year to Officer Curt Andrick, Camden Police Department

2020 Canadian Friendship Award Certification to Jean-Marie St. Onge, Canada

2021 Outstanding District Commander (Roger's Rangers Award) to Philip N. Ceaser, District 2, Cumberland County

2020 Outstanding District Commander (Roger's Rangers Award) to H.L. Ike Hubbard, District 15

2021 Outstanding Post Commander (Tony Tiger Award) to Stephen R. Simard, Auburn Post 153

2020 Outstanding Post Commander (Tony Tiger Award) to Donald

Mulcahy, Bridgton Post 67

2021 Post Adjutant of the Year Award to Nik Hamlin, Topsham Post 202

2020 Post Adjutant of the Year Award to Michael Pock, So. Portland Post 35

2021 Department Commander's Award to Charles M. Shaw, Monmouth

2021 Legionnaire of the Year Award to Dale W. Midgley, Sanford Post 19

2020 Legionnaire of the Year Award to W. David Watson, Brunswick Post 20

2021 Post Service Officer of the Year to Jane Fisher, Windham Post 148 and Edward Harmon, Boothbay Harbor Post 36

2020 Post Service Officer of the Year to Henry "Chuck" Whynot, Windham Post 148

Department Officer Awards 2019-20 & 2020-21:

Historian to George Robinson, Jr., Thomaston
1st Vice to Debra Couture, West Gardiner

2nd Vice to Kirk Thurston, Rumford

2021 4th Estate Award (newspaper) to The Windham Eagle, Edmund Pierce, Managing Editor

2019-2020 Multimedia Award (Facebook) to Williams-Brazier Post 37, Thomaston

2020-21 Post Narrative Award:

1st Place to David Tanguay, Field-Allen Post 148, Windham

2019-20 Post Narrative Award:

1st Place to David Tanguay, Field-Allen Post 148, Windham

2020-21 Post History Yearbook Awards:

1st Place to Paul Satkowski War Memorial Post 30, Camden;

2nd Place to George Robinson, Jr., Williams-Brazier Post 37, Thomaston

3rd Place to David Tanguay, Field-Allen Post 148, Windham

Honorable Mention to Dennis Marrotte, Stephen W. Manchester Post 62, Westbrook

2019-20 Post History Yearbook Awards:

1st Place to Robert K. Place, Charles Hatch Post 79, Berwick;

2nd Place (tie) to George Robinson, Jr., Williams-Brazier Post 37, Thomaston

2nd Place (tie) to Paul Satkowski War Memorial Post 30, Camden;

3rd Place to Clayton R. Brown, II, Lopeman-Potts Post 67, Bridgton

2019-2020 Post Scrapbook:

1st Place to Kendrick (Butch) Billing, Cecil R. Cole Post 94, Greenville

2020-21 Post Newsletter Awards: Small Category

1st Place to George Robinson, Jr., Williams-Brazier Post 37, Thomaston

2nd Place to "No Author", Kinney-Melquist Post 34, Tenants Harbor

3rd Place to Guy Linscott, Stewart P. Morrill Post 35, So. Portland

2020-21 Post Newsletter Awards: Medium Category

1st Place to David Tanguay, Field-Allen Post 148, Windham

2nd Place to Jeffrey Sukeforth, War Memorial Post 30, Camden

3rd Place to Daniel Nutter, Sr., Joseph P. Chaisson Post 41, Milo

2020-21 Post Newsletter Awards: Large Category

1st Place to Fitzgerald-Cummings Post 2, Augusta "No Author"

2nd Place to Corey Edwin Garver Post 202, Topsham "No Author"

3rd Place to Winslow-Holbrook-Merritt Post 1, Rockland "No Author"

2020-21 Post Newsletter Certificate of Participation:

Dennis Marrotte, Stephen W. Manchester Post 62, Westbrook;

Tardiff Belanger Post 39, Madison "No Author"

2019-20 Post Newsletters - Monthly:

1st Place to Field-Allen Post 148, Windham

2nd Place to War Memorial Post 30, Camden

3rd Place to Winslow-Holbrook-Merritt Post 1, Rockland

2019-20 Post Newsletters - Quarterly:

Williams-Brazier Post 37, Thomaston

2020-21 District Newsletter:

District 2, Cumberland County

2019-20 District Newsletter:

District 2, Cumberland County

Legion Family Awards 2019-20 & 2020-21:

American Legion Auxiliary to Dept President Virginia "Ginny" Chaput,

Sons of The American Legion to SAL Commander Ronald Marr, Legion Riders to Riders Director Mike Lallemand.

2020-21 Recruiter of the Year Award:

David Tanguay, Windham Post 148

2019-20 Recruiter of the Year Award:

David Tanguay, Windham Post 148

2021 100% Post Membership by Dec. 31, 2020:

Honor Ribbons to: E. Millinocket Post 13, District 13; North Haven Post 33, District 6; Thomaston Post 37, District 6; Eagle Lake Post 176, District 17;

Canada Post CN09

2020 100% Post Membership by Dec. 31, 2019:

Honor Ribbons to Woodlands Post 23, District 15; Thomaston Post 37 and Warren Post 218, District 6; Bridgton Post 67, District 2; Greenville Post 94, District 14; Canada Post CN09

2020 100% Post Membership by Dec. 31, 2019:

Family Ribbons to Hallowell Post 6, District 9; Bridgton Post 67, Bridgton Unit 67, Bridgton Squadron 67, and Bridgton Chapter 67, District 2

2020 Goal to Grow Awards:

Fort Pepperrell Post CN09 of St. John's NF Canada, Goodrich-Caldwell Post 6 of Hallowell, William T. Wren Post 23 of Baileyville, Charles E. Sherman, Jr. Post 36 of Boothbay Harbor,

Williams-Brazier Post 37 of Thomaston, Cobscook Post 59 of Pembroke, Prescott-Fairbanks Post 64 of Phillips,

Lopeman-Potts Post 67 of Bridgton, Cecil R. Cole Post 94 of Greenville,

Ronco-Goodale Post 126 of Vassalboro, Martin-Klein Post 133 of Fort Kent, Argonne Post 138 of Winterport, Randall and MacVane Post 142 of Peaks Island,

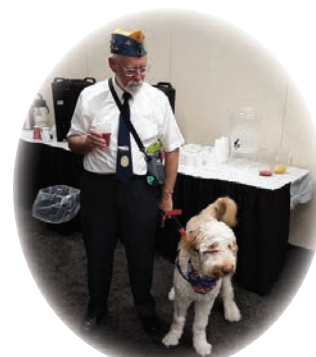
Field-Allen Post 148 of Windham, Malcolm Glidden Post 163 of Palermo,

William R. Bold Post 181 of Litchfield, Monmouth Post 204 of Monmouth,

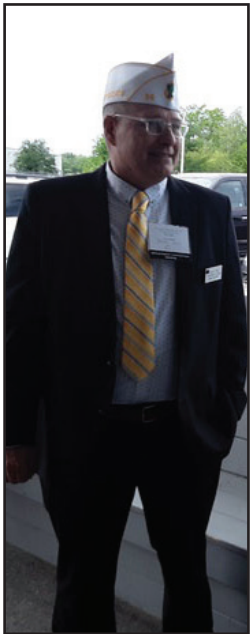
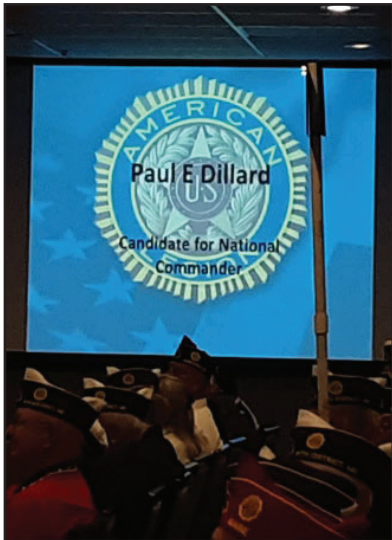
Brian L. Buker Post 218 of Warren.



2021 State Convention Highlights



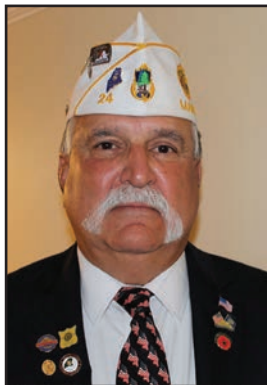
Convention Highlights Continued



Meet the Officers 2021



**DEBRA
COUTURE**
Commander
Litchfield Post 181



**KIRK
THURSTON**
1st Vice Cmdr.
Rumford Post 24



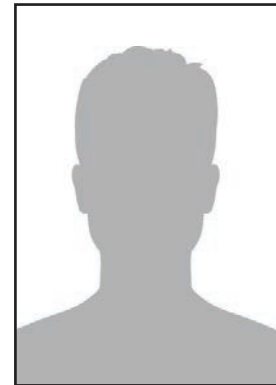
**ALFRED
MCKAY**
2nd Vice Cmdr.
Damariscotta Post 42



**PAUL
L'HEUREUX**
Adjutant
Auburn Post 153



**GREGORY
COUTURE**
Finance Officer
Litchfield Post 181



**JOSEPH
MICHAUD**
Chaplain
Madawaska Post 147



**PATRICIA
THURSTON**
Americanism
Rumford Post 24



**JASON
HALL**
Judge Advocate
Gray Post 86



**GEORGE
ROBINSON, JR.**
Historian
Thomaston Post 37



**ETHAN
MCKENNEY**
Sergeant-At-Arms
Harrison Post 139



**CARL
CURTIS**
Service Officer
Brunswick Post 20



**MAUREEN
MALLEY**
Asst Service Officer
Hallowell Post 6



**LLOYD
WOODS**
NEC
Madawaska Post 147



**MATTHEW
JABAUT**
NECA
Topsham Post 202

If You're a Member In Good Standing With Your Department of The American Legion...

You are eligible for LegionCare; \$5,000.00 in Accidental Death Insurance at NO COST TO YOU if a covered accident occurs while traveling on official Legion business*, or \$1,000.00 at NO COST TO YOU for all other covered accidents. This has been arranged on

your behalf by Your Department of The American Legion. As soon as your enrollment is received, LegionCare will take effect. Your acceptance is guaranteed, so mail your coupon today.

For immediate coverage, enroll online at www.TheLIT.com/No-Cost-LegionCare

Cut out this section and mail it in today to enroll in LegionCare.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ MEMBERSHIP CARD NO. _____

EMAIL _____

MAKE SURE YOU INCLUDE YOUR DATE OF BIRTH ☒ SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Have you filled out all the above information? Please mail to: **Legionnaire Insurance Trust • P.O. Box 26720 • Phoenix, AZ 85068-6720**

© 2015 AGIA 100135 A3713 38796

Complete details of the coverage are contained in accident only Master Policy MZ0933569H0000A/0001A underwritten by Transamerica Premier Life Insurance Company Cedar Rapids, IA. This plan is not available in all states.

*For Purposes of the Legionnaire Insurance Trust, a member of The Legion Family, with current year's dues paid, could be eligible for the \$5,000 Accidental Death benefit if he/she is traveling to, attending, or returning from an official function at which the Legionnaire represents his/her Post, District, Department, or National Organization in an official capacity.

SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS

Congratulations to the Following Sweepstakes Winners!

Winners of the Fall Sweepstakes Raffle drawn September 25 at Westbrook Post 62

Winners of the Summer Sweepstakes Raffle drawn at the State Convention in Brewer on June 12

Grand Prize winner of \$1500 was awarded to Michael D Collins, Greenville Post 94; \$500 to Pam M Speed, Sanford Post 19 \$300 to Michael W Cook, Oakland Post 51, and \$200 Dian Bourgoin, Winthrop Post 40.

Grand Prize winner of \$1500 was awarded to William Thompson, HQ Post 178, \$500 to Devon Parsons, Kingfield Post 61, \$300 to Wayne Brown, Houlton Post 47, and \$200 to Albert Weidhas, Falmouth Post 164.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 1

Sanford Post 19; Biddeford Post 26; Limerick Post 55; York Post 56; Old Orchard Post 57; Kennebunk Post 74; Berwick Post 79; North Berwick Post 87; Saco Post 96; Kezar Falls Post 123; Bar Mills Post 120; Alfred Post 134; Wells Post 143; Kennebunkport Post 159; Dayton Post 177; Eliot Post 188; Lebanon Post 214; Wilton Post 117; Rangeley Post 120

American Legion Honors Marge Lewis

This past week, Springvale resident Marjorie Lewis was recognized on her 95th birthday with a ceremony dedicating the new pavilion at the American Legion T.W. Cole Post 19 in her honor. Mrs. Lewis' children and grandchildren were present for the dedication. A certificate of appreciation for her many years of work with the American Legion Auxiliary was presented to her by Dale Midgley, Service Director at the Post.

Mrs. Lewis grew up in Sanford and lived here with her family until 1955, when her husband was transferred to New Jersey for his job as a postal inspector. As the daughter of a WWI veteran and the wife of a WWII veteran, she joined the Legion Auxiliary in 1966 once her youngest daughter was a toddler. She became very active in the organization, eventually serving as President of her Post. After her husband passed away and her children grew up, she moved back to Sanford and transferred her membership to Post 19, where she continued her work with the Auxiliary.



Marjorie Lewis On Her 95th Birthday

Mrs. Lewis serves as Chaplain for the Post, giving the prayers at the beginning and end of each meeting. She has worked to publicize the proper care and disposal of flags, holds the record for sales of fundraising poppies, and participates in Memorial Day and Veterans Day services. She was honored as Grand Marshal of the Memorial Day Parade in 2017. Deb L'Heureux, Post President, calls her "a truly amazing lady. Her energy is out of this world, and she helps us understand the most important role of the Auxiliary."

When not working to support and honor veterans, Mrs. Lewis keeps busy volunteering at Books ReVisited on Main St., which raises money for York County Shelter Programs. She also volunteers regularly at the Sanford-Springvale Historical Museum.

Congratulations, happy birthday, and thank you for your service Mrs. Marge Lewis!

<https://sanfordspringvalenews.com/american-legion-honors-marge-lewis/>

Sanford Post 19 Raffle Drawing Surprise



2020-2021 Legionnaire Of The Year Dale Midgley

On July 3, 2021, the American Post #19 was to hold a raffle drawing for the Thomas W. Cole Charitable Foundation at 2:00 pm. At approximately 1:45 Dale Midgley, Chairman of the Raffle was surprised to see his son, Ben, Sonja, Ben's wife and grandchildren, Alex, Cassie and Brooke walk in the Legion Post.

Moments later Dan Hathaway, Commander of Post #19 asked the large audience for their attention. He then read a letter from John Bshara, District #1 Commander Department of Maine, that Dale Midgley was chosen as the Legionnaire of the Year for 2020-2021. Dan Hathaway then presented Dale with the "Legionnaire of the Year Award" and Marjorie Lewis presented Dale with a Certificate of Achievement

from Post #19. Dale is the Service Officer and Adjutant for Post #19. He is also on a number of State Committee's including the High School Oratorical Scholarship Program.

The Legionnaire of the Year award is the highest award granted by the Maine American Legion, with only one member chosen for this prestigious award annually. Each year the Maine Past State Commanders Club honors a Maine Legionnaire for exceptional leadership within their post and community.



LOTY Presentation: (Left Photo) Sanford Post 19 Commander Dan Hathaway, left, presents Sanford Post 19 Service Officer and Adjutant Dale Midgley with the Legionnaire Award at Post 19 on July 3. (Right Photo) Legion Auxiliary Chaplain Marjorie Lewis, left, presents Dale with a Certificate of Appreciation from Sanford Post 19. Back, left, Commander Hathaway.

The Legionnaire of the Year award began by Resolution in 1995 and was immediately adopted by the Past Department Commander's Club. Midgley is the 25th recipient to receive this award.

The raffle drawing surprise was planned and coordinated by Karen Staples, Post Administrator. Hamburgers, hot dogs and a large celebratory cake was available for members.

Dale is a longtime resident of West Kennebunk.



Veterans Honored at Ball Park

On July 6, 2021, The Sanford Mainers of the Northeast Collegiate Baseball League (NECBL) played host to the veterans and military service members of York County at the annual Military Appreciation Day at Goodall Ballpark in Sanford. The American Legion Post #19, assisted by the Amvets & VFW, organized and coordinated the event.

Veterans, from WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan, and the Cold War, were honored on the ballfield prior to the ballgame. WWII Veteran Leon Tanquay, Army & POW; Korean War Veteran Arthur Rocray, Army; Vietnam Veteran John Flagler, Marines; Iraq & Afghanistan Veteran Becky Conley, Marines; and Vietnam & Cold War Veteran Bill Harmon, Coast Guard, were recognized and received standing ovations from over 500 in attendance. All Veterans & Military service personnel were applauded as they stood when their Military Anthem was played. The Maine



Military Appreciation Day In Sanford: Veterans, left to right, Bill Harmon, Becky Connely, John Flagler, Arthur Cocray, Jim Bachelder and Leon Tanquay.

Photo Courtesy of Jessica Ciminelli Staff Photographer Sanford Mainers

National Guard Unit in Sanford brought a Humvee into the stadium concession area for spectators to see and inspect. As a special note, those recognized on the field received a baseball signed by the Sanford Mainers.

The event was sponsored by Black Funeral Homes in Sanford and Springvale, Jim Bachelder of the VFW Sanford, Maine did a terrific job as the MC.

This was the 5th year that the event has been held, excluding last year due to covid cancellation. Everyone in attendance enjoyed the Veterans Cere-

[More on "BALL PARK" Page 16](#)

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 1 continued

■ "BALL PARK"

(Continued from Page 15)

mony and all the Veterans & Military Service members look forward to next year. After the ceremony, the National Anthem was played, and Dan Guilmette of Black Funeral Homes threw

out the first pitch.

The Sanford Mainers & Keene Swamp Bats took the field for the regular scheduled game; Keene won 5 to 4.

A big thank you to the Sanford Mainers Ball Team & Organization for a truly memorable evening.

By Post 19 Adjutant Dale Midgley



Veterans Recognized And Receive Baseball: The ballplayers, left to right, Garrett Keough, Ryan Turenne, John West & Derek Smith and the Veteran's, left to right, Bill Harmon, Becky Connely, John Flagler, Arthur Cocray, Jim Bachelder, and Leon Tanquay.

Photo Courtesy of Jessica Ciminelli, Staff Photographer Sanford Mainers



Saluting The Flag: left to right, Jim Bachelder, Leon Tanquay, Arthur Cocray, John Flagler, Becky Connely, and Bill Harmon.

Photo Courtesy of Jessica Ciminelli, Staff Photographer Sanford Mainers

Memorial Day Ceremony Webber-Lefebvre Post 74, Kennebunk

The members of American Legion, Webber-Lefebvre Post 74 in Kennebunk, Maine, conducted an early morning Memorial Day service at each of the town's five major cemeteries and veterans' monuments. The service at each location consisted of an inspirational prayer given by Deacon John Fleshman, Post Chaplain, the playing of taps by several members of the Kennebunk High School Band and culminated with the firing of a 21-gun salute.

For the second year in a row, a Memorial Day parade in Kennebunk was suspended due to Covid. Normally, the Town of Kennebunk and the local American Legion post hold a parade through the town with members of Webber-Lefebvre Post 74, Kennebunk Fire Department, the Kennebunk High School Band and elected town officials participating in the parade and memorial service to honor our fallen heroes.



**Kennebunk High School
Drummer & Buglers** play Taps at the 2021 Memorial Day ceremony at the Veterans Memorial at Kennebunk High School, Kennebunk, Maine.

Photo by Barbara Fleshman



Color Guard And Participants at 2021 Memorial Day ceremony at Hope Cemetery, Kennebunk, Maine.

Photo by Barbara Fleshman

American Legion Posts 74 & 159 Work Together to Help Provide Scholarship to Graduating Senior

For the second year in a row, American Legion, Webber-Lefebvre Post #74 in Kennebunk and Kennebunkport Post #159 have joined together to provide a \$1500.00 scholarship for an exceptional and worthy senior graduating from Kennebunk High School. Kennebunk High School (KHS) is part of Regional School Unit #21 that serves students from the towns of Kennebunk, Kennebunkport and Arundel.

Kennebunk High School seniors who are planning to further their education may apply for a variety of scholarships including the one provided by these American Legion Posts. Out of a group of 25 highly qualified and laudable applicants, the American Legion Posts are proud to select Quinn Battagliese as the recipient of this year's scholar-

ship. Quinn, a Kennebunkport resident, is on the High Honors list at the KHS and is a member of the National Honor Society. In addition to his academic achievements, Quinn has made significant contributions to the community by volunteering at the Big Andrew Foundation, the Bon Appetit Soup Kitchen in Biddeford and as a tutor with the Peers Helper Club. Quinn, an avid soccer player, has also volunteered at the Kennebunk Soccer Clash Camp to assist coaches and mentor players. He will be attending Bowdoin College in the fall and plans to major in neuroscience. The American Legion posts would like to congratulate Quinn on his accomplishments and wish him great success in his future endeavors as he pursues his educational and career goals!

Deserving Scout Member Awarded Corporal Thomas Wright Scholarship

The members of Charles S. Hatch Post 79 Berwick were pleased to award a \$500.00 Scholarship to Jarrett Richard of Berwick Scout Troop 313. Jarrett, a member of the NOBLE High School's Class of 2021, has been rising through the scout ranks for 11 years. (Post 79 also sponsored Jarrett's eagle scout project: a memorial erected at Berwick's Veteran's Memorial Park to honor this town's Congressional Medal

of Honor recipient, Army Sergeant Alphonso M. Lunt). So, it was very fitting that Jarrett received the Corporal Thomas Wright scholarship, named after another local military hero who lost his eyesight at Guadalcanal and went on to accomplish just about everything he attempted to do. Corporal Wright typified the Marine Corps "can do" attitude in service and in life, as does this year's award recipient. Congratulations Jarrett!

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 1 continued

Special Dedication Held at Berwick Veterans Memorial Park

On Memorial Day, the men, and women of Charles S. Hatch Post #79, along with members of the local community and family members, gathered to honor and forever recognize an incredibly special woman: Mrs. Brenda Lavigne.

Brenda was an active part of the Berwick community of volunteers and many years ago adopted the Berwick Veterans Cemetery, transforming it with the help of others into the gem that it is today. After Brenda lost her life in a traffic accident last year, Berwick's American Legion members decided to create a lasting tribute to Brenda at the Veterans Memorial Park that she beautifully maintained.

On 31 May, a ceremony was held unveiling a special memorial plaque adjacent to a flowering crabapple tree planted in honor of and tribute to Brenda. The specially selected tree is a Prairie Fire crabapple, noted for the brilliance of its blooms in the spring,

dark green leaves with purple veins and deep red crabapples in the summer and bronze leaves in the fall.

The words on the plaque convey the love and appreciation our veterans have for Brenda's selfless work: "Who, from her own generous and compassionate spirit, helped in transforming these grounds. Then voluntarily tended their appearance for 12 years with affection and dedication drawn from her desire to honor the service of all veterans and the perpetual memory of those who sacrificed all."

Brenda was on her way to this very place when she was so suddenly taken from us. This was her final destination. So, it is most fitting that this gloriously beautiful tree now stands tall and will enhance Berwick's Veterans Memorial Park through all 4 seasons for many years to come to honor a woman whose memory will always mean so much to so many and whose service will never, ever be forgotten.

Eagle Scout Creates Repository For "Old Glory"

One of North Berwick's up-and-coming citizens is Topher Leon, a graduate of NOBLE High School's Class of 2021 who graduated with honors and is headed to the University of Maine in Orono starting this fall.

Among his many achievements, one project stands out for this stellar student and athlete, who is a member of Berwick Scout Troop 313 and has been active in scouting since first grade: his Eagle Scout project.

Initiated in 2020, Topher's project involved designing, building, and installing several containers for community use in properly disposing American flags that are no longer serviceable. Topher created and distributed four bright blue flag disposal boxes to provide a convenient way for local res-

idents to dispose of their old flags in a proper and respectful manner. The flags are then collected by Berwick's American Legion Post #79 for appropriate disposal, most notably at Flag Day Ceremonies held annually on the 14th of June at the Berwick Town Hall.

The Post #79 members were thrilled to sponsor Topher's project, which took six months to complete and made much more difficult due to state and local rules and restrictions imposed during the pandemic. Now, thanks to Topher's project, flag boxes are now strategically located at the Berwick Town Hall, the Berwick town Library, the NOBLE Middle School, and the Berwick Methodist Church, where Boy and Cub Scout meetings are held.



Flag Box Presentation: Topher Leon Presents his Flag Box Project To Post 79 members.

Photo by Lee Leon

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 2

Portland Post 17; So. Portland Post 35; Gorham Post 60; Westbrook Post 62; Bridgton Post 67; Scarborough Post 76; Freeport Post 83; Gray Post 86; Yarmouth Post 91; Standish Post 128; Harrison Post 139; Peaks Island Post 142; Windham Post 148; Cape Elizabeth Post 162; Naples Post 155; Portland Post 161; Falmouth Post 164; Portland Post 168; Westbrook Post 197



District Two Post Officer Installation: 2021-22 District 2 Post Officer Installation Ceremony took place on May 16 at Scarborough Post 76. Left to right, Windham Post 148 Finance Officer Eric Bickford; Portland Post 17 Service Officer Gene Connolly; Westbrook Post 197 Historian Jim Grant; Naples Post 155 Chaplain Cathy Merrill; Scarborough Post 76 Commander Phil Ceaser; Westbrook Post 197 1st Vice Steve Girard; Bridgton Post 67 Judge Advocate Brian Conroy; Westbrook Post 62 Sgt-at-Arms Garry York; So. Portland Post 35 Americanism Mike Pock; Windham Post 148 Adjutant David Tanguay.

District 2 Convention Award Recipients

District 2 Commander Phil Ceaser presents awards from Department HQ on June 17th.

Awards presented were the 2021 Annual Post Yearbook and Newsletter Certificates to Dennis Marrotte of Westbrook Post 62. The Commander of the Year and National Commander Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Don Mulcahy of Bridgton Post 67. Clayton Brown, also of Bridgton Post 67, received 3rd Place Post History. Bridgton Post 67 also received the 2020 and 2021 Post Excellence Awards, 2020 Goal to Grow Award, 2020 100% Honor Ribbon, and the 100% American Legion Family Ribbon representing Chapter 67, Squadron 67, Unit 67, and Post 67. Damariscotta Post 142 received the 2020 Goal to Grow Award which will be presented to them by District 2 Commander Phil Ceaser during a summer visit.



District 2 Convention Award Recipients presented June 17th at Bridgton Post 67. Left to right, Post 67 Adjutant & Finance Officer Ron Edson, Post 67 Sergeant-At-Arms Barry Bisco, District 2 Commander Phil Ceaser, District 2 Judge Advocate & Post 67 Commander/Membership Chairman Brian Conroy.

Stewart P. Morrill Post 35 Steps Up to Honor Vets on Memorial Day

The members of Post 35 in South Portland, who make up over 90% of the members of the South Portland War Veterans Memorial Association, met recently and organized their annual Grave Flagging and Wreath laying events. The leadership of SPWVMA formulated two lists consisting of Minor and Major Grave Flagging and Wreath laying.

Starting on the 22nd, members joined the local Mason Lodge in flagging Calvary Cemetery which, according to Kenneth Greenleaf, Location Manager, has 8,000 plus veterans' graves.

On the 24th, Ken Marston, Post 35 Finance Officer, and Anthony "Tony" Batchelor, 2nd Vice Commander,

[More on "Post 35 Memorial Day" Page 18](#)

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 2 continued

“POST 35 MEMORIAL DAY” (Continued from Page 17)

completed the “Minor Cemetery and Wreath List”. The Minor List consisted of four small cemeteries, with as few as one veteran, buried within its gates. Additionally, Ken and Tony placed wreaths on a total of nine locations.

On the 29th, a contingent of Officers and Members of Post 35, along with 30 concerned citizens of South Portland, placed flags in the major cemeteries throughout the city, with 1053 graves honored.

On Memorial Day, an “Honor Guard” of Officers and members placed nine wreaths at five locations around South Portland. The third to last wreath was placed at the Veterans Memorial in Mill Creek Park with some short

commentary by 1st Vice Commander, Wes Splettstoesser, and a prayer by Post Chaplain Howard “Skip” Farr. After a “Coffee Break”, the wreath for our Comrades lost at Sea was placed in the Fore River from the “Bug Light” Lighthouse. Finally, a large wreath was placed at Calvary Cemetery at the Military Memorial with “Taps” played by Ron Rossetti (Sergeant 1st Class US Army – Ret.) There are over eighty-five thousand graves located at Calvary Cemetery in South Portland.

The Memorial Day events are a major occasion for Post 35 that has become a gathering place for the community of South Portland. We, at Stewart P. Morrill Post 35, continue to assist in any way we can to uphold the Constitution of the American Legion and the Constitution of the United States of America.

By So. Portland Post 35 Adjutant Michael R. Pock



Post 35 Memorial Day

Services: Left to right, Ken Marston, Tony Batchelor, Guy Linscott, Skip Farr, Wes Splettstoesser, Michael Pock, Ed Seymourian and Ron Rossetti (Bugler).

Photo by Doug Kohnke

POW/MIA Custom Made Chairs

Shortly after our last District meeting, I received an email from Brian Conroy, District Judge Advocate, about his purchase of a POW/MIA chair for Post 67.

We have a small black plastic chair that we hang a POW/MIA cloth over as part of our regular meeting. It works well but is rather impersonal. Brian connected me to Robert Rice, whom he bought a custom made POW/MIA chair from. Bob sent pictures of his chair and stated a price of \$100 “out the door”. I brought the idea before the membership of Post 35 and we had \$100 on the table and approval to purchase within minutes.

Yesterday, I received our chair in a box on my front porch. I can’t tell you how nice this chair looks. The chair was your basic folding chair painted black with the POW/MIA messag-



es, as well as, the name of our Post and City.

It was a pleasure to connect with Bob and listed to his story. Bob is a Disabled Vet and is making a good product at a reasonable price. I asked him to invoice me so I could forward a check. He sent the chair and his address and said the price was on the “Honor System”. The price includes shipping anywhere in the Continental United States. He averages the shipping; any amount where he ships for less, he puts back into the fund. He said he is trying to ship one chair to each State free. Sorry fellows, as far as I know, Brian’s was free and ours wasn’t but it is still going to a good cause and helping a fellow Vet.

If you are interested email Bob at wareagle210@yahoo.com.

By So. Portland Post 35 Adjutant Michael R. Pock



So. Portland Post 35 Officer Installation: At a regular meeting at Post 35 in South Portland on June 18th, 2nd District Adjutant Dave Tanguay and 2nd District Service Officer officiated over the installation and giving of warrants to the following Post 35 Officers: Commander Guy Linscott, 1st Vice Commander Wes Splettstoesser, 2nd Vice Commander Anthony “Tony” Batchelor, Finance Officer – Doug Kohnke, Adjutant Michael Pock, and Chaplain Howard “Skip” Farr. Sergeant at Arms Ross Fehnel was absent and will be awarded his warrant at a later date. All Officers, with the exception of Doug Kohnke, are returning to their positions. Doug is a recent transfer from Oregon and is replacing Ken Marston who has served as Finance Officer for over 25 years. Left to right: 2nd District Service Officer Gene Connolly, 2nd District Adjutant Dave Tanguay, Post 35 Commander Guy Linscott, Post 35 Chaplain Skip Farr, Post 35 1st Vice Commander Wes Splettstoesser, Post 35 Adjutant Mike Pock, Post 35 Finance Officer Doug Kohnke, and Post 35 2nd Vice Commander Tony Batchelor.

Submitted by So. Portland Post 35 Adjutant Michael Pock

Wheelchair Ramps R Us

Six of the seven Post 35 officers, two fellow members, three local policemen and one Sea Cadet met at John Galt’s home to build him and his wife a much-needed wheelchair ramp on July 10.

Adjutant Pock applied to Department of Maine for funds provided through VEFAP to construct the ramp. Department sent a check for \$1,800 to Pock Carpentry LLC. Adjutant Pock set the money aside to purchase the material based on an estimate he had sent to the Department of Maine Headquarters in Winslow, Maine. With the estimate in hand, Adjutant Pock went to the Lowe’s store in Scarborough and met with Jeff Kelly who reduced the \$1,800 material list to \$1,002.25. With the savings and present donations of \$370, the material was delivered, and construction started on a beautiful Saturday morning. Any money left after any additional purchases and returns are made will be

returned to the Department of Maine in the form of a Donation from Pock Carpentry LLC.

Adjutant Pock and a smaller crew will finish up the last of the decking and install the top and handrail on Monday the 12th. Many thanks go out to Commander Linscott, 1st Vice Commander Splettstoesser, 2nd Vice Commander Batchelor, Finance Officer Johnson, Chaplain Farr and Adjutant Pock. Also, to Steve Gray, Don Gray and Steven Kennedy (Sea Cadet) and Brian McCarthy, Mike Armstrong and Todd Bernard from the South Portland Police Department.

Member John Galt and his wife Kathy were extremely gratified with the progress and professionalism demonstrated by the construction crew. Hats off to the members from Post 35 who donated money and tools to complete another community project.

By So. Portland Post 35 Adjutant Michael R. Pock,
July 11, 2021



Ramp Construction Begins: Post 35 leaders, members, and community members come together and volunteer time and resources to build a ramp for a local vet and fellow Legion member.



Post 35 Helps Local Vet With Much Needed Ramp: John Galt tries out his newly built ramp at his home in So. Portland on July 10 with Post 35 Mike Pock, left, and Commander Guy Linscott, right.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 2 continued

Wheelchair Ramp Thanks

To The American Legion Post 35 So. Portland Commander Guy Linscott, Post 35 Adjutant Michael Pock, and Department Commander Debra Couture.

Dear Sirs,

Kathy and I wish to thank you, the members of the post, the police department and everyone who volunteered to help build the wheelchair ramp for us. The project has been a great success. Thanks to the generosity of the Legion for donating the funds necessary to purchase the material needed and to Lowe's for the generous discount they offered.

I look back and think of how this all came about. My health has deteriorated over the past year to a point where, on occasion I can only walk a few steps at a time; climbing stairs is out of the question, leaving me virtually house bound.

Our front and rear entrances require steps to navigate, and without help at times, I could not make it. Sometimes I can navigate without apparent problem. Although, on many occasions I require a walker or wheelchair to move around. According to my doctors this will not improve, in fact it will probably get worse as time goes on.

My wife and I had looked at having a wheelchair ramp built but it was cost prohibitive. To get in and out, for things like doctor's appointments, I needed to rely on outside help getting up and down our front steps. My wife is a good sport but she is not capable of handling a 250 lb man up and down our stairs.

I am a member of Post 35 so I decided to call Mike Pock, our Adjutant, to see if he or any member he knew of would help. As soon as I explained my situation Mike volunteered to do it

himself. The first time Mike came over he took one look and said "You need a wheelchair ramp". I told him that we had looked into one but we could not afford it. At this point Mike took over, he worked with the Legion to obtain the funds necessary to purchase the material. He then designed the ramp and obtained a building permit. He went to Lowe's, ordered the material and got a very good discount. Since he is in the business, he decided to become the general contractor on the job. He set a build date of July 10th and went about getting volunteers from the Legion, the police department and the fire department.

On July 10th we had about 12 people show up (more than enough). Mike ran the job, Guy Linscott brought his tools, coffee and doughnuts from "Dunkin"

for all. The weather was beautiful; possibly a little too warm. The build went well and by 6PM they were about 80% complete. Mike and 2 helpers returned Monday afternoon and continued the job. He has returned several times to com-

plete the job. It looks great and above all it makes me no longer house bound. For the first time in 6 months, I can go in and out without help.

Without Mike Polk's leadership and drive this never would have happened. We can't thank Mike enough; words are not enough. With the negative environment we live in today, it's refreshing to find a group of people so willing to volunteer their efforts and time to help someone they don't really know. It gives us a new outlook on life.

Thank You,

John & Kathy Galt, July 16, 2021



John & Kathy Galt



Officer Installation & Post Everlasting Ceremony:

On Sunday, May 16, Libby-Mitchell Post 76 in Scarborough, hosted a 2nd District Officer's Installation and Post Everlasting Ceremony. Gary York, Manchester Post 62's Adjutant, right, is the new 2nd District Sergeant-at-Arms, with Gene Connolly, left, from Portland Post 17, 2nd District's Service Officer.

Cookouts & Concerts in the Park

Westbrook's Stephen W. Manchester Post 62, collaborated this summer with the Westbrook Lion's Club in having Tuesday evening Cookouts for the weekly outdoor "Concerts in the Park" at Riverbank Park, on Main Street, adjacent to Post 62. Our first Cookout since July, 2019, was held on Tuesday, June 29th. The last scheduled concert was August 31st and consisted

of free outdoor music by local bands at Westbrook's Riverbank Park and Post 62's Cookout next door. Cookouts started at 5:00 PM with the concerts from 6 - 8 PM. There were burgers, hotdogs, steamed onions, strawberry shortcake, occasional homemade whoopie pies, cookies, and cold drinks. A nice evening with music in a beautiful city park.



Outdoor Cookouts Revived: Tuesday, June 29th, Westbrook's Manchester Post 62 members and Westbrook Lions Club members revived our Outdoor Cookouts for the first time since 2019, with our brand-new Grille!



Concerts in the Park: Tuesday, July 6, the "Pond Lilies", an acoustic folk music band from Standish and North Gorham, graced the stage with Acadian, Celtic and French Quebec Music.

"We've Got a Writer"

Robert P. Fuller, of the Stephen W. Manchester American Legion Post 62, Westbrook, wanted information on the fighting in the European Theater, WWII; he went to the right sources – interviewing veterans and going to National Archives to wade through a mountain of declassified documents. He found out that General George Patton's Third Army put out an Order seeking information on the final shots fired by his combat divisions. Fuller even had a stroke of luck tracking down and interviewing the soldier who fired the last official ground shots at the enemy. The finished product became his book: "Last Shots for Patton's Third Army".

Lately, he has come out with another book about the "14th Engineers" - an all-volunteer Regiment of New England Railroaders who served in France during World War 1. With no veterans left alive and official records destroyed by fire, he had to rely upon a wide range of published information. Fuller hit the jack-

pot when it came to the last surviving soldier, who nearly lived 99 years. His relatives wholeheartedly supported the author by generously sharing stories, photos and a diary.

Fuller's new book: "New England Railroaders in World War 1", alternates between the Regiment and the "Big Picture" on the Western Front. The 14th played an important role in the final weeks of fighting, helping General Pershing to fulfill his very specific plan to end the costly war in 1918. The careers of some of the men are traced on the railroads, both before and after their military service. Supporting documents bring out more details, such as simplifying the complex enlisted man's Grade structure in effect at that time.

Each book contains published human interest maps and photos. They both have extensive bibliographies that suggest an opportunity for further reading.

By Robert P. Fuller, July 27, 2021

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 2 continued



Freeport Post 83 summer picnic was held July 15th and was extra special because they were joined by Department of Maine Commander Deb Couture, District two Commander Phil Ceaser, and District 2 Adjutant Dave Tanguay. Freeport Post 83 members and guests had a beautiful day by Casco Bay. Deb Couture, right, awards member David Stevens, left, with his 50 years of continuous membership. David is a past commander, vice-commander, adjutant, and treasurer.



Daughters Assist In Decorating Headstones: Left photo, Emily (pointing at flag) and right photo, Elizabeth ("saluting" flag and headstone), assist their father, Benjamin Holmes (Navy Veteran and member of Peaks Island Post 142), in decorating headstones at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery in San Diego, CA. This is their second year participating in this solemn civic event.

Recruiter Of The Year

The 2021 membership cycle was a difficult one for many Posts. I was blessed with the resources and support of a Post that allowed me to bring on-board several new members while retaining our current membership. Occasionally as a Post, you must ask, in what direction is the Post going? What support does it provide its members? What does your Post offer prospective new members? The membership process is not passive. If you are hoping to maintain members, please know that "Hope" is not a strategy. Waiting to see how membership is going is also not a strategy. Membership should be an active process using the assets of all the Post. So, what does your Post offer?

The Four Pillars of The American Legion provide a support structure. Are you helping Veterans in the com-

munity? How do you find out what their needs are? Do you welcome Vets into your Post? Without sounding like a social services program, The American Legion does have obligations to



2021 Recruiter Of The Year
David Tanguay

support our most needy Vets. This is one of the pillars that the founders felt very strongly about. Do you support Youth Programs? Are you educating the next generations in Americanism? Do you support Dirigo State, or provide scholarships, or recognize youth leadership with the School Award? How about support for a Boy Scout troop or Legion Baseball team? The youth are our future. On a personal note, I still recall and still have the Legion "School Award" presented to me in 1965 by Field-Allen Post 148-Windham.

Emersion in the community. In what way or ways is your Post part of the

community? Do you help in the celebration of holidays or host an open house? Is your post involved with food distribution programs or the local recreation department or possibly a youth sports team? Many Posts do things for the community, others are an integral part of the community, immersed in the community with social activities, dinners, sports events, education, flag programs and more.

All these above items translate into "Visibility" of your Post which should make it easier to achieve membership goals. The most significant event for the Field-Allen Post over the past five years has been the Veterans Coffee held weekly on Wednesday mornings. Originally designed as an opportunity for house-bound vets to get out for a couple of hours, it has become one of the most successful recruitment tools of the Post with an average on 15 new members annually. The vets come to socialize with fellow individuals, and if they keep coming back, they are offered an opportunity to join the Post. Most do and are some of the most active members.

Each Post should have, I believe, a target audience that they are looking to recruit. Some Posts are socially oriented, others may prefer a sports orientation or a service direction. I would love

to say that each Post can do it all, but the reality is, we all do some things better than others. Each Post should however do at least one thing well; their signature program or project, if you will.

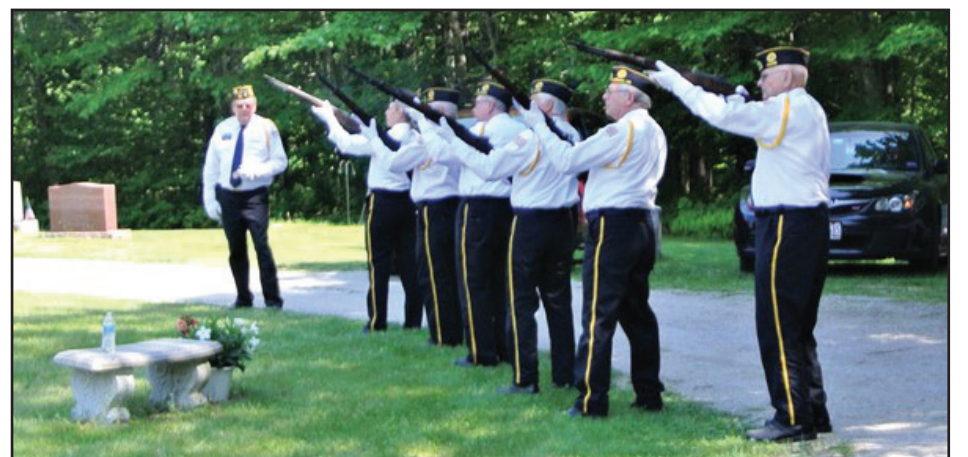
One of the National Membership themes is Keep Your Membership - before working on new members. Each year, a significant number of members do not renew. The reasons are varied, but a common theme is the lack of connection with the Legion Post. This is one of the reasons the Buddy Check program is so important. Connections are important. Checking in with members, who are not regular attendees at meetings, allows you as a Post to fulfill one of the Four Pillars: "Veterans Supporting Veterans". You cannot help if you do not ask what is going on in their lives.

Lastly, do not be afraid to toot your own horn! Get the word out into your local community in newspaper, television, social media etc. Visibility is an important element of membership and recruitment. Let the public and local Veterans know what your Post is about. How about setting up a Legion information booth at the local Farmers Market or in front of the Post Office or at a local event? Think outside the box.

David Tanguay
Dept of Maine Recruiter of the Year 2021



Pleasant Surprise At The Vet Coffee: On July 14th, at the Windham Veterans Center, Sebago Lake Anglers Association (SLAA) President, Bob Chapin, left, presents a Certificate of Appreciation to the American Legion Field-Allen Post 148 for their support of the SLAA annual Veterans Fishing event held in May of 2021. Receiving the award on behalf of the Post is Post Commander, Eric Bickford, right.



American Legion Field-Allen Post 148 Honor Guard Rifle Squad at Post 148 member William Johnson's burial ceremony (U.S. Navy and buried at Arlington Cemetery) in North Windham. Left to right: OIC-Craig Pride, Keri Kransten, Dick Drapeau, Linwood Bailey, Dick Graves, Larry DeHof, and David Rendall. The Post has a 12-person Honor Guard team that rotates through assignments. So far this year since the reduction in the covid pandemic restrictions, the Rifle Squad has been used for six different events with more scheduled each week.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 2 continued



Field-Allen Post 148 Vet Coffee: July 14th at the Windham Vet Center had a special guest who spoke to almost three dozen local vets. Diane Burni, President of the Sebago Lakes Region Fuller Center, spoke to the assembled vets about the background of the "Fuller Center" (the first in New England) and what assistance the center may be able to provide to help seniors stay in their home. Some of the post members are already volunteering with the Fuller Center. Lots of interest. Thank you, Diane, for your insight and support for our seniors.

Photo by Post 148 Adjutant David Tanguay

Post 148 Vet Coffee Ceremonies, Quilt of Valor & Eagle Cane Presentation

American Legion Field-Allen Post 148-Windham: WHAT A GREAT DAY at the Windham Veteran Center Vet Coffee on March 3rd! First, I would like to thank the three dozen plus veterans and friends in attendance to support our veterans. Your presence speaks volumes.

The ceremonies were opened with a (somewhat off-key) rendering of the Star-Spangled Banner, in honor of National Anthem Day; sung by all.

Today, we honored three of our own at the American Legion Field-Allen Post 148 with support from a wonderful organization that has presented thousands of Quilts of Valor to our Veterans. Today three more quilts were added to that number. QOV, President Donna Brookings, and her team of assistants, Laurie Sidelinger (Honor Flight) and Joy Lewis

Asuncion, presented quilts to Bob Miele, USA, WWII, Veteran-Jerry Black, USN -Korea, and Carroll McDonald, WWII, USA AC (USAF) with great fanfare.

Following the quilts of Valor presentation, focus turned to Carroll McDonald, a Past Post Commander, in celebration of his birthday, with the presentation of the Legion Eagle cane by Post Adjutant David Tanguay, followed by a Cake cutting ceremony.

Photos include the individual veterans receiving their Quilt of Valor, a group photo of the three vets with the presenters, a wonderful group photo of the three recipients with their "Eagle Canes" and a photo of Carroll cutting his birthday cake on the occasion of his 96th Birthday.

By Windham Post 148 Adjutant David Tanguay



Quilts of Valor

Presentation: Quilts of Valor Presentations to Field-Allen Post 148 Senior members. Left to right, Jerry Black (Korean War), Laurie Sidelinger (Honor Flight), Carroll McDonald (Past Commander and WWII), Joy Lewis Asuncion, Bob Miele (WWII - USA), and Donna Brookings President QOV.



Birthday Celebration: Windham Post 148 past Commander and p-51 WWII Pilot, Carroll McDonald cutting his birthday cake at 96 years young.



Eagle Cane Presentation: Field-Allen Post members with their Eagle Canes. Jerry Black, Carroll McDonald and Bob Miele.

Windham Post 148 Flag Day Ceremony

On June 14th at 7pm, at the WVC, Sgt at Arms, Richard Graves, presents well-worn flags in turn to the Commander, Eric Bickford, 2nd Vice Commander, Jane Fisher, and Acting 1st Vice Commander, David Rendall, in turn for inspection prior to returning them to the Commander for final inspection and recommendation for disposal by burning. After the Chap-

lain's final prayer by Dick Darpeau the flags are taken to the flames by Sgt at Arms, Dick Graves, and Americanism Officer, David Horne. Approximately 1000 cemetery flags were retired before the rains came. The Post typically retires community flags on four occasions throughout the year with a total of approximately 6000 flags of all sizes retired.

By Windham Post 148 Adjutant David Tanguay



Flag Day Ceremony 2021: Sgt at Arms, Richard Graves, left, presents well-worn flags to Acting 1st Vice Commander David Rendall, right.

Annual Veterans Fishing Event 2021

Sebago Lake Anglers Association and Field-Allen Post 148 held their 5th Annual Veterans Fishing Event this year on a very windy-choppy Long Lake, Naples. A couple of candid photos depict safety briefing and boat assignments, boats, and a morning on the lake. Not everyone got skunked; several caught nice fish (salmon, pike, bass, perch). "A bad day of fishing still beats a good day at the office" as one fisherman put it. All boats returned around noon, just as the wind was subsiding,

for a luncheon provided by the Sebago Lake Anglers Association (burgers, hot dogs, salads, and all the fixings). VA Lewiston's Van Unit was also available for support to the vets. In all over, 40 vets plus their caregivers attended this event from such organizations as VAST, three local Legion Posts, and other VA organizations. This year's event far exceeded the previous high of 32 vets. Everyone had a great time and that is what counts. And, there was Cake!!!!

By Windham Post 148 Adjutant David Tanguay

Safety Briefing: Sebago Lake Anglers Association President and Post 148 Finance Officer, Bob Chapin, conducts a safety briefing to boat captains and makes assignments of vets to boats. Post 148 had eight members participate in this year's event.



Morning on the lake before the fishing event begins.



Windham Post 148 Fishing Event: Sebago Lake Anglers Association Boat Captain Jim Ficket (orange) with Post 148 member Fred Michael and two local vets Nicole Jordan and Ron Page.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 2 continued

The Legion Field-Allen Post 148
Veteran's Coffee Turns Five

Looking back, it is hard to believe that five years have passed since the Post Service Officer, Chuck Whynot approached the Post Adjutant about starting a regular veterans coffee social at the Windham Veterans Center. Chuck had indicated that he visited four to five "housebound" veterans each week and noted that some of them just need a place outside the home that was safe for them to go. Initially established and advertised as a drop-off for ambulator veterans to get out of the house and possibly allow the vet's caregiver to have a little free time, the veteran's social was held each Wednesday morning at the Windham Veterans Center from 9 to 11 am.

The first coffee social was held on March 23rd, 2016, with six new veterans in attendance. The Coffee was considered a success and plans continued for the weekly event which grew over the following years to approximately three dozen veterans. Many came for the camaraderie and coffee, others developed other interest such as cribbage and other board games.

Each year, on the closest date in March to the 23rd, an anniversary cake cutting ceremony was held to honor the time the vets had together.

Strong bonds of friendship were formed with many of the members and because of The Coffee, on average, 15 new veterans joined the Field-Allen Post. Many of them have become integral members of the Post.

In March of 2020, just two weeks before the 4th Anniversary of the Veteran's Coffee, the Coffees came to a halt with concerns over the covid-19 virus spreading in the Community. This ended a 203-week run of the Veteran's Coffee; without missing a single Wednesday.

In early April 2020, an interesting thing happened. Several of the Vet Coffee members started coming to the WVC on Wednesday around 9 am and set up chairs in the parking lot, at appropriate social distances, to spend some social time together. They brought their own coffee and face mask. Obviously, the Vet Coffee was not dead.

When the WVC was cleared, in early summer by the CDC, to hold limited functions at the WVC, the Vet Coffees returned with approximately a dozen local vets in attendance. Since then, the Coffees have continued unabated under covid social protocols of social distancing, face coverings, hand sanitizer, and temperature checks at the door.

The Vet Coffee has also provided the opportunity to recognize some of our veterans by recognizing their birthdays, presentations of Eagle Canes, and Quilts of Honor. Everyone is looking forward to the time when they can visit their fellow vets unimpeded.

So, this past Wednesday, March 24th, the Veterans celebrated the fifth anniversary of the Veteran's Coffee. There was Cake!

By Windham Post 148
Adjutant David Tanguay



Vet Coffee Turns Five: A ceremony for local veterans sponsored by the Field-Allen Post 148, Windham. Left to right, President of the WVA David Rendall, and Windham Post 148 Judge Advocate/Service Officer, and founder of the Coffee, Chuck Whynot.

Post 148 Bench Dedication: On Memorial Day, a granite bench dedication, in memory of WWII Veteran, John Cooper of Wind-

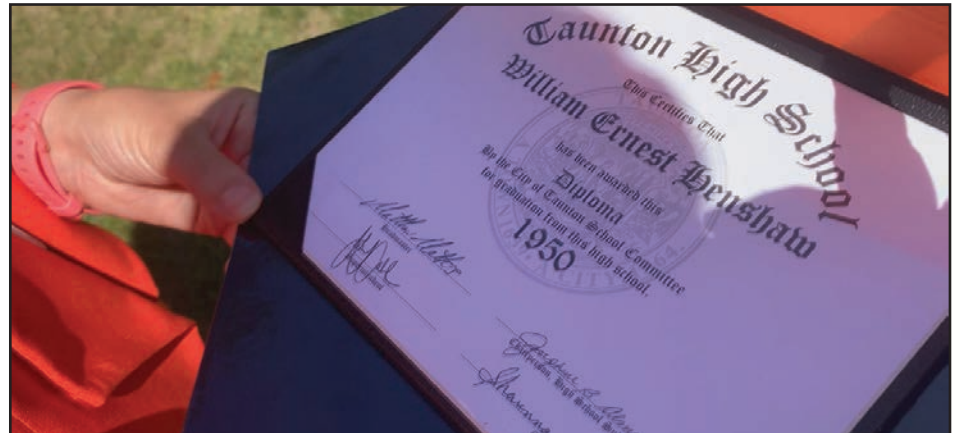
ham, was held in the Windham Memorial Garden. Post member and VFW Post 10643 Commander, Willie Goodman, provides comment on John Cooper prior to the bench dedication. Looking on is Post Adjutant and MC, David Tanguay, left, along with observers and Post Rifle Squad. The event was held under light rain conditions. Following the ceremony, some 60+ community members, veterans and their families were treated inside the WVC to a picnic style luncheon.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 3

Livermore Falls Post 10; Lewiston Post 22; Auburn Post 31; Lisbon Falls Post 66; Turner Post 111; Sabattus Post 135; Mechanic Falls Post 150; Auburn Post 153; Lisbon Post 158; Lewiston Post 210

Korean War Veteran Bill Henshaw
Receives High School Diploma

The 90-year-old Sabattus resident received his Massachusetts high school diploma Saturday, 71 years after his classmates.

SABATTUS, Maine — If you drove by the Henshaw home in Sabattus Saturday morning, it would be easy to guess a celebration was taking place. Friends and family of 90-year-old Korean War veteran Bill Henshaw gathered for a once-a-lifetime moment.

Henshaw left Taunton High School in Massachusetts in the fall of 1949 to serve his country. While his classmates would go on to graduate, Henshaw never graduated.

That changed on Saturday, thanks to a Massachusetts state law that allows veterans like Henshaw, who left school to fight in wars, to receive a diploma.

"I married my wife 46 years ago in October, so I've been hearing about the diploma for the last 46 years," Henshaw's son-in-law Amedeo Lauria said.

Bill's son Scott added, "I actually did not realize he did not have it until they were setting this up. Like, really?"

"He claims he completed all the classes years ago, but there was a dispute over the last one I guess," Scott said.

With the help of Senator Susan Collins, Henshaw was able to receive a cap and gown from Taunton High with a diploma stamped with his graduation year of 1950.

"It was particularly special that my office was not only able to help Mr. Henshaw receive the Purple Heart and other medals he earned, but his long-overdue high school diploma as well," Collins said in a statement.

Inside the family home were the normal treats you would see for a graduation party. Cake, cupcakes, and cookies were spread out on the kitchen table, but the war medals in

the living room are unique to this celebration.

Bill was shot in the arm in Korea and received a Purple Heart as well as other war medals from his time overseas.

Despite being recognized for his bravery in his defense of our country, Scott said Bill didn't talk about the war much when he was growing up. He was more focused on raising his six children, Scott added.

Some of the Henshaw's followed their father's footsteps and enlisted in the Army or Navy. That's how Lauria met his wife.

"They have a strong tradition of service to their country and I'm sure it was instilled by him whether he spoke about it or not," he added.

When Bill was asked what it was like to see all of his family and friends gathered to celebrate his graduation he only needed one word to describe it all: "Wonderful."

Link: <https://www.newscentermaine.com/article/features/korean-war-veteran-bill-henshaw-receives-honorary-high-school-diploma/97-019b68cf-7695-4b86-ac1e-e5e8af734105>

Author: Sam Rogers (NEWS CENTER Maine),
Published: 8:45 PM EDT July 10, 2021, Updated:
1:46 PM EDT July 11, 2021



Bill Henshaw Receives High School Diploma, 71 years after his classmates.

Photo Credit: NEWS CENTER MAINE

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 3 continued

New Auburn Business Block Party

held at Anniversary Park on June 5th. The Block Party was created to say "Thank you" to all the New Auburn Businesses for their services and support during the Covid-19 outbreak. Excellent event and from what I hear will be even bigger next year. Front row, left to right, Auburn Post 153, Historian Donald Peck and Post 153 Auxiliary Amy St. Hilaire. Back row, left to right, Post 153 1st Vice, Ray Longtin, Service Officer Mike Spaulding, Commander Steve Simard, Auxiliary Chaplain Stella Chase, Auxiliary Department President Audrey L'Heureux, and Post 153 Auxiliary 1st Vice Suzanne Travers.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 5

Rumford Post 24; Buckfield Post 58; Lockemills Post 68; So. Paris Post 72; Bethel Post 81; Norway Post 82; Dixfield Post 100; Oxford Post 112; Fryeburg Post 137; West Paris Post 151; Peru Post 199



Rumford Unit 24 Membership Presentation/Birthday Celebration: Rumford American Legion Auxiliary Unit 24 stopped by to present certificates for continued membership of 35 years to Kay Lawler on her 100th birthday. Top photo, left to right, Unit 24 members Rena Nichols, Carol Roach, Rose Dyke, Valerie Scott, Barbara Mcmillan, Judy Sanborn, and Tricia Thurston. Unit 24 Member Kay Lawler (right) at her home for her 100-birthday celebration.



Eagle Scout Ceremony: Rumford Scouts 580 held an Eagle Scout Ceremony for Shaun Patrick. The Rumford American Legion Post 24 was there to present an Eagle Feather along with certificates of accomplishment and the 100 Year Maine American Legion coin to Shaun Patrick. Left to right, Dept of Maine Americanism Officer Tricia Thurston, Eagle Scout Shaun Patrick, Post 24 Commander Ed Perry, and Post 24 Adjutant Bill Hobson.

Photo by Post 24 Historian Louie Marin



Rumford Post 24 Memorial Day Parade: Rumford Post 24 held their annual Memorial Day Ceremony with a parade. Front row, left to right, Dept of Maine 1st Vice Commander Kirk Thurston, Post 24 member Mitzi Sequoia and Post 24 Sgt-At-Arms Melissa Theriault. Second row, left to right, Dept of Maine Americanism Officer Tricia Thurston, Post 24 Vice Commander Jack Blanchard, and Chaplain Robin Blanchard. Following are American Legion Family members and Scouts.

Photo by Bruce Farrin



Cruising In The Parade: Past Dept of Maine Commander Edward J Roach Jr and Past Post 24 Commander Don Roach cruising in the Memorial Day Parade.



Celebrating Memorial Day: Rumford Post 24 Commander Ed Perry and Adjutant Bill Hobson at the annual Memorial Day Ceremony.

Photos by Tricia Thurston

One Photo Says It All

A joint installation for Buckfield Post 58, Locke Mills Post 68 and Bethel Post 81 took place at Jackson-Silver Post 68 on May 20th. Twenty-four attended, of whom twenty-two were fortified with pizza and soft drinks before commencing the arduous, yet immensely enjoyable task of installing the 2021-22 Officers of the three District 5 Posts. Dept. 2nd Vice Kirk Thurston presided as Installing Officer, assisted by Installing Sgt.-at-Arms, reprising her role of Dept. Sgt.-at-Arms, Tricia Thurston, and Installing Chaplain, also type-cast, District 5 Chaplain Randall Jack. The Installing Ceremony was conducted with the highest standard of The American Legion. All three Posts look forward to a full and productively active year.



Joint Installation Ceremony: Front row, left to right, Installing Chaplain Randall Jack, Post 58 Commander James Lowell, Adjutant Gloria Hall, and Finance Officer Conrad Conant. Second row, left to right, Post 68 Sgt.-at-Arms Al Lake, Adjutant Kelly Bickford, Commander Harry G. Orcutt, Finance Officer Ray Hakala, and Chaplain Dan Grover. Back row, left to right, Installing Sgt.-at-Arms Tricia Thurston, Post 81 Adjutant Robert Everett, Chaplain Richard Farren, Commander Scott Cole, 1st Vice & Finance Officer George Angevine, Representative to District 5 Richard Grover, Post 58 Chaplain Robert Perry, and Installing Officer Kirk Thurston.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 5 continued



Wreath Laying At Buckfield Monument: At the Veterans Honor Roll Monument in front of the Library, left to right, Chaplain Robert Perry and Post 58 Commander James Lowell, salute, as Adjutant Gloria Hall places a wreath at the monument as part of the Memorial Day ceremonies.



Casting Flowers on Memorial Day: From a bridge overlooking the Nezuscot River in Buckfield, Adjutant Gloria Hall casts flowers for the Navy into the river, while Post 58 Commander Lowell looks on.



Buckfield Post 58 Memorial Day Ceremony: Inclement weather did not stay during the ceremonies commemorating Memorial Day by John D. Long Post 58, Buckfield. Left to right, Finance Officer Conrad Conant, Dave Straus, Shirley Jones, Merton Jones, Chaplain Robert Perry, 1st Vice Ralph Hart, and Commander James Lowell, in one of the Town's 21 cemeteries; full honors were rendered by members of the Post.



Collection Of A Long Life

Lived: A Celebration of Life was held on June 24 for Post 68 member Leroy Day. On display at the Jackson-Silver Post 68 in Locke's Mills, were some tokens of notable memories from Leroy's (104 years) and Lois Day's lives. Following Taps, Folding of the Flag and presentation to a family member,

the Masons of Jefferson Lodge conducted their Funeral Ritual. Leroy was also accorded the ceremony of the American Legion Post Everlasting with ceremonies concluded by the Post 68 Firing Squad.

Post 68 Member's

Uniforms: Leroy Day's Masonic Commandery uniform coat, next to that of his and Lois's American Legion and Auxiliary uniform dress. Leroy had joined the US Army two months prior to WWII. His Army occupation was Woodworking Machine



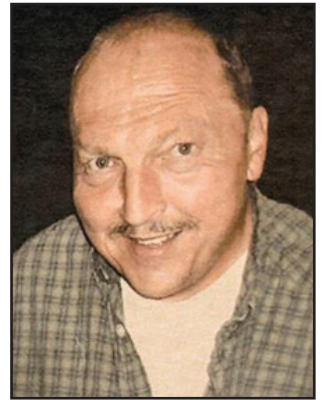
Operator. After being honorably discharged from the Army and returning home, Leroy built a number of homes for clients, himself and family members. He was a proficient fisherman, hunter, and master carpenter. Leroy had also served as a Master of the Lodge and a Post Commander.

Celebrating Uncle Fun

To his many nieces and nephews, Keith Savage, Sr., 59 years old when he entered the Post Everlasting, was known as "Uncle Fun." Having served on a Navy Minesweeper, USS Impervious, in both the Granada Invasion and Lebanon War, he was a member of Jackson-Silver Post 68 for 43 years. Returning from those conflicts, he married, as his obituary stated, the love of his life, Penny Kimball. Together, they were the parents of two sons. He was employed by Oxford Homes, then moved on in his birth city, being employed for many years at Rumford Paper Mill. Finally in pursuing a passion of his life, repairing and collecting vintage vehicles, he founded Savage Auto in Bethel, at which he was a fixture, helping his sons run the business, as he fought the cancer that killed, but could not conquer his indomitable spirit and joy of living.

In that spirit of joyful remembrance, his life was celebrated at the Sunday River Brewing Company, on May 1, 2021. His coffin lay upon a vintage truck, beneath the Navy Banner, topped by a large American flag, waving briskly in a steady breeze on a sun filled afternoon. His sister Nancy, wife of American Legion Navy veteran, Michael Gionet, recalled the numerous occasions in which Keith's enterprising ideas did not work out quite as he intended. She was followed by brother Gary, noted Maine author and nutritionist, who related sibling interactions with his brother. Others mentioned that when their cars experienced breakdowns in and around the Bethel area, they would call upon Keith for help at any hour of the day or night, and he would unfailingly assist them, often intentionally forgetting to charge them for the service. And finally, there were the nieces and nephews, who spoke of the memorable fun times they shared with the uncle they dearly loved. Hundreds attended, and while the Savage family is quite extensive, the majority present were individuals whose lives

were positively touched by Keith. Though his life was far too short, he lived it to the fullest, and left a legacy that will be long remembered.



Keith Savage, Sr.

Brothers Rick and Ron, founding proprietors, of Sunday River Brewing Company, as well as many other successful Bethel area businesses (the Savages are a very entrepreneurial Oxford County family), hosted Keith's Celebration of Life, which concluded with a Bar-B-Q Collation, a generous sampling of the outstanding fare that made their establishment a go-to enterprise for many years.

Lastly, Memory cards were provided to attendees, with Keith's photo on one side, and on the reverse, a sentiment that summed up the indomitable spirit in which he lived his life:

Life's Journey is not to arrive at the grave safely in a well preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways, totally worn out, shouting "Holy sh_ ...What a ride!"



Rest In Peace Legionnaire

Joint Post 68 & 81 Memorial Day Ceremonies

Initially planned as an outdoor event in the Jackson-Silver Post spacious parking lot, joint Post 68/81 Memorial Day Ceremonies were for the most part moved into the Post's Great Hall, which still accorded a safe pandemic environment for participants and attendees. A full American Legion program was conducted, with certain specific activities performed conduct-

ed outdoors. The photos tell it all. Following the ceremonies, more than 80 attendees (150 allowed in the building) enjoyed coffee and an assortment of doughnut holes donated by Dunkin' Donuts. In the afternoon, Post 68 attended the Woodstock Daughters of Union Veterans ceremonies held in the Old Grange Hall.

[More on "POST 68 & 81 CEREMONIES" Pg 25](#)

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 5 continued

“Post 68 & 81 Ceremonies
(Continued from Page 24)



**Memorial Day
Opening
Ceremonies:** Chaplain Grover looks on as the Rev. Sondra Withey recites Psalm 91 (the Soldiers’ Psalm), with Post 68 Commander Harry G. Orcutt waiting beside her to proceed.

Photo by Unit 68 Secretary Susan Vacca



Before the Ceremony: Left to right, Post 68 Chaplain Dan Grover, Firing Squad members Joseph Hebert, Richard Wakefield, Paul Hebert, and Sgt.-at-Arms Al Lake prepare before the ceremony.

Photo by Kathy Hebert



Poppy Girls: Unit 81 President Barbara Dion introduces Poppy Girl Harper Phelps, with Unit 68 President Hazel Cole about to introduce Post 68 Poppy Girl Annabelle Withey.

Photo by Unit 68 Secretary Susan Vacca



Four Generations Of Unit 81 Auxiliary: Poppy Girl, Ms. Harper Phelps is accompanied by her mother, Carrie Phelps, Grandmother Jane Ryerson, and Great-grandmother Romona Grover, at Memorial Day ceremonies held on May 31, 2021, at Jackson-Silver Post 68, Locke’s Mills.

Post 68 Flag Placement: Sgt.-at-Arms Al Lake places flag at Post Veterans Monument.

Photo by Unit 68 Secretary Susan Vacca



Wreath Placement: Unit 68 President Hazel Cole places wreath at Post 68 Veterans Monument following the casting of flowers by the Poppy Girls into North Pond in honor of the U.S. Navy and Coast Guard.



Music for Memorial Day: Post Adjutant Kelly Bickford provided the recorded musical selections of The National Anthem, Armed Forces Medley, God Bless America, and Amazing Grace.



Taps, Echo & Firing Squad: Taps with echo performed by Mahoosuc Band members Ellen Whitney, left, and Brian Dunham, right, as Post 68 Firing Squad Salutes and District 5 Finance Officer Richard Grover observes at attention.



Post 68 Firing Squad Salute Left to right, Commander of Detail 1st Vice William Bickford, Leroy Patten, Joe Hebert, Richard Wakefield, Sgt.-at-Arms Al Lake, and Paul Hebert.



Presentation on Warfare Experience: Bethel Post 81’s Richard Grover presented a talk on the experiences of an Electronic Warfare Officer riding behind a Hot-Shot pilot in the USAAF Wild Weasels missile suppression squadron during the Vietnam War.

Flag Detail: Jackson-Silver Post 68 Commander Harry G. Orcutt, left, with Unit 68 Flag Detail sisters Michelle Winslow and Brandy Maddocks, at Woodstock Memorial Day Ceremony.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 5 continued

South Paris Post 72 Memorial Day Service: Foster-Carroll Post 72, So. Paris held their Memorial Day Service, May 31 at the Post home. The agenda for the Memorial Service consisted of the following: Welcome - Master of Ceremonies - VFW CDR Teresa Drag, followed by the National Anthem; Pledge of Allegiance - Drayden Remington; Memorial Day Remarks - Ben Tucker/Senator King Staff; Memorial Day Remarks - Dan Jenkins/Congressman Golden Staff; General Logan's Orders - Gil Turner; President Lincoln's Gettysburg Address - Bruce LeBlanc; "In Flanders Field" - Josh Little; America's Answer to "In Flanders Field" - Kimberly Smith; Memorial to Sailors of all Wars - Auxiliary President Marilyn Hanscomb; Musical Selection - Armed Forces Salute; TAPS - Kyle Jordan, Music Director, Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School; Benediction and hymn - "Eternal Father".



**Teresa
Drag**



**Ben
Tucker**



**Dan
Jenkins**



**Gil
Turner**



**Bruce
LeBlanc**



**Josh
Little**



**Kimberly
Smith**



**Marilyn
Hanscomb**

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 6

Rockland Post 1; Vinalhaven Post 18; Camden Post 30; North Haven Post 33; St. George Post 34; Thomaston Post 37; Union Post 110; Warren Post 218



Great Weekend Of Legion Ball In Bangor: (Top Photo) Rock Coast Rip Tide based out of Rockport, prevailed and are North Region champions for the U-17. Great young adults playing some great baseball. (Bottom Photo) Rock Coast Rip Tide 2021 Maine Junior Legion State Champions Aug. 16 at Mansfield Stadium, Bangor.

Bottom Photo by Mark Haskell
Courier-Gazette
Aug. 17, 2021

Camden Post 30

Presents Check to New Baseball Team

Post 30 American Legion members met with the area's new Rock Coast Rip Tide Junior American Legion baseball team for the first time July 7. The Legion presented a \$500 check to show their support to the team and talked

about Legion baseball. A highlight of the meeting was an old ball glove belonging to Sandy Delano who used the same glove when he played for the American Legion team in Rockland 50 years ago.



Check Presentation: Camden Post 30 American Legion Vice Commander Norm Carver, left, presents the check to the Rock Coast Rip Tide Junior Legion team to Coach Barrett Brown, right.



Old Ball Glove Highlight: Rip Tide Junior Legion players, from left, Alex Bartlett, Austin Chilles and Elias Pluecker, check out Post 30 member Sandy Delano's mitt from when he was on Rockland's Legion team in the 1950s.



Baseball Hat Team

Connection: The baseball hat worn by Rip Tide catcher Blade Brann and his team, displays the connection with Post 30 in Camden.



Photos by Susan Mustapich
Village Soup Newspaper Reporter

St. George/Tenants Harbor Post 34 Celebrate Memorial Day 2021:

Legion members, left to right, Ray Emerson, Steve Pomakis, Dale Griffin, Thornton Batty, Randy Deutsch, Jan Gaudio, and at rear, Dave Percival.



St. George Post 34 Honor Guard Joins Ceremony: At the request of Rockland Post 1, St. George Post 34 joined in the ceremonies for Ernie Dugan. Left to right, 1st Vice Commander Thornton Batty, Historian Ray Emerson, Finance Officer Jan Gaudio, and Adjutant Steve Pomakis.



St. George Post 34 Flag Presentation: St. George Post 34 Commander Randy Deutsch, left, conducted a Flag Presentation for Frank "Buzzy" Taft on May 19 in celebration of 32 years in the Legion at Post 34.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 6 continued

Our Heroes: St. George Post 34 member and WWII Veteran, Edgar Post. Watch an interview done with Channel 7 for a broadcast of "OUR HEROES" - <https://youtu.be/UkuX4SZL0Wo>



Williams-Brazier Post 37 Holds 2nd Annual Flag Retirement Ceremony

On June 14th, in celebration of Flag Day, the Williams-Brazier Post 37, in Thomaston, held its 2nd Annual Flag Retirement Ceremony. This annual ceremony began last year, amid the Covid-19 pandemic. Because the ceremony is held outdoors, and Maine State guidelines for gatherings were followed, the first ceremony was the only major event sponsored by Post 37 in 2020, until Veterans Day.

In the lead-up to the 2021 Flag Day several flags were given to Post 37 by local donors for disposal. From these flags, two were selected to be honored by burning. The remaining flags will be disposed of at a later date by Post 37 personnel, also by burning.

One of the two flags was donated by Craig MacIntosh and his wife, Ellen Dyer. They found a 48-Star flag while cleaning out the home of Craig's parents, William and Ruth MacIntosh. They had very little information about the flag, but it had become family history that an uncle had brought it back from the First World War. It was eventually passed on to Craig's mother from the uncle's mother, Mabel Leach. It was proudly flown from the porch of the MacIntosh home for several years.

Ellen and Craig wanted to honor the flag with a proper disposal. They saw the announcement of the Flag Retirement Ceremony and contacted the Post 37 Historian. Arrangements were made to drop off the flag and it was disposed of by fire on June 14th. It is not often that a post has the chance to dispose of a 48-Star flag.

Because the story of the 48-Star flag was that it had been brought back from Europe after the Armistice on November 11, 1918, Post 37 gave it a little more reverence than other flags, not because it was more special than all others. All flags disposed of by the American Legion are given the same reverence during the ceremony no matter the size or condition. It is because any flag brought back from Europe, where it may have been flying in ac-

tual combat, represented all of the men that served in the war, those still buried in Europe, all those, now gone forever, buried at home and those that brought the American Legion together in 1919.

The Flag Retirement Ceremony is usually held at dusk, on Flag Day. However, the ceremony can be held on other days as well. Post 37 will continue to dispose of unserviceable flags on June 14th. The ceremony begins by having the Post Sergeant-at-Arms march the Color Guard to the Post 2nd Vice-Com-

mander, 1st Vice-Com-mander and Commander for inspection of worthiness to be retired and disposed of. The Color Guard for Post 37 is provided by

Boy Scout Troop 215, of Thomaston. After a final inspection by the Post Commander a prayer is provided by the Post Chaplain. The Sergeant-at-Arms then leads the flags to be dis-



Presenting Flags For Disposal: 2nd Vice-Commander William Demmons, CW04 Bryan Busk, and Troop 215 Member John Comeau, present flags for disposal.

Photo By George Robinson, Jr.



Flag Disposal: Acting Chaplain Kent Woodward, Post 37 Commander Jeremy Miller, Troop 215 Member James Lent and CW04 Bryan Busk, present flags to Commander for disposal.

Photo by George Robinson, Jr.

posed of to a burn pot. A burn pot can take on various shapes and forms.

Once at the burn pot, flags are dipped into a pan of kerosine and then placed on a grate over a bed of hot coals. The flags catch fire and quickly burn away. Each flag is placed on the grate one at a time until each has burned away.



Burn Preparation: (Left Photo) Troop 215 Members John Comeau, Nicholas Simoneau and CW04 Bryan Busk, prepare to burn 48-Star Flag.

Flag Retirement: (Right Photo) Troop 215 Members John Comeau, Nicholas Simoneau, hold the 50-star flag, and CW04 Bryan Busk, burns the 48-star flag.

A Single Star Outlasts All the Rest

Photos by George Robinson, Jr.



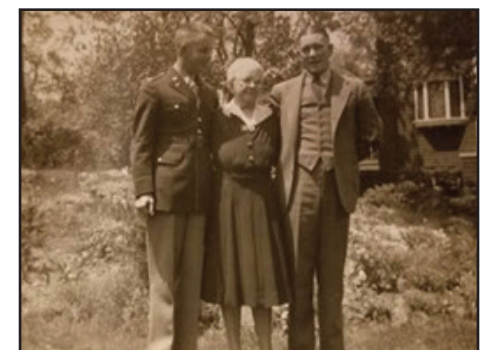
In addition, a tattered and torn 50-star flag was selected for disposal by fire. This flag had been dropped in a drop box outside of Post 37. In the near future a wonderfully painted retired US mailbox will in set in place to hold any dropped off flag at the Post.

Author's Note: A few days after the ceremony I spoke with Ellen Dyer and asked a few additional questions about the flag, in preparation for this article. This led to both of us to do some more research. Ellen discovered that the uncle's name was Henry Leach, from Salem, Massachusetts. There are no WW1 records for him but there are records from WW2. Still, very little more information could be gathered. Henry died in 1969 and the flag went to his sister, Helen. Helen was William MacIntosh's mother, and she gave the flag to him. Craig has very fond memories of the flag flying on the family porch.

Ellen was able to come up with a photo of Henry Leach in uniform. In the photo Henry is standing to the left but the two people with him were not identified. Blowing the photo up I believe Henry was an officer during WW2. The uniform tunic is an officer's issue, with the officer band around the lower arm. There appears to be a pin on the epaulette of the right shoulder. This should be a rank, either 2nd or 1st Lieutenant, as it appears to be a single bar. I cannot blow the photo up enough to clearly see the pins on the collar. They should be the officer U. S. and a branch or unit identifier.

So, it appears that the 48-Star Flag was not one from WW1. Being one from WW2 does not make it any less relevant. It does not take away from the honor of having family members donating such a historical flag for proper disposal. Post 37 is grateful to Ellen and Craig for donating the flag to the Post and we hope we served the flag, and the family, well.

Article By G. Lewis Robinson



Origins of the 48-Star Flag: Left to right: Henry Leach, Mabel Leach (Mother), and Robert Leach (brother), 1940's.

Photo courtesy of Ellen Dyer and Craig MacIntosh

**RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP
ONLINE TODAY!**

**VISIT WWW.MAINELEGION.ORG OR
WWW.LEGION.ORG/RENEW**

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 7

Boothbay Harbor Post 36; Damariscotta Post 42; Wiscasset Post 54; Waldoboro Post 149



Squadron 42 Scholarship Presentation: Sons of The American Legion Squadron 42 Commander Ryan Coffin, left, presents a \$1200 Scholarship to Gage Hassletine, a current student at Mid-Coast School of Technology located in Rockland.

Wiscasset Holds Traditional Memorial Day Service

Wesley Winters feels guilty sometimes for not getting into the Army. "I went in for the draft (in 1961), went in for a physical over in Portland and they didn't take me because I had asthma.

"Then I went and saw the Coast Guard and joined the Merchant Marines. But I couldn't get a job on a ship because they were all filled up," the Wiscasset man told Wiscasset Newspaper Monday morning at the veterans wall at the town office. Minutes earlier, his wife, American Legion Post 54 Auxiliary President Sandra Winters, laid one of the wreaths in the Post's Memorial Day observance.

As throughout the pandemic, the service had the wreaths, a gun salute, Legion member Tom Stoner playing "Taps" on the bugle, and no speeches.

It rained before and after, but not during, the service. Dozens of area residents turned out on the wet

lawn. Winters comes to the Legion's services at the wall because his wife takes part and because he, too, wants to honor those who served. Veterans always tell him he has nothing to feel guilty about "because war is not a good thing," he said.

Post Commander William Cossette Jr. told the gathering, no flag would go to the youngest this time because no youth were there. And, smiling, he said no one wanted to admit to being the oldest.

Jeff Crafts of Wiscasset decided to come after hearing about it through the church he attends up the road, Wiscasset Church of the Nazarene. Crafts said his late father, Sangerville-raised Herbert Crafts, served in the Army doing medical work in the U.S. in the World War II era. Then the Army paid for his college education and he became a forester, his son said.

By Susan Johns,
Wiscasset Newspaper, June 3, 2021



Memorial Day Participation: American Legion Post 54's John Kennedy takes part in the Memorial Day service in Wiscasset.



About The Veterans Wall: American Legion Post 54's Neil Page speaks with Sandra Shea about the veterans wall after Monday's Memorial Day ceremony in Wiscasset.

Photos Courtesy of Susan Johns/
Wiscasset Newspaper



Wreath Laying: American Legion Post 54 Auxiliary President Sandra Winters, left, Post 54's James Quinnam, center, and Daughters of the American Revolution's Clara Wentworth, right, approach the veterans wall to lay wreaths in Wiscasset Monday.

Photo Courtesy of
Susan Johns/Wiscasset Newspaper



Observance: Post 54's Cliff Hendricks, Greg Curtis and Mike Barnes take part in the observance.

Photo Courtesy of
Susan Johns/Wiscasset Newspaper



Wiscasset Post 54: Members, from left, Neil Page, Dennis Soule and Tom Stoner take part in the Post's Memorial Day Service.

Photo Courtesy of
Susan Johns/Wiscasset Newspaper



Memorial Day Observation: Former Wiscasset Selectman Ben Rines Jr. looks on during American Legion Post 54 of Wiscasset's Memorial Day service at the veterans wall.

Photo Courtesy of
Susan Johns/Wiscasset Newspaper



Conversation Before Service: Betsy Kyle and Jeff Crafts, both of Wiscasset, talk before Monday's service.

Photo Courtesy of
Susan Johns/Wiscasset Newspaper

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 8

Brunswick Post 20; Bath Post 21; Harpswell Post 171; Topsham Post 202; Phippsburg Post 216



Post 171 Firing Squad, left to right, Bob Webber, Chris Collins, Chuck Collins, partially hidden.

Photo by Amy Ferrell



Post 171 Memorial Day 2021 At Harpswell Center: No Memorial Day parade was held due to Covid. The Wreath Ceremony for those lost at sea was held earlier on the Ewing Narrows bridge. Left to right, Jim Swol, Bill Fisher, who gave the Memorial Day Keynote Address, Bill Allen, Minerva Vazquez, and Amy Ferrell. Not shown, Cdr. Mike Doyle, John Ott, Bill O'Connell and Chaplain Matt Maurer.

Photo by John Ott

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 8 continued



State Commander Installs Harpswell Post 171 Officers: Department Commander Debra Couture installed Post 171's 2021-2022 Officers at the Post's June 21 meeting. Left photo: Post 171 Cdr. Mike Doyle, left, about to be sworn in by Cdr. Couture. District 8 Cdr. Joe Donahue, right, was the Installing Sgt.-At-Arms. Seated behind them, left to right, are 2nd Vice Cdr. Paul Standridge, Finance Officer Bill O'Connell, and Executive Committeeman Bill Sabrowski (behind the flag). Right photo: 1st Vice Cdr. John Ott being installed. Post 171 Sgt.-At-Arms Joe Civita is in the background between John Ott and Joe Donahue.

Photos Courtesy of Mike Doyle



Phippsburg Post 216 Installation Ceremony: District 8 Commander Joe Donahue conducts the installation of Phippsburg Post 216 Officers. Left photo: left to right, First Vice Commander Scott Miller, Second Vice Commander Fred Elwell, Financial Officer Debra Reddinger, Service Officer Terry Nordmann, and Chaplain Richard Spear. Right photo: left to right, First Vice Commander Scott Miller, Second Vice Commander Fred Elwell, Service Officer Terry Nordmann, and Chaplain Richard Spear.

Photos by Mike Young

Maine Paws for Veterans, Inc: New Name, Mission Remains the Same

In 2012 Joy Johnson, out of concern for the number of suicides in the veteran population, founded an organization to address this issue. With the support of her husband, Retired Admiral Greg Johnson, and friends, she created Embrace A Vet, Inc. Initially, the organization had a two-fold mission. The first was to offer alternative treatment modalities for Post-Traumatic Stress (PTS) at retreats at various locations around the state. The second mission, Paws for Peace, was a service dog training program to help veterans reduce their symptoms of PTS and to increase their level of functioning.

In 2016, Joy Johnson died of pancreatic cancer, but those who supported her efforts continued to support this worthwhile endeavor, and in 2018, Tracy Shaw was hired as the Executive Director. Tracy brought 30 years of dog

training experience to the organization.

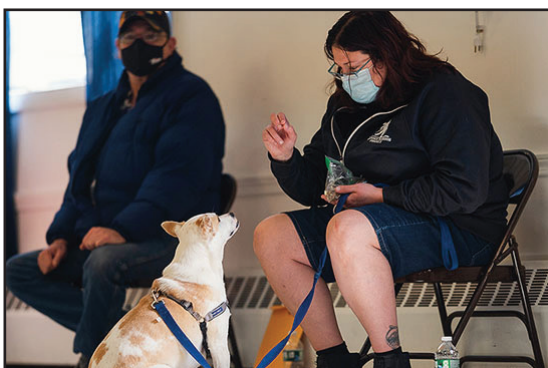
The training for the past two years has been at the Corey E. Garver Post 202 in Topsham. The classes are instructed by program alumni, who are now certified AKC Canine Good Citizen Evaluators through the organization's continued training program. The ten current teams that meet at the Post weekly are scheduled to graduate at the end of September.

Within the last year, the organization changed its name to Maine Paws for Veterans, Inc. and the mission remains the same; provide service dog training and support for veterans with military-related Post-Traumatic Stress.

Veterans with the condition of PTS are encouraged to consider this option and apply online at www.maine-paws-for-veterans.org.



Post 202 Hosts Dog Training Program: Maine Paws for Veterans, Inc., a service dog training program, has held their weekly meetings at the Corey E. Garver Post 202 in Topsham, for the past 2 years.



Warrant Presentation: District 8 Commander Joe Donahue, presents "Warrant of Office" Certificates during the June Installation of Officers Ceremony to: left photo, Post 216 Second Vice Commander Fred Elwell, center photo, Post 216 Service Officer Terry Nordmann, and right photo, Post 216 Commander Ken Kellogg.

Photos by Mike Young



Flag Disposal Ceremony: Members of Phippsburg Post 216 conduct their annual flag disposal ceremony. Top left photo, left to right, Comrade Rob Martinez, Sergeant-at-Arms Gary Flemmings, and Financial Officer Debra Reddinger. Top right photo, Sergeant-at-Arms Gary Flemmings disposes of the first flag into



the burn barrel. Bottom left photo, Group flag disposal ceremony. Bottom right photo, Comrade Larry Swizdor and First Vice Commander Scott Miller monitor the burn barrel.

Photos by Mike Young



Flag Placement: Comrade Jim Leverso from Post 216 places a flag on the grave of Veteran Stephen Lowell in the Morrison Farm Family Cemetery in Phippsburg. Veteran Lowell served in the war of 1812. The Post places 225 flags at 42 different cemeteries that have veterans interned.

Photo by Mike Young

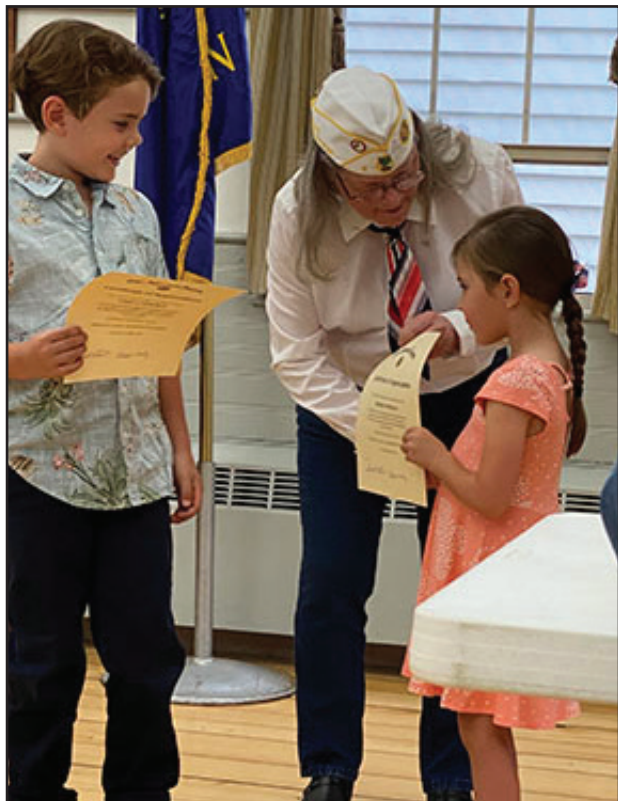
WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 9

Augusta Post 2; Gardiner Post 4; Waterville Post 5; Hallowell Post 6; Winthrop Post 40; Oakland Post 51; Togus Post 90; Vassalboro Post 126; Richmond Post 132; So. China Post 179; Litchfield Post 181; Clinton Post 186; China Post 195; Monmouth Post 204; Augusta Post 205



Gardiner Post 4 Civil War Ceremony: Gardiner Post 4 held a Civil War Ceremony for Merrill Brann in June. Left to right, Third Maine Volunteer Infantry, American Legion Post 4 members Rick Pierce (in red), Lisa Helm, Russ Helm, Barbara Kasiola, President of Infantry Joe Donahue, and Gardiner Post 4 Treasurer Jerry Shed (who sadly passed away in January 2021).



Hallowell Post 6 Appreciation Day For Young Patriots: Commander Maureen Malley presents Certificates of Appreciation at the Post home on June 28th, to Hudson and Amelia Wiseman who led the Pledge of Allegiance on Memorial Day May 31, 2021. The YOUNG PATRIOTS are the children of 1st Vice Phil Wiseman and Dr. Brandi Wiseman.

60 Years Of Service:

Goodrich-Caldwell Post 6 Hallowell presents an award to Bill Lyons for 60 years of service on June 23. Front, Bill Lyons. Back, left to right, Hallowell Post 6 Commander Maureen Malley, 2nd Vice Lewis Gipson and Adjutant Gerald Stuart.



VA Togus CBOC Groundbreaking Ceremony

American Legion Department Commander Deb Couture and VFW Department Commander Herman Littlefield, Jr. joined with representatives of the VA Maine Healthcare System staff, in Presque Isle on July 7th, for a groundbreaking ceremony at the site of what will be the new community-based outpatient clinic at 732 Main St.

The new facility will be larger and accommodate northern Maine veterans in a modern, upgraded facility which will include telehealth as well as female-focused veteran care. The new facility will have more than 8,000 net usable square feet, which is 50 percent larger than the current clinic in Caribou.

The site will include primary care and mental health care rooms, with an eye toward efficiency for staff and improved patient flow. There will be two designated virtual, or telemedicine, rooms,

as well as a conference room in which veterans can connect virtually with specialties and groups. In addition, all exam rooms within will have virtual care capabilities.

Construction is scheduled to begin later this month with completion targeted for February 2022.



Ground-Breaking Ceremony

Attendees: American Legion Department Commander Debra Couture and VFW Department Commander Herman Littlefield, Jr. at the VA Togus CBOC ground-breaking ceremony in Presque Isle on July 7.



Litchfield Post 181 Memorial Day: William R. Bold Post 181 Litchfield Memorial Day activities.



William R. Bold Post 181 Members in Litchfield, left to right, Ron Dixon, Richard Braunfels, and Amy Line salute in unison flags placed on veteran's graves at Litchfield Plains Cemetery May 28.



Placing Flags: (Left photo) Member of William R. Bold Post 181 in Litchfield, Mike Sherman, and his wife Betsy, place flags on veteran's graves in Litchfield cemetery. (Right photo) Abby Pelletier assists members of William R. Bold Post 181 place American flags on veteran's graves in Litchfield.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 9 continued

Wreaths Across America's (WAA)
3rd Annual Stem to Stone Race

Dozens of people laced up their sneakers in Columbia Falls on Saturday, July 24th, for Wreaths Across America's 3rd annual Stem to Stone Race. The race serves to help further community awareness and understanding of Wreaths Across America's year-long mission to Remember, Honor, and Teach about American's veterans. Everyone who registered for the race sponsored a fresh balsam veteran's wreath that will be placed on the headstone of an American hero on December 18, 2021 as part of Na-

tional Wreaths Across America Day. Department Commander Debra Couture and her spouse, Department Finance Officer Greg Couture, both participated in the 5K race. At the conclusion of the race, they tagged a tree with dog tags with their Post 181 Chaplain's name on them. The Post Chaplain is Keith Estabrook, a WWII Veteran. To learn more about Wreaths Across America and all the events that they sponsor, please visit www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org.



WAA 5K Finish! Wreaths Across America Executive Director Karen Worcester, left, and American Legion Department Commander Deb Couture just finished the 5K race!



WWII Veteran and Post 181 Chaplain Keith Estabrook's Dog tags used for tagging a tree.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 10

Fairfield Post 14; Skowhegan Post 16; Pittsburg Post 32; Madison Post 39; Bingham Post 99; Jackman Post 122; Hartland Post 141; New Portland Post 173; Athens Post 192



Skowhegan Post 16 Members Take Part In Memorial Day Parade: Members from Peters-Shortier America Legion Post 16 in Skowhegan were involved with the 2021 Memorial Day Parade. Left photo, Tina Richard, Ricky Parlin and

Richard Dubois were the Color Guard. Photo below, 94 year old World War II Navy Veteran Eugene Cullinane was the Grand Marshall. His daughter, Nancy Weis, a retired Coast Guard Veteran, rode with him.



Skowhegan Post 16 Flag Burning Ceremony: Peters-Shortier America Legion Post 16 in Skowhegan held a flag burning ceremony on Flag Day, June 15. District 10 Commander Joe Frechette, (left photo), and Gary Holmes (right photo) took part in disposing the old flags.



Madison Post 39 Color Guard Event held June 26, celebrating the 90th birthday of a US Navy Korean War Veteran Radarman 2nd Class Petty Officer and retired Maine State Trooper, James Ireland. Photo (above) depicts Senator Brad Farrin presenting Jim with the American flag that was flown at our Nation's Capital and the State of Maine flag that was flown at the State Capital, with friends and family looking on.



Flag Presentation: Madison Post 39 Color Guard, top photo, for the flag presentation with Madison Fire Department Engine 71. Bottom photo, Madison Post 39 Color Guard with Senator Brad Farrin and Madison Town Manager Tim Curtis.



Auxiliary Member Cindy Savoy with Madison Post 39 Color Guard with Senator Farrin.



Senator Farrin awards the flags to Jim along with sons Steve, Jeff, and Mike.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 13

Bangor Post 12; E Millinocket Post 13; Corinna Post 73; Old Town Post 75; Lincoln Post 77; Millinocket Post 80; Orono Post 84; Howland Post 97; Brewer Post 98; Newport Post 105; Etna-Carmel Post 107; Corinth Post 115; Lee Post 160; Herman Post 200; Dixmont Post 201; Glenburn Post 211; Hampden Post 213



Corinna Post 73 Collection Box

Presentation: Boy Scout Troop 428 Noah Wiswall of Pittsfield presents a Collection Box to Corinna Post 73 Commander Vinal Teague and Post Adjutant Vic Buckland on Sunday, July 18 at the Legion's Chicken BBQ for the Legion members and guests. The Legion made a donation to Troop 428 and thanked Noah for his support to the American Legion Post. So far, he has built and donated four Retiring Flag Collection Boxes. Left to right, Corinna Post 73 Commander Vinal Teague, Noah Wiswall, and Corinna Post 73 Adjutant Vic Buckland.

Photo by Joyce Weymouth

Old Town Post 75 & Orono Post 84 Support JROTC

The American Legion presented awards to Coyote Battalion cadets on May 11 at the Old Town High School. Legionnaire and Post 75 Adjutant Kevin McGarry presented the awards at the Old Town High School Army JROTC Change of Command and awards ceremony.

Amedeo Lauria, former Senior Army Instructor, first instructor for OTHS, and Legionnaire from Sabattus Post 135, was also in attendance at the event. Amedeo and Susan Lauria presented the OTHS Corps Of Cadets a grant of \$500 to help fund cadet activities.

Brigadier General Ralph Leonard was also in attendance, and spoke highly of the program; he was the driving force for bringing JROTC to Old Town High School.

Old Town High School JROTC has been an "Honor Unit With Distinction" ever since its founding. That designa-

tion allows the School Principal to nominate a cadet to one of the service academies. The school has the distinction of one year sending three cadets to the service academies from a single class.

Four Army JROTC cadets were recognized; 2 cadets for Academic and Military Excellence with American Legion medals, and 2 cadets were presented with Golden School Award Medallions.

- Leadership Medal - Michele Francis, Sophomore
- Academic Medal - Emma Tupper, Junior
- Medallion: Isabella Bouchard, Sophomore
- Medallion: Andrew Koch, Sophomore

The American Legion has been supporting the cadets at OTHS with awards since the beginning of the program 20 years ago!

Congratulations cadets!



Army JROTC Cadets Receive Awards: (Left photo) Isabella Bouchard, left, and Andrew Koch, right, both sophomores at Old Town High School, receive the Medallions from Post 75 Adjutant, Kevin McGarry, center. (Right photo) Emma Tupper, left, a junior from Old Town High School, is handed the Academic Medal from Post 75 Adjutant, Kevin McGarry.



membership cards for 2022 to Post 80 Commander Michael Majkowski.

Millinocket Post 80 Visitation: While Visiting Millinocket Post-80 on July 25, Department Vice Commander Kirk Thurston, left, had an opportunity to present a signed picture of the National Commander and the new



the July 25th meeting. The Auxiliary has shown continued support to the Post even during hard times. The Commander was very pleased and said that the Auxiliary has always been there when needed.

Millinocket Unit 80 Presents Check: Unit President Dolores Stewart, left, presents Post 80 Commander Michael Majkowski with a check for \$500 for the upkeep of the Post home, during



Etna-Carmel Post 107 Post Officer Installation: Etna-Carmel Post 107 held their Post Officer Installation Ceremony the week of May 26 at the Post home and was performed by District Commanding Officer Tom Healey. Back row, left to right: Service Officer Matt Steniero, Historian Steve Luzzi, Commander Bob Sibley, Second Vice Commander Jim Thorne, District Commander Tom Healey, Chaplain Pat Hoff. Front row, left to right, Sargent-at-Arms Ansel Zitterman, First Vice Commander Julia Pike, Adjunct Commander Don Candage.

Etna-Carmel Post 107 Commander Bob Sibley, left, and Post 107 Adjutant Don Candage, right, during the Etna-Carmel Post 107 Officer Installation ceremony held the week of May 26 at the Post home.

Photos by Arlene Luzzi Aux. Post 107



Etna-Carmel Post 107 Memorial Day Flag Waving: Post 107 member Jim Thorne organized a group to wave American Flags in Hermon for Memorial Day. The event was held from 1-3 pm across the street from a small shopping mall in the center of town where the speed limit was only 25 mph. Jim Thorne is also a state representative, and this is where he campaigned for his election. Waving the flags were Legion members, left to right, Jim Thorne, Don Candage, Ansel Zitterman, and 2 supporters of Jim Thorne. Not pictured: Bob Sibley and 2 more supporters of Jim.

Photo by District 13 Historian Tom Carle

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 13 continued



Etna-Carmel Post 107 Memorial Day wreath laying ceremony. Paying our respects to our fallen brothers and sisters.

Photos by Post 107 Auxiliary
Arlene Luzzi



Etna-Carmel Respect To The Fallen: Post 107 partnered with a local group of veterans in the area, called Veterans 2 Veterans, and local residents, who assisted with the flag placement.

Photos by Laura Smith



Celebrating 75 Year Membership: Left to right, Etna-Carmel Post 107 Commander Bob Sibley, Post 107 Adjutant Don Candage, Stan Powell and State of Maine Commander Debra Couture celebrating.

Photo by Post 107 Historian Steve Luzzi



Certificate Presentation: Post 107 Adjutant Don Candage, left, presents Stan Powell a certificate as a member of American Legion Post 107 for 75 years as he celebrates his 99th birthday.

Photo by Post 107 Historian Steve Luzzi



Hermon Post 200 Flag Day Ceremony: Flag retirement, held on June 14th, for Post 200 was a great success. In Hermon, the school had no classes on Monday, so Boy Scout Troop Leader Joe Davis, contacted his leaders (3 troop leaders and 9 Boy Scouts). For safety, there was a fire truck with 4 fireman, 12 Legion members from four posts; Bangor Post 12, Etna/Carmel Post 107, Kezar Falls Post 123, and Hermon Post 200 who hosted the ceremony. Some Hermon residents came by to watch and learn. Left photo: Boy Scouts help with Flag Retirement Ceremony. Right photo: Herman Post 200 Commander Ron Judkins reads the history of Flag Day and the Retirement Ceremony.

Photos by Tom Carle



Hermon Post 200 Installation Ceremony: The Arnold R. Kelly Post 200 in Hermon held their installation of Officers Ceremony on May 24th at the Post home. The installation was performed by past District 13 Commander Don Candage, with District 13 Sgt-at-Arms

Robert Sibley. Left to right: giving the Oath of Office, Commander Don Candage, Sgt-at-Arms Mylon Frith, Americanism Officer and Judge Advocate Harry Rideout, Adjutant Tom Carle, Finance Officer and Historian Jack Campbell, 2nd Vice Lynwood Quimby, and Commander Ron Judkins. Not present: 1st Vice Dalton Hodgins, Membership John King, and Service Officer Peter Mead.

Photo by Art Dullenger

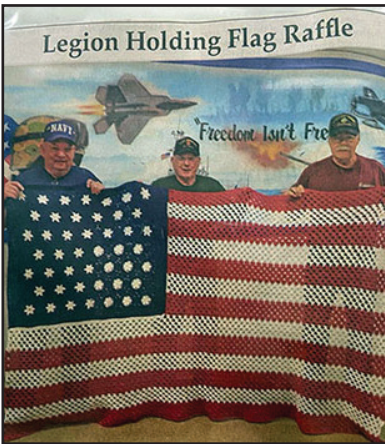
WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 14

Dover-Foxcroft Post 29; Milo Post 41; Dexter Post 53; Brownville Post 92; Greenville Post 94; Monson Post 116; Guilford Post 119; Sangerville Post 165

Greenville Post 94 Flag Raffle: Holding the one of a kind American Flag are Legion members Jim McKeon, Pete Johnson and George Murray. The American Legion Post in Greenville has announced a raffle for a 7'8" x 4'8" American Flag afghan made by Patricia (McKeon) St. Marie. The price for tickets is \$10 each, with only 100 being sold. The drawing will be held once all tickets are sold. They are available at the Legion Post, located on Pritham Avenue in Greenville, Monday though Friday from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m.

Photo by Pratt



'Flag Guy' to Help Hand Out 3,600 Flags on July 4



A Time Of Patriotism: James McKeon has been handing out U.S. flags at his local Fourth of July parade for the last 10 years.

James McKeon, a 54-year member of The American Legion in Beaver Cove, Maine, has been passing out U.S. flags at the local Fourth of July parade for the last 10 years. He said that thanks to generous donors, he and other members of Cecil R. Cole Post 94 will help pass out 3,600 small flags for the parade on July 4. "May she proudly fly for many more years!" McKeon said about Old Glory.

[More on "FLAG GUY" Page 34](#)

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 14 continued

"FLAG GUY"

(Continued from Page 33)

Do you have a flag moment that you would like to share? The American Legion would like to hear from you about your flag moment for its Rally Around

the Flag initiative. Share your story with a photo at Legiontown.org under the heading "Rally Around the Flag." Or share on your social media channels and use the hashtag #rallyaroundtheflag.

Article/Photo courtesy of The American Legion, Jul 01, 2021 - www.legion.org



United Veterans Honor Guard at the Memorial Service held for Daniel Stewart, US Air Force. Left to right, Marine Corps SGT Richard Zerke, LTC Andy Pottle, Richard Mealy and Calais Post 3 Commander Mike McLean.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 15

Calais Post 3; Cherryfield Post 8; Machias Post 9; Eastport Post 11; Baileyville Post 23; Danforth Post 45; Pembroke Post 59; Lubec Post 65; Jonesport Post 108; Vanceboro Post 172; Topsfield Post 191



Memorial Day Introduction: Calais Post 3 Mike McLean gives the opening introduction to begin the Memorial Day Celebration.



Calais Post 3 Commander Mike McLean with members of the "1136th Maine Army National Guard" during the Calais Memorial Day Ceremony!



Placing Flags On Memorial Day Calais Post 3 Commander Mike McLean, left, and State Senator Marianne Moore put out flags at Calais American Legion Sherman Brothers Post 3 Cemetery for Memorial Day.

French Student Honors Maine Soldier: French Exchange student places flowers and a flag to thank PFC Ray Strout for his supreme sacrifice while liberating her country in 1944. Tiphaine Dautry Hanguhard is a student at Washington Academy in E. Machias and will be a senior this fall. She lived with Cherryfield Post 8 Adjutant Peter Duston this past winter.



Cherryfield Post 8 Takes Teaching Civic Values To Our Children Seriously: For 20 years, the Cherryfield 4th graders have taken a walk to the Small Cemetery to place the Memorial Day Flags and learn about the sacrifices of local citizens who answered the call and served. There are graves from the revolutionary war to the present, giving the children an excellent hands-on history lesson offered by the Post 8 member who accompanied the students. There is even an unknown Civil War grave that allows them to ponder. Cherryfield Post 8 Adjutant Peter Duston shared stories of the veterans with the students to remind them that Freedom is Not Free.



Honoring Those Who Served, With A Rose: Cherryfield Post 8 joined in a national event to place a rose on each grave in a National Cemetery for Memorial Day. Here McKenna Perry places a rose in the Acadia National Cemetery in Jonesboro.

Generous Donation:

Downeast Credit Union donates \$1000 to the Calais American Legion Support Fund in June. Left to right, Branch Manager Joanne Cushing, Calais Post 3 Commander Mike McLean and Leading Expert Katie Knights. Message from Commander Mike: "I want to thank Downeast Credit Union management and staff for their generous donation of \$1000 to the "Calais American Legion Support Fund"! They have always been Great Supporters of our Veterans".



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 15 continued



Cherryfield Days: Scouts Brittany and Acadia of Troop 139G helped raise the Post 8 flags for Cherryfield Days celebration accompanied by Post Adjutant Peter Duston sounding To the Colors.



Commandant Of The Coast Guard Officially Dedicates New Dependent Housing Downeast: Admiral Karl Schultz helped cut the ribbon officially opening new Coast Guard housing for the USCG Station Jonesport. Located in a peaceful rural setting on the Dorman Rd in Harrington. With the shortage of rental housing for young families, the new development will help. Cherryfield Post 8 was there and presented a framed certificate of commendation to the command.

Post 8 Adjutant Helps Commission Grandson As 2LT In The Army: Three generations of military service saw Stowe Duston become the youngest family member joining the military at the University of South Florida. Post 8 Adjutant Peter Duston had the honor of "pinning" his grandson while his father Seth Duston, a Navy veteran submariner got "First Salute". Duston will be joining his cousin SrA Savage Bloomer and Aunt SSG Erika Yates as a member of Post 8.



Cobscook Post 59 Donut Meeting

I went to my first "Donut meeting" at the Cobscook Post on Wednesday morning, May 19, 2021. You are probably thinking what is a Donut Meeting? Well, there should be donuts of course! Well, there were not any donuts at this Donut Meeting. There

were fresh homemade blueberry muffins courtesy of Russ Leighton, our Regional Commander and cinnamon rolls from our Adjunct Dale Shannon, along with coffee. Lots of fresh coffee! I made my way to the back of the room as everyone was already engrossed in

conversation and drinking coffee. I sat down and started listening.... our Regional Commander was giving lessons on stock buying to two gentlemen sitting close to him. Penny stocks of all things and mining stocks. In which this got the whole room talking about the silver under Pembroke and how it would cost three times as much as it is worth to get it out of the ground. Then I heard Bob Barr, who was sitting in front of me, a local, not a legion member; but all are welcome at the Donut meeting. He was talking about the latest cat rescue. There have been several this month that have occurred. He said he was not so sure about who set the ladder up for Dale because it was fully extended and not even resting against the trunk of the tree but leaning against a rather thin branch.

Dale piped up and stated even standing on the top rung fully extended he could only tickle the cat's belly and he must have irritated the cat enough that it finally came down from the tree.

Amidst the talk of cat rescues, someone up front was asking about the car accident up by Calais last

night and wanted to know if the people involved were okay. Everyone involved in the accident was okay. To which another gentleman asks Dale about doing a buddy check on a fellow legion member who just recently had surgery. Dale reported that he saw him the day after the surgery at Post Office. However, everyone agreed they have not seen him since, and it has been a week or two. Volunteers are taken for the buddy check.

Bob started talking about the remote he got for Christmas and how he still cannot get it programmed. A legion member says that's Tony's job to go around and program all you old guys remotes, he did already two last month. Tony will get on it and square Bob away with his remote.

Dale shouts to Paul Nadeau, "Hey is tomorrow good to finish that bulkhead and I think she needs a railing on that porch we did, and gutters - needs those gutters cleaned out". Paul responds, "that's fine I will be there". Another legion member's sister needed house repairs and that member is getting too old to make those kinds of repairs. So, it seems the younger members who can still climb ladders can pick up the slack.

I make my way to the back of the room while the men are discussing hair-

cuts and Ron Kilbey was boasting how he has not cut his hair since the day he got out of the service. It does not seem long enough to even need a haircut. But then I heard him boasting about always drinking the well water earlier with Bob and how it has never bothered him.

There are two Charters on the back wall of the Post, and one is dated 1920 and the other 1946, so the Post has had two charters. As I am looking at the dates and the names on the original Charter, Kevin Lincoln comes up and says, "Have you seen what's behind the 'Colors'?" I have not and Kevin, along with another Legion member move the flags and show me a large plaque on the wall. It is a plaque of all the men who fought in WWI from Pembroke. There are 86 names on the plaque, I know because I counted them and five have gold stars by their names. The gentlemen

standing behind me points out a name with a star, John Brown. He says that man was my Mother's cousin and he died in the last battle of WWI. We have the letter that was sent to us still to this day.

Kevin Lincoln points out the two Lincoln names on the list, Frank and Harvey Lincoln. They made it back from WWI. So many names from such a small town!

As I look at the names on the plaque, I realize I'm surrounded by men of the same last names; Browns, Lincolns and Leightons, just to name a few! All wanting to tell the stories about how their relatives fought and served during that Great War. Most of the men at the Donut meeting served and fought in their own Wars. They have their own stories to tell.

I learned a lot from this weekday donut meeting. I learned about stock tips from Russ and that he can bake too. I learned how to tickle a cat out of a tree courtesy of Dale and that Tony programs remotes for the older members in the community. No job is too small or too big for these guys to tackle. If you do not show up to meetings you will be checked on. It is supper, not dinner here and you can drink the well water just ask Ron!

But more importantly I learned that it is about more than just donuts and coffee, the meetings are about comradery, community, and serving.

Article by Colleen Condon



Donut Meet: Clockwise from left, Ron Kilbey, Paul Nadeau, Ken Carter, Kevin Lincoln, Roger Requier, Russ Leighton, Kevin Stanhope, Dale Shannon, Andy Mills, and Bob Barr.

WHAT’S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 15 continued



Pembroke Post 59 Recognition Award: Cobscook Post 59 Commander Brent Ellinwood, left, receives an award for his Post in recognition of the Post's support of programs and activities of The American Legion, all the while, being an asset in the community and their allegiance to helping support Veterans. State Commander Debra Couture, right, also presented a recognition award to the Post on behalf of National Commander James Oxford and National Adjutant Daniel Wheeler.

WHAT’S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 16

Caribou Post 15; Fort Fairfield Post 27; Houlton Post 47; Washburn Post 48; Oakfield Post 52; Presque Isle Post 88; Mars Hill Post 118; Limestone Post 127; Easton Post 187; Masardis Post 208

Meeting At Mars Hill Post 118: Department Vice Commanders Kirk Thurston, left, and Alfred McKay, right, present Mars Hill Post 118 Commander Steffin Gallupe with a photo of National Commander Oxford and a Certificate of Achievement for his dedication and work during these challenging times. The presentation took place June 26 at the Post home. Following the meeting, a well-attended light lunch was served by Unit-118 members of the Auxiliary.



WHAT’S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 17

Van Buren Post 49; Fort Kent Post 133; Stockholm Post 136; Frenchville Post 145; Madawaska Post 147; Eagle Lake Post 176; St. Francis Post 180



Eagle Lake Post 176 Visitation: The department officers last stop took place June 26 at the Smart-Soucie Post 176 in Eagle Lake. The new commander invited the department officers to view the opening of the Post home and discuss Legion ideas. To much of their surprise, the post officers decided to have a BBQ where many members showed up as well as Maine State Senate President Troy D Jackson who gave thanks to the Post for all they do for the community. During the BBQ, Commander Leroy McKenzie presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Mr. Jackson. Left to right, Department 1st Vice Commander Kirk Thurston, Mr. Jackson, Post Commander Leroy McKenzie, Department 2nd Vice Commander Al McKay, and Department Chaplain Joseph Michaud. Thank you to all the members of the Legion Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion of Eagle Lake.

LEGION WORD SEARCH

E	C	C	H	D	S	V	X	Z	C	V	Y	P	M	D
V	C	U	B	R	A	H	C	O	E	R	U	I	A	S
E	Q	R	E	L	O	S	M	D	A	I	B	H	I	T
T	U	D	O	N	S	M	I	I	V	U	C	S	N	S
E	I	N	O	F	A	T	L	Q	J	Y	O	R	E	O
R	Z	R	I	N	R	I	S	I	T	Q	L	E	Y	P
A	R	O	D	T	X	I	Z	A	T	T	L	D	M	E
N	F	E	W	U	T	E	A	Q	R	R	E	A	R	J
Y	R	B	A	S	E	B	A	L	L	Y	G	E	A	M
R	L	E	G	I	O	N	N	A	I	R	E	L	A	V
T	C	I	R	T	S	I	D	J	Y	M	G	R	B	W
F	R	U	M	S	O	N	S	L	V	V	I	S	Z	U
I	P	E	N	A	D	E	Z	W	A	N	A	X	D	P
U	U	I	L	A	F	V	S	Y	E	O	Q	N	I	J
I	K	C	N	G	P	I	H	S	R	E	B	M	E	M

AIRFORCE	ARMY	AUXILIARY	BASEBALL	COLLEGE
COMMANDER	DISTRICT	FAMILY	HONOR	LEADERSHIP
LEGIONNAIRE	LIT	MAINE	MEMBERSHIP	NAVY
POSTS	RIDERS	SONS	UNIT	VETERAN

Words can go in any direction.
Words can share letters as they cross over each other.

Courtesy of Past Department Commander Scott Paradis.

Scouting Corner

As your Department Scouting Chairman, I attended the National American Legion Conference on Scouting held on-line September 29th. 32 Departments were represented. Eric Mayer, Department of Texas Scouting Chair gave an excellent keynote speech on what his Department of Texas is doing to support scouting and most importantly HOW to help scouting increase membership. He pointed out that scouting and especially Cub Scouting (ages 5-10) had taken a huge hit with COVID restricting live meetings. That age group had the most difficulties with on-line. In one major city, Cub Scouting lost 90% of its membership. Chairman Mayer mounted a vigorous program in Texas to inspire more Legion Posts to serve as Charter Organizations (sponsor). Understanding that scouting builds from young to old and that older scouting gets most of its members from Cub Scouting, his campaign is called "A Pack in every Post". Cub Scouting is organized around Dens that meet weekly and then the Pack Meeting that meets once a month. If your town already has a Pack sponsored by another organization, Mayer urges your Post to recruit a Post Member to serve as liaison on the local scout committee. I attended Post 9's monthly meeting recently and observed that one of their members was signing up as liaison with the Machias Scout Committee. If your Post wants to start a scout unit in your town, contact

Council Executive Chuck Major for Katahdin Area BSA at 207-866-2241 or Matt Klutzaritz for Pinetree Council at 207-797-5252 x101. There are so many ways to not only support scouting but to find mutual support. Scouts are available for color guards, helpers at special events, Memorial Day for placing Flags on graves, Wreaths Across America day placing wreaths on graves, Veterans Day programs in school, etc. Posts that actively established a scout unit discovered that some scouting parents and adults were veterans and enrolled those as new Legion members.

There was a heated discussion about the lack of Eagle Scouts applying for the Department and National Scholarships. Posts could identify local older scouts who are potential Eagles and mentor them towards the scholarship program ensuring that they fulfilled the requirements. It was reported that too many Eagles didn't fully read or understand the requirements and were disqualified. One of the requirements is for the scout to earn the religious award. Some of the Department Chairs wanted to drop that requirement

but, in the end, agreed that scouting, like the Legion, is ...'duty to God and my Country... to quote the Scout Promise. It was clarified that the scholarship language needed to be changed to reflect the fact that young women were scouts and earning Eagle rank.

Some Departments have scouting prominently on their web sites. In the

words of the Texas Chair. "Let's see that BSA Emblem on the Dept Web." I will propose that we follow that lead and add a page to our Maine website that highlights the Legion/Scouting connection recognizing that our relationship dates back to the original founding of the American Legion.

There was a serious discussion of the legal ramifications that Posts might face in light of the abuse lawsuits facing the Boy Scouts of America. The attorney for the

National Department explained that each Department and Post are stand-alone entities so only abuse cases associated with scouting units sponsored or associated with local Posts might have some liability, although very unlikely, and our insurance should protect the Post. If we don't have a rider to our

policies regarding youth protection, we should discuss this with our insurance carrier. There are apparently 431 accusations nationwide that affect Legion Posts. While some organizations and churches have chosen to distance themselves from the Boy Scouts, the American Legion Nationally has continued to make a strong commitment of support.

The final discussion was on building membership; recruiting younger scoutmasters to work with experienced scoutmasters to keep the program "fresh". We need to explore which youth groups are successful and why sharing successful scout programs with other Posts. We discussed initiatives designed to retain scouts as they enter high school. Katahdin Council sponsors a specialty week at Camp Roosevelt called "Eagle Week" designed to help scouts stay with scouting and work towards earning Eagle. The program includes future planning with a college counselor, military, ROTC and Academy recruiters. Leadership is stressed and Eagles of various ages and backgrounds share "Eagle Inspiration" – how being an Eagle Scout has benefited their lives.

National Chairman Jeff Henricks served as MC of the conference.

Cherryfield Post 8 Adjutant Peter Duston
Department Scouting Chair
Scout Leader, Pack 139 and Troops 139

PS: I welcome questions or comments.
Please share your scouting success story.
207-460-2499 and dkassociates@myfairpoint.net



Manage Your Membership Information

Set-up a [MyLegion.org](https://www.MyLegion.org) Account Today!

By setting up a [MyLegion.org](https://www.MyLegion.org) account, you will be able to manage your membership information, such as updating your address, print a membership card, access member-only discounts, renew your membership, manage subscriptions to The American Legion Magazine, Dispatch and American Legion e-newsletters, and much more. [MyLegion.org](https://www.MyLegion.org) is a free and

secure website for American Legion and Sons of The American Legion members. Join today by visiting www.MyLegion.org and click on the REGISTER tab.

Please use the e-mail address associated with your member account during registration to allow data and access permissions to be assigned correctly.



Subscribe To Our Emails and receive instant email updates including our bi-weekly newsletter "The Leadership Ledger" and The Maine

Legionnaire newspaper by visiting <https://form.jotform.com/RachaelJ/maine-al-email-subscription-form>



Membership: Frequently Asked Questions

Eligibility Questions

Are you eligible? Here are a few frequently asked questions regarding American Legion eligibility. For any other eligibility questions, feel free to contact us at membership@legion.org or 317-630-1321. You may also contact The American Legion, Department of Maine at 207-873-3229 or email: legionme@mainelegion.org

What are the eligibility dates for membership in The American Legion?

Thanks to the LEGION Act (Let Everyone Get Involved In Opportunities for National Service Act), Congress expanded the current eligibility period to cover Dec. 7, 1941, to the present, and includes the current war campaigns. Previously, there were seven declared war periods. Now there are two, the current war period dating back to World War II and another war era covering World War I. No other restrictions to American Legion membership changed.

I'm currently on active duty. Am I eligible?

Yes, you are a veteran. All current active duty military are eligible for membership.

I didn't retire from the military, but was on active duty during one of the qualifying time periods. Am I eligible?

Yes, you are a veteran. As long as you have served at least one day of federal active duty during any qualifying period, you are eligible for membership.

I served during one of the qualifying periods, but was never in a combat zone. Am I eligible?

Yes, you are a veteran. Location of active duty service is not a consideration for membership.

I'm currently in the National Guard/Reserve. My unit was activated under Title 10 orders during a qualifying time period. Am I eligible?

Yes, you are a veteran. Title 10 orders are issued by the Secretary of Defense and therefore are federal orders. My National Guard unit was activated for crowd control under Title 32 orders during one of the qualifying periods. Am I eligible?

No. Title 32 orders are issued under a governor's authority, whereas Title 10 orders are issued from the Secretary of Defense.

I'm currently a cadet at one of the U.S. Military Academies. Am I eligible?

Yes, you are a veteran. The Ameri-

can Legion has considered service in the military academies as eligible for membership since WWI.

Can I be an honorary or social member of The American Legion?

No. Per National Constitution and By-laws, no form or class of membership is authorized except regular active or paid up for life.

I served my entire military career in the National Guard/Reserves, and only have a DD214 from my Active Duty for Training that I was in during one of the qualifying dates. Am I eligible?

Yes, you are a veteran. In the mid-60s all basic training and occupational training schools were considered federal active duty service.

I served active duty as a SPAR, WAC, WASP, or WAVES during the one of the qualifying periods. Am I eligible?

Yes, you are a veteran. Even though women served separately than men, their service is equal.

I served with allied military forces during one of the qualifying periods. Am I eligible?

Yes, you are a veteran, only if you were a U.S. citizen at the time of entry.

I served with the Civil Air Patrol/Civilian Technical Corps/USPHS as a civilian during two qualifying periods. Am I eligible?

No. Eligible members must have federal military service during a qualifying period and received an honorable discharge or discharge under honorable conditions.

I enlisted and went to basic training, but received an uncharacterized discharge due to a medical condition. Am I eligible?

Yes, you are a veteran. Uncharacterized discharges for medical discharges are assumed to be under honorable conditions unless specifically stated otherwise. There are other categories of uncharacterized discharges and before they are determined eligible for membership the discharge should be sent to National for determination and a record will be maintained at National on final determination.

I'm eligible for The American Legion, but do not have a copy of my DD214 to show as proof of eligibility. How can I get one?

You can go to archives.gov/veterans to request another copy of your discharge papers. A copy of orders putting you on federal active duty can be used as proof of eligibility as well.



Do You Have An Emergency Travel Plan?

Imagine for a moment ...

You're traveling away from home, and you get sick or hurt, in a town you're not familiar with, and attending medical staff whom you've never met before ... and in a medical emergency, where every minute counts, time is precious and acting quickly is essential. Being hospitalized in a distant location can be a frightening and unsettling experience. Having an emergency travel assistance plan is a way to minimize the considerable financial and health-related risks in an emergency, including injury, illness and emergency evacuation to get you appropriate care.

This is why Your American Legion Department endorses the Emergency Assistance Plus® (EA+®) Program. EA+ will be on your side, looking out for you, monitoring your medical care, and then getting you home after, if necessary.

The EA+ Program offers a comprehensive package of over 20 services, some

of which are critical during an emergency, such as emergency medical evacuation, transportation home, return-home assistance for companions, RV/vehicle return and other travel assistance services. * Some of which your medical insurance may NOT be likely to cover! EA+ is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, so you will always be able to access help anywhere in the world. For additional information on how the EA+ Program works, and how you can enroll, visit www.TheLIT.com/Emergency-Assistance-Plus or call 1-800-293-4008 and a representative will be happy to assist you.

*This is only an outline of the plan's features. The full rules and regulations of the plan are shown in your Member Guide. Please read it carefully. Washington state residents must be traveling more than 100 miles away from Home to be eligible for EA+ services.

Consumer Contact:

The Legionnaire Insurance Trust, 800-235-6943

Media Contact:

Amanda Smith, 805-566-9191 x2535



Quirk Motor City Wins The American Legion Senior

Baseball State Championship: The Senior American Legion baseball state champion Quirk Motor City based out of Bangor after its 10-0 victory over Central Maine of Fairfield in the title game at Husson University of Bangor July 29.

Photo Credit Ernie Clark - Bangor Daily New



USAA is proud to be the Preferred Provider of Insurance and Financial Services to The American Legion. Please visit usaa.com/legion or call 877-699-2654.

T a p s C o l u m n

POST	NAME	CONFLICT	POST	NAME	CONFLICT
Post 1 – Rockland	Wilbur Weeks	WWII	Post 58 – Buckfield	Edward G Brown	Vietnam
Post 2 – Augusta	Phyllis F. Cudmore	Vietnam	Post 59 – Pembroke	John Ward Jr	Vietnam
Post 2 – Augusta	Arthur McKee	WWII	Post 59 – Pembroke	David Wilder	Vietnam
Post 2 – Augusta	Philip Stacy	Persian Gulf	Post 59 – Pembroke	William M Vanginneken	Vietnam
Post 2 – Augusta	Joseph O Gilbert	WWII	Post 59 – Pembroke	Ralph Kierstead	Vietnam
Post 3 – Calais	Timothy Kelley	Vietnam	Post 64 – Phillips	Robert Childs	Korea
Post 3 – Calais	John Smith	Korea	Post 64 – Phillips	Kermit Haines	
Post 3 – Calais	William Mylen	Korea	Post 65 – Lubec	Richard Brown	WWII
Post 3 – Calais	Irvan Taggett	Vietnam	Post 65 – Lubec	Craig B Ashby	Vietnam
Post 5 – Waterville	Reginald Gagnon	Korea	Post 67 – Bridgton	Richard Martin	Korea
Post 5 – Waterville	William W Klein	Korea	Post 68 – Locke Mills	George L Crockett	Vietnam
Post 5 – Waterville	Raymond N Duval	Korea	Post 76 – Scarborough	Louis D. Janson	Korea
Post 5 – Waterville	Robert E Nixon	Korea	Post 77 – Lincoln	Earl Clark	Vietnam
Post 5 – Waterville	Leonil B Giroux, Jr	Vietnam	Post 77 – Lincoln	Frederick G. Curtis Sr	WWII
Post 5 – Waterville	Hollis E Towers	Vietnam	Post 77 – Lincoln	Phillip McKay	Korea
Post 5 – Waterville	Frank W Buzzell	Vietnam	Post 82 – Norway	David G Day	Vietnam
Post 5 – Waterville	James Boulette	Vietnam	Post 84 - Orono	Jesse R Wilson	Korea
Post 6 – Hallowell	Sal Crisci	Vietnam	Post 86 – Gray	David H Doggett	Korea
Post 6 – Hallowell	Maxine Blackburn	WWII	Post 88 – Presque Isle	Earl R Barnes	Korea
Post 8 – Cherryfield	Elbridge Dowling	WWII	Post 94 – Greenville	Duane Lander	Vietnam
Post 8 – Cherryfield	Wallace Sheive	Korea	Post 94 – Greenville	Mike Shaffer	WWII
Post 9 – Machias	Thomas O’Keefe	Vietnam	Post 94 – Greenville	John J Roberts	Korea
Post 10 – Livermore Falls	Wilfred R Guinard	Vietnam	Post 97 – Howland	Donald Swett	WWII
Post 11 – Eastport	Herbert Adams	Korea	Post 97 – Howland	Richard C Merrill	Korea
Post 11 – Eastport	John Sullivan III	Gulf	Post 97 – Howland	Robert Nicholson	Vietnam
Post 11 – Eastport	Edward Browne	WWII	Post 103 – N E Harbor	Frederick F Brown	WWII
Post 12 – Bangor	William Deering	WWII	Post 103 – N E Harbor	Edgar N Walls	Korea
Post 14 – Fairfield	David Tufts	Vietnam	Post 103 – N E Harbor	Ralph J Tracy, Jr	Korea
Post 14 – Fairfield	William R Gilbert	Korea	Post 118 – Mars Hills	Donald Boyce	Korea
Post 15 – Caribou	Gailen A Paul	Vietnam	Post 118 – Mars Hills	Wendell Grew	Korea
Post 15 – Caribou	Alvin Belanger	Grenada/Lebanon	Post 118 – Mars Hills	Gilbert Kilcollins	Vietnam
Post 15 – Caribou	Eugene Thibodeau	Korea	Post 123 – Kezar Falls	Harry Wilbur Edwards	Korea
Post 16 – Skowhegan	Alvan Gilman	Korea	Post 126 – N. Vassalboro	Earl L Brown	WWII
Post 16 – Skowhegan	John S Smith	Vietnam	Post 127 – Limestone	Gorgon Willette	Vietnam
Post 18 – Vinalhaven	Herbert Conway	WWII	Post 128 – Standish	Henry J Deschaine	Vietnam
Post 19 – Sanford	Daniel Coakley	Vietnam	Post 132 – Richmond	Frederick Douglas Jr.	WWII
Post 19 – Sanford	Arnold Maddox	Korea	Post 132 – Richmond	Edwin C Wentworth	Vietnam
Post 20 – Brunswick	Richard Giustra	Vietnam	Post 134 – Alfred	Robert Racicot	Vietnam
Post 20 – Brunswick	Allen E Held	Korea	Post 136 – Stockholm	Stephen S Wisser	Vietnam
Post 20 – Brunswick	James A Grover	Korea, Vietnam	Post 136 – Stockholm	Richard E Tauer	Vietnam
Post 23 – Baileyville	Everett Newman	WWII	Post 137 – Limestone	Gordon Willette	Vietnam
Post 24 – Rumford	Ralph Arsenault	Vietnam	Post 138 – Winterport	Lionel El-Hajj	Korea
Post 24 – Rumford	Phil Learned	WWII	Post 139 – Harrison	Dexter I Garland	Korea
Post 24 – Rumford	John Madigan	Vietnam	Post 142 – Peaks Island	Gustav Karlsen	Vietnam
Post 24 – Rumford	James Pulsifer	Vietnam	Post 143 – Wells	Kenneth Keeping	Vietnam
Post 24 – Rumford	Lawrence Shover	Vietnam	Post 145 – Frenchville	Elroy Daigle	Korea
Post 24 – Rumford	Terrance J Perry	Vietnam	Post 145 – Frenchville	Ferdinand Edmond Daigle Jr	Vietnam
Post 25 – Bar Harbor	Jerry Bouchard	Korea	Post 145 – Frenchville	Edmond Sinclair	Vietnam
Post 25 – Bar Harbor	Leslie Brewer	WWII	Post 145 – Frenchville	Clovis Daigle	WWII
Post 25 – Bar Harbor	Edward Paine	Korea	Post 147 – Madawaska	Wilfred Defour	Vietnam
Post 25 – Bar Harbor	Arden Peach	Korea	Post 147 – Madawaska	Edward Gervais	Vietnam
Post 26 – Biddeford	Richard Litwin	Vietnam	Post 148 – Windham	William Johnson	Vietnam
Post 26 – Biddeford	Roland Lantagne		Post 148 – Windham	Richard Sakker	Vietnam
Post 28 – Farmington	Lee Moody	Korea	Post 148 – Windham	David Watts	Vietnam
Post 28 – Farmington	Bernard Davis	Korea	Post 149 – Waldoboro	Robert W Bragan, Jr	Korea
Post 28 – Farmington	John Gill	Korea	Post 149 – Waldoboro	Charles Gruppee	WWII
Post 29 – Dover-Foxcroft	Edward C Craine	WWII	Post 149 – Waldoboro	Douglass Knowlton	Vietnam
Post 29 – Dover Foxcroft	Ralph Preble	Korea	Post 150 – Mechanic Falls	Fernald Shaw	WWII
Post 30 – Camden	Edward Kennedy	Vietnam	Post 151 – West Paris	Richard Bean	Korea
Post 30 – Camden	Henry “Geof” Chapman	WWII, Korea	Post 153 – Auburn	Norman McKeone	Vietnam
Post 35 – South Portland	Eugene Rogers	WWII	Post 153 – Auburn	Laurier Morin	Vietnam
Post 40 – Winthrop	Francis Brennan	Korea	Post 153 – Auburn	William P Gagne	Korea
Post 41 – Milo	Gordon Joslyn	Vietnam	Post 155 – Naples	Chad E. Brown	Vietnam
Post 42 – Damariscotta	Nuel Crawford	Vietnam	Post 155 – Naples	Alfred A Wilson	Vietnam
Post 42 – Damariscotta	Robert A Eugley	Vietnam	Post 157 – Stockton Springs	Alfred DeRedin	Korea
Post 47 – Houlton	Jerry Hutchinson	Vietnam	Post 157 – Stockton Springs	Paul Mason	WWII
Post 47 – Houlton	David D Henderson		Post 158 – Lisbon	Larry Stewart	Vietnam
Post 47 – Houlton	Donald J Levasseur	Grenada/Lebanon	Post 171 – Harpswell	Stephen R Collins	Vietnam
Post 49 – Van Buren	Delano Duplessis	Korea	Post 171 – Harpswell	Jeffrey H Morrell	Vietnam
Post 49 – Van Buren	Roderick Doucette	Vietnam	Post 178 – Winslow	Sherwood Geel	Vietnam
Post 51 – Oakland	Oscar Gerry	Persian Gulf	Post 197 – Westbrook	Paul Bois	Vietnam
Post 53 – Dexter	Derek Doncet	Vietnam	Post 197 – Westbrook	Ernald Gervais	WWII
Post 53 – Dexter	R Victor Wade	Vietnam	Post 197 – Westbrook	Albert MacDonald	
Post 57 – Old Orchard Beach	David F. Carr	Vietnam	Post 200 – Hermon	Timothy Richardson	Vietnam
Post 58 – Buckfield	Roy Nickerson	WWII	Post 204 – Monmouth	Hillman Tenney Sr	WWII

Department of Maine
American Legion
5 Verti Drive
Winslow, ME 04901-0727

NON PROFIT
ORANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PORTLAND
MAINE
PERMIT NO. 454

Attention: Next Deadline is Jan. 21

The deadline for material, stories and/or pictures to be submitted for consideration for use in the February 2022 issue of The Maine Legionnaire will be January 21, 2022.

Please be reminded that only those articles and/or pictures which are sent in proper form will be considered for publication.

Illegible stories or pictures that cannot be reproduced will be returned to you. A reminder that stories must be in story format; we are unable to compose your information for you.

As always, the editorial staff may edit all submissions at its discretion.

We are once again asking for input from all posts, auxiliary units, S.A.L. squadrons, individuals, etc.

To make this paper informative to you, it is imperative that we receive submissions from the membership.

Photo(s) should include the following: who is in the photo (left to right), what the photo is about, where the event took place, and who took the picture (optional). All photos will be returned for clarification and submission of the required information if the above mentioned is not provided.

Anyone interested in submitting a guest editorial should contact The Maine Legionnaire business office at: (207) 873-3229 or via email at:

legionme@mainelegion.org or
rachael@mainelegion.org

CHANGE OF ADDRESS CARD

Membership Card No. _____ Date ____/____/____ Post No. _____

Member's Name _____

Old Address _____
Street, Route or P.O. Box

Town/City _____ State _____ Zip _____

New Address _____
Street, Route or P.O. Box

Town/City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Remarks _____

To update your address, complete all sections of the above form and mail to: The American Legion, Department of Maine, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, Maine 04901-0727.

Make Your Name Part of The American Legion History!

Become a Sponsor Today in Support of Maine Veterans

Deadline for Submission is May 6, 2022



Become a sponsor of our Maine American Legion Convention Yearbook today by purchasing ad space or as an individual donor and help support Veterans in the State of Maine. As a contributor, your name (individual or business) will be listed in our 2022 Maine American Legion Yearbook and made available in print and online in digital format by visiting www.mainelegion.org.

Show your support to our Veterans in the State of Maine! Become a sponsor today and make your name part of The American Legion history!

Donations may be made by visiting www.mainelegion.org or by check payable to: The American Legion, Department of Maine, earmarked "Yearbook Program". Mail to: The American Legion, Department of Maine, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, ME. 04901-0727. For more information, please call 207-873-3229 Ext. 2.



45 Years Of Service Presentation: American Legion Department of Maine Commander Debra Couture, right, presents Dennis Lamontagne, a member of American Legion, Webber-Lefebvre Post 74, Kennebunk, a certificate commemorating his 45 years of faithful service to veterans and the community as a member of the Post. The presentation was made on October 6 by Department Commander Debra Couture and First Vice Commander Kirk Thurston with many Post members in attendance. Dennis, who served as Post 74 Commander for 18 years and continues to serve in his current role as Second Vice Commander, was honored by this event and received congratulations from all in attendance.

Photo by RJ De Clercq

Get Your Centennial Coin Today While Supplies Last!

Coins can be purchased online by visiting www.mainelegion.org, or by check/money order in the amount of \$10/coin, plus \$5 S/H. Make check payable

to The American Legion, Department of Maine and mail to 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, ME 04901-0727. Please include an additional \$5 for every 5 coins purchased. Coins are also available for free pick up at \$10 each. All proceeds go towards helping Veterans in the State of Maine, their families and various programs in The American Legion. For questions, please call State HQ at 207-873-3229.



DISCLAIMER

Neither The Maine Legionnaire editorial director, nor managing editor is responsible for misinformation, discrepancies, or embellishments, intentional or unintentional that may be contained in communications in any form that appear in The Maine Legionnaire.

Due to time constraints and staff limitations to fact check all material sent in, we depend on the honesty and integrity of those who submit material for publication and on the expertise of our members and readers to correct misstatements or misinformation whether intentional or not.