Welcome to the 7th Edition of The Leadership Ledger. It includes Post, Dept. and Nat’l reports, leadership training events, upcoming conferences/conventions as well as rules and regulations pertaining to local, state and national laws. The Ledger is available by visiting the Department’s website at www.mainelegion.org under “News & Events” or on the home page. If you have any information to be published in The Leadership Ledger, please forward to Department HQ via email at legionme@mainelegion.org. All events will be posted on Department’s website by visiting www.mainelegion.org or by pressing the POST EVENTS image. All events will also be uploaded on the 1st and 3rd week of each month and must be forwarded to Department HQ via email at legionme@mainelegion.org.

DISTRICT MEETINGS
Be Connected – Be Heard – Be Informed

District 2 – Cumberland: Feb. 16, Westbrook Post 197, 2 p.m.
District 3 – Androscoggin: Jan. 19, Mechanic Falls Post 150, 2 p.m.
District 3 – Androscoggin: Feb. 16, Lisbon Post 158, 2 p.m.
District 5 – Oxford: Jan. 21, South Paris Post 72, 7 p.m. Oratorical contest, refreshments after.
District 5 – Oxford: Feb. 18, Dixfield Post 100, 7 p.m. Nominations. Light supper 6 p.m.
District 7 – Lincoln: Jan. 6, Boothbay Harbor Post 36, 5:30 p.m.
District 9 – Kennebec: Jan. 8, South China Post 179, 7 p.m.
District 9 – Kennebec: Feb. 12, Maine Veterans Home, Augusta, 7 p.m.
District 11 – Waldo: Jan. 19, Belfast Post 43, 2 p.m.
District 12 – Hancock: Feb. 11, Trenton Post 207, (TBA)
District 14 – Piscataquis: Feb. 15, Dexter Post 53, lunch noon, 1 p.m. mtg.
District 15 – Washington: Feb. 9, Machias Post 9, 2 p.m.
District 16 – S. Aroostook: Feb. 9, Van Buren Post 49, meal 1 p.m., 2 p.m. meeting. Four Chaplains Service with District 17.
District 17 – N. Aroostook: Feb. 9, Van Buren Post 49, meal 1 p.m., 2 p.m. meeting. Four Chaplains Service with District 16.

DISTRICT 1 and 4 PLEASE SEND IN YOUR DISTRICT CALENDARS ASAP. THANKS
**2020 MID WINTER CONFERENCE**

The annual Mid-Winter Conference will be held Jan. 18-19, 2020 at Jeff’s Catering & Event Center, 15 Littlefield Way, Brewer, ME 04412.

The conference will be hosted by Commander Matthew Jabaut and 2nd Vice Commander Kirk Thurston.

Hotel Reservations can be made at the following: Holiday Inn: 404 Odlin Rd. Bangor, Maine 04401. Phone: 207-947-0101 Website: www.holidayinn.com, Room Rate: $93.00 (includes breakfast). Quality Inn: 250 Odlin Rd., Bangor, Maine 04401. Phone: 207-942-8272, Room Rate: $89.00. Fairfield Inn: 300 Odlin Rd. Bangor, Maine 04401. Phone: 207-990-0001, Room Rate: $89.00. Please state “Legion” when calling for reservations. Please see attached agenda, banquet reservations form and hotel information or visit http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/news-events/winter-conference.php

**DISTRICT ORATORICAL WINNERS FOR THE 2020 DEPARTMENT OF MAINE ORATORICAL CONTEST**

Attention District Commanders!

All District winners for the Department of Maine Oratorical Contest are due at Department Headquarters by January 31, 2020.

The American Legion, Department of Maine High School Oratorical Scholarship Contest will be held at Thomas College in Waterville on Feb. 8, 2020 at 9 a.m. Snow Date: Feb. 10, 2020 at 9 a.m.

**MILITARY TRIVIA:**

How many U.S. naval ships have been named after the State of Maine?

*Submitted by Dwayne Hatfield, Mars Hill Post 118*

**AMERICAN LEGION UNIFORM CAP ORDERS**

**EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY!**

The Department of Maine will no longer be placing orders for American Legion District caps and above. To place an order for a uniform cap, please visit www.emblem.legion.org, choose American Legion, and Caps (Uniform) located under Apparel and follow the steps 1-7. If you have any questions about ordering your uniform cap, please call (888) 453-4466 before you place your order and an Emblem Department Representative will be happy to assist you. Additional help is also available by choosing the link “Help ordering uniform caps”.

**TOGETHER WE SERVED:**

A Website to Locate Friends from Service

Tracking down old friends, particularly if you have been out of the service many years, is not always easy - but there is a company that can help. Together We Served (TWS) is a Veteran-only website, launched in 2003. It provides Veterans a highly-effective means to reconnect with old service-friends by simply entering their service history on their TWS Military Service Page.

Take this opportunity to reconnect with the servicemen and women with whom you shared some of the most important times of your life. In recognition of your service, Together We Served provides all VA Veterans with a FREE One Year Premium Membership, providing unlimited people searches, when you join TWS via the following link: https://join.togetherweserved.com/va
Hello Comrades,

An exciting adventure will be coming your way 2/14/2020-2/15/2020! The first ever "Legion Luge". On Sat, Feb. 15, 2020, 10 A.M. to 1 P.M. at The Camden Snowbowl, Camden Maine. Teams will be participating in races down the Toboggan Chute onto Hosmer Pond. More details to follow. This is a Fundraiser for The Legion Foundation. Commander Matt Jabaut will also be gathering up a team for this event. Look for more news next week. Hotel will be The Trade Winds and Winslow-Holbrook-Merritt Post 1 Rockland will serve supper 5-7 pm with Karaoke in the Canteen.

Ron Marr, Detachment Commander, ronaldmarr.rm@gmail.com, 207-701-9675 1779 Hotel Rd Auburn, ME 04210

THE MAINE LEGIONNAIRE SUBMISSIONS

Please be reminded that only those articles and/or pictures which are sent in proper form will be considered for publication in The Maine Legionnaire. As we continue to receive an overabundance of photos for publishing, we must have guidelines to follow. In order to publish any photo(s) received, effective immediately, the submitter must include the following: Who are the individuals in the photo (left to right), what the photo is about, and when and where the event took place. If the above mentioned is not provided, the photo will be returned to the submitter for clarification and submission of the required information.

Anyone interested in submitting an article and/or a photo, please send via email to legionme@mainelegion.org or rachael@mainelegion.org or mail to The American Legion, Department of Maine, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, Maine 04901-0727.

Deadline for February Issue: Jan. 24, 2020
PX PRIVILEGES FOR MORE DISABLED VETERANS

The DoD, VA and the Department of Homeland Security are collaborating to implement the Purple Heart and Disabled Veterans Equal Access Act of 2018 for those who will be eligible for this benefit on Jan. 1, 2020. We understand that the access for Veteran’s abroad may be limited based on additional factors and we recommend you contact the Customs Office at your nearest facility to obtain specific information regarding access. While not all Veterans are eligible for in-person privileges on DoD installations, all honorably discharged Veterans are eligible for online military exchange shopping through the Veterans Online Shopping Benefit. Veterans not eligible for in-person privileges should follow the instructions to establish an account at any of the following military exchange websites, or the VA’s Veterans Canteen Service:

Army and Air Force Exchange System: https://www.shopmyexchange.com
Coast Guard Exchange: https://shopCGX.com
Marine Corps Exchange: https://www.mymcx.com
Navy Exchange: https://www.mynavyexchange.com
Veterans Canteen Service: https://shopvcs.va.gov

Download the 103 percent membership goal form online:
www.legion.org/commander/103percent

THANK YOU LETTERS ARE CRITICAL

All posts accepting donations on behalf of The American Legion Dirigo Boys State are responsible for sending a thank you letter or note to businesses or individuals who donated. Donors who receive prompt, heartfelt thank you letters are far more likely to continuously give in support of The American Legion programs. Attached is a sample letter.

STATE DIRECTORY

The image below contains the link to The American Legion, Department of Maine State Directory. To follow the link just click on the image or visit http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/directory.php

Extracted from VA Oconus Connection
Dec. 2019
https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVAVBA/bulletins/25b38f9