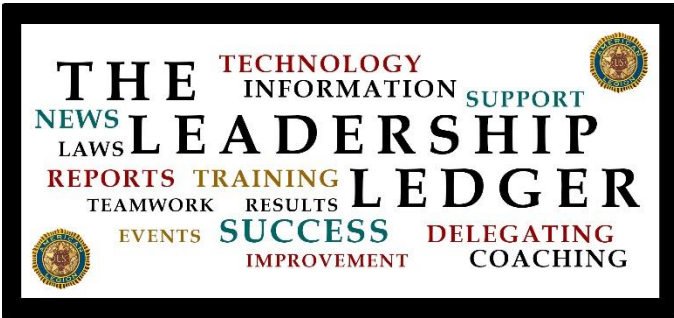




# THE LEADERSHIP LEDGER



## DISTRICT MEETINGS

Be Connected – Be Heard – Be Informed

### District Meetings Cancelled

- District 5 – Oxford: Feb. 16 | Dixfield
- District 12 – Hancock: Feb. 9 | Trenton Post 207
- District 14 – Piscataquis: Feb. 20 | Dexter Post 53
- District 17 – N. Arrostook: Feb. 6 | Caribou Post 15

Welcome to the 35<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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](mailto:legionme@mainelegion.org).

## 85% MEMBERSHIP

### TARGET DATE

February 10, 2021

LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO  
 MEET THIS GOAL!

## RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP ONLINE TODAY!

VISIT <http://www.mainelegion.org> OR  
 VISIT [WWW.LEGION.ORG/RENEW](http://WWW.LEGION.ORG/RENEW)

Remember that Membership is the key and number one resource The American Legion, Department of Maine depends on so we may continue to provide services to our Veterans, their families, and surrounding communities in the State of Maine. Please remember to pay your dues each year, so we can continue to provide these services for another 100 years!

## ATTENTION ALL!

### Cancellation Notice!

**Maine American Legion Oratorical Contest** at Thomas College in Waterville Feb. 13, 2021 has been cancelled. Thomas College has postponed all facility rentals through May 31, 2021 due to Covid-19.

Any questions or concerns, please call State HQ at 207-873-3229.



## PAST COMMANDERS CLUB

If you are a Past Post Commander of The American Legion, Department of Maine and have not yet paid your annual dues to the Past Commander Club in support of the James V. Day Scholarship, please do so as soon as possible.

Visit the Maine Legion website <http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/formsapplication.s.php> and click on the **Past Commanders Club (Fillable)** form under Membership/Post Forms & Manuals. Mail form along with \$2.00 per member to The American Legion, Past Commanders Club, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, Maine 04901-0727.

It is because of you, and the members and officers of your Post that The American Legion, Department of Maine can authorized 2 students to receive a \$500 scholarship each year. Thank you for your support!

## SBA VETERANS SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAM (VIRTUAL)



**When:** Weds., Feb. 24 & Thurs., Feb. 25  
8:30am-4:00pm

**Register:** Visit <https://sbavets.force.com/s/> and under the “Boots to Business Class Details/Schedule, please select “Online Portsmouth, NS, ME”

Boots to Business is a training program developed to assist Veterans, transitioning service members and their family members in starting their own business, or growing one that they already have. Any Veteran, spouse and/or dependent children over 18 are welcome to participate!

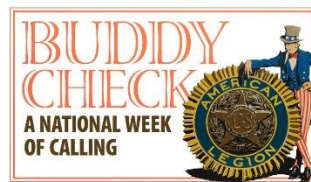
After completing the 2-day Boots to Business session, participants will have the tools and knowledge they need to identify a business opportunity, draft a business plan, connect with local small business resources, launch their small business or grow one they have already started. If you have any questions, please contact Bill Card at 207-751-7379 or email [william.card@sba.gov](mailto:william.card@sba.gov)

## MILITARY TRIVIA:

Q. What Hollywood movie star, while serving our country during WWII, was promoted from “private” to “Brigadier General”?

*Submitted by Dwayne Hatfield, Mars Hill Post 118*

## BUDDY CHECK: WELLNESS CHECK-INS WITH VETERANS



As American Legion members, our most sacred responsibility is to look out for each other and our fellow

veterans. As a way to reach out to members and former members who may need help, the National Executive Committee passed Resolution 18 during Spring Meetings in May 2019. The resolution calls for Buddy Checks to be conducted Legion-wide on the weeks of The American Legion’s birthday, March 15, and Veterans Day. However, American Legion posts are encouraged to perform this vital function whenever it makes the most sense in their communities.

The idea is to reconnect with veterans who may need assistance but don't know where to go or who to ask. These contacts may be made by a personal visit, phone or email, or a combination. The important part is to reach out to veterans in your community to let them know you care and can provide whatever assistance they may need. It's what we do for our battle buddies.

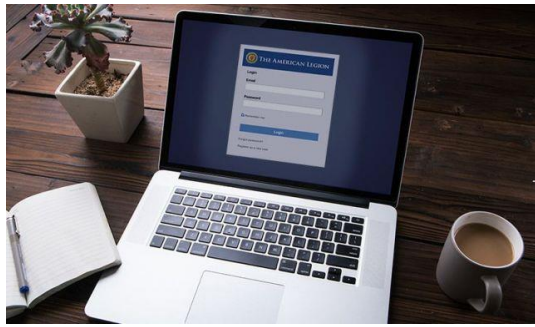
For more information, follow this link on how to organize a Buddy Check, Sample Scripts, and FAQ’s.

<https://www.legion.org/membership/buddycheck>.  
<https://www.legion.org/dispatch/faq>

## VETERAN'S EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (VEFAP)

Do you know of a veteran in your community in need of assistance? Someone who during these challenging times just needs a little help to keep them going? Maybe a veteran that is homeless? Or worst of all, a homeless veteran with children? If so, we want to remind you that The American Legion, Department of Maine can assist you to help these veterans during their difficult and troubling times. You can call us at 207-873-3229 Ext. 3 or visit our website: <http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/resources/va-resources.php>

We will contact you as soon as possible and we hope to enable you to help veterans in need.



## SINGLE WEB SIGN-ON IS HERE

Are you a registered user of national American Legion web resources, such as MyLegion.org, Baseball.legion.org, Legiontown.org or Legion.org? And are you tired of having to log in with your username and password each time you access the individual sites? Good news – a single sign-on is here!

To access the new single sign-on, you must re-register and set up a new password. And more importantly, confirm the response email.

You may have noticed that a new login screen became available Dec. 31 that requires you to re-register. Members and non-members will need to do this for a single sign-on and to continue accessing the valuable information and tools provided through the following American Legion web assets:

- MyLegion.org
- Legion.org
- Legiontown.org
- Centennial.legion.org
- Burnpit.us
- Baseball.legion.org

*(Note: this requirement does not currently apply to registered users of the Emblem Sales website.)*

This new single sign-on is Stage 1 of a multi-stage rollout that will allow The American Legion to provide a streamlined and better user experience within its web environment – and it begins with this initial step of re-registering. Thank you for taking this first step in a series of exciting American Legion web features that are to come on MyLegion.org and Legion.org.

### How to begin the re-registration process:

1. Click the “Sign In” tab on any American Legion web property. You will be taken to the single sign-on site.
2. Click “Register as a new user.” Fill in the entire form using your best contact email address and member ID (if applicable). All information you

provide is kept safe and secure.  
3. Enter and confirm your new password of choice.  
4. Click “Finish” to receive your confirmation email.  
5. Click the link to confirm your new account in the confirmation email sent (check your junk email inbox). The provided email will be from [sso@legion.org](mailto:sso@legion.org).

**Your questions answered:**

**Q: Why am I told my account no longer exists?**

**A:** The new platform that The American Legion is moving to requires each user to have a unique email address as the username. This, in conjunction with a move from a vendor proprietary system, which required us to renew accounts for all American Legion web properties. Please note that all member information is still within MyLegion, securely and safely housed.

**Q: Should I fill out the entire profile?**

**A:** Yes you should. By filling out the entire profile, especially your member ID, continued access to member-only benefits is ensured.

**Q: What if I haven’t received the confirmation email after registering?**

**A:** Please attempt to log in. You will be taken to the Please Confirm page or click here to generate a new message for the email address used during registration. You may need to enter your email address manually if you go directly to the page.

**Q: What should I do if I confirmed my account but am still having trouble logging in?**

**A:** Please verify that your new password is correct.

Look for more updates as The American Legion National Headquarters improves the web-user’s experience in the months to come.

### IMPORTANT

To complete the registration process you must confirm the response email sent from [sso@legion.org](mailto:sso@legion.org).

*The American Legion  
<https://www.legion.org/dispatch>  
January 11, 2021*

## HOLIDAY REMINDER

The Department Headquarters Office and Service Office will be closed on Mon., February 15 for Presidents Day.



# FLAG REWARDS

## Tips & Suggestions

### What are Flag Rewards?

Your Post can receive a 10¢ credit for each dollar spent on the purchase of AMERICAN FLAGS FROM EMBLEM SALES. This includes purchases made by your Post, as well as members, friends, neighbors, schools, & businesses that choose to *sponsor* your Post and buy their flags from The American Legion.

### How are Flag Rewards earned?

Your Post will earn a 10¢ Flag Rewards credit for every dollar your Post or sponsors spend on AMERICAN FLAGS FROM EMBLEM SALES (excluding taxes & shipping.)

### EXAMPLES

Dollars Spent on American Flags	Flag Rewards Credit
\$20	\$2
\$100	\$10
\$1000	\$100

### What can a Post purchase with its Flag Rewards credit?

Anything available from Emblem Sales (awards, uniforms, shirts, caps, pins, coins, patches, flags, baseballs, etc)

For more information, visit

[https://emblem.legion.org/flag\\_rewards.asp](https://emblem.legion.org/flag_rewards.asp).

Remember: Your Post earns 10¢ for each \$1 spent on American flags by your Post or sponsors!



5745 Lee Rd.

Indianapolis, IN 46216

(888) 453-4466

Questions or comments? [emblem@legion.org](mailto:emblem@legion.org)



## CANADIAN AWARD

## FRIENDSHIP AWARD

Nomination forms must reach Department Headquarters by January 31. The Canadian Friendship Award shall be awarded to specific individuals who shall be war veterans within the accepted meaning of the term and members of an authentic veteran's organization in Canada.

The award shall be given to individuals in recognition of outstanding service in the field of veterans' affairs and in the development and perpetuation of the spirit of international goodwill and comradeship between The United States and Canada and between their veterans' organization and The American Legion.

To submit nomination(s) for the Canadian Friendship Award please click [here](#) or visit [http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/formsapplication\\_s.php](http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/formsapplication_s.php). The nomination form and information is located under Award/Nomination Forms.

## INTERNATIONAL AMITY AWARD

## AMITY AWARD

The International Amity Award nominations must reach Department HQ by January 31. The International Amity award shall be awarded to specific individuals who shall be war veterans within the accepted meaning of the term and members of an authentic veterans organization established in the territory of any of the nations associated as wartime allies of the United States of America.

The award shall be given to individuals in recognition of outstanding service in the field of veterans affairs and for service and contributions made in the development of international goodwill and comradeship between the United States, the ally and between their veterans organization and The American Legion.

To submit nomination(s) for the International Amity Award please click [here](#) or visit [http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/formsapplication\\_s.php](http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/formsapplication_s.php)



# HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN LEGION BASEBALL

With an alumni base that includes more than half of current Major League Baseball players, American Legion Baseball is one of the most prominent and tradition-rich amateur athletic leagues in existence.

The program is always growing, and participation is easy.

About 4,000 teams compete each year, so there's ample opportunity for new players to join, and for coaches who want to start a team. The league also employs a large number of umpires and other volunteers.

## To play:

Contact your local Legion post. Look for the address and phone number in the local White Pages or at [www.legion.org/baseball](http://www.legion.org/baseball). Click on "[Find a Post](#)" and fill in your city, state and ZIP code.

Players who are cut from a team, or try out but don't make the roster, can play for the post that is the next-shortest driving distance from their residence. If a player doesn't make that team, he can try out with the next-closest post. He can continue until he finds a team to join. [Age eligibility chart](#)

## To coach:

Coaches who want to start a team should contact the department baseball chairman in their state. A full listing of chairmen can be found [here](#). The department will send a new team packet, which includes copies of the state and national rules, insurance information and registration forms. Begin your team registration at [baseball.legion.org](http://baseball.legion.org).

## To umpire:

Usually, local umpire associations provide departments with umpires. Department chairmen can nominate umpires to officiate the national tournament. Umpires can also nominate each other.

## To volunteer:

Legion Baseball can always use your help. Volunteers can serve in a variety of ways, ranging from statisticians to serving Gatorade during games.

For more information, contact your local post.

*The American Legion, Jan 1, 2021*  
<https://www.legion.org/baseball>



## MEMBERSHIP IMPACT REPORTS

The American Legion's success depends entirely on active membership, participation and volunteerism. The following monthly reports located on <https://www.legion.org/membership/impact> provide a summary of membership, participation and volunteerism making an impact in the lives of veterans, families and communities.

American Legion Posts can share the many ways Legionnaires are making a difference in their communities by [submitting consolidated post reports online](#). To visit the impact American Legion posts made throughout the year, visit <https://www.legion.org/bythenumbers>  
<https://www.legion.org/membership/impact>.

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## MISSION BLUE POST ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

At the 2020 Fall National Executive Committee Meeting, Resolution #36, Subject: Mission Blue Post Assistance Program was approved. Posts impacted by a government's public health restrictions implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic may apply for a grant up to \$1,000. Posts must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- A post must have a current consolidated post report on file.
- A post must have filed an IRS 990 within the prescribed due date.
- A post must have filed all other required forms and reports as prescribed by the departments.
- A post must have actively participated in one or more The American Legion(s) within the last 18 months.
- A post must have a financial need.
- A post must provide a certificate of insurance naming The American National Headquarters as an additional insured (copy of insurance declaration will be attached to application).
- A post must provide documentation indicating that the post is properly incorporated. The funds from this grant program shall be used exclusively for the following: Current and past due mortgage principal and interest or Current and past due real estate rents or Current and past due insurance premiums or Current and past due utilities.

The American Legion posts receiving this grant are required to submit a true and accurate report outlining how the funds were used, signed by the post finance officer, and certified by the post commander or post adjutant within six-months of receipt of the grant funds or no later than February 22, 2022. Whichever comes first.

To access instructions and application [Click Here](#) or visit

[https://www.legion.org/documents/pdf/Mission Blue PAP Application 1.pdf](https://www.legion.org/documents/pdf/Mission_Blue_PAP_Application_1.pdf)

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## AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY TAKE NOTICE!

### Maine American Legion welcomes all of you to be part of the Official 2021 Annual Convention Yearbook

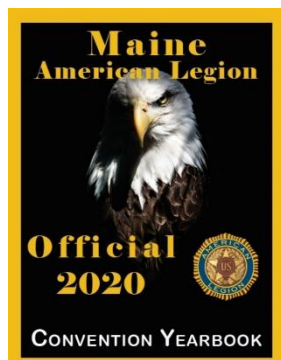
Showcase your Post, District, Unit, Squadron, and Chapter by sponsoring ad space in the 2021 Annual Convention Yearbook. Individual donations are also welcomed and appreciated with all individual and business names listed in the “Business & Individual Donors” page of the yearbook.

To donate or sponsor ad space in the 2021 Convention Yearbook in support of Maine Veterans, please [click here](#) to download a copy of the Convention Yearbook Sponsorship Request Form and follow specifications & submission instructions. You may also visit [www.mainelegion.org](http://www.mainelegion.org) and click on the image of Maine American Legion Convention Yearbook Request Form.

For questions or assistance in submitting your ad, please call Department HQ at 207-873-3229 Ext. 2.

Click on the image below or visit [www.mainelegion.org](http://www.mainelegion.org) and check out the **Digital Version** of the Maine American Legion 2020 Convention Yearbook!

Lots of new information including hyperlinked business ads to websites, photos, Legion



## COMPUTER 101

Computer 101 is a resource aiming to help those who wish to learn basic skills with the powerful technology of today's world. Increased proficiency with computers and the Internet has positive outcome across all fronts, both personally and professionally.

## ZOOM LIKE A PRO

Throughout the Pandemic, here are some things that make a successful Zoom or FaceTime call:

1. Look at yourself on your screen. What you wear is what others will see.
2. Do not sit with a window or other bright light behind you.
3. Have the light or window facing you from higher; beyond the laptop, or up to 45 degrees off to the side.
4. Incandescent lights are warmer and make you look more alive. Natural window light can make a look ghostly.
5. Place your laptop on a table to keep it from moving around.
6. Sit close enough so your head nearly fills the screen and you are recognizable.
7. Adjust the screen/camera angle to include your full face, preferably from nearly the same level to eliminate facial distortions and dominant ceilings.
8. If there are two of you making the call together from one device, sit close enough so both faces show equally.
9. Check your background for distracting clutter.

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## 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](http://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!



## SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS



Winners of the Sweepstakes Raffle drawn recently at State Headquarters in Winslow, Jan. 19:

Margaret Menengas, Madison Unit 39	\$1,500
Allen Edwards, Calais Post 3	\$ 500
Malcolm Perkins, Winslow H.Q. Post 178	\$ 300
Theron Clough, Bethel Post 81	\$ 200

## MILITARY TRIVIA:

A. Who was Jimmie Stewart, star of "Who shot Liberty Valance", "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington" & that all time great, "It's A Wonderful Life".



## DUE TO INCREASED CORONAVIRUS CASES IN MAINE, DEPT. HQ RECOMMENDS CALLING OR EMAILING BEFORE VISITING

**E**ffectively Immediately! The American Legion, Department of Maine is urging all those planning to visit State HQ to call or email before visiting due to the recent spike in coronavirus cases around the state. An appointment will be made if the matter cannot be resolved over the phone or through email.

Office hours are Monday - Thursday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm with some of our staff working remotely during the week and on Friday. Voicemail messages relating to Department, Post or District should be left by calling 207-873-3229 Ext. 2 and messages relating to Veterans Assistance should be left by calling 207-754-6044 or 207-660-9324. All emails should be sent to [legionme@mainelegion.org](mailto:legionme@mainelegion.org).

If you are scheduled to visit HQ, please remember to bring your mask and follow social distancing guidelines upon entering.

## CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) – INFORMATION- F

For a complete listing of up-to-date information, cancellations and rescheduled events, please visit [www.mainelegion.org](http://www.mainelegion.org) or click the following link: [CORONAVIRUS \(COVID-19\) – INFORMATION Including Cancellations & Rescheduled Events](#)