



THE LEADERSHIP LEDGER



Welcome to the 11th 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 3 – Androscoggin: Mar. 15, Sabattus Post 135, 2 p.m.

District 5 – Oxford: Mar. 18, Norway Post 82, 7 p.m. Election of Officers, refreshments after.

District 6 – Knox: Mar. 14, Thomaston Post 37, 10 a.m.

District 7 – Lincoln: Mar. 5, Waldoboro Post 149, 6:30 p.m.

District 8 – Sagadahoc: Mar. 22, Topsham Post 202, 1 p.m.

District 9 – Kennebec: Mar. 11, No. Vassalboro Post 126, 7 p.m.

District 11 – Waldo: Mar. 15, Stockton Springs Post 157, 2 p.m.

District 12 – Hancock: Mar. 10, Blue Hill Post 85, dinner 6:30 p.m.; meeting 7:30 p.m.

District 13 – Penobscot: Mar. 1, Hermon Post 200, meet at Hermon Rescue Squad Bldg, 262 Billings Rd., 2 p.m., Refreshments served.

District 14 – Piscataquis: Mar. 21, Brownville Jct. Post 92, lunch noon, 1 p.m. meeting.

District 16 – S. Aroostook: Mar. 7, Presque Isle Post 88, 1 p.m., meal is at discretion of the post.

DISTRICT 1, 4 & 10 PLEASE SEND IN YOUR DISTRICT CALENDARS ASAP. THANKS.

MILITARY TRIVIA:

Q: Which soldier from Maine, commanded the Union troops at the Confederate surrender ceremony, at the end of the Civil War?

Submitted by Dwayne Hatfield, Mars Hill Post 118



FIGHTING TO THE FINISH LINE, FOR THE FOUNDATION

TEAM FUNDRAISER

Matthew Jabaut and Caroline Yarmala are organizing this fundraiser on behalf of American Legion Department of Maine Foundation. Donations are 100% tax deductible.

Please join **Team Caroline** as she fights to the **finish line** of the Boston Marathon to benefit the American Legion Department of Maine Foundation by **clicking here** or visit



<http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/foundation/fundraising-events.php> to place your contribution today to a cause that means so much!

MARATHON- Why I Run:

I run to feel the Music
I run to feel the fresh Air
I run to forget the Rage
I run to forget the Anxiety
I run to embrace the Time
I run to embrace the Honor
I run to remember the Oath
I run to remember the Need
I run this **MARATHON** for



the future of the Maine American Legion
~ Caroline Yarmala

A unique opportunity and the bonds of family and friends give way to a hope for the future.

If you would prefer to donate by check, please make payable to **American Legion Department of Maine Foundation** earmarked "marathon run" and mail to

American Legion Department of Maine Foundation, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, Maine 04901.

DONATIONS

Peter Johnson-\$100; Ronda Lecompte-25; Sherree Paradis-100; Julie Dussinger-100; Peter Jabaut-100 Denise Tepler-50; David Tanguay-500; Joanne Ottman-50; Russell Jabaut-100; Joseph Yarmala-100; Nicolas Hamlin-1,000; Nancy Laffin-30; Jonathan Robertson-20; Tracy Grieves-40; Paul L'Heureux-500; Patricia Thurston-100; Jason Hall-50.

LEGION LUGE - A SUCCESS

To those who donated & participated, The American Legion Department of Maine Foundation **THANKS YOU**. Visit this link to see the National Website's story on the Legion Luge.

<https://www.legion.org/membership/248449/legion-luge-family-affair>

MILITARY TRIVIA:

Answer to Military Trivia: Joshua Chamberlain.

MEMBERSHIP - 90% GOAL

To all members that receive the Legion Ledger we need your help!!! We need 524 by March 10. We do not care if you only have 2 on your desk or in your brief case please get them to HQ.

HOW DO YOU COMPARE?

"5 TRAITS OF FINANCIALLY PREPARED VETERANS"

Veterans are a highly diverse group of people from their military background to their civilian career, from their education to their household income,

from their age to their marital status. A new study found that veterans who are on-track or ahead in meeting their financial goals cut across these demographics, and they also hold 5 attributes in common.

The Veterans Financial Preparedness Report 2019 is the very first study to examine how well-equipped U.S. military veterans are to meet their financial goals after leaving the military.

Prepared by the Legionnaire Insurance Trust for the departments of the American Legion in honor of the Legion's 100th anniversary, the study includes key findings from a survey of more than 1,500 veterans, representing a wide variety of backgrounds.

Overall, more than one-half of veterans said they are behind on saving for retirement, while just over one-third said they are on-track and just 8% said they are ahead of schedule.

Which veterans are financial prepared? Given that so many veterans are behind in saving, what sets apart those who are on-track and ahead of schedule from their peers? According to the report, 5 attributes were common among veterans. Follow this link <https://www.thelit.com/How-do-you-compare> to get the full report.

Veterans Financial Preparedness Report 2019
www.TheLit.com

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 by filling out the attached form or visit <http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/formsapplication.s.php> and click on the Past Commanders Club (Fillable) form. 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!

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 continue to give in support of The American Legion programs. Attached is a sample letter.

PAST COMMANDERS CLUB DUES

Thank you to the following posts who sent in their dues to sponsor James V. Day Scholarship:

Post 24	Rumford
Post 41	Milo
Post 58	Buckfield
Post 59	Pembroke
Post 94	Greenville
Post 132	Richmond
Post 147	Madawaska
Post 148	Windham
Post 153	Auburn
Post 197	Westbrook

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”.

TRYING TO FIND A PHONE NUMBER

I'm conducting a revitalization in Indiana this weekend. As you know we have run across the issue of missing phone numbers and the inability to look them up. In the past, we had used anywho.com and/or 411.com and I was just told about a new service called fastpeoplesearch.com which is still free. I just wanted to pass on the info as soon as I heard.

Kevin Mook (MD), Membership Engagement Coordinator, IA & Membership Division (Nat'l H.Q.)

HONOR FLIGHTS

Upcoming dates:

Flight 1 - April 24-26

Flight 2 - May 29-31

Flights - June, Sept. and Oct. - Dates to be Determined.

Follow this link for more information.

<https://www.honorflightmaine.org/>

FISHER HOUSE RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY

The VA Maine Healthcare System cordially invites you to attend the Fisher House Dedication Ceremony & Ribbon Cutting on April 3, 10 a.m., 1 VA Center, Augusta. **RSVP** by Mar. 25 to 207-623-8411, ext. 2200, or jonathan.barczyk@va.gov
Please see attached for more details.

THE DETACHMENT COMMITTEE TO ELECT RICHARD L. HUNTLEY NATIONAL VICE COMMANDER

Eastern Region of the Sons of The American Legion

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to introduce to you our newest Candidate for high office of the Sons of The American Legion National Vice Commander. He has served as Squadron Commander, District Commander, many of Detachment offices including Detachment Commander. Currently he serves as our National Executive Committeeman, our own Richard “Dickie” Huntley.

I am recalling my own campaign for National Vice Commander and can tell you that it requires quite a bit of funds to pursue this high office in the Sons of The American Legion. It took \$10,000.00 to successfully achieve that goal. It remains the going rate and obviously he won't be able to do this alone and will need some help from the entire Department Maine American Legion Family.

I am asking that all squadrons send a donation to Dickie or if your Squadron can run a fundraiser or raffle on his behalf. If all Squadrons, or even perhaps Units or even Posts could assist in any way it would be greatly appreciated. You will see some fundraisers being advertised from our committee from time to time and would appreciate your involvement in that. The committee has a Finance Officer which all funds should be sent to him or Dickie. Jim's address is Jim Hughes, 27 Tufton St., Brunswick, ME. 04011 or Richard Huntley at 38 Whale Cove Rd., Machiasport, ME 04655.

As a matter of fact, we have T- Shirts available. Attached you will see them front and back. They are available in Forest Green and Navy Blue and cost \$20.00 apiece. Get every color. I think in the future there will be polo shirts in those colors but are not available yet.



I am very pleased to be able to give you this news and hope for your support for this candidate. It is not often that we, in the State of Maine, have the opportunity to assist one of our own to aspire to this lofty goal. I am positive that he will perform well and with our support he should represent this Detachment in an admirable way. If you should have a fundraising event or would like a visit from Dickie or myself, feel free to contact him or me Don Allisot, P O Box 438, Woolwich, ME. 04579, Phone (207) 751-2109.
Yours in Service,

*Don Allisot
Chairman, Committee to Elect Dickie Huntley*

MAINE LEGION COLLEGE CLASS FOR 2020

We are currently working on the next Maine Legion College Classes for the 2020 year. As in the past, you have to make a commitment but we know that you will gain much from these classes and from other Legionnaires from all over the State of Maine.

This is the schedule we will follow:
Classes start at 8:30 a.m. each day

Phase 1: May 16 & 17
Phase 2: July 18 & 19
Phase 3: Sept.19 & 20

To attend these classes, you must first go online at: www.legion.org/alei and complete the Basic Training Course. After completion, please forward a copy of the Certificate to us at State HQ. You may scan the document and send it by email to paul@mainelegion.org along with your **Name, Post No., and Cell Phone No.** From that point, you will be included in the class starting on May 16 and we will communicate by email with any information we need to pass on.

ATTENTION 2019 LEGION COLLEGE GRADUATES

The shirts that were ordered for the 2019 class have arrived at Department H.Q. Please stop by or make

arrangements with the Dept. Adjutant (Paul) for a delivery.

LEGION BASEBALL

Team registration is open at www.baseball.legion.org for the 2020 season. April 1 is deadline to register your team. Please do so sooner than later. No cost to register. When insurance & fees are due, May 1, it should be less than \$500. Failed to get your application by April 1 will result in NOT having a team this season. We need to know what we have for teams by April 1 for determining the Zones and scheduling.

Spring meeting date is Mar. 29, 10 a.m., American Legion State H.Q. This meeting is mandatory for each team to have representation by someone affiliated with the team.

Regular season will start Tues., June 16, and last 5 weekends. Schools participating in the State tournament will have to make up missed games ASAP after June 20. 18 game schedule. Games will be Tues., Thurs, & Sat. (2). We are looking into having a showcase tournament on the weekend of July 11, possibly 2 venues. Let me know of any interest. NO games on July 4.

State Tourney will be July 25-29 at Husson University in Bangor. New England Regional will be Aug. 5-9 in Shrewsbury, MA.

Any questions, concerns or suggestions, please be in touch.

Rod Stevens, Rod@aerialsurveyandphoto.com
207-634-2006 (w) or 207-431-0731 (c)





PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS WITH MAINE AMERICAN LEGION

The American Legion, Department of Maine will be taking a new direction this year to improve our Annual State Convention Yearbook. Various changes will take place including the format of the publication as well as a digital copy which will be made available online at www.mainelegion.org. To submit your sponsorship ad and payment, click on the above image of the Maine American Legion Convention Yearbook Sponsorship Request Form.

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 May Issue: April 24, 2020



THE MAINE LEGIONNAIRE FEB. 2020 ISSUE

Please check out our Maine Legionnaire newspaper for the February 2020 issue available on-line at http://www.mainelegion.org/media/TML/TMLFEB2020_PGS1-36_new.pdf

JUNIOR SHOOTING SPORTS AFFILIATION

Please discontinue any use of the Junior Shooting Sports Affiliation form with the return address of the National Headquarters. This form was in previous years used for the National Tournament and the 2019–2020 season was the last time that it was accepted for registration for the National Tournament.

Affiliation for the National Tournament will be a yearly requirement and starting with the 2020–2021 National Tournament the only affiliation form that will be accepted will be the form that will be downloaded as part of the registration process. However, understand that department were using the affiliation form for their use as well. There is now an Affiliation Form at the following link that you and your department can use. Section at the bottom is fillable so that you can put a return address in.

It also has the capability for e-signatures if you wish to want that capability.

https://www.legion.org/documents/legion/pdf/Junior_Shooting_Sports_Affiliate_Form.pdf

*Respectfully submitted Bill Megnin
Youth Program Manager
Oratorical and Junior Shooting Sports
The American Legion National Headquarters
700 North Pennsylvania Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204*

DONATIONS

National Commanders Campaign

Debra Couture, Dept. 1 st Vice Commander	\$125
Gregory Couture, Dept. Finance Officer	\$125
Joseph Donahue, District 8 Commander	\$100
Peter Johnson, Past Dept. Commander	\$200
Anthony “Tony” Jordan, Past Nat’l Cmdr.	\$125
Randy Kluj, Past Dept. Commander	\$125
Paul L’Heureux, Dept. Adjutant	\$125
Scott Paradis, Past Dept. Commander	\$100
Kirk Thurston, Dept. 2 nd Vice Commander &	
Patricia Thurston, Dept. Sgt-At-Arms	\$200
Lloyd Woods, NEC	\$190

Boys State

Richmond Post 132 (tuition)	1 Boy
Hampden Post 213 (tuition)	1 Boy
Madison Squadron (donation)	\$ 25
Phippsburg Post 216	\$ 50

2020 NATIONAL COMMANDER’S CAMPAIGN

As you may be aware, each year we request donations to be given to the leading candidate for the position of National Commander of The American Legion. This year’s leading candidate is Mr. Paul Dillard from the Department of Texas. He, like all of his predecessors is faced with a large financial challenge to get to this most prestigious office and

will do a lot of travelling and have expenses which he may need assistance in covering.

Each department donates to the cause and we are not the only one to do so. The many departments also supported our own Tony Jordan when he was campaigning for National Commander and it is only right that we, The American Legion, Department of Maine do so also.

Please consider donating to this great cause so that the Department of Maine can support Paul’s quest for election to the high position of National Commander. Please send donations to The American Legion, Department of Maine, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, ME 04901 and earmarked in the “Memo” portion of your check or money order “National Commander’s Campaign”. The donations will be given to Mr. Dillard prior to his visiting our department at the soonest possible time.

Thank you and let’s make this one a great one!

Lloyd Woods
Nat’l Exec Committeeman

Anthony “Tony” Jordan
Past Nat’l Commander

THE WHY TO JOIN NOW

The 100 percent American Legion membership target date is around the corner – May 13. As post membership drives are ramping up to meet the target date, don’t forget about the more than 4 million veterans who are now eligible to join The American Legion under the LEGION Act (Let Everyone Get Involved In Opportunities for National Service Act).

This legislation declares that the United States has been in a state of war since Dec. 7, 1941. As a result, this acknowledges and honors the service and sacrifice of at least 1,600 veterans who died or were wounded in previously undeclared periods of war. And it also allows veterans from those previously undeclared war eras (Cold War and conflicts in between) to receive American Legion membership and benefits that they have earned through their honorable service.

The LEGION Act was signed into law less than seven months ago on July 30, 2019. And as of Feb. 4, nearly 9,200 veterans, who were previously ineligible, have joined under it. While many American Legion posts in communities nationwide are sharing the news through local media about the expansion of membership eligibility, it's important to continue to get the word out and keep the LEGION Act at the forefront of all membership activities.

●The why

While recruiting a veteran now eligible under the LEGION Act, you may have heard the words "I couldn't join previously. So why now?" American Legion Membership & Post Activities Committee Chairman Jay Bowen provides insight on the why.

"It is extremely important that we spread the word throughout our community that The American Legion, working tirelessly for the past several years, was successful in helping our Congress understand what we've always known – veterans who served our great nation since World War II have been exposed to and engaged in hostile conflicts all over the world. They should be recognized as wartime-era veterans. With the passage of the LEGION Act, they have the recognition that they have long deserved.

"The passage of this act has opened membership eligibility to veterans who have earned the right to be called Legionnaires! It is now up to us to welcome those veterans into our organization."

●Who can now join?

Anyone who served honorably since Dec. 7, 1941. And remember, the LEGION Act not only expands membership eligibility for the Legion, but also for the Sons of The American Legion. So any son or grandson of an eligible Legionnaire, whether living or deceased, can join the Sons program.

●Membership impact

While the LEGION Act will help increase membership, Bowen shared two other ways to boost numbers – working the programs and working together.

"Regardless of size, locality or assets, every post can do something in support of our programs," he said.

That can be sponsoring an American Legion Baseball team or Boys Scout troop; sending young men and women to Boys State and Girls State or the Oratorical Contest; marching in a Veterans Day parade; or sitting with a veteran at a nursing home or VA medical center.

And Bowen reminds members when they are out in the community supporting veterans to wear the Legion emblem. "Others will see it and want to know about us, and often they will want to help."

Then, engage the entire Legion Family – Legion, Sons, Auxiliary and Legion Riders.

"This opens the door to many with friends, relatives and neighbors who qualify for membership and have similar interest," Bowen said. "The most successful posts I have seen are posts with active programs and members working together.

"We need to reassure our veterans and their family that we were there then, we are there now, and we will be there always."

<https://www.legion.org/dispatch/248293/why-join-now>
Feb. 11, 2020

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

Volunteer Legionnaire needed at The American Legion, Department of Maine to make phone calls. Please call 207-873-3229 for more information. Possible incentives.



HISTORY SEARCH – GORHAM POST 60

Smith-Wagner Post 60 of Gorham should have celebrated its 100th Anniversary in 2019 being one of the original founding Legion Post established in Maine that year. Instead, it has one member left, a Korean War Veteran living on Saco Street in Westbrook.

The Smith-Wagner Post was filled with vitality in the 1920's thru the 1970's with membership from both sides of the Presumpscot River at "The Village", South Windham and Gorham. In later years, with the closing of the mills and shifting populations, and with declining membership, the post shuttered the windows and sold the hall. The membership hung on for a few more years until by 2018 there were four members. Now there is only one.

This sad story has a mystery component to it. Each Legion Post has a document, a charter, and Legion Banner along with Old Glory. What has happened to these items along with photos and documents from the post? I've checked with Legion, Department of Maine. They have no information to share. I'm hoping that some individual or individuals in the Gorham community might know.

So, here is the challenge to your readers. If anyone has information pertaining to the Smith-Wagner Post that they would like to share, (how it got its name, stories from its' past, etc.) or knows of the location of the above items and would like to help get them in the appropriate Legion archives, I would be very grateful.

I hope that at some future date Gorham might again have a viable Legion Post to support its Veteran's community. For now, I would like to pick up the pieces from the past.

*District 2 Adjutant David Tanguay
Dept. of Maine
207-892-1306
Dtanguay46@aol.com*

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>

