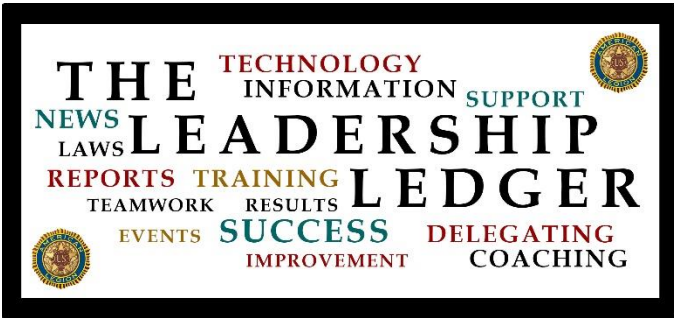




THE LEADERSHIP LEDGER



DISTRICT MEETINGS

Be Connected – Be Heard – Be Informed

Upcoming District Meetings

District 12 – Hancock: Mar. 9, Blue Hill Post 85, dinner 6:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. mtg.
District 14 – Piscataquis: Mar. 20, Brownville Jct. Post 92, lunch noon, 1 p.m. mtg.

CANDIDATE DEADLINE: MAY 12

Anyone wishing to run for a Department Office must submit a letter of intent and a copy of his or her discharge papers making them eligible for The American Legion to the Department Adjutant's office on or before May 12, 2021 to be included on the official ballot at convention in June. If you wish to be included in The Maine Legionnaire, the above information, plus a photo of you must be at Department Headquarters by April 23, 2021. Also be advised that the Department Constitution and By-Laws state: All current and future Department Officers elected at the Annual State Convention will within forty-five (45) days following the conclusion of the annual Department Convention, take the "Basic Training Course" previously named the "American Legion Extension Institute Course" and successfully complete said course. Please visit <https://www.legion.org/alei> to complete the course. Previous graduates of the course upon providing confirmation would be exempted.

Welcome to the 37th 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.

90% MEMBERSHIP TARGET DATE

MARCH 10, 2021

Total Number Needed: 483

LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO MEET
 THIS GOAL!

MILITARY TRIVIA:

Q. During the Vietnam war, Bell helicopter introduced a magnificent war bird technically named the Bell AH-1....what was it nicknamed?

Submitted by Dwayne Hatfield, Mars Hill Post 118

ELECTION GUIDANCE 2021

The goals of this Election Guidance are to conduct efficient, forthright elections at the Post level while maintaining protection of people attending and working the ballot box.

Each American Legion Post is autonomous and should make every effort to follow individual Post

constitution and bylaws while making efforts to follow pandemic safety protocols according to state guidance.

Things to consider:

Crowd density- if you have a Post that historically has a high voting population consider having one entrance and one exit, consider drive-thru voting, etc.

Offer hand sanitizer and clean pens.

Always wear masks and maintain 6' distances.

Limit duration of event.

Each Post is set up differently and there are many variables to consider.

Designate an area of your Post for voting separate from other rooms with activity that day.

Minimize crowding, keep the flow of voters spaced while in line and while sitting/waiting.

Attempt to have in-person elections to keep members involved. Most Posts are big enough to accommodate, or have drive thru capacity, to make elections as transparent as possible. Limit email voting if possible.

Avoid creating new processes that are not covered by your bylaws, utilize the Post Executive Committee to make decisions that are in gray areas and feel free to contact me with any questions or guidance (Jason.T.Hall@maine.gov).

We understand these are challenging times and changes to our norm. Do your best to maintain a legal, safe election.

Again, feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions, concerns, curve balls.

*For God and Country,
Jason T. Hall,
Department of Maine Judge Advocate
Jason.T.Hall@Maine.Gov
207-522-5471*

DENTAL CLINIC FOR MAINE VETERANS

University of New England Westbrook College of Health Professions, Department of Dental Hygiene is offering \$15 teeth cleanings for Maine Veterans To Honor our Veterans. The University of New England's Dental Hygiene Clinic in Portland will offer Veterans discounted teeth cleanings for \$15, along with free dental exams and fluoride varnish and 50% off all other services from March

2nd until April 9th, 2021. Veterans must have a valid VALID card, Maine driver's license/state ID with a military service designation or a DD-214. To book your appointment, please call the University of New England at 207-221-4900. UNE is a teaching clinic and educational environment, so appointments will require more time than a typical visit. Please note that X-rays are an additional cost and fillings are not available at this clinic. For Additional Information about the UNE clinic, please visit <https://www.une.edu/wchp/dental/patient-info>.

Due to COVID-19, patients must be able to wear a mask while on campus and in the clinic lobby. If you cannot comply, we would be happy to see you when the pandemic is over. Thank you in advance for keeping our community healthy. The University of New England Dental Hygiene Clinic is located at: The Coleman Dental Hygiene Building, behind the UNE College of Pharmacy building 716 Stevens Ave, Portland, ME 04103 or use 684 Stevens Ave, Portland Maine in your mapping software.

OUR NATIONAL ANTHEM The True Story: Take a Look / Listen. Enjoy!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n7BMjS9vhVI>

MAINE LEGION COLLEGE CLASS FOR 2021

We are currently working on the next Maine Legion College Classes for the 2021 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.

ONLY 9 MORE SPOTS AVAILABLE. Class dates & times (Phase 1, Phase 2, & Phase 3) remain unscheduled at this time.

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.**

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.

facilities and veterans who are at higher risk for serious complications or death due to COVID-19 are able to get their vaccines now. These high-risk veterans include those with chronic kidney disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and asthma, in-patient spinal cord injuries and disorders, and those with comorbidities. Additionally, family caregivers who are enrolled in the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers are eligible for vaccination when the veteran they care for becomes eligible, according to VA.

For more information and to determine if you're eligible to receive your COVID-19 vaccine from VA, [visit this web page](#). Additionally, veterans can find their local VA health facility and its current plan by [visiting this VA page](#).

Due to a larger percentage of high-risk patients within the VA health-care system compared to the general public, it may take longer for veterans not at an increased risk to receive their vaccine. In some instances, it may be faster for a veteran to receive a vaccine through their state rather than through VA. You can find information on [your state's COVID-19 vaccine distribution plan here](#).

“The American Legion has the utmost confidence in VA to balance the vaccine rollout, while prioritizing the most vulnerable veterans and health-care providers,” said Mario Marquez, director of The American Legion’s Veteran Affairs & Rehabilitation Division. “VA has assured us they will provide this balance with site-specific resources, needs, availability and local status of the pandemic.”

In order to be eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine through VA, a veteran must be enrolled in the VA health-care system. However, veterans attempting to enroll in VA health care for the first time who fall into category 8g, will not be eligible for the vaccine as they are also not currently eligible for VA health care. This is due to a VA change in policy from 2003 which removed 8g eligibility as these veterans do not have a service-connected disability and their income exceeds the allotted amount to qualify for VA coverage.

The American Legion supports 8g reintegration into VA health care. At the 2016 National Convention, the [National Executive Committee approved Resolution No. 2](#) that called for the reinstatement by VA.

“The American Legion stands behind providing access to VA health care to veterans regardless of their economic status,” Jeff Steele, an associate in the



WHAT VETERANS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT GETTING VACCINE FROM VA

As an influx of veterans seek the COVID-19 vaccine as it becomes available at Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) hospitals, many want clarity on when and where they will be able to get their vaccines. Under a plan developed by VA in coordination with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and federal guidelines, VA is disseminating the vaccine through a phased plan.

According to VA, the phased plan will enable it “to do the most good for the most people” during this time.

Under the current plan, VA health-care personnel, veterans living in VA long-term care

National Legislative Division, told the House Committee on Veterans Affairs on Dec. 2, 2020.

The American Legion is also on record in recent testimony, supporting legislation that calls for standing up a bipartisan commission on veterans health-care eligibility and benefits design.

As more vaccines become available, VA plans to offer free COVID-19 vaccines to all veterans receiving VA health care who want one. If you are a veteran who is not currently enrolled or receiving health care through VA, [visit this web page to apply](#).

For additional information, contact an American Legion service officer who is specially trained to provide expert assistance, free of charge, to veterans and their families. To find a service officer near you [click here](#).

*The American Legion
February 3, 2021*

DONATIONS

General Fund

John Freburger, Damariscotta Post 42 \$20

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why is the Consolidated Post Report (CPR) so important that every post should submit one?

When the National Commander testifies before Congress, the Consolidated Post Report (CPR) data is used to provide numerical data of what the collective American Legion is doing. Leadership at all levels of the organization need to impress upon our posts that they need to report what they are accomplishing in their community. The CPR is important to the business of The American Legion.

The Federal Charter requires the National Organization to report to Congress on the activities of the corporation during the prior calendar year. The CPR is essential in collecting the data to compile this report to Congress.

Every post is most likely doing something in the community. It is important that the post leadership report what they are doing and at what level they are

assisting. The post or department may fill out a CPR to just submit a report but the level of participation is what is essential. This is made easier by using the CPR form on mylegion.org. It has the capability to keep a running total and save the data until the next event. The magnitude of our numbers from just 68% (which is yearly average at National level) of our posts reporting has a major impact on Congress.

A department headquarters may also report program accomplishments on the department HQ post's CPR. For instance, if the department sponsors four young men to Boy's State, or department staff members donate blood during a blood drive, those activities should also be reported on the departments HQ CPR.

How can we get stories into *The American Legion Magazine*?

The American Legion Magazine is the nation's largest and best-read publication for veterans and their families. With a monthly readership of over 2 million, the magazine receives hundreds of submissions per month and can only publish a small fraction of them, balanced within an editorial calendar that addresses major issues facing our nation and the world. Submissions can be sent by e-mail to magazine@legion.org or by mail to *American Legion Magazine*, PO Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206. Submissions cannot be returned, so the Magazine strongly urges members not to send original photos or documents.

In order to provide local posts and members a forum to share their stories, The American Legion Media & Communications Division has developed and maintains the [Legiontown USA](http://LegiontownUSA) web site for members and posts to share their stories, photos and other materials. Many of those submissions are positioned on the Honor & Remembrance platform at legion.org/honor which appears online.

Often, a story and photo from a local post is best-suited in a local, district or department publication. In order to reach national print media, the story and/or photo must relate directly to a national issue, value, resolution or initiative. Those who submit articles are encouraged to include a query letter that expresses the

National issue, value, resolution or initiative that matches the submission.

Are there any other *American Legion periodicals*?

The [American Legion Dispatch](#) is a national leadership publication that disseminates in print and by e-mail stories and information from posts that can be replicated across the country. Unique programs, membership initiatives, organizational articles and stories of community service are welcome in the Dispatch and can be submitted by e-mail at dispatch@legion.org or by contacting Editor Cameran Richardson at crichardson@legion.org, or by mailing to American Legion Dispatch, PO Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN, 46206.

There is also the Membership/Training newsletter created by the Internal Affairs and Membership Division. To subscribe to the newsletter please visit legion.org/newsletters.

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



FEBRUARY 2021 ISSUE

Now Available in Digital and PDF format!

[Check out the Digital Version by clicking here!](#)

[Check out the PDF Version by clicking here!](#)

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!



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.

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.

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

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](https://www.legion.org/membership/impact). To visit the impact American Legion posts made throughout the year, visit <https://www.legion.org/bythenumbers>

<https://www.legion.org/membership/impact>.



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.

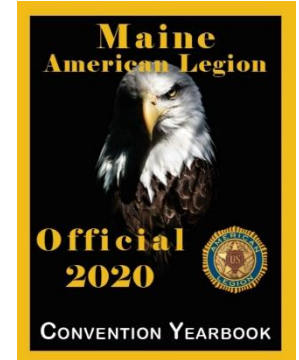
The American Legion posts receiving this grant are required to submit a true and accurate report outlining how the funds were used, signed by the post finance officer, and certified by the post commander or post adjutant within six-months of receipt of the grant funds or no later than February 22, 2022.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

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

https://www.legion.org/documents/pdf/Mission_Blue_PAP_Application_1.pdf

Mission Blue Post Assistance Program Grant App is also available by visiting <http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/formsapplications.php> under Membership/Post Forms & Manuals. Also made available is the MISSION BLUE CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INS – EXAMPLE which is required when submitting the Mission Blue App.

Click on the image below or visit www.mainelegion.org and check out the **Digital Version** of the Maine American Legion 2020 Convention Yearbook!



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 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.

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.

OUT OF OFFICE OR VACATION REPLY VIA EMAIL

Automatically Reply to Messages in Outlook 2010
In Outlook, click on the File tab; from the available options, select **Automatic Replies**.

Select **Send Automatic Replies**; In the Automatic Replies box, if you would like to automatically schedule when “Out of Office” replies are active, set a date range for your automatic replies. This will turn off automatic replies at the date and time you enter for the end time. Otherwise, you’ll need to turn off automatic replies manually. (Note: For Outlook 2007, choose Tools>Out of Office Assistant)

How Do I Set My Gmail Out Of Office/Automatic Vacation Response?

Here's how to let people know you can't respond right away:

Sign in to Gmail; click the Gear Icon in the upper-right and select Gmail settings along the top of any Gmail page. From the General tab, select Vacation Responder On in the Vacation responder section.

Enter the subject and body of your message in the Subject: and Message: fields.

Click Save Changes. While the vacation responder is enabled, you'll see a banner across the top of any Gmail page, displaying the subject of your vacation response. To stop Gmail from automatically sending the response, click end now within the banner. Or, if you'd like to edit the response, click vacation settings.

MILITARY TRIVIA:

A. Two of the most well known nicknames were the “Huey Cobra” and the “Snake”.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME FOR 2021: WHEN DOES THE TIME CHANGE?



When Do We “Spring Forward” In 2021?

The second Sunday in March is when Daylight Saving Time begins in most areas of the U.S., so in 2021 we'll “spring forward” one hour and on Sunday, March 14, 2021, at 2 a.m. Be sure to set your clocks *ahead* one hour before bed on Saturday night!



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

Effectively 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.

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