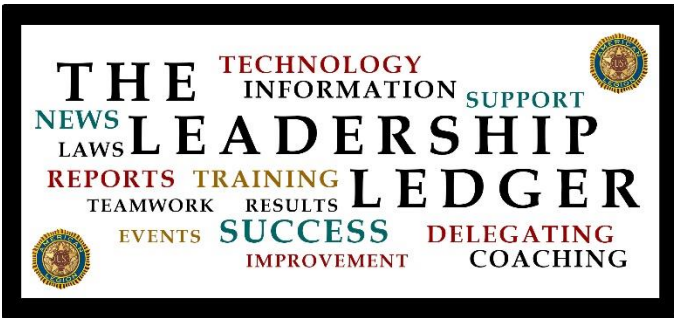
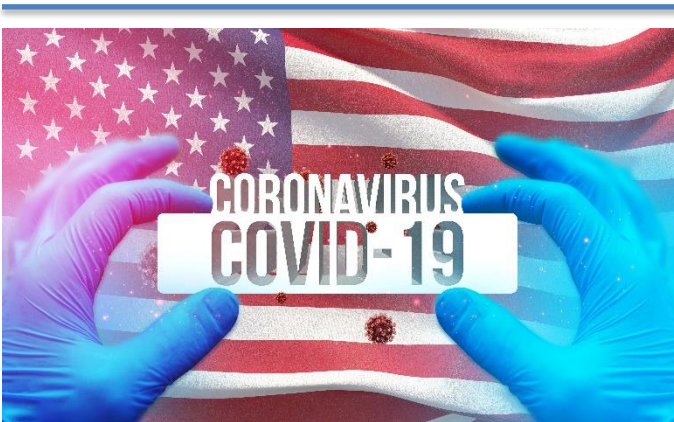




THE LEADERSHIP LEDGER



Welcome to the 15th 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.



CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) – INFORMATION

Including Cancellations & Rescheduled Events

DEPARTMENT HQ: The American Legion, Department of Maine Headquarters Office will be closed during this time, but some of our staff

will be working remotely until further notice or when it is safe to reopen. 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. All emails should be sent to legionme@mainelegion.org. The Service Office will also be checking their phone messages and emails during this time; to leave a message, please call 207-623-5726 or email carl.curtis2@va.gov.

All Posts are encouraged to process their membership utilizing the MyLegion.org website. However, for those Posts that do not use MyLegion.org, please continue to process membership manually and mail to Department Headquarters where staff will process as soon as they can.

The following programs and events have been cancelled for 2020 due to the problems with COVID-19, resolutions made by our National Headquarters and approval by our Department Executive Committee on April 11.

Annual State Convention—Cancelled. Pursuant to the recommendations made by our National organization and approval by our Department Executive Committee, all department elected and appointed officers will continue to serve in their current positions until the close of the next Department Convention scheduled to be held at Jeff's Catering and Event Center in Brewer June 11-13, 2021. If anyone wishes to resign, please submit a written resignation to Department Commander Matthew Jabaut mdjabaut@gmail.com and Department Adjutant Paul L'Heureux at paul@mainelegion.org. Elected and appointed officers for Posts and Districts are encouraged to follow this recommendation as well. If Posts or Districts decide to hold elections, it must be after you are able to hold

meetings again.

The Sweepstakes drawing is scheduled as planned and will be held June 13 with a location to be determined.

Donations and ad space submissions to the State Convention Yearbook in support of our Maine Veterans has been extended to July 1. A digital copy will be made available by visiting www.mainelegion.org and a limited number of copies will be printed. Please visit <http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/news-events/state-convention/convention-yearbook.php> for more information.

Dirigo Boys & Girls State—Cancelled.
Maine Legion Baseball—TBD
Department Testimonial—Cancelled.
Maine Legion College—Department is currently accepting applications for Maine Legion College with cutoff date of July 1st and starting class on July 18th.

Scholarships and Awards—Deadline for submitting applications for scholarships and awards has been extended to July 1, 2020. Awards will be presented during our Fall Conference on September 19 at Jeff's Catering & Event Center in Brewer.

For 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](#)**

DISTRICT MEETINGS

Be Connected – Be Heard – Be Informed

Due to COVID-19 ALL District Meetings have been cancelled until further notice.

AMERICAN LEGION DAILY NEWS CLIP - 4/13/2020

Millions Of veterans to get letters this week on potential reimbursements for medical costs. For more info, click on this link:

<https://www.militarytimes.com/news/pentagon-congress/2020/04/13/millions-of-veterans-to-get-letters-this-week-on-potential-reimbursements-for-medical-costs/>

*Leo Shane
Military Times.Com*

MILITARY TRIVIA:

Q: Who were the first occupants of the federal prison at Alcatraz Island, which translates as “Island of Pelicans” ?

Submitted by Dwayne Hatfield, Mars Hill Post 118

BUDDY CHECKS MAKING A DIFFERENCE DURING PANDEMIC

Please click on the following link [Buddy Checks Making a Difference During Pandemic](#) which includes [Your guide to starting and making Buddy Checks](#) and [Toolkit can help posts conduct Buddy Checks during the pandemic](#)

FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

[Agricultural Resource Development Division](#)

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)

TEFAP- The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) is a federal program that helps supplement the diets of low-income Americans by providing them with emergency food assistance at no cost. USDA provides 100% American-grown USDA Foods to the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, & Forestry (DACF) to provide the food to local agencies that they have selected, mostly food pantries and soup kitchens, which in turn distribute the food directly serve the public. DACF currently collaborates with over 250 participating organizations to combat food insecurity in Maine.

For more information, please visit:
<https://www.maine.gov/dacf/ard/tefap/index.shtml>

MAINE VETERANS TO RECEIVE STIMULUS PAYMENTS

Senator Collins Announces Veterans Will Receive Coronavirus Rebate Checks Automatically

All,

The IRS announced that recipients of VA benefits will automatically receive stimulus payments under the CARES Act that was implemented in response to COVID-19. This means that veterans and their beneficiaries who receive VA benefit payments (such as nontaxable disability compensation) will automatically receive stimulus payments with no further action needed on their part. Timing on the payments is still being determined.

Previously, unlike Social Security beneficiaries, recipients of VA benefits were not among those who were able to receive stimulus payments automatically. This change today follows sustained advocacy from Senator Collins when she sent a letter to federal agencies engaging on the issue on April 3rd. We are very happy to share this news with you as it will benefit many veterans and families in Maine and nationwide. Follow this link for more information:
<https://www.collins.senate.gov/newsroom/collins->

[sinema-lead-push-allow-veterans-ssi-recipients-receive-rebate-checks-automatically](#)

*Tom Fales
Veterans Affairs Fellow
Office of Senator Susan Collins
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510 | 202-224-2523*

MILITARY TRIVIA:

Answer to Military Trivia: The Union Army put Confederate prisoners of war in Alcatraz in 1863, and it was changed from a military prison to a Dept. of Justice Institution in 1933, when of course, it became infamous.



FIGHTING TO THE FINISH LINE, FOR THE FOUNDATION

Still plenty of time to Join Team Caroline!

Boston Marathon has been moved to September 14 from April due to coronavirus

Please [click here](#), or visit <http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/foundation/fundraising-events.php> to place your contribution today to a cause that means so much!

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, Penobscot County District 13-\$48, Sherman Lahaie Jr.-\$100; John Perrino-\$100, Lloyd Woods-\$50

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!

PAST COMMANDERS CLUB DUES

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

Post 19 – Sanford	Post 20 - Brunswick
Post 24 - Rumford	Post 34 - Tenants Harbor
Post 40 - Winthrop	Post 41 - Milo
Post 49 - Van Buren	Post 50 - Unity
Post 58 - Buckfield	Post 59 - Pembroke
Post 72 - So. Paris	Post 94 - Greenville
Post 181 - Litchfield	Post 132 - Richmond
Post 147 - Madawaska	Post 148 - Windham
Post 153 – Auburn	Post 197 - Westbrook
Post 216 - Phippsburg	

DONATIONS

Maine Blind Camp

Scarborough Post 76

\$100

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: July 18 & 19
Phase 2: Sept.19 & 20
Phase 3: TBD

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 July 18 and we will communicate by email with any information we need to pass on.

To all Legionnaires who may be attending Legion College at HQ in the near future, remember that the Basic Training Course must be taken online before you can attend. After completing the course, print off the certificate and email it to Department Headquarters at legionme@mainelegion.org.

If you are currently looking for something different to do during these challenging times, this would be a great opportunity to learn more about the American Legion at all levels. It would be an excellent course to take if you are currently or considering to be an officer at the Post or District level. This would be a great learning experience while you are currently at home wanting something different to do.

Please visit: www.legion.org/alei and sign in to take the course online.

To all members: Be safe during these times.

UPDATE - HONOR FLIGHTS

All National Honor Flights are cancelled through June due to Corona virus. Tentative new dates:

July 24 – 26
Aug. 21 – 23
Sept. 25 – 27
Oct. 30 – Nov. 1

Follow this link for more information.
<https://www.honorflightmaine.org/>

CHALLENGING TIMES DURING COVID-19

What is your Post doing during these challenging times? Please forward unique stories to Department HQ for publication in the Maine Legionnaire newspaper as well as a possible story for National Headquarters.

LEGION MEMBERSHIP TARGET DATES:

Due to covid-19 and the struggles we have all been facing, the remaining target dates have changed to the following:

95% - MAY 13, 2020
100% - JUNE 17, 2020

DELEGATE STRENGTH – JULY 24, 2020

The 6th and final renewal notice will still be extracted as scheduled so please continue to send in the membership dues that you have received.

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>

