Welcome to the 16th 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 printed. Please visit http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/news-events/state-convention/convention-yearbook.php for more information.

Dirigo Boys & Girls State—Cancelled.
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.

**MILITARY TRIVIA:**

Q: Of the Congressional Medals of Honor awarded to Mainers, in what war were the greatest number given?

Submitted by Dwayne Hatfield, Mars Hill Post 118

**VETERANS POLICY UPDATE FROM SENATOR KING**

Many homeless Americans qualify for an Economic Impact Payment. Those who don’t normally file taxes have a quick and easy process to sign up with #IRS to get a payment: www.irs.gov/nonfilereip #COVIDreliefIRS.

**HOLIDAY REMINDER**

The Department Headquarters Office and Service Office will be closed Monday, May 25 in observance of Memorial Day.

**PLANT A VIRTUAL POPPY DAY GARDEN WITH THE AMERICAN LEGION**

In these times of social distancing, The American Legion Media & Communications Division offers members, friends and followers the opportunity to plant and cultivate a virtual garden of red poppies to honor the fallen. In the weeks leading up to National Poppy Day, May 22, submissions will be welcomed on the fast-growing American Legion national Instagram platform. For more information, please click on the Poppy Day Garden image above.
REPORT/FORM SUBMISSIONS

ATTENTION POST/DISTRICT ADJUTANTS & COMMANDERS!
Keep Your Post/District Information Up-to-Date

Please CLICK HERE to check and see if the following forms/reports have been received at Department HQ:

- Annual Post Data Report (deadline = April 15)
- CPR (deadline for online = July 1 | Mail = May 29)
- Notification of Post/Squadron Cmdrs. & Adj. Form, (deadline = July 1)
- Post Officer’s Form (deadline = July 1)
- District Officers Form (deadline = July 1)

LEGIONNAIRES SERVING, INSPIRING AND FEEDING THEIR COMMUNITIES

American Legion Family members continue to assist others during difficult time. Virtual Buddy Checks, food drives, creating protective masks and supporting health-care workers are among the ways the Legion Family is shining amidst COVID-19. Click on the image for more information.

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.

MILITARY TRIVIA:

Answer to Military Trivia: The Civil War, with 89 out of the grand total of 123 for Mainers, were awarded in that period. Only 5 were awarded for Vietnam.

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-Foundation

Peter Johnson-$100; Ronda Lecompte-$25; Sherree Paradis-$100; Julie Dussinger-$100; Peter Jabaat-$100 Denise Tepler-$50; David Tanguay-$500; Joanne Ottman-$50; Russell Jabaat-$100; Joseph Yarmala-$100; Nicolas Hamlin-$1,000; Nancy Laffin-$30; Jonathan Robertson-$20; Tracy Grievues-$40; Paul L’Heureux-$500; Patricia Thurston-$100; Jason Hall-$50, Penobscot County District 13-$48, Sherman Laahaie 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.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 24 - Rumford
Post 35 – So. Portland
Post 41 - Milo
Post 50 - Unity
Post 59 – Pembroke
Post 94 – Greenville
Post 132 – Richmond
Post 148 - Windham
Post 197 – Westbrook

Post 20 - Brunswick
Post 34 - Tenants Harbor
Post 40 - Winthrop
Post 49 - Van Buren
Post 58 - Buckfield
Post 72 - So. Paris
Post 181 - Litchfield
Post 147 - Madawaska
Post 153 – Auburn
Post 216 - Phippsburg

DONATIONS

National Commanders Campaign

Alfred McKay, Dept. Americanism Officer $75

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: TBD
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.

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.
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.

CURRENT EVENTS

“The following Post/Current Events have been cancelled until further notice”.

Boothbay Post 36: May 21, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Veterans Boothbay Harbor Cruise hosted by Boothbay Region Lobstermen at Tug Boat Inn. Space is limited-Sign up early. The Event Poster is attached with details.

Southwest Harbor Post 69: May 25 Memorial Day Parade has been cancelled by The Eugene M Norwood Post 69.
On This Memorial Day, Remember those who served before. Remember those who are no more. Remember those who serve today. Remember them all on Memorial Day. (Poem by Emily Toma)

Corinna Post 73: June 14, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Open House on Flag Day, All are welcome to view opportunities from various Veteran Organizations. Free Event – All are Welcome. Legion contacts are Hiram & Joyce Weymouth, 207-938-2299 or email at h.b.weymouth@gmail.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

WISHING ALL MOMS A VERY HAPPY MOTHER’S DAY!

A mother is she who can take the place of all others but whose place no one else can take.