Welcome to the 18th 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

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

MAY 2020 ISSUE OF THE MAINE LEGIONNAIRE


MILITARY TRIVIA:

Q: We are now all familiar with “Stealth” aircraft, their uses, abilities & shape, but where did this idea come from?

Submitted by Dwayne Hatfield, Mars Hill Post 118

DISTRICT MEETINGS

Be Connected – Be Heard – Be Informed

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

VETERAN'S EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (VEFAP)

Attn: American Legion Posts in Maine. Do you know of a veteran in your community in need of assistance? Maybe someone who during these challenging times just needs a little help to keep them going? Worst of all how about that homeless veteran? How about the homeless veteran with children? If
you do, we want to remind you all that The American Legion, Department of Maine can assist you to help these veterans during rough times. All you need to do is call Department at 207-660-9324 or 207-873-3229, Ext. 3 and we will be in contact as soon as possible or visit http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/resources/va-resources.php. Remember that this program can assist you to help others.

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 bi-weekly and must be forwarded to Department HQ via email at legionme@mainelegion.org.

ARE YOU READY TO OPEN YOUR POST HOME?

The Department of Maine currently has four Posts open at this time. If you are considering opening your Post, please contact Department HQ at 207-873-3229 Ext. 2 or 207-754-6044 to follow guidelines and Maine State laws to properly open. The guidelines made to open earlier may differ from the guidelines for June 1st and July 1st.

ON-PREMISES LICENSEES

The Updated Memorandum Dated May 27 (click here) is intended to provide guidance on several important topics to on-premises licensees regarding what establishments are considered a “restaurant” or a “bar” relative to Governor Mills’ Executive Order to Stay Safer at Home; Number 49 and her Plan for Restarting Maine’s Economy.

Tim Poulin, Deputy Director, State of Maine

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 FOR FOOD 4 VETS

There are three new locations in Maine for Food 4 Vets pick-up. They are as follows:

WINDHAM - Windham Veterans Center 35 Veterans Memorial Drive, North Windham, ME. behind the Hannaford Complex Date: 06/17/2020 Time: 10:00am- 1pm

BRIDGETON - Community Center 15 Depot St. Bridgeton ME. 04009 Date: 06/17/2020 Time 2pm – 5pm
RUMFORD - American Legion Post 24, 184 Congress St. Rumford ME. 04276 Date: 06/18/2020
Time: 11:00am – 2pm

This is being sponsored by the same people as before, www.222cares.org the locations, dates, and times are above. Please have the Veteran go to the website and click on the perspective area that they would like to pick up the food. When you get on the website, it will offer the three locations Windham, Bridgeton, and Rumford. Just click on the one in which they would like to pick up the food at, this will help in letting them know how many boxes will be needed at each site. Remember it is 1 box per person per family; if there are 3 people then they will receive 3 boxes. Please spread the word far and wide. These locations have more than their fair share underserved Veterans so let’s please get the word out. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out.

Nancy Laffin-Gillespie
Outreach Specialist, Portland Vet Center
(w) 207-780-3584; (c) 207-248-7783
www.vetcenter.va.gov
VC crisis line: 1-877-WAR-VETS

MAINE BLIND CAMP

Due to the virus restrictions, Camp Lawroweld in beautiful Weld, ME, is closed so no Blind Camp this year. Follow this link for more information. https://www.camplawroweld.org/?fbclid=IwAR3DJU2KhAeO3T7loxFw6vณwiO23nF5prHn3v8Q2IvXx4bRrh-BWKZl0lat4. Any money donated by Posts and Districts this year will be rolled over for next year's Camp. Thanks to all for their continuing support.

Maine Blind Camp Chairman Brian Knowlton

STATE OF MAINE GAMING LICENSES

To all posts that have some type of gaming licenses that obviously you have not been able to use at this time, please make contact with the Gaming Control Unit, 207-626-3900, where you purchased them and ask that the license be moved forward starting in July when we ALL should be allowed to open our posts. So if you purchased them by the month, then it would be moved to July. If you purchased 2 months at a time it would be July & August etc. You must make contact and ask for this to happen.

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)

MILITARY TRIVIA:

Answer to Military Trivia: Women were assigned to regular duty aboard US combat ships, & their first duty station was the USS Eisenhower.

Make Your Post More Efficient
Call Efficiency Maine Today!
1-866-376-2463
https://www.efficiencymaine.com/

To All American Legion Posts:

During these challenging times, many of our Posts are taking the time to make Post repairs, remodeling, and conducting overall evaluations of Post operations. One of the key upgrades available at
this time is to make your Post energy efficient. As I gathered information from those Posts that have made an effort with the purchase of this equipment, and used their own talented members to install this equipment the savings has become very obvious. These are a few examples: new hot water heaters, new boilers, new heat pumps, upgraded lighting systems and even new appliances. The savings in purchasing this type of equipment can be 30% of the project cost up to $1000 in some areas. Remember, YOU MUST CALL BECAUSE EACH PROJECT IS DIFFERENT.

My next challenge to you is that we currently have NO Posts with solar panels on all those roofs. The incentives to do such a project are apparently out there for someone to set the new direction for energy efficiency.

With all the talent at each Post, it is time that we work together to move our organization forward and set the example for our future leaders. If you are an officer at the Post level, please take the initiative as other Post officers have done, and research what is available by contacting Efficiency Maine. Even if you are not a Post officer, and you have knowledge how the program works, please reach out to your Post to assist them to make it more efficient. Together you can make a big difference at every Post and your community as well.

Contact Efficiency Maine at: 1-866-376-2463

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 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 Grievies-$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 35 – So. Portland Post 40 - Winthrop

Still Plenty of Time to Join Team Caroline!

A Virtual Race to Take Place in September 2020 Due to the Cancellation of the Boston Marathon

FIGHTING TO THE FINISH LINE, FOR THE FOUNDATION

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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 August due to Corona virus. Tentative new dates: Sept. 25 – 27 Oct. 30 – Nov. 1
Follow this link for more information. https://www.honorflightmaine.org/

AMERICAN LEGION MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY OF PERSONNEL IN THE NEWLY CREATED UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE

Title 10 of the United States Code now includes Space Force as an “Armed Force” and our federally chartered membership criteria uses the same wording [“has served in the Armed Forces….any time after December 7, 1941”] there are no necessary acts required to extend membership to all who have served or continue to serve in the United States Space Force. Please refer to the LETTER from Daniel S. Wheeler, National Adjutant; Kevin J. Bartlett, National Judge Advocate.

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: 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.

PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE
Information about the application process is posted on REEMPLOYME website: https://www.maine.gov/unemployment/

COMPUTER SOFTWARE TIPS 101
Computer Software Tips 101 is a new section that will appear in the Leadership Ledger to help those learn basic computer skills.

What does BCC mean & what is it for when sending Email Messages?

BCC stands for Blind Carbon Copy. It is best to use the BCC feature for security and privacy reasons when sending an email message to a large number of people. When you place email addresses in the BCC field of a message, those addresses are invisible to the recipients of the email. Conversely, any email addresses that you place in the To field or the CC field are visible to everyone who receives the message.

Attention Post Adjutants!
THE DEPARTMENT OF MAINE IS STILL COLLECTING DUES FOR THE 2020 MEMBERSHIP YEAR!
Please try to get all expired members to pay up their dues for the 2020 membership year before the 2021 Membership Year begins.

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

HAPPY FLAG DAY
JUNE 14, 2020