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Volume 1 Issue 19 June 18, 2020

THE LEADERSHIP LEDGER



Welcome to the 19th 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 <u>www.mainelegion.org</u> 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 <u>legionme@mainelegion.org</u>.



CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) – INFORMATION

F or a complete listing of up-to-date information, cancellations and rescheduled events, please visit <u>www.mainelegion.org</u> or click the following link: <u>CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)</u> – <u>INFORMATION Including Cancellations &</u> <u>Rescheduled Events</u>

MEMBERSHIP CARDS & ADJUTANT PACKETS **READY FOR PICKUP**

The 2020-2021 Membership Cards & Adjutant's Packet will be available for pickup at Dept. HQ starting the week of July 13, Mon. thru Thurs, 9-4. Please keep in mind the Covid-19 guidelines. When entering the office, please remember your mask and social distancing. Hand sanitizer will be available.



MAY 2020 ISSUE OF THE MAINE LEGIONNAIRE

Please check out our Maine Legionnaire newspaper for the May 2020 issue available on-line at

http://www.mainelegion.org/media/TML/TMLMAY 2020_PGS1-28_new.pdf

MILITARY TRIVIA:

Q: On Feb. 17, 1864, the HL Hunley, a Confederate submarine, with a torpedo attached to a bow spar, attacked the USS Housatonic in Charleston

Harbor during the North's blockade. The attack was successful & sent the Housatonic to the bottom with the loss of 5 crewmen, however, the Hunley was lost with all hands & its demise remained a mystery until recently. What killed the sub's crew & slowly caused it to sink?

Submitted by Dwayne Hatfield, Mars Hill Post 118



HOLIDAY REMINDER The Department Headquarters Office and Service Office will be closed at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 2 and will remain closed until 8:00 a.m. Tuesday, July 6 for the 4th of July holiday. Please take moment to give thanks to those veterans who fought and are still fighting for our freedom.

DISTRICT MEETINGS Be Connected – Be Heard – Be Informed

District meetings are slowly being rescheduled. If this is the case with your District, please provide dates, times, etc. of upcoming meetings.

We have yet to receive the 2020-2021 District Officer's Form from: Districts 1, 2, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 16



All events will be posted on Department's website by visiting <u>www.mainelegion.org</u> 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.

YOUR VIRTUAL MEETING OPTIONS

As social distancing guidelines continue, American Legion departments, districts and posts face challenges with conducting meetings. There are many options for holding virtual meetings where participants can join in remotely, contribute to the discussion, vote and participate in other ways as they would if they were in the same room.

Uberconference: Number of participants (10); Length of meetings (40 minutes); Ability to raise hand (No); Ability to call in (Yes); Video capabilities (Yes); and Ability to share documents (Yes).

FreeConferenceCall: Number of participants (1,000); Length of meetings (6 hours); Ability to raise hand (No); Ability to call in (Yes); Video capabilities (Yes); and Ability to share documents (No).

Zoom: Number of participants (100); Length of meetings (40 minutes); Ability to raise hand (Yes); Ability to call in (Yes); Video capabilities (Yes); and Ability to share documents (Yes).

Webex: Number of participants (100); Length of meetings (Unlimited); Ability to raise hand (Yes); Ability to call in (Yes); Video capabilities (Yes); and Ability to share documents (Yes).

For full article, follow this link... https://www.legion.org/dispatch/248956/yourvirtual-meeting-

options?fbclid=IwAR3zuo7G2udRbjgh4KCQDQdo vtl1YFNp9kJjMuj1jk7NUzthXsEfv4NYZg4

Excerpts from The American Legion Dispatch MAY 11, 2020

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

<u>http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/resources/va-</u> <u>resources.php</u>. Remember that this program can assist you to help others.

AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL COMMANDER: Unequal Treatment Violates Nation's Highest Values

American Legion National Commander James W. "Bill" Oxford issued the following statement: INDIANAPOLIS – June 12, 2020

"The American Legion stands on principles and serves purposes worldwide that are violated when justice, freedom and democracy are not applied equally, regardless of race, color, creed or class...." Refer <u>HERE</u> for National Commander Oxford's full statement.

ARE YOUREADYTOOPENYOURPOSTHOME?

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.

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. please For more information. visit:

https://www.maine.gov/dacf/ard/tefap/index.shtml

VA NATIONAL CEMETERIES RESUME COMMITTAL AND MEMORIAL SERVICES HALTED BY COVID-19 PANDEMIC

VA's National Cemetery Administration resume committal services on June 9. Memorial services for Veterans and eligible family members who were interred without a committal service between March 23 and June 8 will commence in July.

Although NCA prefers to reschedule memorial services within the next six months, there is no official time limit for such rescheduling.

Safety measures at committal and memorial services will be followed, including physical distancing and the wearing of face masks. Please refer to the <u>NEWS</u> <u>RELEASE</u> for more details.

Marty Callaghan, Deputy Director, Claims Services, The American Legion

BORNE THE BATTLE Subscribe to Hear Every Story

 $\mathbf A$ weekly podcast from the VA which covers a wide range of topics effecting the Veteran community. Host, Marine Veteran Tanner Iskra, and his guests aim to engage all members of the Veteran community through personal stories-told by Veterans themselves-and also through special episodes like Benefits Breakdowns which keep the community up to date on the latest VA developments. more information. follow this For link https://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/borne-thebattle-podcast/

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=IwAR3DJU2K hAeO3T7loxNw6ynwiO23nF5prHn3v8O2IVx4bRrh-BWKZI0latA. 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

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

Please <u>CLICK HERE</u> 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: The designer of the torpedo (which was more in the style of a mine) contained 135 lbs. of black powder & they didn't calculate the shock wave effects of the explosion on the Hunley or it's crew. When the sub was found, all crew members were still at their stations, having never moved, as the Hunley slowly sank.



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

Please <u>click here</u>, or visit

<u>http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/foundation/fundraising-events.php</u> 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 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

DONATIONS

Maine Blind Camp	
St. George Post 34	\$100
Hermon Post 200	\$100
Boys Scouts	
Hermon Post 200	\$100
Beal's House	
Hermon Post 200	\$100
National Commanders Campaign	
Dale Midgley, Sanford Post 19	\$100
Veterans Aid	
Bath Unit 21	\$300

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 <u>Past Commanders Club</u> (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!

SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS

Winners of the Summer Sweepstakes Raffle drawn at Department H.Q. in Winslow on June 17. Doreen Leavitt, Auxillary-Warren, ME \$1,500 Trudy Frey, Lincoln Post 77 500 Adam Marina, York Post 56 300 Francis Koslouski, Belfast Post 43 200

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
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 155 – Naples	Post 197 – Westbrook
Post 216 – Phippsburg	

MAINE LEGION COLLEGE CLASS FOR 2020

Date	Time	Location
July 18 & 19	8:30 a.m.	Dept. H.Q.

Physical distancing set up & Wearing Masks are encouraged (if possible). During these times, we are not certain that we have an updated list of those who are currently attending. Please review the list of names to make sure you have already signed up. If I have omitted your name or more information is needed, please email immediately at paul@mainelegion.org along with your **Name**, **Post No., and Cell Phone No.** so I can prepare for the

class. We currently still have 2 openings if anyone would like to attend. Just remember that you have to complete the on-line course at www.legion.org/alei and send us a copy of the certificate or bring it to the class. Legion cap, dress comfortable (Legion/Aux shirt if you have one). Meals will be provided.

Currently signed up are the following: Destiny Poole, Clayton Brown II, Eugene Connolly, Melissa Theriault, Debra Rumery, Thomas Healy, Oscar Gerry, Leroy McKenzie, Nancy Gillespie, and Bill Hobson.

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.

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 upperright 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.

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.

WHEELCHAIR RAMP NEEDED TO ASSIST FAMILY IN NEED

A member of Livermore Falls Post 10 is in search of a wheelchair ramp for a family member badly injured in a car accident. If anyone knows of someone that has one and no longer needs, please contact Don Simoneau at (H 897-4139) (C 512-0876) or via email at amlegion1a@gmail.com



Subscribe (or unsubscribe) by clicking the above image or by visiting: https://form.jotform.com/RachaelJ/maine-al-

email-subscription-form

STATE DIRECTORY

T he 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



