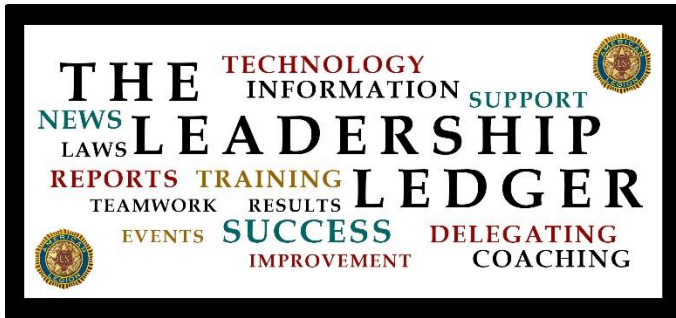




THE LEADERSHIP LEDGER



FIGHTING TO THE FINISH LINE, FOR THE FOUNDATION

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 [click here](#), or visit <http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/foundation/fundraisin-g-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 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, Eugene & Ellen Connolloy-\$50, Franklin McKenzie-\$1,000, Kirk Thurston-\$100, Nancy Gillespie-\$200

DISTRICT MEETINGS

Be Connected – Be Heard – Be Informed

District 5 – Oxford (Post 112): August 18, Maine Veterans Home South Paris, 477 High St., Cookout 5:00 p.m. | Veterans at Home served first | Volunteer Help Appreciated

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, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 16

Welcome to the 22nd 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](#)

MILITARY TRIVIA:

Q: The new Stars & Stripes Flag, formed part of the military colors carried on Sept. 11, 1777, at what famous battle?

Submitted by Dwayne Hatfield, Mars Hill Post 118

CONGRESSMAN GOLDEN (ME-02) PUSHES SBA TO SUPPORT STRUGGLING VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

Many VFWs, American Legion Halls, and other VSOs are reeling as bingo nights, facility rentals, and karaoke are cancelled due to COVID-19. Relying on volunteers rather than employees, many VSOs can only receive \$1,000 from disaster relief program

WASHINGTON — Congressman Jared Golden (ME-02) called on the Small Business Administration (SBA) to make changes to the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) advance grant program to allow Veteran Service Organizations (VSOs) and other volunteer-dependent non-profits to apply for additional economic assistance. Many VSOs have been cut off from their main sources of revenue since the pandemic began and are now struggling to pay bills, perform maintenance, and keep their posts operational.

Current rules allow nonprofits to receive up to \$10,000 in advance grant funding depending on the number of employees. However, VSOs, which are largely run by volunteers, rarely qualify for more than \$1,000 under the current SBA rules. For many VSOs, a \$1,000 advance grant pales in comparison to the revenue losses they are experiencing. For example, in Caribou, the American Legion hall has lost \$20,000 of revenue so far this year.

“Local posts of these VSOs provide critical services for our communities’ veterans, including personal assistance, donated goods, disaster relief, volunteerism, networking, advocacy and much more,” Golden wrote. **“Staffed largely by volunteers, these posts generate revenue streams from activities that necessitate in-person involvement such as bingo, social functions and facility rentals. Unfortunately, COVID-19 has made such events extremely difficult.”**

During several of the tele-town halls Golden has held to hear from Mainers since the pandemic began, the congressman heard from members of several American Legion Halls in the state about the challenges their organizations were facing. In his letter, Golden highlights the experiences of the Caribou and Fort Fairfield Legion halls, both of which have seen revenues plummet since March but have very little access to EIDL funds.

“Situations like the ones in Fort Fairfield and Caribou illustrate the need for the SBA to amend its per-employee regulatory policy to help VSO local posts,”

continued Golden. **“I urge you to change the policy so that VSOs with one or fewer employees can have their per-employee EIDL advance grant limit waived up to \$5,000. This will ensure that these groups survive the pandemic and continue to provide the critical services that our veterans—now, more than ever—need and deserve.”**

Both small businesses and nonprofits can currently receive EIDL advance grants of up to \$10,000. Congressman Golden worked with the Maine delegation to help protect Maine nonprofits from burdensome Department of Labor rules, and recently unveiled the *Reviving the Economy Sustainably Towards a Recovery in Twenty-twenty* (RESTART) Act, to provide more flexible financial support for small businesses during the coronavirus pandemic.

You can read the letter [here](#).

Office of Congressman Jared Golden (ME-02)

VIRTUAL MEMBERSHIP WORKSHOP AGENDA

Since the 57th Annual National Membership Workshop was cancelled this year, we have been working on providing a virtual training.

This training will be hosted through Microsoft Teams via the live event. The live event feature allows us to have up to 10,000 attendees and there is no registration or sign-up prior to each training. To access the training, on the attached agenda, there is an “Attendee Link” that will be accessible once the moderator starts the training session. Members do not have to have Microsoft 365 to access this training. The “Attendee Link” has the web address embedded in the agenda. Members only have to click on the link and it will open up.

The theme around this training is centered around posts. This will be opened up 30 minutes prior to the training. These training modules will start on the scheduled time and there will be enough time for Q&A. Here is the link to access this information from our website

<https://www.legion.org/membership/249379/american-legend-national-membership-workshop-go-virtual>. This will also be in an upcoming issue of the *Dispatch* and the next issue of the *American Legion*

Training Newsletter. We encourage you to share this with the Legionnaires in your department.

Please let us know if you have any questions. Thanks!
“Veterans Strengthening America”

*Matthew E. Herndon
Deputy Director, Internal Affairs & Membership
Phone: 317-630-1406 Fax: 317-630-1413*

PRESS RELEASE – March 20, 2020

HOUSE PASSES GOLDEN, KING LEGISLATION TO MAKE NAT’L PARKS FREE FOR GOLD STAR FAMILIES

The bipartisan Gold Star Families Park Pass Act would allow families of fallen service members free access to federal public lands, like Acadia National Park.

WASHINGTON — Congressman Jared Golden (ME-02)’s Gold Star Families Park Pass Act, introduced in March with Sen. Angus King (I-ME), passed the House as part of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) yesterday evening.

The legislation would provide the immediate family of fallen service members with access to the [National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass Program](#). The program offers a number of benefits for Gold Star Families, including free access to national wildlife refuges and national parks, like Acadia National Park.

Golden and King introduced the legislation after a constituent came to them with a suggestion for the bill.

“Free access to our national parks and public lands is a small but meaningful way for our country to thank Gold Star Families,” said Congressman Golden. **“We passed this bill through the House in a bipartisan fashion and I’ll continue working to get it to the president’s desk.”**

Gold Star Families have been a focus of Golden’s. Last year, helped lead successful efforts to repeal the SBP-DIC offset, commonly known as the ‘widow’s tax,’ in the NDAA. Last May, he cosponsored the Gold Star Family Tax Relief Act and helped pass it through the House. The legislation would ensure that

the survivors’ benefits of military families weren’t subject to surprise taxes.

Golden has also prioritized protecting public lands. He helped introduce the Great American Outdoors Act, which will provide funding to address the maintenance backlog at national parks, and permanently fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). The bill is expected to pass the House this week.

You can read the original press release, including quotes from Maine conservation and veterans groups, about the Gold Star Families Park Pass Act [here](#).

[*https://golden.house.gov/media/press-release*](https://golden.house.gov/media/press-release)

THE DETACHMENT COMMITTEE TO ELECT RICHARD L. HUNTLEY NATIONAL VICE COMMANDER

Eastern Region of the Sons of The American Legion

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to introduce to you our newest Candidate for high office of the Sons of The American Legion National Vice Commander. He has served as Squadron Commander, District Commander, many of Detachment offices including Detachment Commander. Currently he serves as our National Executive Committeeman, our own Richard “Dickie” Huntley.

I am recalling my own campaign for National Vice Commander and can tell you that it requires quite a bit of funds to pursue this high office in the Sons of The American Legion. It took \$10,000.00 to successfully achieve that goal. It remains the going rate and obviously he won’t be able to do this alone and will need some help from the entire Department Maine American Legion Family.

I am asking that all squadrons send a donation to Dickie or if your Squadron can run a fundraiser or raffle on his behalf. If all Squadrons, or even perhaps Units or even Posts could assist in any way it would be greatly appreciated. You will see some fundraisers being advertised from our committee from time to time and would appreciate your involvement in that.

Please send all funds to Richard Huntley at 38 Whale Cove Rd., Machiasport, ME 04655.

As a matter of fact, we have T- Shirts available. The image



shown here shows the front and back of the t-shirt. They are available in Forest Green and Navy Blue and cost \$20.00 apiece. Get every color. I think in the future there

will be polo shirts in those colors but are not available yet.

I am very pleased to be able to give you this news and hope for your support for this candidate. It is not often that we, in the State of Maine, have the opportunity to assist one of our own to aspire to this lofty goal. I am positive that he will perform well and with our support he should represent this Detachment in an admirable way. If you should have a fundraising event or would like a visit from Dickie or myself, feel free to contact him or me Don Allisot, P O Box 438, Woolwich, ME. 04579, Phone (207) 751-2109.

*Yours in Service,
Don Allisot*

Chairman, Committee to Elect Dickie Huntley

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/formsapplications.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
- Post 41 - Milo
- Post 49 - Van Buren

- Post 50 - Unity
- Post 54 – Wiscasset
- 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 207 – Trenton
- Post 216 – Phippsburg

MAINE LEGION COLLEGE CLASS FOR 2020

Date	Time	Location
------	------	----------

Sept. 26 & 27	8:30 a.m.	Dept. H.Q.
---------------	-----------	------------

Physical distancing set up & Wearing Masks are encouraged (if possible).

2020 Membership Year

Department Headquarters is still collecting dues for the 2020 membership year. Please continue to get as many expired members who have not yet paid their 2020 dues to pay them. This report is not available through myLegion.org as of July 1, 2020. In a few weeks, Department HQ will contact National HQ for an updated 2020 Membership Report. Unfortunately, it is currently not available.

2021 Membership - “Goal to Grow”

The 2021 membership goal for each Post listed on the membership report posted on myLegion.org for the 2021 membership year will be zero until a “Goal to Grow” number is determined for each Post. These goals will be based on July 29, 2020 and therefore, won’t occur on the report until sometime in August.

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.



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.

7 SIMPLE TIPS FOR USING EMAIL (Part 2 of 2)

We all use email, but, sometimes we use it too much or use it inappropriately. To get the most out of email we need to use it carefully and judiciously. These are 7 tips to get the most out of emailing.

4. Use a Good Title

Many people ignore the title of an email. If the subject changes don't keep using an old "re: irrelevant title" A good title increases the chance that people will actually read your email, rather than just leaving it for later. A bad title may even get deleted as spam.

5. Don't Ignore Basics of English.

Just because it is an email, doesn't mean we have to write like a 5 year old or use text message language. This indicates laziness and a lack of care. If you haven't time to respond properly, wait until you do. Keep emails brief, but don't completely ignore the basic use of grammar and spelling.

6. Keep it Short

Emails can be brief and to the point. If the message has to be long, make sure it is broken up in to different sections, which are easy to read. But, generally you should aim to keep it less than 5 sentences. This is good for both the writer and the reader.

7. Acknowledge Important Emails.

If somebody sends some important documents, files or message, make sure you, at least, acknowledge their receipt. Otherwise they may be uncertain that they got them. It doesn't have to be long; it can be quite short.

8. Create a Standard Responses

If you find yourself sending similar answers to many people, compose a draft message and save it in your drafts folder (or write it in word). You can use this standard response for emailing many people. Don't forget to personalize it by adding their name.

9. Be careful about Replying To All.

If you are new to email make sure you know the difference between replying to one person and replying to everyone on the initial message. Suffice to say you will send many emails which you would not want to be seen by everyone. It can be extremely embarrassing to send a personal message for everyone to see – it does happen. If you have new workers, make sure they are aware of this distinction. It will save a lot of potential problems.

10. Compose Your Signature.

Having a signature looks professional and saves typing the same information every email. Remember people may wish to contact you through over methods than email. So make sure you have a phone number and address. If relevant add any qualifications and websites that you have. This gives people a chance to find out more about you.

MILITARY TRIVIA:

Answer to Military Trivia: The Battle of Brandywine Creek, (near Philadelphia), where the British actually defeated the Continental Army, but made the fatal mistake of leaving Gen. Washington's Army intact and the world now knows how that turned out.

FROM THE DEPT. ADJUTANT

We are starting to receive many calls about holding meetings at the Post & District Level. If you use common sense with face masks, if applicable, and social distancing (6ft), it can be done safely. Most of the Legion halls have the room to make this happen but please keep in mind that it is not a requirement to attend if you feel that you should not. There are currently many Posts holding meetings and some of the Districts are currently planning to start in the next few days following July 4.

The other question that many of you have called us on is how to survive financially during these times. What we have seen by many Posts that have reported to us, is that they have been successful in having takeout meals also known as curbside pickup within your community. If done properly, it limits the number of people in the building, and also requires less work keeping all areas sanitized. You prep the food and have all the containers ready, setup a table at the entrance with a mask & gloves and take the orders. Some of the Posts have taken it to a next level by using local advertisement as well as E-mails, Facebook and Twitter and doing pre sales in the process. We currently have 3 Posts with sales of 100/150 meals in 2 hours and even one Post that sold out a Lobster meal with 240 meals served. Note: some of these Posts are coming up with these ideas from the younger members that have recently joined.

So please be careful and start to think a little differently during these challenging times. If you should need more information, please contact the office at (207) 873-3229 or my cell (207) 754-6044.

DEPARTMENT OF MAINE CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS “REVIEW”

ARTICLE XX

In addition to other legal requirements under existing laws, and the Department of Maine, no Post, District, or any other holding company, or corporation subordinate thereto, shall purchase, sell or otherwise transfer title or interest in any real estate or private property which is equal to twenty five percent (25%) or more of Posts or Districts net worth unless written notice of such proposal has first been:

- (1) Submitted thirty (30) days prior to any subsequent actions to the Department Executive Committee shall review any sale, purchase, transfer or encumbrances to determine whether such transactions serve the purposes of the Post, District, Department of The American Legion as prescribed in the National and Department By-Laws and Constitution. The Department Executive Committee will also determine if it is in best interest of The American Legion to involve the Post Revitalization team to help the Post or District through a difficult process and secondly:
- (2)
- (3) Each member of said Post, District is given a minimum of thirty (30) days’ notice prior such regular meeting or special meeting at which the proposal is to be considered, and then will require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present at said meeting to approve. Failure to comply with these provisions shall nullify said transaction. (Res. 02-18)

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>

