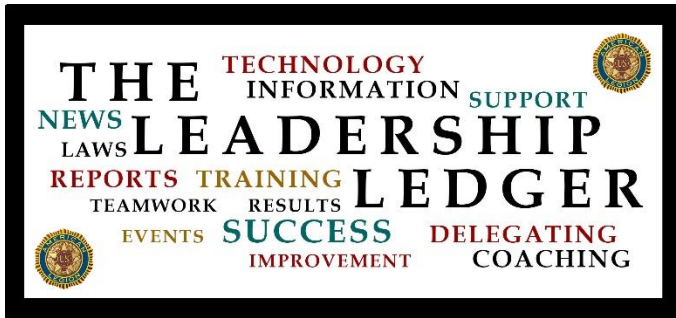




# THE LEADERSHIP LEDGER



Welcome to the 23rd 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](http://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](mailto:legionme@mainelegion.org).

## CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) – INFORMATION

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

**2020 Fall Conference, due to take place September 19, has been cancelled due to COVID-19**

## VETERAN PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION - DO YOU QUALIFY?

### Property Tax Exemptions for Veterans.

Recently, there have been many inquiries about the Veteran Property Tax Exemption offered by the State of Maine. The "Veteran Exemption" is a \$6,000 tax credit that is available to the following veterans:

1. A veteran who served during a recognized war period **and** is 62 years or older;
2. **or**, is receiving 100% disability as a Veteran;
3. **or**, became 100% disabled while serving, is eligible for a \$6,000 exemption.

Maine Revenue Services also has a very helpful flowchart available on their website that can help determine if you are eligible for the "Veteran Exemption". The flowchart can be found [here](#).

If you are eligible, you may apply by completing the following [application](#).

## 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 & 16

## MILITARY TRIVIA:

**Q:** In 1818, Congress passed the “Flag Resolution”, requiring that henceforth that any newly admitted states to the Union would require a star to be added to the Flag. On what date, following their admission, was the star to be added?

*Submitted by Dwayne Hatfield, Mars Hill Post 118*



## BLACK BEAR HUNTS WITH PINE GROVE PROGRAMS

**P**ine Grove Programs is offering a limited number of FREE three day Fall Black Bear Hunts over bait for the 2020 Maine Black Bear Hunting season to Active Duty Service Members, Veterans, First Responders and Gold Star Family members. This is a premiere once in a lifetime hunting experience and as such requires the participants to meet the following conditions:

1. Have a valid 2020 Maine Hunting license with a Bear Tag.
2. Have a rifle, bolt action, or semi-automatic in caliber 30-30 Winchester, 308 Winchester, 30-06 Springfield, 243 (100 Grain), 7mm, 6.5 Creedmoor, with which they are competent.
3. Provide your own ammo.
4. Provide your own head to toe camouflage clothing. Ensure you have layers of clothing so that you can adapt to variable weather conditions likely to be encountered in Maine fall.
5. Provide your own casual clothing and toiletries
6. Be prepared to spend up to three days at Pine Grove Lodge arriving the night before the first day of the hunt, e.g. Sunday evening for a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday Hunt or Wednesday evening for a Thursday, Friday, Saturday hunt. Pine Grove Programs will provide all meals and lodging. The participant is responsible for transportation from their home to the Lodge.

7. Be prepared to spend long hours in a stand remaining motionless, quiet, and alert.

8. Be prepared to stay in the stand after dark until our Guide comes to get you. The most productive time for a bear to come to bait occurs frequently just before the end of legal hunting time which is 30 minutes after sunset and which often is very low light condition.

9. Bring a seat pad (recommended) to cushion your seat during the hours you sit.

10. Bring a cell phone if you have one.

This is what you can expect.

Arrive by 4:00 PM at the Lodge on the evening before your scheduled hunt to meet your fellow hunters over supper after which you will settle into your accommodations.

On the morning of day 1, a safety briefing followed by a rifle sight in will be conducted. This will ensure that your rifle is sighted in properly and the sights were not knocked out of their sight in settings during transport.

Bob Howe will make a presentation providing tips on a successful bear hunt and answer questions about what to expect during your hunt.

You will be introduced to your Guide(s).

Lunch will be provided. After which your Guide(s) will take you out to your bait site and put you on stand.

Follow your guide's instructions and pay particular attention to being safe during your hunt.

Remain on stand until your guide comes to pick you up. If you shoot a bear, remain in your stand and call your guide on your cell phone. Your guide will come and you both will locate the bear and drag it out of the woods.

If your organization is providing a group of hunters to participate, it is imperative that you ensure that if a hunter signs up for the hunt that they show up for the hunt. It cannot be overstressed that these hunts are an extraordinary opportunity for the hunters able to participate. The Program expends considerable resources to lease and maintain the bait sites as well as providing food, accommodations, and Guides

A no show not only wastes the resources expended but also denies another worthy candidate from participating in this once in lifetime experience.

*Paul E Violette, Colonel, USA (Ret), Pine Grove Programs Outreach  
Coordinator*

207-683-6231 (Home) | 207-431-5782 (Cell) | [peviolette@tds.net](mailto:peviolette@tds.net)

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## **CPR (CONSOLIDATED POST REPORTS) – UPDATE FROM National Commander JAMES W. “BILL” OXFORD**

**D**ear Commanders & Adjutants,

The target date for award recognition for Consolidated Post Reports (CPR) has come and gone. Please pass on my sincere thanks to your leadership team from department to post for the hard work and dedication during this very challenging period we are experiencing. Primary results show that our CPR numbers are about the same as the last two prior years with just over 68 percent of our 12,637 posts having submitted a CPR. I know we can do better.

The world changed early this year as did The American Legion. We responded to the nation’s national emergency like the patriotic servants we are by conducting food drives, blood drives, establishing food pantries, establishing COVID-19 testing stations in our posts and assisting citizens in need. I am proud of our American Legion Family’s accomplishments and we need to take credit for it.

Now we need to press on for Phase 2 of the data collection as we build our annual report to the U. S. Congress. As some of you are aware, our 1919 federal charter requires us to submit an annual report to Congress on our activities. I want to increase the number of posts submitting CPRs so we can truly report the full impact we have on the lives of our veterans, their families and communities across this nation. There is no reason we should not have 100 posts submitting CPRs. My fellow Legionnaires, we have a lot of information that is not being reported.

Knowing firsthand the impact our numbers and services have on Congress, I encourage you and your department, division, area, district, and county

leaders continue to work with posts to submit their CPR. Call on your leaders to contact the posts in your respective departments that have not submitted a CPR and assist them in completing one. There is a myLegion.org report form for your leaders to use to easily identify posts that have not yet submitted this important report.

It may be too late for recognition but it is not too late to tell our story to Congress. Let us all pull together to meet the goal I set when I was elected. Help me announce to Congress that we have 100 percent participation. Think of the impact such a report will carry as we the halls of Congress looking for support from lawmakers on issues for our military, our veterans, their families and their communities.

We have about 30 days to complete Phase Two. Let us all work together on this. I am counting on you to get the remaining posts to submit a report by August 28. Do not forget what your headquarters posts are also doing. Thanks for your support. Together we will build a Foundation for the Future.

*Sincerely, James W. “Bill” Oxford, National Commander  
Office of The National Commander  
August 3, 2020*

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## **AUGUSTA POST 2 SPECIAL THANKS TO AUGUSTA P.D.**

**A**ugusta Police Department, ATTN: Chief Jared J. Mills, 33 Union Street, Augusta, Me 04330

Dear Chief Mills:

Fitzgerald-Cummings Post 2 of the American Legion is a representation of the spirit of Americanism, the State of Maine, and our Country. It certainly goes without saying that our members and American Legion members across this country sacrificed willingly so that citizens everywhere can enjoy the freedoms associated with being a part of the greatest country in the world. Along with those freedoms, however, comes a responsibility to protect what we have. We are a nation of laws. These laws protect us all from anarchy and subversion.

Fitzgerald-Cummings Post 2 wishes to express its support of the Police Department of Augusta and honors the professionalism and dedication displayed by every police officer in his and her service to the

community. The events of the past few weeks, we believe, is in no way a reflection of the caliber of individual that represents the Augusta Police Department and its leadership. Your organization supports the Augusta community unselfishly and with dignity. Your entire department is a credit to what this city is and what law and order represents to every citizen of Augusta.

On behalf of all the members of Fitzgerald-Cummings Post 2 of the American Legion, I want to say thank you for your continued unselfish support of the community and for your belief in our American way of life. The Augusta Police Department honors us all-and we respect all of you for that.

*Respectfully yours, Fred E. Umphrey, Commander, Fitzgerald-Cummings Post 2  
7 Legion Drive Augusta, Maine 207-622-2194 P.O. BOX 5244 Augusta, Maine 04330  
July 2, 2020*

## 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.

**P**hysical distancing set up & Wearing Masks are encouraged (if possible).

## VETERAN'S EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (VEFAP)

**A**ttn: 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

**C**omputer Software Tips 101 is a new section that

will appear in the Leadership Ledger to help those learn basic computer skills.

**W**e use acronyms in emails every day. From P.S. to Ms. to ASAP, it's tough to keep the capital letters and periods straight. Here's a list of twelve common email acronyms and their meanings.

**1 ASAP** | stands for "as soon as possible." This acronym is useful when you want to assure others that you will complete an action in a timely manner.

**2 EOD** | "end of day."

**3 EOM** | "end of message." People often use this in the subject line to save readers the trouble of opening an email unnecessarily. For instance, you can leave the rest of the email blank if your subject line says, "Budget meeting 10/11/2019 at 11 am (EOM)."

**4 FWD** | Most email programs automatically indicate forwarded messages with FWD. If you prefer your recipients not see this designation in the subject line, you'll need to manually delete it.

**5 FYI** | If you want to share some helpful information, you can use the acronym FYI. It means "for your information."

**6 Ms.** | Have you seen this title introducing a woman's name? Ms. identifies a person as a woman without revealing if they are married or single (as in the case of Mrs. and Miss) use discernment when addressing someone as Ms. in an email!

**7 NRN** | If you send an email and you don't need a response, you can use the acronym NRN which means "no reply necessary." If not, people may think you expect an "OK" or "Thanks" as a reply.

**8 OOO** | When you are out of the office, you can let coworkers and others know by adding OOO to your auto-reply signature. If they have an urgent question, this acronym will let them know not to expect an immediate reply from you.

**9 OT** | If this article suddenly began talking about professional attire, you might wonder how this

subject relates. In an email, you can easily signal such a change in subject by introducing a new thought with the letters OT. OT stands for “off topic.”

**10 PS** | Perhaps the most quintessential professional acronym, PS is from a Latin expression, “postscriptum.” It means “written after” or “postscripts” which indicates that you added the message following it as an afterthought. Writing guides differ on its use and punctuation, but generally PS with no punctuation is a safe bet.

**11 YTD** | YTD means “year to date.” In a year (calendar or fiscal), you can use YTD to indicate where you are as of the current date. For example, you might present your profit margin in a quarterly email: “We’ve made \$800,000 in sales YTD.”

Acronyms are helpful abbreviations that keep emails concise. Once you master the letters and punctuation, you’ll have no trouble using them to communicate well at work. **Which Acronym Do You Find The Most Useful?**

## 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, Maureen Malley-\$40



## **MILITARY TRIVIA:**

**Answer to Military Trivia:** On the first Fourth of July, following admission.



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

## **TRAINING TO SERVE**

**A**s I reviewed the Leadership Ledger, I noticed the article about Caroline running the 26 mile Virtual Race. She has been preparing for this race in Boston since last year only to have it cancelled in April. Now she will be running it here in Maine and has been training for over a year to support The American Legion Foundation.

So let me get to the bottom line. A young female veteran who also is a Legionnaire happens to join and wants to help our organization by running this event being supported by The American Legion. So how about a little support from each Posts in Maine, \$50 maybe \$100, maybe a member matches the Post and makes that \$50 into \$100. How about the Auxiliary and The Sons of the American Legion? How about the Legion Riders?

**LET’S SUPPORT CAROLINE NOW!!**

## MAINE VETERANS' CEMETERY SYSTEM

Effective July 1, 2020, the Maine Veterans' Cemetery System updated the way in which it processes all pre-eligibility applications.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) implemented the pre-need eligibility program so veterans, spouses and unmarried dependent adult children may better prepare for burial in a national, state or tribal veterans cemetery prior to the time of need. Planning in advance for a veteran's or loved-one's final resting place can eliminate unnecessary delays and reduce stress on a family at a difficult time.

Submission of a pre-need burial eligibility application does not obligate the veteran or family member to burial in a national, state or tribal veteran's cemetery.

For information regarding the most current internment requirements, pre-eligibility application and information, please visit our [website](#).

## 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>

