Welcome to the 25th 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.

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/fundraising-events.php to place your contribution today to a cause that means so much!

TRAINING TO SERVE

VIRTUAL BOSTON MARATHON: SEPT. 12, 7:00am

“The world cannot come to Boston this year, so we will bring the Boston Marathon to the world through a virtual experience that captures the spirit, community, and celebration of the race,” said Tom Grilk, C.E.O of the B.A.A. “The 124th Boston Marathon Virtual Experience will allow participants to be part of Boston Marathon history.”

Due to the cancellation of the April 20, 2020 Boston Marathon, our plan to run the marathon and raise money for the American Legion Foundation has changed. With the race being moved to September and now being a virtual race, we have the opportunity to make this Boston Marathon an American Legion Family experience.

District meetings are slowly being rescheduled. If this is the case with your District, please provide dates, times, etc. of upcoming meetings.
The marathon has to be completed within 24 hours, but there is no other time limit for the completion of the 26.2 miles. With that giving us more flexibility, we would like to split the race up into 6 sections, one for each branch of the military (possibly add in flags representing the different parts of the American legion organizations) and finish with the American flag. During the beginning of each section, the runner will carry the flag for that branch of military, a cadence will be called, and other runners could join in during their chosen section. For more information and run route, click HERE.

As 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!!**

**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 Connolly-$50, Franklin McKenzie-$1,000, Kirk Thurston-$100, Nancy Gillespie-$200, Maureen Malley-$40, Kirt Bunty-$100.

**SHARE PATRIOT DAY || AMERICAN LEGION DAY EVENTS**

**Patriot Day.** For 19 years, American Legion Family members have led efforts in their communities to honor and remember those who died during the 9/11 terrorist attacks in New York City, at the Pentagon and on United Flight 93 in Pennsylvania. Legion Family members conducting Patriot Day, Sept. 11, events are encouraged to share their stories and photos on www.legiontown.org.

**American Legion Day is Sept. 16.** American Legion Day commemorates the granting of The American Legion’s federal charter by Congress in 1919. Please share on www.legiontown.org how your posts, districts or departments are recognizing this day.

**Membership Workshop Materials.** The American Legion held its 57th annual National Membership Workshop virtually Aug. 3-6. Access the audio presentation files and PowerPoint slides for all eight sessions at legion.org/training/membership. Use these materials for training at all Legion levels.

_The American Legion_  
Sept. 04, 2020

**MEANING OF THE AMERICAN LEGION EMBLEM**

Every part of The American Legion emblem has meaning. The emblem is laid upon the rays of the sun - giver of life, warmth and courage, and foe of the cold, darkness, fear and apprehension. In turn, each of the emblem’s parts bears a meaning which no Legionnaire who wears the emblem should take lightly, and which he or she should know from the first moment it is put on. Why does the star signify constancy of purpose? Because the stars are fixed in the heavens. As the stars do not wander, so should The American Legion not wander from its fixed purposes. Further, the words "The American Legion" demand that the wearer "shall ever guard the sanctity of home and country and free institutions." There shines the emblem of The American Legion - your badge of pride, distinction, honor and service. Please visit https://www.legion.org/emblem for full details of each element of the emblem.
SEPTEMBER IS SUICIDE AWARENESS MONTH

This is to advise all concerned parties that the SILHOUETTE PROJECT is now taking reservations for 2021, first come first served only one meeting per month. Sponsored by the L/A Veterans council, American Legion Post 22, DAV Chapter 11, AM VETS, Post 6, VFW 9150 and 1603, Franco War Vets 31, Marine Corp. League, Purple Heart Assn., Gold Star Mothers…

To schedule the service members to attend your meeting or function, please contact JERRY DEWITT at jde Witt@tc mhs.org, or call (C) 207-576-0376 | (H) 207-926-3240.

The project goal for 2021 is to have one silhouette in every VSO/AMERICAN LEGION POST in Maine next year. You can pick the service member for display. The cost is $125 per silhouette delivered.

Jerry DeWitt, Chairman
Maine Veterans Memorial Cemetery

Thank you in advance for your generous contribution!

The American Legion, Department of Maine Foundation is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization exclusively for charitable purposes including the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code. All donations to the foundation are tax-deductible under the United States Tax Code and Internal Revenue Service.

The Foundation's mission is to provide financial assistance, promote Americanism, Youth Programs, National Security, and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation that will enhance the lives of our Veterans, their families, children and communities in the State of Maine today and for future generations.

THE MARINE CORPS IS STILL LOOKING FOR MORE FEMALE OFFICERS TO ATTEMPT ITS INFANTRY COURSE

The Corps is looking for more female infantry officers, according to an administrative message released in early August.

The MARADMIN was directed at active duty female company grade officers who joined the Corps before the infantry field was opened to women in 2016.

It looks to give early career officers a chance to lateral move from their current military occupational specialty into the infantry field, in the hopes of boosting the number of female infantry captains and lieutenants.

“‘There is a cohort of company grade officers who were not given an opportunity to compete for the 0302 MOS during their time at The Basic School due to policies that restricted women from serving
in the infantry and other combat arms,” Yvonne Carlock, a spokeswoman with Marine Corps Manpower and Reserve Affairs, told Marine Corps Times in a Monday email.

The Marine Corps does not have a target for how many female Marines it hopes will attempt the Infantry Officer Course, Carlock said in the email.

There is no infantry officer shortage, she added, but the solicitation is part of Marine Corps Commandant Gen. David Berger’s goal of increasing diversity among infantry officers. In February Berger took to Twitter to make a call for more company grade female infantry officers. But in the months since the tweets, little has changed when it comes to female Marines in the infantry. Since 2016 only 11 female Marine officers have attempted the arduous 13-week infantry officer course and only two have passed, one earning the 0302 military occupational specialty and the other going on to become an 0203 ground intelligence officer, Carlock told Marine Corps Times.

The first female Marine to pass the course, Marina Hierl, already has the left the Marine Corps as a captain, leaving it with no active female platoon leaders, Marine Corps Times previously reported. The second female Marine to graduate from the course currently is serving as the assistant intelligence officer for 7th Marines, Maj. Kendra Motz, a spokeswoman for the 1st Marine Division, told Marine Corps Times in a Wednesday email.

To be eligible for the lateral move, female Marine officers must have graduated from The Basic School before January 2016, when they did not have the opportunity to attempt IOC. Marines with the MOS of naval aviator or unmanned aircraft systems officer are not eligible for the lateral move attempt, according to the MARADMIN. Officers who have been considered for promotion to major are also barred from attempting IOC, the MARADMIN said.

Those interested and eligible have until Sept. 30 to submit their packets. The course will begin in January 2021.

Those who are accepted into the program will be sent to the Marines awaiting training platoon at TBS 45 days to 60 days before the IOC course starts to help “refresh perishable tactical and field skills as well as critical combat and physical conditioning,” the MARADMIN said.

If the female officers earn the 0302 MOS they will incur a 36 month service obligation.

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**MAINE LEGION COLLEGE CLASS FOR 2020**

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>Sept. 26 &amp; 27</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
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**FINDING HELP IN MAINE IS EASIER THAN EVER WITH 211MAINE.ORG**

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**NEWS RELEASE**

211 Maine is a collaborative effort of the United Ways of Maine, the State of Maine Department of Health and Human Services, and The Opportunity Alliance as the Contact Center Partner

August 27, 2020

**Maine**—211 Maine and the United Ways of Maine are pleased to announce the launch of a redesigned website, 211Maine.org. Finding help for complex needs like shelter, substance use, mental health, or food access can be challenging. Fortunately, 211 Maine is available to all Mainers, and now accessible through a new, user friendly website enabling visitors to initiate a search for help, day or night.

211 Maine is a free, confidential resource for people of all ages to access local health and human services information. People can find help in their area by dialing 211 and talking with a trained and friendly specialist, by texting their zip code to 898-211, or by searching the now improved online directory at 211Maine.org.

“Sometimes finding the right resources can be overwhelming,” said Liz Cotter Schlax, United Way of Greater Portland President and CEO and President of the 211 Maine Board of Directors. “The new 211
Maine website will improve access to community-based resources and programs by making it easier for people to find the services they need when they need them.”

The new design prioritizes the user. The changes improve the search experience with features such as pre-populated search buttons and filtering options. Search results can now be filtered based on key factors like insurance level or veteran status. While the look and feel of the search have changed, the same statewide information about health and human services is available.

“While 211 Specialists are available here in Maine any time of day or night to talk or text with people, not everyone is willing to start their search for help by asking someone,” shared Nikki Busmanis, 211 Maine Program Manager. “Many people want to begin looking on their own online and searching the 211 website.”

Since 2006 when 211 Maine became a statewide service, over 800,000 calls for assistance have been received. 211 fields thousands of calls every month from people looking for help for themselves or someone they know. In collaboration with the State of Maine, 211 Maine became a primary source of information for COVID-19 in March, tripling the number of incoming calls. For more information, please contact Nikki Busmanis, 211 Maine, nbusmanis@211maine.org

**AMERICAN LEGION HISTORICAL FACTS**

**Sept. 1, 1966:** At The American Legion National Convention in Washington, D.C., delegates vote to extend membership eligibility to veterans who received honorable discharges since Aug. 5, 1964, welcoming in the Vietnam War generation.

**Sept. 3, 1997:** At the 79th National Convention in Orlando, Fla., Cpl. William T. Rhodes of Huntingdon, Pa., receives the first-ever American Legion National Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award.

**Sept. 3, 1981:** The American Legion National Convention in Honolulu, Hawaii, passes a resolution stating the organization’s policy on Agent Orange, which by this time has been linked to numerous cancers and other illnesses contracted by Vietnam War veterans, along with birth defects among their children. Deadly dioxin in the chemical mix of Agent Orange is blamed, and The American Legion urgently supports studies “to proceed without delay using all resources available to ascertain with scientific validity the effects of Agent Orange on veterans who were exposed to it during their active military service.” The Legion calls for the studies to be conducted by independent scientific authorities, not by the UCLA School of Public Health, commissioned under a 1981 contract with the VA. The Legion resolution reveals that veterans suffering with conditions presumably linked to Agent Orange have filed for VA benefits but that “very few claims for service connection have been granted… (and) a significant number of Vietnam veterans have expressed displeasure with the manner in which they were attended to during their Agent Orange examinations at VA medical facilities.” The resolution calls for an independent epidemiological study, a mechanism to establish presumption of service connection for certain disabilities traced to Agent Orange exposure, close monitoring of the long-term health effects of exposed veterans and proper treatment during VA examinations.

**Aug. 31, 1989:** In just 60 days, The American Legion completes the collection of more than 1 million signatures on a petition supporting a constitutional amendment to protect the U.S. flag from deliberate acts of desecration.

**Aug. 30, 2001:** Less than two weeks before the terrorist attacks that lead the United States back to war, The American Legion National Convention approves a resolution to rekindle the Blue Star Service Banner of earlier decades for display by families of deployed military personnel.

**Aug. 31, 2017:** The American Legion’s seven-year-old national amateur radio exceeds more than 3,200 members operating at more than 30 local posts, making it one of the largest ham radio networks in the nation. The American Legion Amateur Radio Club
has regular broadcasting events throughout the year and promotes the program to assist with local natural disaster preparedness operations.

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.

CAR DONATION FUNDRAISING PROGRAM

Owners of unused vehicles can donate them for possible tax credit and benefit Veterans in the state of Maine. This is a free, convenient service for converting that extra car, truck, or RV into a tax deductible donation. Our affiliate program makes sure your vehicle is properly handled so you get your tax deduction and Veterans in Maine get the benefit of your donation. You can currently donate online by visiting www.vdac.com, or call 877-999-8322 to make your donation. For more information, contact The American Legion, Department of Maine at 207-873-3229 or via email at www.legionme@mainelegion.org.

Who We Are: We’re excited to announce our partnership with the Legionnaire Insurance Trust, joining the ranks of those dedicated to assisting the men and women who answered the call to serve our country.
As a valued member of your American Legion Department, you have access to a variety of services and discounts. The goal is simple—to help you and your fellow Legionnaire when you need it most.
Because of the current challenges we now face, it’s even MORE important that you feel safe living at home. Our passion is helping you live a healthy, active, and safe life at home. That is why we’ve created a place where you can find home medical equipment products that make a direct, positive difference.
PLUS, we deliver your orders right to your door, so there is no need to leave your home!
What We Offer: Whether you worry about slippery bathroom floors, getting in and out of a vehicle, or managing pain that never seems to go away, we have you covered.
How You Benefit: Being a member your American Legion Department means you receive a unique discount on many of the home products and services we offer.

Follow these simple steps to take advantage of this offer:
**Visit https://lit.hlathome.com/members/ to set up an account.
**Use the special access code LIT-37993 (this gives you access to your discount--DON’T SKIP THIS STEP)
**Once your account is setup, find the items you need and add them to your cart.
**Check out and wait for your items to be delivered right to your door!

The Healthy Living at Home Team

MILITARY TRIVIA:

Q: What State has produced more “Commanders-in-Chief”, than any other State in the Union?

Submitted by Dwayne Hatfield, Mars Hill Post 118
2020 Fall Conference, due to take place September 19, has been cancelled due to COVID-19

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/your-virtual-meeting-options?fbclid=IwAR3zuo7G2udRbjgh4KCQDQdovtl1YFNp9kJiMuj1jk7NUzthXsEfv4NYZg4

The American Legion Dispatch

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**

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 Committee member, 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](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 authorize 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 157 – Stockton Springs
- Post 197 – Westbrook
- Post 205 – Augusta
- Post 207 – Trenton
- Post 216 – Phippsburg

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/vet-resources.php](http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/resources/vet-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.

**Thinking You Lost A Document &/Or File?**

STEP 1: Often, your "lost" files are files that have simply been deleted - either accidentally or intentionally. Check your Windows Recycle Bin/Trash. You should check you Recycle Bin/Trash immediately, as continued write activity increases the possibility of an unrecoverable loss. For more information on how to use the Recycle Bin/Trash, please see the appropriate link for your operating system below.

- Windows 10
- Windows 8
- Windows 7

STEP 2: If the missing or lost files cannot be located in your operating system's Recycle Bin/Trash, it is possible they haven't been deleted, but may be at a different location then you initially checked. Use the search function in your operating system to locate them. To search for files on Windows, open File Explorer by clicking the File Explorer icon on your taskbar. It may also be called This PC.
○ In the upper right of Explorer Window, there is a Search box. The search will look in all the folders/subfolders in the current location.
○ Try searching for the exact name of your lost file.
○ If that does not work, or if you are not sure of the exact name, use the following WILD-CARD search.

● To pull up only files with the .doc /docs or extension, type in*.doc (for example).
● Sort by the Date Modified in order to quickly locate the most recent files if using the WILD- CARD search option.
● To learn more about searching your Windows computer for files, please follow this link Searching on Windows

**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

**MILITARY TRIVIA:**

Answer to Military Trivia: Virginia with 8 and Ohio is in second place with 7.

**SEPT. 11, 2020**

Patriot Day is a United States national observance that honors the memory of those who were killed in the September 11 attacks. It was first observed in 2002, after the proclamation by President George W. Bush.

On September 11, 2001 al-Qaeda launched a series of coordinated terrorist attacks upon the United States, killing almost 3,000 people. In the immediate aftermath of the tragic events, President proclaimed September 14, 2001 as a National Day of Prayer and Remembrance for the Victims of the Terrorist Attacks on September 11, 2001. A year later, September 11 was made a national day of mourning referred to as Patriot Day. This observance has been proclaimed annually since 2002.

In 2009, President Barack Obama rededicated it as Patriot Day and National Day of Service and Remembrance. It is not a public holiday therefore government offices, educational institutions and businesses do not close on this day. On Patriot Day, the national flag is flown at half-mast on all United States government buildings and establishments. Individuals are also encouraged to display flags on their homes.

A moment of silence is traditionally observed at 8:46 AM. Many organizations and establishments hold memorial ceremonies to honor the victims of 9/11.