

The American Legion, Department of Maine 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, Maine 04901-0727 <u>www.mainelegion.org | legionme@mainelegion.org | 207-873-3229</u> Facebook: www.facebook.com/maineamericanlegion

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THE LEADERSHIP LEDGER



Welcome to the 40th 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>.

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MAINE ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION

June 11-13, 2021 Jeff's Catering & Event Center 15 Littlefield Way Brewer, Maine 04412

<u>Member/Guest Registration Form & Elected</u> <u>Post Delegate/Alternate Form</u>

Please see the Member/Guest Registration and Post Delegate/Alternate Registration form. All elected delegates and alternates are to fill out the Post Delegate and Alternate form. If you are not a Delegate/Alternate, please fill out the Member/Guest Registration form. YOUR NAME SHOULD ONLY APPEAR ON ONE FORM. FEE/PERSON IS \$10.

RATES FOR LEGION FAMILY FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Holiday Inn: 404 Odlin Rd. Bangor, Maine 04401. Ph: 207-947-0101 || Room Rate: \$111 + sales tax Microwave, Refrigerator, Coffee/Tea Maker, Elevator(s), Limited Lounge || Please state "Legion" when calling for reservations

Deadline: May 30, 2021

Quality Inn: 250 Odlin Rd. Bangor, Maine 04401. Ph: 207-942-8272 || Room Rate: \$89.00 + sales tax (incl. breakfast); Microwave, Refrigerator, Coffee/ Tea Maker, Pool

Please state "Legion" when calling for reservations Fairfield Inn: 300 Odlin Rd. Bangor, Maine 04401. Ph: 207-990-0001 || Room Rate: \$149.00-\$169.00 + sales tax. Refrigerator, Coffee/Tea Maker.

Please state "Legion" when calling for reservations.

DEPARTMENT H.Q. WILL <u>NOT</u> BE MAKING HOTEL RESERVATIONS THIS YEAR. RESERVATIONS ARE TO BE MADE BY EACH INDIVIDUAL

DISTRICT MEETINGS

Be Connected - Be Heard - Be Informed

Upcoming District Meetings

District 2 – Cumberland: May 9, Scarborough Post 76, 2 p.m. Election of officers and memorial ceremony.

District 12 – Hancock: May 17, Ellsworth Post 63, 7 p.m.; elect & install New Officers

District 14 – Piscataquis: Apr. 17, Dover-Foxcroft Post 29, lunch noon, 1 p.m. mtg.

District 14 - Piscataquis: May 15, Greenville Post 94, lunch noon, 1 p.m. mtg

District 15 – Washington: May 16, Woodland Post 23, 2 p.m.

District 17 – N. Aroostook: May 2, Madawaska Post 147, dinner 1 p.m. mtg. Elections.



NEW MY LEGION.ORG UPDATE

N ow that the myLegion site is live, all accounts are now MEMBER accounts. This includes Legion and SAL members. The first requirement to access post and squadron data is to create a myLegion member account using the email address on your membership record. The new myLegion Home page will look like the image above. It provides links to your subscriptions, discounts and resources. MY ACCOUNT provides more information about your own membership. Please click on Video Presentation / PowerPoint to learn more.

Video Presentation / PowerPoint / Q&A

INSTRUCTIONS FOR NEW MYLEGION.ORG MEMBERSHIP PROCESSING & GROUP PERMISSION

Go to "New MyLegion.org is live!" for more information.

MILITARY TRIVIA:

Q: Who was acknowledged as the first person to state, in a formal setting, that "We Are All Americans", when and where? Submitted by Dwayne Hatfield, Mars Hill Post 118

100 MILES FOR HOPE

I wanted to alert you to the second annual 100 Miles for Hope that National Commander Bill Oxford launched recently. Registration is open now and it officially kicks off April 1.

As you know, we had a very successful debut in 2020 of the campaign that raised around \$150,000 for the Veterans & Children Foundation. This year, Commander Oxford has established goals to double the number of participants (from 5,000 to 10,000) and donations (to \$300,000) to the V&CF.

And that's where we need your help.

National has created a very informative <u>100</u> <u>Miles for Hope web page</u> with all the details our members need to register, participate and support the program and the V&CF. We have also developed a sample press release <u>(download release here)</u> that departments can adapt and distribute to their posts via newsletters, website, Facebook page, etc.

Also worth noting is this is not just an American Legion event. It is for everyone. That's why we also created a sample letter <u>(download sample letter here)</u> that departments, posts and others can use to promote 100 Miles events in their communities.

Last year we were inspired by posts that engaged their communities. In California, two members of <u>a</u> <u>Junior Shooting Sports team</u> participated to raise money for the team. In North Dakota, <u>a high school</u> <u>cross-country team got involved</u>.

Now that the pandemic is easing, we have more opportunities to engage with our communities.

There are countless community organizations, youth groups, churches and others that would be ideal to welcome to a 100 Miles campaign. Here are some examples:

• Veterans service organizations: Team Red White and Blue, Student Veterans of America, The Mission Continues, Team Rubicon and others.

• Youth and family groups: Boy Scouts, Boys and Girls Clubs, Special Olympics, the YMCA and YWCA, school sports teams, Junior Shooting Sports participants, American Legion Baseball teams, etc.

• Nonprofits specializing in health: The American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, Alzheimer's Association, etc.

Check out all the details <u>on how to register</u>, where to get the commemorative gear and more.

Encourage your districts, posts and members to join and support this important initiative. We'd love to hear the successes throughout your departments. And, most of all, we appreciate your unrelenting support for the V&CF which funds, among other things, the vital work that department service officers conduct for our veterans.

If you have questions, please refer to <u>https://www.legion.org/100miles/FAQ</u>. If your answer is not found there, please check with Henry Howard (<u>hhoward@legion.org</u>).

Submitted by Daniel Wheeler, National Adjutant

MAINE LEGION COLLEGE CLASS FOR 2021

We are currently working on the next Maine Legion College Classes for the 2021 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. **ONLY 9 MORE SPOTS AVAILABLE**. This is the schedule we will follow: Classes start at 8:30 a.m. each day

Phase 1: May 22 & 23 Phase 2: July 24 & 25 Phase 3: Sept.18 & 19

To attend these classes, you must first go online at: <u>www.legion.org/alei</u> 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 <u>paul@mainelegion.org</u> along with your **Name**, **Post No., and Cell Phone No.**



THE 2021 AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY DIRIGO STATE PROGRAM CANCELLED FOR 2021

Each year brings new and exciting challenges related to the experience that we offer to the delegates, but I think it is fair to say that these past thirteen months have been unlike any other in regard to our preparations and planning.

The cancellation of both Dirigo Boys State and Dirigo Girls State last summer, gave The Legion Family an opportunity to enhance the experience for the delegates of Boys and Girls State youth leadership programs. Based on direct student feedback, || Please <u>click here</u> for more information and cancellation of Dirigo State.

CANDIDATE DEADLINE: MAY 12

Anyone wishing to run for a Department Office must submit a letter of intent and a copy of his or her discharge papers making them eligible for The American Legion to the Department Adjutant's office on or before May 12, 2021 to be included on the official ballot at convention in June.

If you wish to be included in The Maine Legionnaire, the above information, plus a photo of you must be at Department Headquarters by April 23, 2021. Also be advised that the Department Constitution and By-Laws state: All current and future Department Officers elected at the Annual State Convention will within forty-five (45) days following the conclusion of the annual Department Convention, take the "Basic Training Course" previously named the "American Legion Extension Institute Course" and successfully complete said course.

Please visit <u>https://www.legion.org/alei</u> to complete the course. Previous graduates of the course upon providing confirmation would be exempted.

VETERAN'S EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (VEFAP)

Do you know of a veteran in your community in need of assistance? Someone who during these challenging times just needs a little help to keep them going? Maybe a veteran that is homeless? Or worst of all, a homeless veteran with children? If so, we want to remind you that The American Legion, Department of Maine can assist you to help these veterans during their difficult and troubling times. You can call us at 207-873-3229 Ext. 3 or visit our website: <u>http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/resources/varesources.php</u>

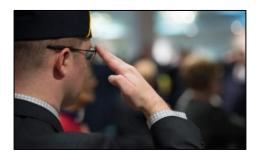
We will contact you as soon as possible and we hope to enable you to help veterans in need.

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.

Visit the Maine Legion website http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/formsapplication s.php and click on the Past Commanders Club (Fillable) form under Membership/Post Forms & Manuals. 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!



MEMBERSHIP IMPACT REPORTS

The American Legion's success depends entirely on active membership, participation and volunteerism. The following monthly reports located on https://www.legion.org/membership/impact provide a summary of membership, participation and volunteerism making an impact in the lives of veterans, families and communities.

American Legion Posts can share the many ways Legionnaires are making a difference in their communities by <u>submitting consolidated post reports</u> <u>online</u>. To visit the impact American Legion posts made throughout the year, visit <u>https://www.legion.org/bythenumbers</u>

https://www.legion.org/membership/impact.

MISSION BLUE POST ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

At the 2020 Fall National Executive Committee Meeting, Resolution #36, Subject: Mission Blue Post Assistance Program was approved. Posts impacted by a government's public health restrictions implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic may apply for a grant up to \$1,000. Posts must meet the following eligibility criteria:

• A post must have a current consolidated post report on file.

• A post must must have filed an IRS 990 within the prescribed due date.

• A post must have filed all other required forms and reports as prescribed by the departments.

• A post must have actively participated in one or more The American Legion(s) within the last 18 months.

• A post must have a financial need.

• A post must provide a certificate of insurance naming The American National Headquarters as an additional insured (copy of insurance declaration will be attached to application).

• A post must provide documentation indicating that the post is properly incorporated. The funds from this grant program shall be used exclusively for the following: Current and past due mortgage principal and interest or Current and past due real estate rents or Current and past due insurance premiums or Current and past due utilities.

The American Legion posts receiving this grant are required to submit a true and accurate report outlining how the funds were used, signed by the post finance officer, and certified by the post commander or post adjutant within six-months of receipt of the grant funds or no later than February 22, 2022. Whichever comes first.

To access instructions and application <u>Click Here</u> or visit

https://www.legion.org/documents/pdf/Mission_Blue_PAP_App lication_1.pdf

Mission Blue Post Assistance Program Grant App is also available by visiting <u>http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/formsapplications.ph</u> p under Membership/Post Forms & Manuals. Also made available is the MISSION BLUE CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INS – EXAMPLE which is required when submitting the Mission Blue App.

AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY TAKE NOTICE!

Maine American Legion welcomes all of you to be part of the Official 2021 Annual Convention Yearbook

Showcase your Post, District, Unit, Squadron, and Chapter by sponsoring ad space in the 2021 Annual Convention Yearbook. Individual donations are also welcomed and appreciated with all individual and business names listed in the "Business & Individual Donors" page of the yearbook.

To donate or sponsor ad space in the 2021 Convention Yearbook in support of Maine Veterans, please <u>click here</u> to download a copy of the Convention Yearbook Sponsorship Request Form and follow specifications & submission instructions. You may also visit <u>www.mainelegion.org</u> and click on the image of Maine American Legion Convention Yearbook Request Form.

For questions or assistance in submitting your ad, please call Department HQ at 207-873-3229 Ext. 2.

Click on the image below or visit <u>www.mainelegion.org</u> and check out the Digital Version of the Maine American Legion 2020 Convention Yearbook!



MILITARY TRIVIA:

A: General Ulysses S. Grant was charged with preparing the 'Terms of Settlement' following the Civil War, in order to accept General Robert E. Lee's surrender of the Confederacy, in April of 1865. However, his clerk was so nervous that he couldn't put the Terms in writing, so Grant then asked an assistant adjutant, Ely Parker, to perform the duty. When Lee arrived, he noted that Parker was an American Indian (Seneca Tribe of the Iroquois Confederation), and Lee stated that: "I am glad to see one real American here", to which Parker replied, after shaking Lee's hand: "We are all Americans".



COMPUTER 101

Computer 101 is a resource aiming to help those who wish to learn basic skills with the

powerful technology of today's world. Increased proficiency with computers and the Internet has positive outcome across all fronts, both personally and professionally.

At this point, most of the general public should know how to use a computer in the most basic of situations. Turn it on. Open up the internet. Write a document. Print something. If you expect to be somewhat successful or, at the very least, considered a normal functioning human being, computer know-how is simply a must.

However, while it is possible to glide on through to success on computer basics, it probably won't be all that easy for you. You'll struggle. You'll waste more time than you should. And you'll definitely feel the need to throw one or two computers out the window at some time or another.

So, if you're adamant about sticking to the basics and you don't feel the need to make 'geek' your second language, then here are a few tricks to make you more efficient in the land of computers. And if even you do consider yourself to be above the basics or somewhat of a computer expert, some of these tips might be new and rather useful for you.

•CTRL + BKSP: Holding down the backspace button to delete multiple letters at once is such a waste of time. If you need to delete one whole word, hold down CTRL and Backspace simultaneously. To delete multiple words, hold down the CTRL button and continue to tap on the Backspace button until you've deleted everything that needs to go away.

•ALT + TAB: If you use a laptop, this tip can be rather handy. When you need to switch to another open window (say you have Word, the internet, and

Excel open at the same time), then hold down ALT and TAB. This will allow you to quickly cycle through to the next open program without having to look to that dreaded touchpad for assistance.

•CTRL + W: When you have multiple sites open at once, you can close one at a time by holding down CTRL and W. This action will cause the tab you are currently on to close and will send you back to the next open tab – no magnifying glass and little 'X' button required.

•CTRL + L: Again, if you're not willing to reach for your mouse, this trick is incredibly useful. Hold down CTRL and L to highlight the address bar. You can immediately begin typing to go to a new website.

•Shake: If you have multiple programs open and you don't like a lot of background noise, use the cursor to shake your active window. This will automatically minimize all other open programs, leaving you just with the program you want.

•Windows + D: If you need all programs minimized – including the program you're currently on – then hit Windows and D. This will bring you back to the desktop.

•**CTRL** + **T**: When you're on the internet and you need to open up a new tab, hold down CTRL and T. This trick will get you there quicker.



THE 51ST ANNIVERSARY OF EARTH DAY

Earth Day 2021 will mark the 51st anniversary of this holiday. Typically, Earth Day is assigned a different theme or area of focus each year; this year's theme is "**Restore Our Earth**.

WHAT IS EARTH DAY?

Ever wonder how Earth Day began? The first Earth Day was held on April 22, 1970, when San Francisco activist John McConnell and Wisconsin Senator Gaylord Nelson separately asked Americans to join in a grassroots demonstration. Dealing with dangerously serious issues concerning toxic drinking water, air pollution, and the effects of pesticides, an impressive 20 million Americans—10% of the population—ventured outdoors and protested together.

President Richard Nixon led the nation in creating the Environmental Protection Agency, which followed with successful laws including the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Endangered Species Act. <u>Read more from EarthSky.org</u>.

McConnell originally had chosen the <u>spring</u> <u>equinox</u> (March 20, 1970), but Nelson chose April 22, which ended up becoming the official celebration date. (Given that the date of the spring equinox <u>changes over time</u>, it may have made things more complicated to go with the astronimical event rather than just a calendar date.)

Today, not only is Earth Day a day meant to increase awareness of environmental problems, but also it is also becoming a popular time for many communities to gather together to clean up litter, plant trees, or simply reflect on the beauty of nature. Further down the page, we've provided a list of activities and projects that you can do to improve your local environment!

WHEN IS EARTH DAY?

Earth Day is always celebrated on **April 22**. It's followed closely by <u>Arbor Day</u>, which falls on the last Friday in April.

DEC MEETING REMINDER APRIL 24, 2021 HQ or VIRTUAL



CORONAVIRUS (**COVID-19**) – **INFORMATION-** For 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</u> (COVID-19) – INFORMATION Including Cancellations & Rescheduled Events

AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY JOINT TESTIMONITAL

American Legion Department Commander – Matthew Jabaut American Legion Auxiliary President – Virginia "Ginny" Chaput Sons of American Legion Commander – Ron Marr Westbrook Memorial Post 197 300 Conant Street Westbrook ME 04092

May 8, 2021 Social Hour 3 p.m. – 4 p.m. Dinner: 4:30 p.m. Program to follow Cash bar available in banquet hall

MENU: Appetizers, Choice of Pork Loin or Haddock, Vegetable, Potatos, Salad, Dessert, Coffee & Tea.

<u>Gluten Free meal option available</u>. Stuffed haddock stuffing will be gluten free. Gluten free rolls for the gluten free dinners. Gluten free meals will be served with a baked potato. Gluten free dessert.

Deadline for reservations: May 4, 2021

\$25.00 per person. Make checks payable to: American Legion Post 197. Please write the number of haddock or pork loin dinners on check, or enclose a note with the check. Write your name on the note.

<u>Glue Free Option</u> – Please state "GF" on check or enclose note with your name. All tickets to be picked up at the door.

Mail to: American Legion Post 197, 300 Conant Street, Westbrook ME 04092

Name:	Phone:
# of Pork Loin	# of Haddock

of Gluten Free _____