Leading Candidate for National Commander

The American Legion Department of Oregon is proud to support the leading candidate for National Commander Charlie E. Schmidt of Hines, Oregon. Charles enlisted in the United States Air Force in August 1965 and served on active duty until his retirement in 1993. During that time he advanced from an enlisted Administrative Clerk to become a distinguished graduate from the Air Force Officer Training School, earning a commission and assignments to Executive Support Officer positions at major headquarters.

Assignments took him to Oregon, California, Montana, Nebraska, Colorado, England, Germany, Philippines, and Vietnam. Charles retired in the rank of Major and is most proud to have served in both the enlisted and officer corps.

As an active duty service member, Charles joined Story-Hardin Post 164 in Craig, Missouri in 1984. After his military retirement he transferred to Harney County Post 63 in Burns, Oregon and helped revitalize the Post and Oregon’s Tenth District. Charles is a Paid Up For Life (PUFL) Legion member.

Upon his military retirement, Charles accepted employment to implement the Air Force’s Total Quality Management (TQM) program at Lowry Technical Training Center in Denver, Colorado. Following a move to Oregon, Charles accepted employment with Harney County Federal Credit Union. After a 15-year career he retired as Executive Vice President of Harney County’s largest credit union…the only credit union in the county.

Governor Theodore Kulongoski named Charles to the Governor’s Advisory Committee to the Director, Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs in 2004 and was reappointed to a second 4-year term in 2008.

American Legion History: At the post and district levels, Schmidt served as post adjutant, post commander, district commander, district adjutant, district judge advocate and presently serving as district finance officer. At department and national level, he served as Department Commander and Department Vice Commander and is currently serving as National Executive Committeeman. In addition, he also served on numerous committee assignments and chairmanships.

Charles was born and raised in rural Northwest Missouri and comes from a family of seven siblings. Charles met Linda Presley during an Air Force assignment in Oregon. They married in 1967 and reside in Hines, Oregon. They are the proud parents of two daughters. The Schmidt’s are a strong and dedicated American Legion Family. Linda is starting her sixth year as Tenth District President, is Unit Secretary and has served in Department chairmanships of Community Services, Cavalcade of Memories, Legislative and as Assistant Sgt-at-Arms.

Daughters Andria and Cori are Auxiliary members and their husbands, Peter and Anthony are Legionnaires. Cori, an Air Force veteran, is a dual member. Charles and Linda have six grandchildren. Madeleine is an American Legion Auxiliary Junior member. Alex, Adam, Raymond, Nicholas, and Thomas are Sons of the American Legion members.

To learn more about the Leading Candidate for National Commander Charles E. Schmidt, please visit http://charliesnc.com/american-legion-history/
Anthony “Tony” Jordan Award. The last order of business for Friday’s meeting will be to hear the nominations of those aspiring to department level offices. Those being nominated will potentially be leading the Department of Maine for the coming year and it is important for all delegates to carefully consider their individual votes. Friday evening there will be a hospitality room at the Fireside Inn & Suites, 570 Main St. hosted by those who are seeking office within the department. This is your opportunity to get to know the candidates a little better and to ask any questions you may have about their views and ideas to help you decide your vote for the following morning. Please do your best to select the candidate who will do the job for our organization rather than those who just have the best smile or catch phrase. This is also an opportunity to enjoy the refreshments offered by the candidates and to meet new friends and renew old acquaintances.

The Credentials Committee will open the voting area at 8 a.m. on Sat., June 18 for your opportunity to decide who will lead the Department of Maine for the coming year. Polls will close promptly at 10 a.m.; however those in the voting line coming year. Polls will close promptly at 10 a.m.; however those in the voting line coming year. Polls will close promptly at 10 a.m.; however those in the voting line coming year. Polls will close promptly at 10 a.m.; however those in the voting line.

Commander Rainfrette will reconvene the convention on Sat. morning at 9 a.m. and there will be many awards and other presentations during this session. We have invited Senators Angus King and Susan Collins, Representatives Bruce Poliquin and Chellie Pingree as well as Governor Paul LePage and the First Lady Ann LePage. Hopefully, they will all think The American Legion important enough to make an appearance to let us know what they have done on veterans’ and other issues that are high on our priority list. We will be paying tribute to outgoing Department Commander Ronald Rainfrette who has led the Department of Maine this year in an exceptional manner. Resolutions Committee member Ronald Sailor will then give a report of the committee’s recommendations on this year’s resolutions. The final and most anticipated event is the announcement of the voting results from the Credentials Committee. A tally will be given out to all of us who have voted, and the newly elected Department officers will be announced for the coming year. There will be both joy and disappointment, but each and every candidate is a winner to those who know how much effort goes into running for a department office. Every candidate will have done all he or she can do to promote our organization and its programs. Please take a minute to thank all the candidates, not just the winners, for they have played an important role in supporting The American Legion. Department Chaplain Matthew Jabaut will conduct a Memorial Service Saturday at the Cross Insurance Center just prior to recessing of the convention. Saturday evening will be the installation of all Department Officers, District Cmdrs. and Area Reps., along with the Department Auxiliary and Detachment of the Sons of The American Legion. The Department Executive Committee meeting will be at 8:00 a.m. Sunday at the Cross Insurance Center. This will conclude the events of our 98th Annual Department Convention. Hope to see you there!

What a Delegate Should Bring: This is a short reminder to all legionnaires attending the ninety-eighth annual convention in Bangor, June 17th and 18th. If you are a delegate or alternate to this year’s convention, please remember to bring your current American Legion membership card or PUFL card. Attendees should go to the registration table immediately upon arrival and pick up your delegate or alternate package. Only registered delegates are allowed to vote or address the convention. The officialuniform of The American Legion is the Legion cap.

Eagle Scout Ceremony: Department Commander Ronald Rainfrette presents Sebastian James Lombardi, Troop 518 of Wilton, an Eagle Scout certificate and pin during a ceremony held in his honor on Mar. 20 in Jay, Maine.

Washington Is Listening

To my fellow Legionnaires and Legion Family members in Maine:

Through your help and the nearly 20 million living American veterans, our voice is being heard in Washington. Services at the Department of Veterans Affairs are improving and there are signs that our demands for accountability are being heard.

I am deeply appreciative of the support individuals, posts, squadrons, Riders chapters and units in your department have been giving to our National Emergency Fund, which provides needed financial assistance to Legion family members impacted by natural disasters. The fundraising goal for this year is one million dollars, and I am hoping that with your help we can reach it by the close of our National Convention.

We have been able to tell our story and raise money for the NEF through a series of Awareness Walks that we have conducted in communities across the country. The American Legion is proud to walk for those who marched for us.

Most veterans do not get to see our testimony before Congress, our visits to the White House and our meetings with VA, but they are aware of their neighborhood American Legion post.

It is the posts that are sponsoring Scouting units, conducting blood drives, reconnecting with local families of veterans, supporting homeless shelters and many other activities that improve the quality of life for others. The American Legion has a great story and it is up to all of us to tell it.

I thank you for your service as military veterans, as Legionnaires and as members of the Legion Family. Best wishes for a productive and enjoyable department convention.

Commander’s Comments

This year, as Department Commander for 2015-2016, life has been good. I would like to thank all of you and our American Legion State Headquarters for their support over the past three years.

As Memorial Day approaches, I would like to quote a Memorial Day Speech in honor of those who served our country.

Today, we honor a very special group of Americans, men and women who served our country and gave their lives in military service.

Since those first shots were fired at Lexington and Concord in the revolutionary war, over one million Americans died in defense of our liberty and freedom.

In peace and war, these Americans answered our nation’s call and defended our American way of life.

In honoring them today, we recognize their dedication, courage and sacrifice and we also celebrate the freedom they gave us.

These were men and women much the same as your parents, grandparents and friends. They had the same dreams, hopes and ambitions, but when called upon they put aside their personal interests and answered a higher calling.

In dying for our country they passed on to us a legacy of liberty and freedom -- they also passed on to us a commitment to preserve what they had died for.

It’s a commitment that each of us must take part in fulfilling...it’s a commitment to America for over 2 hundred years we have taken part in the government down in the Constitution, and we have enjoyed our freedoms guaranteed by the Bill of Rights.

In doing so, we have lived the dreams of the founders of our country. Those Americans who resisted centuries of injustice and cruelty, with their Declaration of Independence.

“We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men and women are created equal with certain unalienable rights of which are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”

Together, these documents are the roots of America, and in them we find the character of America. A character of determination to be free and remain free.

Such was the character of the people we honor today, and when we the living, fulfill our commitments as citizens of this country, we make America a living memorial to their dedication, courage and ultimate sacrifice.

If you have not known or been involved with someone who has served and died. You do not know the pain and suffering that can result. Let’s pray this never happens to you.

All who served gave something, some gave all.

In closing, thank you again for all of you that made a difference for the Veterans in the state of Maine. Please remember we do make a difference every day.
February, I discussed in the Maine Legionnaire the legislative priorities of the American Legion and our (The Department of Maine’s) readiness to address the priorities. In February, we also visited the Maine Congressional Delegation in Washington D.C. to advance the Legion’s priorities. Our elected representatives were all supportive of our positions and pledged support. Now I would like to address what we, as an organization, should do when Congress fails to move on important priorities. A pressing example is “National Defense” one of the four pillars of the American Legion. This is a legislative priority of the American Legion and the issue of sequestration has been raised since its inception. This year the statement was presented to our elected congressional delegation as:

Protect our nation. Fully fund a superior national defense to battle enemies including but not limited to the Islamic State, North Korea and others.

We identified the actions that the American Legion would like Congress to do as:

- The most critical task facing Congress regarding force strength is recognizing the security the United States needs in the face of global extremism and the rise of the Islamic State. Congress cannot allow U.S. military forces to enter a weakened condition, especially at a time of war.

- In fiscal 2018 and beyond, the budget proposes an end to sequestration, and in-crease defense resources must made to ensure the U.S. military is capable of de-fending and defeating any aggressors against U.S. and allied interests. Congress needs to work to ensure that sequestration ends, without extension.

The American Legion also pointed out to our congressional delegation that the Army is drawing nearer to its lowest level of troop numbers since before World War II. And, the Navy is on pace to reach its lowest number of ships since before World War II. And, the Navy is on pace to reach its lowest number of ships since before World War II. This is happening while the United States is facing multiple strategic challenges: the Islamic State, Russian aggression, China (cyber and South China Sea island terraforming), and North Korea and Iran nuclear weapons potential. The Heritage Foundation in its “2016 Index of U.S. Military Strength” evaluates U.S. Military capabilities as:

- Army as “Weak.” The Army’s score dropped from “marginal” last year to “weak” this year, a development that can be attributed primarily to a drop in capaci-
ty, as the Army has fewer BCTs (Brigade Combat Teams) ready for deployment abroad. The Army’s capability and readiness scores remained static the past year as the service continued to struggle with recouping readiness levels after years of budget cuts.

- Navy as “Marginal.” The Navy readiness score dropped from “strong” to “marginal” due to shortfalls in the Fleet’s surge capacity requirements. Deferred maintenance has kept ships at sea, but this is beginning to affect the Navy’s ability to deploy. With scores of “weak” in capability (due largely to old platforms and troubled modernization programs) and “marginal” in capacity, the Navy is current-ly just able to meet operational demands, especially as Reagan-era platforms increasingly near the end of their service lives.

- Air Force as “Marginal.” In 2015, the Air Force flew sorties in support of many named operations, resulting in a higher than anticipated operational tempo. The USAF scored “very strong” in capacity. Capability scored as “marginal,” remaining static since last year’s assessment, while “readiness” dropped from “strong” to “marginal.” Although difficult to categorize, the readiness decline is best attributed to reports that under half of the service’s combat air force meet full-spectrum readiness requirements. The aggregate score of “marginal” is a decline from the 2015 Index score of “strong,” driven primarily by degradation in readiness.

- Marine Corps as “Marginal.” As with last year, the Corps’ strongest suit was in readiness, but even here there are problems as stated by the Corps itself. While the fighting competence of the service is superb, it is hampered by aging equipment; troubled replacement programs for key ground vehicles (particularly its amphibious personnel carriers); and a shrinking force. The progress the Corps has made in replacing its rotary-wing aircraft has been a notable bright spot in its otherwise uninspiring modernization portfolio. These evaluations of service capabilities by the respected Heritage Foundation provide a stark assessment of the trends in our national defense. The American Legion has made the case and several military leaders have discussed the impacts in congressional testimony. Our Service Office sees the impact on service men and women and new veterans in suicide rates, stress on families and PTSD cases.

The requirement is clear in this election year. It is incumbent on members of the American Legion to impress on all who seek elected office at the national level the necessity to support a strong national defense. Ask them to explain their position and what we can expect them to do about the problem. Let them know the American Legion is watching and that we will hold them accountable.

This past year we have had some great accomplishments.

Specifically, our new training and history building, and consolidating our Legion family including the Auxiliary and Son’s in the same complex at Department Headquarters. Our Legislative Committee has continued to do great things thanks to Past Department Commander Chick Cicotti and David Patch and the Post 911 Committee is up and moving forward under the leadership of Chairman Matt Jabar.

All of these accomplishments required the qualities of great leadership from our Legion family. This truly involves the importance of choosing and mentoring new officers to lead the Department of Maine American Legion.

The month of May is a very busy, productive time honoring our present and past leaders. New officers will be installed at leadership positions at the post, district and state levels. We will be celebrating our war veterans during Memorial Day with parades and celebrations.

Hopefully all Legionnaires are able to attend convention this June. I hope to see many of you in attendance.

I would like to thank everyone for all experiences and opportunities you have given me this past year. It has truly been my honor to represent you. See you at convention!

Legislature Of The Year: Senator James M. Hamper is presented with his 2015 Legislature of the Year award by National Commander Dale Barnett, left, and 1st Vice Commander Peter Johnson, left, during the National Commander’s visitation to West Paris Post 151 on Apr. 2.

On the Agenda

MAY MEETINGS

District 1 – York: May 15, Biddeford Post 26, 2 p.m. Refreshments to follow.
District 2 – Cumberland: May 15, Westbrook Post 62, 1:30 p.m., Memorial Service and election of officers
District 5 – Oxford: May 17, West Paris Post 151, 6 p.m. supper, 7 p.m., mtg. and speaker
District 11 – Waldo: May 22, Unity Post 50, 2 p.m., installation of officers.
District 14 – Piscataquis: May 21, Greenville Post 94, 6 p.m. supper, 7 p.m., installation of officers.
District 17 – N. Aroostook: May 15, Madawaska Post 147, 1 p.m. dinner, mtg. to follow, elections/installation

JUNE MEETINGS

District 3 – Androscoggin: June 12, Auburn Post 153, 2 p.m.
District 8 – Sagadahoc: June 5, Brunswick Post 20, 1 p.m.
District 12 – Hancock: June 14, Southwest Harbor Post 69, 6:30 p.m. dinner, mtg. to follow

JULY MEETINGS

District 12 – Hancock: July 17, Gouldsboro outing 11 a.m.

A ‘Second’ Look

A ‘First’ Look

PETE JOHNSON

RANDALL KLUJ

THE MAIN LEGIONNAIRE, MAY 2016
Money Matters

Another fiscal year has passed. The auditors will be here during the next week of May 10-12. My thoughts are that we have made a profit this year, but it will be small.

Our budget for last Fiscal Year 2015-2016 was $796,521. The budget for the 2016-2017 fiscal years is $854,895; this is an increase of $58,374. Additionally, we will have a capital budget this year for building a large storage facility, the cost of which is about $26,000. Though we are having some issues with fund raising at the Department level, I believe we will work out the issues and have a successful year.

Are you interested in receiving a copy of our weekly newsletter called “SMILE”? Please visit us on the web at www.mainelegation.org.

Would you like a copy of our weekly SMILE sent to you via email? Please email legionme@mainelegation.org with a note stating you would like to receive via email our weekly newsletter called “SMILE”.

The Adjutant Speaks

Where does my donation go? That has been a question that has been asked by many after the recent issues with a fund raising organization for veterans that has come under fire for expenditures not related to the “theme” of helping veterans.

First I will address the issue here in the State of Maine. Any donations received in this office that is earmarked for a particular program is deposited in that programs account. This office does not use a percentage for operating that program. Staff and overhead cost are paid from our general budget, not the charitable donations. 100% of the donation stays in that account for that purpose only. At our level, we are also audited every year to make sure the funds are accounted for and properly placed in the correct account. Because we are chartered by Congress, we also have to meet all nonprofit organization rulings specified under 501(C) 19 which directs us to account for all income & expenditures. All reports are reviewed by the Department Finance Committee and the Department Executive Committee.

At the National level, Media reports and congressional hearings last winter called the reputations of several veteran’s charities into question. Absent from the reports were the programs administered by The American Legion. Why, because The American Legion has a history of being efficient, ethical and transparent. What this means is “we do it right”.

Again, as a congressionally chartered nonprofit organization, The American Legion files a report on its activities annually with Congress. Each major fund is separately incorporated or chartered, with its own articles, bylaws, purposes and trustees. Each files an annual Form 990 with the IRS. The financial reports for the funds are included as part of The American Legion’s annual audit and published for the national convention. As members, we should be proud how our funds are administered.

So to you 19000 plus members of The American Legion in Maine, when you are asked for a donation for anything, take the time to research it. But even better is a donation to The American Legion (tax deductible) for Veteran’s Programs, Boy’s State, Oratorical, Boy’s Scout, Legion Baseball, Scholarships, Maine Special Olympics, Blind Camp, Homeless Veterans, and Maine Veterans Homes, just to name a few.

In closing, we are in the process of preparing for our State Convention & Boys State. The Department Officers are working to make this another great year with many guest speakers and even one that will “entertain us” on Saturday. So put that smile and Legion cap on and be proud that you belong to The American Legion.

FORWARD & FOCUSED

Madison Post 39 Honorary Life Member Certificate

Announcing the 69th Annual American Legion Dirigo Boys State

The American Legion, Department of Maine is proud to announce the 69th Annual American Legion Dirigo Boys State program. This year’s program will again be held at Thomas College in Waterville during the week of June 19 - 23, 2016. Every American Legion Post and all subordinate bodies should alert their membership to one of the finest youth programs in the nation.

The American Legion sponsors the Boys State program and we encourage all other groups and organizations to join in promoting the program through sponsorship of candidates to American Legion Dirigo Boys State.

We ask that the officers of your Post contact school principals or guidance counselors for assistance in this program. Make sure that your school officials are knowledgeable of The American Legion Boys State program.

The tuition fee for the program for 2016 will be $300 per student. Contact The American Legion Boys State, 5 Verrill Drive, Winslow, Maine, Tel. (207) 872-3229, or go online to www.mainelogan.org for application materials.

Thank you for your assistance in making the 69th Annual American Legion Dirigo Boys State Program a success.
Judge Advocate

My fellow Legionnaires, this being my last article, I will pen as Department Judge Advocate. I would like to take this time to express my sincere and heartfelt thanks to Commander Rainfrette, Department Officers, and the American Legion for allowing me this extraordinary opportunity to serve you as the Department Judge Advocate. It was a duty that I did not take lightly and have thoroughly enjoyed over these past years. Hopefully my next article that I pen for the Maine Legionnaire will be as Second Vice Commander. But I will see how that works out; either way, it truly has been a pleasure to serve the Legion in this capacity.

Throughout the past year, I had the chance to travel and meet a lot of interesting Legion, Auxiliary, and S.A.L. members. Hopefully, I helped a few along the way and performed my duties to the esteem that this office deserves.

Once again, thank you all for your support and allowing me this fantastic opportunity to serve you. The experience was truly a once in a lifetime adventure that I will never forget. I can be reached via email at paradis1@tds.net, 207-902-2339, or via mail at Scott Paradis, P.O. Box 182, Corinna, Maine 04928. Thank you for your time and your service.

Scott Paradis

Fighting to Preserve ARCH

Our nation’s veterans deserve easy and convenient access to high-quality health care – and that’s exactly what the Access Received Closer to Home (ARCH) program helps deliver for veterans in Aroostook County. And when a program works so well, it only makes sense to continue it. That’s why Senator Susan Collins and I have been hard at work trying to extend the program beyond this summer, when it is currently set to expire.

The ARCH program has been operating at Cary Medical Center in Caribou since 2011. According to Cary Medical Center, the program serves more than 1,400 local veterans and has provided in excess of 17,000 medical appointments since its inception. Without this partnership, veterans in Northern Maine would have to travel up to 600 miles roundtrip to access care at the Togus VA Hospital in Augusta, and a trip of that length can pose significant hardship for our veterans. That’s just part of the reason why ARCH is so important.

But without Congressional action, ARCH is set to expire on August 7, 2016. So in March, Senator Collins and I introduced legislation that would extend the ARCH program for an additional five years.

Though our bill to preserve ARCH has not yet received a vote in the Senate, we did get some very encouraging news from the Senate Appropriations Committee earlier this month. The committee passed its Fiscal Year 2017 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs (MilCon-VA) spending bill, which includes a two-year ARCH extension. There is more work left to be done to make sure the extension becomes law, but this is a significant step forward in our work to extend this vital program and ensure that Maine’s veterans receive the timely and convenient health care services they deserve. I commend Senator Collins for her work on the Appropriations Committee, and I will continue to fight alongside her to try to shepherd this much-needed extension through the Senate.

While we push to save ARCH through the appropriations process, I will also work with Senator Collins to pass our legislation in order to extend the programs for a full five years. By providing additional time to evaluate the successes of the ARCH program, our legislation would give Congress and the VA an opportunity to learn from and potentially use those successes to address existing problems with the Veterans Choice Program. According to the VA, less than half of eligible Choice Program patients in Maine have received their appointments. That’s simply unacceptable, and the VA should use ARCH as a model in order to improve Choice for veterans throughout Maine and across the Nation – something that Senator Collins, Congresswoman Pingree, Congressman Poliquin and I all urged VA Secretary Robert McDonald to do in a joint letter sent this February.

Everyone who has fought for this country shouldn’t have to fight for quality, convenient health care. I look forward to continuing to work with the other members of the Maine Delegation to extend ARCH, improve Choice, and see that our veterans receive the best care in a timely manner.

Senator Angus King

Americanism

(Continued from Page 5)

Flags
32,114 subscribers to the flag half-staff e-mail notification
Over 1,800 inquiries received by the ‘Ask the Flag Expert’
Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA)
1,511 minor children of 631 veterans received $819,971 in cash grants
Family Support Network (FSN)
729 FSN requests received through The American Legion National HQs alone
Operation Comfort Warrior (OCW)
29 OCW grants totaling $198,556 provided directly impacting 6,509 veteran patients
Child Welfare Foundation (CWF)
Over $618,897 received in donations; $360,511 contributed by the SAL
Temporary Financial Assistance and Department Service Officers training
$183,382 transferred to help operate Temporary Financial Assistance and Department Service Officers training

The above information was provided at the spring meetings of the Americanism and Children & Youth committees at the American Legion’s National Headquarters in Indianapolis, Indiana. Where do they get the numbers you ask? From the Consolidated Post Reports that each Post should submit by May 15 of each year. Summer will be here soon meaning Legion Baseball will be in full swing. Take in a game if all possible and show your support to these young athletes.

Please submit a copy of your Certificate of Completion to The American Legion, Department of Maine, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow Maine 04901-0727.
Service Office Update

T
he DSO continues to be a very busy place, a special thanks to our Post Service Officers and membership who are bringing veterans and their survivors to our office for assistance. We also provide services to Legion members nationwide due to the VA’s national workload initiative that sends claims to locations where they can be worked faster.

You can be proud that your efforts, working with the DSO, have assisted our membership and veterans in obtaining critical compensation, pension, educational and survivor’s benefits. We have built and are maintaining an excellent working relationship with our fellow DSOs from other Veterans Service Organizations as well as our local Congressional Staffers. In addition, we have connected with many military service organizations, both local and national to provide valuable educational and financial resources for our veterans.

We broke a record by hitting over 1,000 contacts with veterans during the month of March 2016.

PSO Kudos!
Kudos to the Oxford PSO Rick Nugent, for setting up a veteran’s outreach in his area to assist veterans in his area.

PSO TRAINING SEMINAR.
We are again sending out a call to all Post Service Officers (PSOs) or those who want to be PSOs! If you contact the DSO, we will put you on our email list to receive the Department Service Office Newsletter. We have trained over 70 Legiamaries, Congressional Staffers, and leadership of Military Service Organizations. The response has been extremely positive. You can request a reservation for the seminar by emailing the DSO at amedeo.lauria@va.gov; email sooner than later as we only have 6 students per class. The classes are conducted at the Department Headquarters, 1000 hours to 1400 hours with a light breakfast and lunch included. There is no cost to attend.

As you hold Post and District elections; please ask your newly elected Post Service Officers to sign up and attend the seminar and I will add them to the DSO newsletter. Don’t miss out on this valuable offering; talk to anyone who has attended and they will convince you to sign up and attend!

Please encourage your Service Officers to attend one of the monthly Post Service Officer Seminars at the Department Headquaters. The April 26th class is full, the next class will be on Tuesday, May 31, 2016. The classes may be moving into our brand new training facility at the Department Headquaters in Winslow, Maine.

PSO CONTACT INFORMATION.
Post Service Officers, as a minimum, please send us your full name, Post, telephone number (your phone number will not be released) and email address. The purpose is so that members of your post can contact you for local assistance and also so that I can contact you, by phone or email, if we hear from a member in your post that needs assistance.

DSO NEWSLETTER.
To sign up for the newsletter, please email your contact information to amedeo.lauria@va.gov and state in the body of your email if you would like your name listed in the newsletter as well as permission to link to your email address through the newsletter. The newsletter is emailed out monthly. The newsletter was developed as a way to stay in touch with Post Service Officers and to keep them up to date on changes and sources of information that is of value to our veterans. The newsletter contains active links to a variety of resources for veterans as well as links to you, so you can better serve the members of your post. We are not doing mailings at this time.

BENEFITS.
VA Insurance – S-DVI. When you are initially service connected for an illness or injury you are entitled, if eligible, for VA Life Insurance in the amount of $10,000. You must apply for this insurance within two years of “initial” service connection to receive it. If you are under age 65 you may be eligible to purchase an additional $30,000 of VA Life Insurance.

If you are 100% Service Connected, P&T you may be eligible to have your premiums waived; if you have been unemployed for over 6 months. So basically it is a free insurance policy at that point.

The VA Burial Benefits, while a nice benefit, are not near the $10,000 you can purchase or get for free; if eligible. Think about your family before you toss the little blue insurance pamphlet and elect not to sign up.

Not all veterans receive a death benefit from the VA. Contact our office to find out your eligibility.

Camp Lejeune Update! VA Plans to Propose Expanded Disability Benefits Eligibility for Veterans Exposed to Contaminated Water at Camp Lejeune

PUBLICHEALTH/exposures/camp-lejeune/index.asp.
Veterans can establish eligibility for healthcare benefits by submitting VA Form 10-10EZ online at www.1010ez.med.va.gov/, downloading it at www.va.gov/vaforms/pdf/forms/1010EZ-fill.pdf and returning it to any VA Medical Center or Clinic, or by calling 1-877-222-VETS (8387), Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00 AM and 8:00 PM (Eastern Time).

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VA Insurance – S-DVI. When you are initially service connected for an illness or injury you are entitled, if eligible, for VA Life Insurance in the amount of $10,000. You must apply for this insurance within two years of “initial” service connection to receive it. If you are under age 65 you may be eligible to purchase an additional $30,000 of VA Life Insurance.

If you are 100% Service Connected, P&T you may be eligible to have your premiums waived; if you have been unemploy-}

ed for over 6 months. So basically it is a free insurance policy at that point.

The VA Burial Benefits, while a nice benefit, are not near the $10,000 you can purchase or get for free; if eligible. Think about your family before you toss the little blue insurance pamphlet and elect not to sign up.

Not all veterans receive a death benefit from the VA. Contact our office to find out your eligibility.

Camp Lejeune Update! VA Plans to Propose Expanded Disability Benefits Eligibility for Veterans Exposed to Contaminated Water at Camp Lejeune

PUBLICHEALTH/exposures/camp-lejeune/index.asp.
Veterans can establish eligibility for healthcare benefits by submitting VA Form 10-10EZ online at www.1010ez.med.va.gov/, downloading it at www.va.gov/vaforms/pdf/forms/1010EZ-fill.pdf and returning it to any VA Medical Center or Clinic, or by calling 1-877-222-VETS (8387), Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00 AM and 8:00 PM (Eastern Time).

PSO TRAINING SEMINAR.
We are again sending out a call to all Post Service Officers (PSOs) or those who want to be PSOs! If you contact the DSO, we will put you on our email list to receive the Department Service Office Newsletter. We have trained over 70 Legiamaries, Congressional Staffers, and leadership of Military Service Organizations. The response has been extremely positive. You can request a reservation for the seminar by emailing the DSO at amedeo.lauria@va.gov; email sooner than later as we only have 6 students per class. The classes are conducted at the Department Headquarters, 1000 hours to 1400 hours with a light breakfast and lunch included. There is no cost to attend.

As you hold Post and District elections; please ask your newly elected Post Service Officers to sign up and attend the seminar and I will add them to the DSO newsletter. Don’t miss out on this valuable offering; talk to anyone who has attended and they will convince you to sign up and attend!

Please encourage your Service Officers to attend one of the monthly Post Service Officer Seminars at the Department Headquaters. The April 26th class is full, the next class will be on Tuesday, May 31, 2016. The classes may be moving into our brand new training facility at the Department Headquaters in Winslow, Maine.

PSO CONTACT INFORMATION.
Post Service Officers, as a minimum, please send us your full name, Post, telephone number (your phone number will not be released) and email address. The purpose is so that members of your post can contact you for local assistance and also so that I can contact you, by phone or email, if we hear from a member in your post that needs assistance.

DSO NEWSLETTER.
To sign up for the newsletter, please email your contact information to amedeo.lauria@va.gov and state in the body of your email if you would like your name listed in the newsletter as well as permission to link to your email address through the newsletter. The newsletter is emailed out monthly. The newsletter was developed as a way to stay in touch with Post Service Officers and to keep them up to date on changes and sources of information that is of value to our veterans. The newsletter contains active links to a variety of resources for veterans as well as links to you, so you can better serve the members of your post. We are not doing mailings at this time.

BENEFITS.
VA Insurance – S-DVI. When you are initially service connected for an illness or injury you are entitled, if eligible, for VA Life Insurance in the amount of $10,000. You must apply for this insurance within two years of “initial” service connection to receive it. If you are under age 65 you may be eligible to purchase an additional $30,000 of VA Life Insurance.

If you are 100% Service Connected, P&T you may be eligible to have your premiums waived; if you have been unem-
ed pensions are available to veterans who have received an other than dishonorable discharge who served a specific period of time during a recognized war period. The NAC benefit is currently starts at approximately $12,868 per year for a single veteran. Benefits are offset by any additional income. If you are receiving a Non Service Connected pension be aware that you must report any additional income to the VA immediately or you may incur a debt to the government! Example: If you received your NAC pension before your Social Security payments started, you must notify the VA and not spend the additional money. (EXAMPLE) If you are receiving NAC pension of $1072 and you start receiving Social Security payments of $700, you are only entitled to the $700 from Social Security and $372 from the VA, a total federal benefit of $1072 combined. The VA will periodically check your Social Security number against income tax database, social security database etc. and will start collection if you are getting overpaid; after giving you a chance to respond. Notify the DSO immediately if you get a notification of proposed collection from the VA.

TOGUS VA WOMEN'S CLINIC. If you haven't already heard, there is a Women Veterans Clinic here at Togus. It specializes in women's health issues. Please keep in mind that there are medical conditions that may be claimable for the children of women veterans who served in certain areas and/or on certain ships that are presumptive for Agent Orange. If you are a woman veteran it is a good idea to give us a call or look for more information on www.va.gov.

Please remember that the VA is a healthcare provider, not health insurance. It can be a very complicated process at times. Also, the DSO cannot advise you on your health insurance or healthcare choices. Those decisions should be made in consultation with appropriate VA or private health benefits advisors.

KOREA REBORN BOOK. We still have on hand at the DSO at Togus a limited supply of hard bound books “Korea Reborn – A Grateful Nation Honors Veterans for 60 years of Growth” that were given to us to recognize and present to those that served in the Korean War. They are a gift from the people of South Korea to those who served. If you are a veteran who served in Korea during the period June 27, 1950 – Jan 31st 1955 we will be happy to provide you with a copy!

DONATIONS TO THE AMERICAN LEGION! Due to the level of service provided by the Department Service Office, and the quality of our Legion program, our members and the veterans we serve are constantly asked about giving back financially to the American Legion Department of Maine. The services provided by the DSO are done SO WITHOUT charge! Your membership dues and various fundraisers pay for the cost of maintaining the service office at Togus. Please remember that your membership dollars keep the DSO open and available to our membership and veterans. Please encourage your eligible friends and family to use the DSO and to become members of the American Legion. There is power in numbers! Join us!

If you wish to donate to the programs of the American Legion or remember the Legion in your estate and financial planning, please contact the Department Adjutant at 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, ME 04901, (207) 873-5229. We are currently in the process of developing a program for charitable donations to fund the programs of our department and information should be coming out soon.

DSO CONTACT INFORMATION. We are located at Togus VA Medical Center, Building 205, Room 318. You can contact us by telephone at 207-623-5726, Fax at 207-621-4821, or by email at amedeo.lauria@va.gov or david.kern@va.gov or eileen.krawczyk@va.gov. We are here to assist you Monday through Friday, 0730 – 1500 hours, closed on Federal Holidays and Patriot’s Day. Just a reminder, it is always a good idea to make an appointment rather than drop in as we may be seeing other veterans and unable to miss you. That said, you are always welcome to stop in the DSO office, say hello, and have a cup of coffee and talk about the status of your claim or seek other assistance.

DSO APPOINTMENTS. If you are thinking of filing a claim, plan ahead! Appointments are always welcome! We don’t turn veterans away, but you may have to wait until those with appointments are taken care of by the service officers; the best course of action is an appointment. Eileen will be glad to make an appointment for you; just ask! (207-623-5726) If you have trouble getting in by phone just email her at eileen.krawczyk@va.gov.

REQUESTING A DSO PRESENTATION AT YOUR AREA/DISTRICT OR SPECIAL EVENT. If you are interested in having us speak at your area or district meeting or event, just contact us to set up a time and date! Requests are handled on a first come first serve status; subject to the availability of travel funds. Please setaside at least 30 minutes of your agenda for the presentation.

Upcoming PSO/DSO Presentations and other dates!

May 5, 2016 – National Prayer Breakfast, Augusta Armory.

May 14, 2016 - Testimonial for Ron Rainfette our outgoing Commander. Department HQ, Winslow, ME. Time: 1300-1600.

May 21, 2016 – Veteran’s outreach to Vinalhaven, ME.


June 17-19, 2016 – American Legion State Convention, Cross Center, Bangor, ME.

We are here to serve YOU our American Legion members!
--- Your Letters ---

Thoughtfulness Throughout the Year

I want to express my long overdue thanks for the ongoing attention William “Bill” Webber receives from the Auxiliary throughout the year and the thoughtful Christmas gifts that we both receive. I’ve never been sure who to contact, so please forward this for me.

Edna Beers

Deo, David and Eileen, American Legion HQ

A Sincere Thank You

P.S. My dad was still sputtering on Sunday, but he is so glad he attended.

Governor Signs Bill to Provide Veterans’ Services, Tuition for National Guard

Augusta – Governor Paul R. LePage signed LD 1612 into law today, which combines several legislative proposals to improve the delivery of services and benefits to Maine veterans and provide tuition assistance to members of the Maine National Guard.

Governor LePage held a signing ceremony in the Cabinet Room with members from the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management. He and First Lady Ann LePage have been staunch supporters of Maine veterans.

“I am proud to sign this bill into law,” said Governor LePage. “Our veterans give so much to our state and nation and ask for so little in return. The experience they gain in military service brings valuable skills and talented employees to our workforce. It is only right that we should give back to them, provide the services they deserve.”

This new law establishes the Maine National Guard Postsecondary Fund to provide for a 100% tuition waiver at any state postsecondary education institution for qualified members of the Maine National Guard. Maine had been the only New England State that did not offer free in-state tuition to its National Guard members. Some Maine residents had joined the Guard in New Hampshire or other states to get the education benefit.

This law now puts Maine on par with other states and will allow recruiters to keep more qualified young people in Maine. Governor LePage first proposed funding for this program in his change package for the 2016-2017 biennial budget, but that funding was not adopted by the Appropriations Committee.

“The Maine National Guard is second to none, and this tuition program reaffirms that,” said Governor LePage. “By providing our soldiers and airmen with the opportunity for a high-quality, low-cost education in Maine, we are honoring their service and investing in the future of Maine.”

Togus Employee Awarded National Certificate Of Appreciation: AUGUSTA, Maine – On April 1, 2016, Denise Benson, Staff Assistant, from the Togus Regional Office, was presented the National Certificate of Appreciation from the National Veteran Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission of the American Legion. Certificates of Appreciation to Outstanding Department of Veterans Affairs officials upon their retirement from that Department are reported twice a year by the National Veteran Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission. Her award was approved during the Washington Conference for the American Legion. She has always been responsive to requests for assistance for our Veterans, and is the ultimate professional in her dealings with the American Legion Department Service Office, as well as other National Service Organizations. Denise’s father, husband and children were on hand for support during her ceremony. The award was presented to Denise by National Commander Dale Barnett, left, during the National Commander’s Visit on Apr. 1 at The American Legion, State Headquarters in Winslow.

By Dawn M. Haskell, Change Management Analyst, Togus RO
National Commander Dale Barnett. All those present for this event were very impressed by the Legion Riders of Naples Post 155. A JOB WELL DONE!

Back row, left to right, Road Captain/Safety Officer Bill O’Neil, Ass’t Director Don Mulcahy, Scott Burnham, Jon Meehan. Front Row, left to right, Secretary Lyne Mulcahy, Sergeant-at-Arms Vinny Yedyak, Betsy Burnham, and Director Bob Ellis.

VETERAN OF THE MONTH - FEBRUARY

ROBERT B. HOULE—MASTER SERGEANT

Robert was born April 4, 1942 in Lewiston, Maine and grew up in Lewiston and Lisbon, Maine. He enlisted in the Air Force in December, 1963 and retired in December, 1983, serving 20 years. Robert served during the Vietnam War and achieved the rank as Master Sergeant. He served in many places such as Hawaii, California, Arkansas, CCK Taiwan and Portland, Maine.

Robert took many training courses throughout his years in the service. He was a Tactical Aircraft Maintenance Technician for eight years and eight months and was also a Recruiter for ten years and ten months. When Robert served in Portland, Maine, he was an AF Tester at local area high schools.

Robert graduated from the NCO Academy and also graduated from Recruiting school as an Air Force Recruiter and made top recruiter three years in a row.


In 1965, Robert married Lorraine and they have one son. After his discharge, he worked at Sears installing cabinets. He also worked as an appliance repairman, an electrician, and in woodworking. Robert built three houses and was always helping someone. He enjoyed snowmobiling, reading, dancing, and family gatherings and is a fan of the Boston Red Sox and the New England Patriots. Robert also was a member of the Helping Hand Fellowship in Lisbon, Maine and also active member in the American Legion.

Robert came to the Maine Veterans’ Home in July, 2014 and resides on the B unit.

Thank You Robert for your service.

To All Maine Legionnaires

As our National Organization continues to solicit donations from our members here in Maine, we continue to receive phone calls on this issue. The most asked questions are: Does the donation stay in Maine to help Maine Veterans? The answer is “NO”. Does this effect our Programs? The answer is “YES”. What can we do? The answer is send all donations to: The American Legion, Department of Maine, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, Me. 04901-0727. Make check payable to: The American Legion, Department of Maine and earmark it to a Veterans Program or Children and Youth Program! If you should have any questions, please call our Department of Maine State HQ 207-873-3229. The American Legion, Department of Maine thanks you for your continued support.
Remember: **FLAG DAY**

June 14, 2016

--- Bits 'N Pieces ---

**Madison Post 39**

Gardiner Post 4 ALR’s rode escort for 3 military funerals, donated $300 for coupon books for the Veterans at Togus plus $200 for newspapers, escorted Tom L’Italien to Old Fort Western in Augusta who rode a bicycle across the country raising money for suicide prevention of veterans and donated $100, were involved with the Wreaths Across America at Togus and donated $100, put on a Valentine's Day Dance at Post 4 which was a great success, raffled off a 50 inch flat screen TV to benefit Homeless Veterans, raffled off two 9 inch tablets to benefit Rider fund, rode for the Make-A-Wish Foundation to benefit a young man who only wanted to ride on a motorcycle and donated $500 to Make-A-Wish. Gardiner & Fairfield Riders rode to benefit Togus Veterans for electric razors.

**Sanford Post 19**

Sanford Post 19 recently made a donation of $2,000 to the Veterans Build project Habitat for Humanity, Kennebunk for the house being built for a veteran in Kennebunkport, Maine.

In addition, they also made a donation of $600 to Great Falls Works, Sanford Regional Technical Center for their Korean War Memorial Project for banners of all Sanford/Springvale veterans killed or missing in the Korean War for presentation in May.

$1,600 to support the Sanford Mainers baseball team summer league which is held in June - August at Goodall Park, Sanford, Maine.

**Madison Post 39**

Madison Post 39 for their donation of $100 to The Moving Wall.

SAL Squadron 39 for their donation of $200 to the CWF, $100 toward the benefit meal for a family who lost their mobile home to a fire and $200 toward the new oil tank.

Unit 39 for their donation of $25 to the Somerset Humane Society in memory of Geraldine Thibeau, $50 to a fire victim in Norridgewock, a table caddy for the Legion’s Birthday, $50 to a fire victim in Anson and a $15 Bingo package to be raffled at a benefit for the same family.

They also distributed $46.20 worth of Box Tops for Education and 975 points of Labels for Education to 5 local elementary schools.

Maxine Dube has mailed out $33,385.7 worth of coupons. Thank you Maxine, Barbara Wyman, Marie Wing and all those who continue to collect coupons.

ALR Chapter 39 donated $100 toward the Moving Vietnam Wall coming to Thomaston on Memorial Day.

**Van Buren Post 49**

Van Buren Post 49 donated $450 to the Caribou Veterans Cemetery. Half of the money came out of the Veterans pockets and the balance was matched by our Finance Officer Clayton Belanger out of his pocket.

**Kennebunk Post 74**

Kennebunk Post 74 for their donation of $700 to the Southern Maine Veterans Cemetery Association for their campaign for a POW/MIA monument.

**Berwick Post 79**

Berwick Post 79 Historian Robert Place earned top honors and another first place win at the Maine State level for the Post Scrapbook. He was also presented with the prestigious Eagle Cane award last fall.

**Dixfield Post 100**

A donation of $100 for the purchase of new bingo balls for Dixfield Post 100 and $50 to Wounded Heroes was made by Jean Shaw, one of our bingo participants.

**Guilford Post 119**

Guilford Post 119 donated $200 to The Autism Society of Maine for their annual walk.

**Madawaska Post 147**

Madawaska Post 147 donated $1,000 to the Veteran’s Cemetery in Caribou for part of an upgrade on the shelter area.

**Phippsburg Post 216**

Phippsburg Post 216 for their donations of $50 to Honor Flight of Maine, $50 to Girls State, $50 to Wounded Heroes Program of Maine and $25 to the Troop Greeters Museum.

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**NEC UPDATE**

Oh what to write about from the perspective of your national executive committeewoman. Let’s start with the valued visit to Maine by National Commander Dale Barnett. He was personable, funny, and pleased to be in Maine. I want to express our appreciation to all of the Posts who hosted visits ranging from meet and greets to full blown banquets. Nobody goes away hungry in Maine! His thrust is expressed in his motto “Duty, Honor, Country”. Each and every member of our organization served to protect our country. Although many were drafted, they served honorably and with a sense of duty. Being members of the organization, we continue to serve. This includes our card carriers to the National Commander. Our strong membership helps with passing legislation for our veterans.

National Commander Barnett’s project is the National Emergency Fund. This has benefitted families in Maine over the years. If you have not donated already, please consider doing so by sending a check in to Department Headquarters. You all know the address.

Speaking of donations and money, many of you have been receiving requests for donations from the national organization. Some are actually duplicates of fundraisers we have been running in the Department to run our own programs. Your gifts are welcome and needed at both levels. However, it may be confusing to some recipients who think they are contributing to Maine. If in doubt, contact Department.

Yours in service, Mona Naragon
National Executive Committee
Member Discounts

Good Reasons to Join and Stay with The American Legion

CVS/Caremark Discount Prescription Drugs

A merican Legion, Sons of The American Legion members and their dependents can save up to 20 percent or more on prescription drugs at over 68,000 retail pharmacies or through a mail order prescription program. Present a current American Legion/SAL membership card to the retail pharmacist. The discount will vary by location, but at no time will a member be charged more than the pharmacy’s usual and customary price. Visit Web site = http://www2.caremark.com/legion/—http://www.legion.org/benefits/medical

Amplifon Hearing Health Care

A mplifon Hearing Health Care is dedicated to helping you hear better. With custom hearing solutions from the leading manufacturers, expert care to make sure your expectations are met, and low prices negotiated on your behalf, Amplifon is with you every step of the way. Visit Web site = http://www.amplifonusa.com/legion/Pages/default.aspx

Long Term Care Insurance

A ttention LIT Members: This is an important Notice About Long Term Care Coverage. Please take the time to visit www.thelit.com and click on the Long Term Care link located under Products. This will give you access to educational information that will help you decide whether Long Term Care Insurance is a good option for you. Please note that the landing page you will be directed to is written by Long Term Preferred Care, which is the Long Term Care insurance partner for the endorsed LIT program. To speak to a Legionnaire Insurance Trust Member Benefits Representative please call 1-800-235-6943.

Great News from Department of Maine LIT Director

G reat news! The Department received a nice check from the Legionnaires Insurance Trust (LIT) this year. First we received our regular earnings of $22,000 with a bonus of $2200. However, because it is the 50th anniversary of LIT, we received a one-time bonus $27,000. This sure will help fill some of the shortages in our department budget! The regular earnings are from premiums our membership has paid for various types of insurance. Some is from our signing up for the AD&D no cost plan. Not only does the Legion benefit, our Department Auxiliary will receive a small bonus.

There are a couple of important points I would like to stress again. One is that we should be signing everyone up for the $1,000 AD&D, including the Auxiliary and Sons of the Legion. They too are eligible. The second point is the new “one and done” policy. Anyone who signed up after January 1, 2015, never has to sign up again. However, if the sign up was before that date, sometime in the future, they will have to re-up. I don’t know about everyone else out there, but I have a problem remembering those little dates and could never tell you when I originally submitted my information. It is perfectly alright to go in early and do that renewal.

Sadly, we had a ninety year old member die recently due to an accident, and his membership in LIT had expired in 2011. He lived a healthy life, lived independently, was active in the community, and was staying in Florida for the winter. While he was riding his bicycle, he was hit by a vehicle with a trailer hauling motorcycles, and eventually died from the injuries. Tragic.

The offer is still out there for those who don’t want to register on-line for the AD&D. You can complete the attached form and mail to Department. We will enter it for you. Or, go on-line to www.thelit.com and follow the simple directions.

If you have any questions about policies, need a beneficiary form or want to check on if you are enrolled, please call 1.800.235.6943. They are very helpful.

Mona Naragon, LIT Director

Legionnaire Insurance Trust Form

Free Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Middle Initial</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Mailing Address:

(Street or P.O. Box) (Town) (State) (Zip Code)

Date of Birth:

(Month Day Year)

Legion Membership Number:

Email Address:

Gender (Male or Female):

Please Mail Form to:

The American Legion, Department of Maine
Attn: Mona Naragon
5 Verti Drive, Winslow, ME 04901-0727
Auburn Post 31: National Commander Dale Barnett gives a special handshake to Auburn Post 31 member Roland St. Pierre, right, during the National Commander’s visitation to the Post home on Apr. 2. Ronald custom made and then donated the podium and two conference tables (pictured below) to The American Legion State Headquarters History and Professional Development Building. The wood was donated by Seacoast Hardwood Lumber in Sanford, Maine.

THANK YOU ROLAND & SEACOAST LUMBER FOR YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION TO THE AMERICAN LEGION!

Be A Part of History

The American Legion, Department of Maine has now completed the major work of the new History and Professional Development Building. One of the last items needed to complete the project are chairs and tables. We are currently in the process of ordering 60 chairs and 10 tables. We have been approached by Legionnaires and a few Posts that want to donate to this part of the project. Because of the interest, we will be organizing the first plaque to be displayed in this facility with the names of those individuals, Posts, “In Honor of” or “In Memory of” who have donated. If you are interested in becoming part of our history at The American Legion, Department of Maine, please fill out the form below indicating your choice of purchase. Mail form and check made payable to: The American Legion, Dept. of Maine, earmarked History & Professional Development Bldg. to: The American Legion, Dept. of Maine, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, Me. 04901-0727.

Be a Part of History

☑ Chairs - $50.00 each No. ___ ☐ Tables - $200.00 each No. ___

Please keep in mind that this building will be used by the current members and those who follow. The purchases may be done by individuals, family members, Posts, Districts, Auxiliary members, Sons of the American Legion, and Legion Riders.

As an example, individuals can purchase a chair, while a Post or District made up of more members can purchase a table.

Individual/In Memory of/In Honor of:
First Name: _______________ Middle Initial: ___ Last Name: _______________
Post No.: __________ Post Town: ____________________________

In Memory of: ☐ ☐ In Honor of: ☐ ☐

Post: ☐ ☐
Post No.: __________ Post Name: ____________________________
Post Town: ____________________________

District:
District No.: ___________

Note: Legion, Auxiliary, Sons and Legion Riders, please provide contact information for any corrections that may be needed or to acquire additional information.

Name: _____________________ Phone/Cell No. _______________

If you have any questions, please call The American Legion State Headquarters at 207-873-3229.

Membership Is KEY!!!
National Commander Dale Barnett Makes His Official Visit to The American Legion, Department of Maine

Welcoming Surprise!: The Maine Veterans Home in South Paris receive a welcoming surprise from National Commander Dale Barnett, right, and his Aide Dewey Moss during the National Commander’s Visit to The Department of Maine, American Legion on Apr. 1.

Milo Post 41 Recognized: National Commander Dale Barnett, left, and State Commander Ronald Rainfrette, right, present Milo Post 41 Adjutant and PDC Richard Graves with a 100% Membership Certificate in recognition for equaling or exceeding the Post’s 100% membership goal prior to the Annual State Convention during the National Commander’s visit Apr. 1 at State Headquarters in Winslow.

Madison Post 39 Commander Ralph Withee receives recognition for 100% Membership by National Commander Dale Barnett, left, and State Commander Ronald Rainfrette, right, at the Maine State Headquarters in Winslow.

Membership Presentation: 1st Vice Commander Peter Johnson presents The Department of Maine’s memberships statistics and strategy to National Commander Dale Barnett during his visit to Maine State Headquarters in Winslow. Left to right, National Commander Dale Barnett, 1st Vice Commander Peter Johnson, National Commander’s Aide Dewey Moss, Dept. Service Officer Amedeo Lauria, Dept. Commander Ronald Rainfrette, and Dept. 2nd Vice Commander Randall Kluj.

Office Staff Meets National Commander: The American Legion, Department of Maine office staff had the privilege of meeting National Commander Dale Barnett during his official visit to the Department of Maine State Headquarters Apr. 1. Left to right, Office Assistant Sue Risinger, National Commander Dale Barnett, Office Manager Rachael Currie, and Membership Coordinator Kierra Washington. Missing from photo, Office Assistant Sherry Carey.