Maine American Legion Celebrates its 100th Annual State Convention

The very first Annual State Convention for The American Legion, Department of Maine took place Sept. 24, 1919 at the U.C.T. Hall on Post Office Square in Bangor. This year, The American Legion, Department of Maine celebrated its 100th Annual State Convention at the Spectacular Event Center in Bangor on June 15-17. Legionnaires, Auxiliary members, Sons of The American Legion, Legion Riders and guests from all over the state filled the convention hall Friday and Saturday in celebration of this year’s 100th Annual State Convention which comprised of a massive parade on Sat., June 16 to kick off The American Legion’s 100th Centennial Celebration.

The 100th Annual State Convention began Friday, June 15 at 9:00 a.m. with the Resolutions Committee meeting and public hearing on 5 resolutions submitted for action. After the public hearing, the committee went into executive session for action. After the public hearing, the Resolutions Committee meeting and began Friday, June 15 at 9:00 a.m. with various committee reports were presented both Friday and Saturday by committee chairmen as well as special awards to impressive individuals for achievement in their particular field. This year’s Law Enforcement Officer of the Year was awarded to Officer Jerry R. Locke of South Berwick, Firefighter of the Year to Chief Dana R. Hatton, Charlotte Volunteer Fire Dept., EMT/Paramedic of the Year to Gary L. Bennett, Naples, and Educator of the Year to Eric Sherman, Greenville Consolidated School. Humanitarian of the Year award was presented this year to Sanford Post 19 Service Officer Dale Midgley of Kennebunk, and our own special surprise announcement for Legionnaire of the Year went to St. George Post 34 Finance Officer Jan C. Gaudio of Spruce Head. Unfortunately, Mr. Gaudio was unable to attend the Convention due to a prior commitment; therefore, District 6 Commander Raymond Lewis accepted Mr. Gaudio’s award on his behalf. A complete listing of all special awards is available on the website.

Attendants were then greeted by Bangor City Councilor and President of Maine Seniors Magazine David Neiley who welcomed everyone to the Bangor area. Attendees were then greeted by Bangor City Councilor and President of Maine Seniors Magazine David Neiley who welcomed everyone to the Bangor area.


Photo by Jeffrey Stevenson

Commander Paradis to Lead Maine American Legion

Scott Michael Paradis was elected as the Department of Maine Commander of The American Legion during the 100th Annual State Convention held at the Spectacular Event Center in Bangor on June 16, 2018. He was born in Dexter, Maine on June 3, 1962 and graduated from Nokomis High school in 1980. Scott served in the U.S. Army, entering in 1979 and honorably discharged in 1984. He served two years in the Infantry and three in Supply. His basic training was held at Fort Knox, KY, advanced infantry training at Fort Benning, GA, and his quartermaster corps training was at Fort Jackson, SC. He served at the Trizonal point where East Germany, West Germany and Czechoslovakia came together, and later served at Fort Hood, TX, where he was discharged as an E-4.

Scott is a paid up for life member of the Maine American Legion. He has served in various officer positions at the state and post level, as well as on various department committees. Scott and his wife Sherree currently reside in Newport, Maine and have five children, three sons and two daughters.

State Commander’s Vision

“My vision is to effectively meet the needs of Veterans. In so doing, I am hopeful they will see the importance of membership so that both young and old Veterans will embrace The American Legion. This will position us as an organization for our next 100 years.”

Humanitarian Of The Year: Sanford Post 19 Service Officer Dale Midgley of Kennebunk receives Humanitarian of the Year award from Chairman Edward Roach Jr., right, during the 100th Annual State Convention in Bangor on June 16.

Photo by Jeffrey Stevenson
Commander’s Comments

I would like to thank all of you for this exceptional opportunity to be Commander of the greatest Department in the American Legion. I am extremely honored and will not let you down.

My vision for this coming year is to effectively meet the needs of Veterans. In so doing, I am hopeful they will see the importance of membership so that both young and old Veterans will embrace The American Legion. This will position us as an organization for our next 100 years.

Do you know why The American Legion has flourished for the past 100 years as the #1 Veteran’s organization in the world?

It is because our members have “ENTHUSIASM” for what we do. I think Henry Ford said it best, “You can do anything if you have enthusiasm. Enthusiasm is the yeast that makes your hopes rise to the stars. Enthusiasm is the sparkle in your eyes, the swing in your gait, the grip of your hand, the irresistible surge of will and energy to execute your ideas. Enthusiasts are fighters. They have fortitude. They have staying qualities. Enthusiasm is at the bottom of all progress. With it there is accomplishment. Without it, there are only alibis.”

Our members have an abundance of ENTHUSIASM and FORTITUDE and I salute each one of you for it. Keep up the outstanding work that you do. It is appreciated.

Thank you for the privilege of your time.

Commander Scott Paradis
Department of Maine

Installation Ceremony:
Past Department Commander Herman Wright installs newly elected State Commander for Maine American Legion Scott M. Paradis during the Legion Family Installation Ceremony held at the Spectacular Event Center on June 16.

Recruiter Of The Year: Dept. 1st Vice Commander and newly elected Dept. Commander Scott Paradis, center, presents Windham Post 148 Adjutant David R. Tanguay, left, with the Recruiter of the Year award at the Annual State Convention held in Bangor on June 16. Standing right is 2nd Vice Commander and recently elected 1st Vice Commander Matthew Jabaut.

A Visit To Headquarters With Newly Elected State Commander: Visiting State Headquarters on July 31 with Department of Maine Commander Scott Paradis of Corinna Post 73, left, is Corinna Post 73 Past Commander Norman Partridge, a 55-year member. Norman also held other positions within the Post.

A ‘First’ Look

My Fellow Legionnaires! Thank you for the privilege to serve as your 1st Vice Commander for the Department of Maine.

I enjoyed seeing and celebrating with all of you at our 100th Department Convention. What a great event to re-invigorate our organization celebrating our legacy and looking forward to a vision for the future.

Going into this year we will have a renewed focus on membership. The new National Commanders theme for the membership year is “Team 100”. This theme encourages us to bring to bare all of our skills and abilities together as a team to drive the best gift and celebration we can give our organization on its 100th birthday, membership growth.

At our Fall Conference in Brunswick, Post 20, we will look at how to accomplish this. We will look at retention and recruitment, and give you tools to leverage as a post and district to drive this growth goal. As we look at the numbers for the state, 100% is not enough, as it only means you have the same number as last year. Even if every post in the state reaches the 100% we would not make the Department goal or have more members.

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It is a great privilege to serve as the Department of Maine’s 2nd Vice Commander for the next year. I am looking forward to working with the other Department, Area, District, and Post Commanders and Officers to continue the outstanding work accomplished this past year.

As always, membership is at the forefront of our organization. Members are what keep The American Legion going and moving forward. We should all be looking for new members and someone we can train to do the job that we may currently be doing at our posts. We need to find our replacements. Here are a few ideas that may be helpful in your recruiting efforts; (1) The door hangers are great. They can be designed with your Post’s information and if you see a car in your territory, hang it on the car door handle (Rachael at Headquarters has info on how to order these); (2) Keep an extra cloth grocery bag or backpack in your car with a supply of “Why You Should Belong”, “Troop Support”, “This is the American Legion”, “Post 9/11 Veterans”, “Action Programs of Americanism”, and some new member applications in it. You can download many items at https://www.legion.org/membership/tools and https://www.legion.org/publications or contact State Headquarters to see about ordering copies through National Headquarters; (3) Network with first responders, community organizations, and other veteran service organizations in an attempt to expand your membership; (4) Access MyLegion.org and print out a listing under “tools/members in my area” to see names of individuals who may want to join your Post, if asked; (5) Get your Post events publicized – send them to local newspapers. Turner Publishing has a great network of local newspapers throughout the State that are published monthly, too. You can send articles and pictures to them at articles@turnerpublishing.net. They are very supportive; and (6) Build and maintain a relationship with military installations. However you choose to recruit new members, please do not forget to maintain communication with anyone who may join your Post. You need to help to train them, encourage them, and foster their involvement with the American Legion.

In reference to number (5) listed above, I have had the honor of working with the Maine National Guard this past year on several pre-deployment events. The American Legion is welcome to participate in the “Yellow Ribbon” events that the Maine National Guard holds throughout the year. There will be a Yellow Ribbon event on Aug. 25 in Bangor and I have reserved a table for The American Legion, Department of Maine. I have sent this information out to all American Legion Department of Maine Post Commanders and District Commanders. I will not be able to attend because I will be in Minneapolis at the National Convention, but I am hopeful that there will be some Legionnaires who will be able to be there and distribute information on our great organization to these young men and women. There will be service men and women from all over the State of Maine at this event.

We all just have to do our best to let people know who we are and to “ask” others to join.

I also want to thank all the Districts and Posts for their outstanding efforts on the Americanism front this past year. You have all done a great job. One example is the increased numbers at Boys State from 2017 to 2018. The numbers increased by approximately 20% from 2017 to 2018. We have a wonderful summer, stay cool and keep hydrated. I hope to see you at the Fall Conference at Post 20 in Brunswick in September.

Respectfully,
2nd Vice Commander, Debra Couture

Educator Of The Year: Americanism Officer and recently elected 2nd Vice Commander Shubeka Couture presents Eric Sherman of Greenville the Department of Maine’s Educator of the Year award during the Annual State Convention in Bangor on June 16.

Money Matters

As I approach my sixth and final year as the Department of Maine Finance Officer (DFO) three things come to my mind.

First, how lucky I have been to have met and worked with such great people. How lucky to be a part of such an excellent administration over these years. We’ve had strong leadership and firm support. So much can be accomplished when everyone pulls together and in the same direction.

Secondly, today we are a far different organization than we were six years ago. Our membership is dwindling (mostly due to deaths) our assets have grown, fundraising has become more important to us as our dues income continues to decrease, all of our programs are doing fine and expanding.

The need for strong ethical leadership has never been greater.

Third, just as I had hoped to make The American Legion family work as a family again, I now wish to help find those new leaders who will make us better in our future. I can still remember how quickly the Veterans were forgotten once the Vietnam War was over. Once leaders are identified, they need help. Mentors will be as valuable tomorrow as they have been in the past. John Hargraves, Ron Cropley, Jerry Parker to name a few who have been a godsend to me over these years. Their experience, expertise, and wisdom have pulled me out of a tight space more than once, and of course, there was always “Chick.” “Mona, Tom and Ron Sailor” in the background propping me up. Life in any job position is so much easier when you come to realize that no one is expecting you to do it all alone.

But, now I quickly turn my thoughts to what concerns me presently—my replacement. The Department of Maine Finance Officer position today is very much different than what it was just six years ago. How so, you ask. In reply I list the following:

We have a capital structure today that did not exist six years ago, buildings, parking lots, lawns, a soon to be Veterans Monument, convention / training facility, storage facility, and museum.

We receive rent today instead of pay rent.

The DFO is responsible for overseeing the budgets and finances of not only the American Legion but to some degree those of SAL, the Legion Riders at the Department level and soon the operations of The American Legion Foundation.

Our reporting to Federal, State and National Legion Departments has dramatically increased. Assistance to the Districts and Posts in their reporting takes up a great deal of time.

Our need to gain new funding and administer current fundraising programs continues to build. The administration of our new Legion Foundation will soon begin to take up time.

Budgeting and funding for our exist-
The Adjutant Speaks

As we started the State Convention on Friday June, 15th we could see that attendance was going to be good. We had made the adjustments needed to streamline the schedule to accommodate for the parade on Saturday, and I had my fingers crossed for good weather. The Department Officers were working together to make sure this Convention was a success and the attitude of those attending was great.

Friday went very well, and we then rolled into Saturday with things on schedule when it was time to load the buses for the parade. So much pressure for Department to make something happen that had not happened in years. Yes, there were some issues, and we apologize for them, but what really happened as I stood there along with The Department Auxiliary Secretary, Michelle McRae was there were only a handful of people at the Convention Center that did not march in the parade. We both observed people lining up to load the buses.

I walked over to a group and met Legionnaire Ralph T. Bonville from Falmouth Post-164 all dressed up in his uniform anxious to be in the parade. (Ralph was born 2 months before the Legion was formed.) It was then, I realized that many Veterans in attendance had waited for this event along with Auxiliary, Sons and Legion Riders as well. Whether it was Post-30 from Camden, a float from Post-155 in Naples or a determined group from Sabattus Post-135, everyone was having a good time.

When the groups started to return, the comments from Michelle & I received were very positive and the smiles were from ear to ear. As one Legion member said “all you could see is flags coming down the road.” Thank you to all that attended with positive attitudes, and a special Thank You to Legionnaire Doug Damon from the Bangor Post-12 for keeping us on track.

Making History Again
As we enter the next 100 years, one of the primary focus is going to be training. Yes membership is #1, but what we have seen in the last 5 years is the desire to learn. It all started when our Past Service Officer, Amedeo Lauria started the Post Service Officer Classes at HQ and those classes are still available today. Then we started the Legion College Classes. We started with 11 in the first class of 2018 and the current class is on target to graduate at least 23. The comments coming from those attendees have been very positive. Thank you to our Training Team consisting of First Vice Commander, Matt Jabaut, Judge Advocate, Jason Hall and the newest Instructor, Dept. Sgt. at Arms Kelly Ela.

Under the team concept they have now put the Department of Maine on the map nationwide. Our National organization sent a reporter and a photographer up to HQ on July 21st & 22nd to do another story about The Department of Maine; this time about our training. We have since learned that our National Organization uses Maine as an example on how to make a difference for future Legionnaires. Do we see this as making a difference for the future? Yes, and it is already happening with some who have already graduated from the previous class and even from those currently attending the new modules. We are on track to start other types of training in the near future and look forward to helping those who want to make a difference in our Organization.

As we move forward to these new challenges, we know that there are many more of you that could make a difference for future Veterans. Hope to see you in any of our training classes. Remember to move forward and stay FOCUSED at all times.

100% Membership Award: Department Commander Scott Paradis, left, and Department Adjutant Paul L’Heureux, right, present 100% Membership Award to SAL Post 75 Adjutant Hosea Whitmore at a special officers meeting held at Old Town Post 75 on June 28.

Celebrating 100 Years And More!: Falmouth Post 164 Past Commander Ralph T. Bonville who is 2 months older than The American Legion receives a push by Falmouth Post 164 Commander Al- ven Mazerolle in The American Legion State Convention parade held June 16 to kick off the 100th Anniversary celebration of The American Legion.

Americanism Report

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to serve as the Department of Maine Americanism Officer. As the year begins, it is time to begin promoting the many areas within The American Legion. The American Legion Baseball, Boy Scouts, Junior Shooting, Boys State/Boys Nation, and the High School Oratorical Scholarship Program. I will support as many of these programs as possible with your assistance. My focus will be the Oratorical and Boys State Programs, with Flag Etiquette, Scouting, and getting Veterans back into schools for various programs and presentation of awards. As I am still learning the job, I will be visiting as many Posts as possible in the coming year.

With your help, I hope to make the Legion a little better.

Americanism Officer Alfred McKay
Department of Maine

“Money Matters” (Continued from Page 3)

The new proximity of SAL and the ALA places new demands on the DFO by while co-developing joint activities in the future.

Maintenance, insurance issues, Membership Outreach, Federal and State tax issues, payroll, budgets and interdepartmental issues are all things that currently and for the future take up the DFO's time.

The new DFO needs experience in Budgeting, Finance, Payroll, Fundraising and just a host of other skills. The new DFO will require excellent communications skills and flexibility.

If you are reading this article and believe you want a role in the big picture decision making that comes with this DFO position, then please contact either the Department Adjutant or Department Finance Officer for further information at 207-873-3229.
Fall Conference
September 21-23, 2018

Fall Conference will be held Sept. 21-23, 2018. The Legion Family will hold their conferences at different locations (please see below).

Bank Post 21 will be where the entire Legion Family will gather Friday, Sept. 21 for evening entertainment and POW/MIA Recognition Ceremony and Saturday, Sept. 22, for a Legion Family Barbecue at 5:00 p.m. and a Troop Support USO Talent Show at 6:00 p.m.

Legion Conference will be held at Brunswick Post 20, 1 Columbus Drive, Brunswick, Maine 04011.

Legion Fall Conference Agenda
Saturday, Sept. 22
9:00 a.m. Opening Introductions
9:15 a.m. Presentations by PDC Herman Wright, “Service Dogs”
12-1:00 p.m. Lunch
1-4:00 p.m. Breakout Sessions & Group Discussions

LEGION Lunch Saturday will be at Brunswick Post 20 at noon. Chop Suey with roll, coleslaw, small bag chips, fruit cup and beverages (water or soft drinks). $10 per meal (pay at the door). Coffee and donuts will be provided in the morning; donations welcome. Water and soft drinks will be available throughout the day for $1 per.

Sunday, Sept. 23
9:00 a.m. – Legion DEC Meeting— Bath Post 21
Auxiliary Conference will be held at Bath Post 21, 200 Congress Ave., Bath, Maine 04530
Saturday, Sept. 22
8:30 a.m. Auxiliary Registration, $5.00 per person
9:00 a.m. Auxiliary Conference Opens

Sunday, Sept. 23
9:00 a.m. Auxiliary DEC meeting, Bath Post 21. Dress is Auxiliary Branded.

Sons of The American Legion will be held at Topsham Post 202, 379 Foreside Rd., Topsham, Maine 04086.
9:00 a.m. SAL Conference Opens

1st Vice

(Continued from Page 2)

than we did last year. It would actually mean less members than we ended with last year based on how the dates are set.

For this reason, we are changing how we incentivize membership in the Dept. Department awards will be based on a “Goal to Grow”. These goals will be set for each post and district and shared at Fall Conference along with the rewards program for achievement of the goals.

The Department and our Membership Committee is here to help! We will work with you and provide support in achieving these goals. There are lots of tools and resources that we can share and provide to make your membership year a success. I would like to ask that we all spend the next couple months focusing on retention. This is the foundation of meeting our goals. Let’s focus on getting our current members to renew with the same effort that we go out and recruit new members, meaning events, calls and visits to keep our current members engaged and show them the value of their membership. Our Goal should be to get to at least 80% by December, mostly through renewals and retention. From there, we can shift our focus on recruitment to help us grow. We need the strong base of renewals to add recruitment to in order to be successful.

Please let us know how we can help support you as our mission as a Department should be to support and enable our posts and districts to be successful. We are here to support you!

Legislator Of The Year: Representative Owen Casas, left, was recently presented with The American Legion 2017 Legislator of the Year Award for his dedication to Veteran’s issues at the state level. Casas, who is a member of War Memorial Post 30 in Camden, currently serves on the Maine Legislatures Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee. He served 4.5 years of active duty in the U.S. Marines and deployed to Fallujah, Iraq in 2006. The award was presented on behalf of the Department of Maine by 1st Vice Commander Matthew Jabaut, right, at Camden Post 30 June meeting.

Origination of the VA Hospitals

In March of 1865, with victory in the Civil War near, President Abraham Lincoln performed one of the last acts of a remarkable life defined by compassion. The patriots who saved our nation would not be forgotten; instead, they would find care and healing through a national network of soldiers homes, which became the template for succeeding generations of our VA hospitals.

As more than 80,000 of those Civil War patriots were from Maine, it was fitting that the very first of those homes opened its doors in November of 1866 at Togus. Two years ago, I took part in a wonderful ceremony commemorating the 150th anniversary of this great achievement.

On Aug. 8, I took part in another wonderful ceremony at Togus—the groundbreaking for a new Fisher House that will provide 16 suites, free of charge, to the families of veterans receiving care at Togus. Maine’s Fisher House will provide a hospitable “home away from home,” allowing family members to be close to their loved ones at a stressful time, which greatly aids the healing process.

Just as Togus stands as testament of a grateful nation, this new Fisher House will stand as testament of the gratitude individual citizens have for the men and women who defend our freedom. Zachary and Elizabeth Fisher of New York City were such citizens, and the patriotic initiative they began in 1990 has brought comfort to more than 335,000 veterans and their families in 76 Fisher Houses here in America and overseas. In addition to the Fisher House program, the Zachary and Elizabeth M. Fisher Armed Services Foundation provides financial support to military families who have lost loved ones under tragic circumstances, as well as scholarship funds to active and former service members and their families.

More than 127,000 Mainers proudly wear the title of veteran, one of the highest per capita percentages in the country. We are proud of our State’s service. Like the Fishers, the people of Maine demonstrate their respect for our veterans, those who serve today, and their families in many meaningful ways. The American Legion, Legion Auxiliary, the Maine Troop Greeters, the volunteers from Honor Flight, and many other individuals and organizations are proof that the people of our great State honor the courage and sacrifices of those who serve, not just with words, but also with actions.

More than a century and a half ago, Maine led the way in caring for our veterans and continues to do so. Last year marked the 30th anniversary of our nation’s first Community-Based Outpatient Clinic in Caribou, and that pioneering effort led the way for America’s 3.5 million rural veterans who now receive care close to home at more than 800 CBOCs throughout the country. As a pilot site for the highly successful ARCH program, Maine is helping more veterans receive the care they need. In 2014, we celebrated the opening of the Women’s Clinic at Togus. As our population of veterans has grown, aged, and diversified, so too has Togus adapted to these changes.

The dangers faced by our men and women in uniform grow ever more complex. I have been especially concerned about the growing incidence of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and other mental health issues among our troops. As a member of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee responsible for funding the Department of Veterans Affairs, I have worked to increase funding for the VA’s mental health services.

Family members who serve as military caregivers are America’s heroes in civilian clothes. The bipartisan RAISE Family Caregivers Act I authored that became law earlier this year will strengthen services and support for these dedicated, loving individuals who provide essential care for their family members, including veterans. I was also delighted that the significant VA reform legislation that became law in June included provisions I championed that will expand caregiver benefits to veterans of all generations, not just veterans who served after 9/11.

When the men and women of our armed forces return home, we have an obligation to welcome them all the way home. Our debt to them can never be fully repaid, but the new Fisher House at Togus is a powerful reminder of our commitment, as a nation and as individual citizens, to do all that we can.
President’s Message

I look forward to working with our American Legion Department Commander Scott Paradis, and Sons of The American Legion Commander Scott Morton this year, as well as our entire Legion Family. I am so excited with our Membership Theme this year- Honoring our Military and Focusing on our Female Veterans.

I am honored to represent Mary Edwards Walker, the first and only female Medal of Honor recipient, who served during the American Civil War and was the first female U.S. Army surgeon.

This year, as we honor our female veterans and our military, I am pleased to announce our American Legion Family Project for 2018-2019! Helping our VA Hospital at Togus.

Our VA Hospital at Togus is very dear to me. The first time I ever saw Togus I was around 6 or 8 years old. My grandfather, who was a WWI Veteran, was a patient there. I, along with my sisters, went to visit him with our mom. I recall not being allowed to go inside the hospital and so sat outside on a park bench while my mom visited him. I also had an uncle who served in WWII and the Korean War who continuously received help from Togus. I remember my mom telling my younger self that it was because he had a hard time with the war and the hospital was helping him. Looking back, needless to say, they suffered from what we now call PTSD. As time went by, I again visited Togus. This time for my father-in-law after the local hospital couldn’t meet his needs and, with the persistence of my husband and the Service Officer, we were able to transfer him to Togus. Togus was much better for him taking care of his needs and being exactly what everyone needed. Unfortunately, he passed away a week later, but we were grateful for the time Togus did give us.

We are so fortunate to have one of the best VA Hospitals in the country, and what better way to pay homage to it, by giving back. When I spoke with Volunteer Services Director Jonathan Barczyk and asked what was needed, he told me about “The Red Coat Ambassadors”, who are the volunteers who greet the Veterans at the Outpatient Unit, sometimes have to wheel patients to different parts of the hospital, either for blood work or x-rays, and the wheelchairs they have are old and heavy and often have a hard time. So, he introduced me to the Stryker Transport Chair. When it comes to patient experience, details matter. The Stryker TC is designed to create a comfortable, welcoming and safe environment that speaks volumes to caregivers, patients and their family members. The investment in the well-being of patients and caregivers tells them you care about their comfort and safety-it tells them that they matter.

The American Legion Family goal is to raise enough money to buy at least 4 Stryker Transport Chairs for a total of $12,000. As a Legion Family, we should be able to do this to help our Veterans and volunteers. Please mail your donation to The American Legion, Department of Maine, earmarked, “Family Project”, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, Maine 04901.

Thank you for all you do for our Veterans, our military, our children and youth, and our community. Remember “WE DARE TO CARE” because our Veterans matter.

The American Legion Family Department of Maine
Helping Togus VA Hospital & Maine Veterans

We are pleased to announce our American Legion Family Project for 2018-2019 for Legion Commander Scott Paradis, Auxiliary President Joan Caron, and SAL Commander Scott Morton! Helping our VA Hospital at Togus and Maine Veterans.

We are so fortunate to have one of the best VA Hospitals in the country, and what better way to pay homage to it, by giving back. Chief, Volunteer Services Director Jonathan Barczyk told us about “The Red Coat Ambassadors”, who are the volunteers who greet the Veterans at the Outpatient Unit. These volunteers have to wheel patients to different parts of the hospital, either for blood work or x-rays, and the wheelchairs they have are old and heavy and often have a hard time. So, he introduced us to the Stryker Transport Chair. When it comes to patient experience, details matter. The Stryker TC is designed to create a comfortable, welcoming and safe environment that speaks volumes to caregivers, patients and their family members. The investment in the well-being of patients and caregivers tells them you care about their comfort and safety-it tells them that they matter.

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Thank you for all you do for our Veterans, our military, our children and youth, and our community. Remember “WE DARE TO CARE” because our Veterans matter.

SAL Detachment Commander Installation Ceremony: SAL Lead Candidate for NVCE-East Mike Cotton, right, performs the Installation Ceremony for the newly elected 2018-19 SAL Detachment Commander Scott Morton, left, while Department Commander Scott Paradis, center, looks on.

Auxiliary President Installation Ceremony: Joan Caron, right, receives a beautiful bouquet of flowers from PDP Jeri Greenwell, left, during the Legion Family Installation Ceremony held at the Spectacular Event Center on June 16. Joan was installed as the Auxiliary Department President 2018-19.

2018-19 Auxiliary Officers: Front row, left to right: 7th DDVP Joyce Michaud, 1st DDVP Marian Merrill, Installing Sergeant-at-Arms Jen Caron, newly elected Department President Joan Caron, Installing Chaplain, junior member Evelyn Caron, Officer Jeri Greenwell, and Department Secretary Michelle McRae. Back row, left to right, NECA Ann Durost, 2nd DDVP Linda Jack, Department Chaplain Tina Farley, 3rd DDVP Diane Munsey, Department Historian Stephanie Wilson, Department Treasurer Nancy True, Department Sergeant-at-Arms Veronica Gurney, Department Vice President Ginny Chaput, 6th DDVP Barbara Ramsdell and 4th DDVP Michelle Colby.
Service Office Update

Good morning! As we enter the dog days of summer, please keep in mind that the older or more seasoned veterans in our ranks have a very hard time this time of year. I call on all legionnaires to take the time to check on them. The VA is changing it seems daily; the Compensation and Pension exam department has fully moved to the third floor of 205. It looks like they will be staying there for the long term. The primary care has all moved to building 205 as well on the 2nd floor. So, if you have a doctor’s appointment, please give yourself a little extra time. Parking is still problematic but they have been using shuttles from the parking lot by building 200.

We all by now should know that the appeals process is going to change in February of 2019. Until then, the old appeal process is still in effect. That is why I have the appeal time line still in the article. The Rapid Appeals Modernization Program (RAMP) continues; it is another option for veterans to have their appeal decided. It’s a preview of what the appeals process will be like after February. It has changed a little in its development. When it first started, a veteran had to be asked to participate, and opt-in letters were sent out. The VA has sent out four different groups over the last five months. A message came out two weeks ago that opened up the RAMP program to all veterans. So now a veteran can ask to be part of the new appeals process. The veteran can choose one of two lanes. The first is the supplemental claim review lane, and the second is the higher level review lane. They have small differences, but the bottom line is that the standard is that the appeal will be decided within 125 days. I would ask that the veteran calls the office before he or she decides to opt-in. This way we can discuss the differences and decide if this program is the best for the veteran.

**PLEASE READ AND RESPOND TO YOUR MAIL FROM THE VA!**

**APPEALS OF CLAIMS.** Appeals have very strict time lines. See the attached chart! These dates are chiseled in STONE. Do not lose benefits by waiting too long to appeal the denial of your claim; if warranted.

12 months from notification letter, to file a Notice of Disagreement.

60 days from Statement of Case to file an appeal to the BVA.

30 days from Supplemental Statement of Case to file an appeal to the BVA.

120 days from the mailing date of an Board of Veterans Appeals Decision to file to progress to the US Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.

**Contacting the DSO for Assistance by Telephone.** Please just leave your name, phone number, and who you are working with.

**Financial Assistance.** Keep in mind that requests for financial needs should be directed to your town/city for general assistance (GA), and either a local Legion post for a possible fundraiser or the American Legion Department Headquarters. In addition, we can make referrals to other service organizations. But we do not have the funds to pay rent, mortgage, credit card bills or other ongoing bills. If you have children, mention TFA to the Department Adjutant when you call to see if you are eligible to apply.

**PSO Training Seminar.** The Post Service Officer Training has taken a month off because most have vacations and other activities that the summer offers. For that reason, you have not seen my emails about classes. Well as the summer winds down we are going to pick up again. I will send out my Post Service Officer Newsletter the week of the 15th with the next class. carl.curtis2@va.gov

You do not have to be a post service officer to attend training. You just have to care and want to make a difference.

**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 carl.curtis2@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.

**INTENT TO FILE.** Some veterans are not ready to file a claim or are looking for additional information. In that case you can execute an Intent to File with our office. That is NOT a claim for benefits. You have 1 year to file your claim; one year period! Failure to file in one year starts the clock on your claim from the day you file. DO NOT FORGET TO FOLLOW UP AND FILE YOUR CLAIM!

**NEW AND MATERIAL EVIDENCE.** VA claims that are denied and have not been appealed within the appropriate time frame require “New and Material Evidence” to be reopened. It is sometimes futile and frustrating to the veteran to keep resubmitting the same claim as it will most likely be denied.

**NEW WAYS TO APPLY FOR VA HEALTHCARE.**

Sign up for VA Healthcare. Sign-up for VA Healthcare can now be done three ways! The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced today it has eliminated paper signature requirements for Veterans wishing to enroll in VA health care. Effective immediately, VA has amended its enrollment regulations to allow Veterans to complete enrollment applications for enrollment in VA health care by telephone without the need for a paper signature.

By adding this telephone application option to VA’s regulations with this amendment, VA will now offer three ways to enroll. This option provides Veterans a convenient third enrollment option.

Paper - VA Form 10-10 EZ.
Call 1-877-222-VETS (8387), Mon-Fri between 8 am and 8 pm, EST.
On-Line at www.vets.gov!

**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.vg.gov.

**PLEASE USE THE DSO TO TRANSMIT YOUR CLAIMS/EVIDENCE TO THE VA; THIS ENTERS A PAPER TRAIL AND EVIDENCE IT WAS SUBMITTED!** You can either mail it or drop it off in the office.

**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 carl.curtis2@va.gov

More SERVICE OFFICE UPDATE, Page 8
**2018 State Convention Awards**  
**Bangor, Maine June 15-17, 2018**

Convention Awards 2018

- Daniel E. Lambert Scholarship - $1000 scholarship to Jonath D. Sautter, Lisbon Falls, and Kaila A. Roy, Hamin
- James V. Day Scholarship - $500 scholarship to Anthony Sousa, Augusta, and Ashton Heald, Madison
- Humanitarian of the Year Award to Legionario Dale Midgley, Kennebunk
- Humanitarian Citizen Award to Susan Hornbeck, York Beach
- Educator of the Year Award to Eric Sherman, Greenville Consolidated School
- Law Enforcement Officer of the Year to Officer Jerry R. Locke, South Berwick
- Firefighter of the Year Award to Chief Dana R. Hatton, Charlotte Volunteer Fire Dept.
- EMT/Paramedic of the Year Award to Gary L. Bennett, Naples
- Legislator of the Year Award to Jan C. Gaudio, Spruce Head

Post Adjutant of the Year Award to David R. Tanguay, Field-Allen Post 148, Windham
- Outstanding District Commander, Roger’s Rangers to William J. Cossette, Wiscasset
- Outstanding Post Commander, Tony’s Tigers to Joseph T. Donahue, Brunswick
- Americanism Award to Linda Ouellette and Katelyn “Kit-Kat” Carlow
- Post Americanism Award to Benjamin Berry Post 50, Unity and Field-Allen Post 148, Windham
- First Place Post History Book to Robert K. Place, Charles S. Hatch Post 79, Berwick
- Second Place Post History Book to Norman D Carver Jr, Camden War Memorial Post 30, Camden
- Honorable Mention for Post History Book to Brian Gavang, Coombs-Mountfort Post 158, Lisbon
- First Place Post History Scrapbook to David R. Tanguay, Field Allen Post 148, Windham
- First Place Post Newsletter to Field-Allen Post 148, Windham
- Honorable Mention for Post Newsletter – Extra Large Member Category to Winslow-Holbrook-Merritt Post 1, Rockland
- Honorable Mention for Post Newsletter – Large Member Category to Tardiff-Belanger Post 39, Madison
- Honorable Mention for Post Newsletter – Medium Member Category to War Memorial Post 30, Camden
- Honorable Mention for Post Newsletter – Small Member Category to Kinney-Melquist Post 34, St. George
- Fourth Estate Media Award (Newspaper) to Charles Crosby & Keith Spiro, The Cryer
- Fourth Estate Media Award (Magazine) to John Swinconee & Darcy Moore, Brunswick Times Record
- First Place Post History Award (Magazine) to David S. Neally, Maine Seniors Magazine
- Recruiter of the Year to David R. Tanguay, Field-Allen Post 148, Windham
- Post Service Officer of the Year to Tony's Tigers
- Appreciation Award to Rachael Currie, Office Manager, The American Legion, Department of Marine

100% Post Membership by Dec. 31, 2017
- First District: Kennebunkport Memorial Post 159, Kennebunkport
- Second District: Randall and Mac Vane Post 142, Peaks Island
- Field-Allen Post 148, Windham
- Fifth District: Frank W. Shaw Post 137, Fryeburg
- Sixth District: War Memorial Post 30, Camden
- Baird, Calderwood, Morrison, Parsons Post 33, North Haven
- Eight District: Phippsburg Memorial Post 216, Phippsburg
- Eleventh District: Benjamin Berry Post 50, Unity
- Grant-Staples Post 183, Brooks
- Fourteenth District: Towne-Holbrook Post 116, Monson
- Stott-Flanders Post 165, Sangerville
- Sixteenth District: Frank B. Holden Post 52, Oakfield
- Seventeenth District: Grass-Goding Post 208, Masardis

**Service Office Update**  
*(Continued from Page 8)*

carl.curtis2@va.gov, maureen.malley@va.gov, or julie.kern@va.gov. We are here to assist you Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, on Friday the hours are from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. We are 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 would hate to miss you. That said, you are always welcome to stop in the DSO Office.

**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 set aside at least 30 minutes of your agenda for the presentation.

**2018 Resolutions Action**  
**Taken at State Convention**

**Resolution 1** Organizational Structure—WITHDRAWN BY TASK FORCE FOR THE FUTURE

- Transfer of Post, District Property—Resolution Committee votes ought to pass with the following amendments:
  - Remove subordinate thereto
    1. Remove the Post Commander and replace with DEC in all appropriate places.
    2. Change (10) days and replace with (30) days.

**Resolution 2** Holding more than One National and/or Department Office at One Time – Resolution Committee votes ought to pass as written. MOTION PASSED

- Organizational Structure—WITHDRAWN BY TASK FORCE FOR THE FUTURE

The American Legion, Department of Maine Resolutions Vote—Convention Floor, June 16, 2018

**Resolution 3** Holding more than One National and/or Department Office at One Time – Resolution Committee votes ought to pass as written. MOTION PASSED

- Organizational Structure—WITHDRAWN BY TASK FORCE FOR THE FUTURE

**Resolution 4** Organizational Structure—WITHDRAWN BY TASK FORCE FOR THE FUTURE

- Organizational Structure—WITHDRAWN BY TASK FORCE FOR THE FUTURE

**Resolution 5** Organizational Structure—WITHDRAWN BY TASK FORCE FOR THE FUTURE
American 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. For more information, please visit https://www.legion.org/benefits/medical/cvs-caremark or call (888) 414-3141.

VETERAN OF THE MONTH—June
Sharon Jean Clark
So. Paris Veterans Home

Sharon was born on May 29, 1936 in Erwin, West Virginia and grew up in Kingwood, West Virginia, where she graduated from Kingwood High School.

In November 1954, Sharon enlisted into the United States Air Force and was stationed at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas and Otis Air Force Base in Massachusetts. She worked as a clerk for the 564th Air Defense Group (ADG) and earned the National Defense service medal. She was discharged on May 7, 1955.

Sharon met and married Sgt. Hobart E. Rogers while in the Air Force and divorced in 1957. She remarried in 1959 to Donald A. Clark (Army). Sharon has two daughters, Debra Denise Harmon and Paula Dawn Hughes, three grandsons and two great grandsons.

After the service, Sharon worked in a flower shop in Portland, Maine doing clerical/bookkeeping duties. She then worked for Keyser Elementary in Keyser, West Virginia for approximately 20 years. Sharon enrolled and graduated from Pierre’s Beauty school in 1993 at 57 years old. She owned and operated her own salon in Ft. Fairfield, Maine.

Sharon has a smile on her face whenever someone mentions her lifelong friend Christine Copen from Kingwood, West Virginia.

Sharon came to the Maine Veterans’ Home in August 2016. She enjoys church services, music, activities, the kindness of the staff, her meals & ice cream!! Thank You Sharon for your service!

VETERAN OF THE MONTH—July
Donald C. Austin
So. Paris Veterans Home

Donald C. Austin, Army—1945-1947

Donald was born on Sept. 9, 1927 and grew up in North Norway with 8 siblings. He got drafted into the Army on Nov. 14, 1945 and was stationed in Fort Bragg North Carolina where he worked as a mail carrier. Donald earned the WWII Victory Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Rifleman Medal and the Army of Occ. Medal (Japan). He was discharged on Feb. 18, 1947. While he was in the service, he got to meet General Douglas MacArthur.

After the service, Donald worked at Wilner Wood Products. He then took a position through the Norway Highway Department and worked there for 37 years before retiring. Donald was married for 63 years. He has one daughter and four grandchildren. He came to the Maine Veterans’ Home in December 2017 and enjoys doing crafts, physical therapy and visiting with his roommates.

Donald enjoys visiting with old friends and new ones, and loves getting wonderful care from the staff.

Thank You Donald for your service!
**2018 American Legion Baseball State Tournament Results**

**Senior Legion State Tournament Scores:**

- Game 1 – Coastal Landscape 12 Quirk Motor City 5
- Game 2 – Pastime 1 Hampden 0
- Game 3 – Bessey Motors 1 Yankee Ford 0
- Game 4 – Bangor Coffee News 7 Augusta 2
- Game 5 – Hampden 4 Quirk Motor City 3
- Game 6 – Yankee Ford 10 Augusta 2
- Game 7 – Coastal Landscape 8 Pastime 3
- Game 8 – Bangor Coffee News 5 Bessey Motors 0
- Game 9 – Yankee Ford 7 Pastime 5
- Game 10 – Bessey Motors 7 Hampden 6
- Game 11 – Coastal Landscape 5 Bangor Coffee News 3 (10 innings)
- Game 12 – Bangor Coffee News 3 Yankee Ford 2
- Game 13 – Bessey Motors 3 Coastal Landscape 1
- Game 14 – Bessey Motors 1 Bangor Coffee News 0

Championship Game – Coastal Landscape 4 Bessey Motors 3

**Junior Legion State Tournament Results:**

- Game 1 – Yarmouth-S3 7 Fairfield-N2 4
- Game 2 – Hampden-N1 8 Topsham-S4 2
- Game 3 – Auburn-S2 9 Bangor-N3 5
- Game 4 – Messalonskee-N4 10 Thirsty Turf-S1 9
- Game 5 – Thirsty Turf 5 Bangor 4
- Game 6 – Fairlief 8 Topsham 5
- Game 7 – Hampden 19 Yarmouth 0
- Game 8 – Messalonskee 9 Aubur 6
- Game 9 – Fairlief 7 Yarmouth 0
- Game 10 – Thirsty Turf 7 Auburn 2
- Game 11 – Hampden 9 Messalonskee 1
- Game 12 – Messalonskee 6 Fairfield 0
- Game 13 – Hampden 7 Thirsty Turf 2
- Game 14 – Hampden 6 Messalonskee 5

**American Legion Baseball Well Represented:** The American Legion, Dept. of Maine Baseball Director David Gray, left, Past Dept. Commander and recently elected NECA Randall Kluj, center, and Dept. of Maine Field Director Dennis Damon, right, attend The American Legion, Dept. of Maine State Championship games held at Husson University in Bangor on July 29.

**A Day Well Spent Watching Legion Baseball:** American Legion, Dept. of Maine Baseball Director David Gray, Past Dept. Commander Peter Johnson, Zone 1 Commissioner David Paul, and Field Director Dennis Damon, left to right, enjoy the day cheering on Maine American Legion Baseball players during the championship game held Aug. 1 at Husson University.

**Giant Flags Pay Off**

Ever see a business flying a large American flag? Giant flags are very expensive. Even one of these flags can give your Post a big financial boost through Flag Rewards. Consider approaching these businesses and ask them to support your Post.

**Over $700 earned:**
1. Ankeny, IA Post 42
2. Bay City, MI Post 18

**Over $600 earned:**
3. Newburgh, IN Post 44
4. Locust Valley, NY Post 982
5. Hiawatha, KS Post 66
6. Horseheads, NY Post 442
7. Salt Lake City, UT Post 112
8. Lily Dale, NY Post 1280
9. Jonesville, MI Post 195

**Over $500 earned:**
10. Watertown, WI Post 189
11. Ludlow, VT Post 36
12. Bellows Falls, VT Post 37
13. Wolverine, MI Post 122
14. Pinckneyville, IL Post 2504
15. Bismarck, ND Post 1
16. Warsaw, NY Post 532
17. Glidden, IA Post 386
18. Farwell, MI Post 598

**Over $400 earned:**
19. Urbana, IL Post 71
20. American Legion Flag & Emblem

**Support your local veterans as they serve your community!**
Your Flag purchase gives direct financial support to your local American Legion Post #

**Order your Flag today!**
- **By Phone:** Toll-Free 1-888-453-4466
  (specify the Post # you wish to sponsor)
- **By Web Site:** AmericanLegionFlags.com
  (specify the Post # you wish to sponsor)
- **By Fax:** 1-317-630-1381
  (specify the Post # you wish to sponsor)
- **By Mail:** American Legion Flag & Emblem
  P.O. Box 36460
  Indianapolis, IN 46236-0460
  (specify the Post # you wish to sponsor)

**Make Your Next Flag Purchase Count!**
Buy from The American Legion
- 100% Made in the USA
- Top-Quality construction Government standards
- Low Prices

**Success Stories**
Congratulations! The following Posts below have earned big credit in 2018 to spend at Emblem Sales in 2019:

**Over $200 earned:**
1. Farwell, MI Post 558
2. Glidden, IA Post 386
3. Warsaw, NY Post 532
4. Bismarck, ND Post 1
5. Wolverine, MI Post 122
6. Michigan City, IN Post 112
7. Gardiner, ME Post 4
8. Newfane, NY Post 873
9. Powderly, KY Post 111
10. Watertown, WI Post 189
11. Ludlow, VT Post 36
12. Elmira, NY Post 2504
13. Cambridge, OH Post 311
14. Newton, IA Post 111
15. Gardiner, ME Post 4
17. Powderly, KY Post 111
18. Watertown, WI Post 189
19. Ludlow, VT Post 36
20. Elmira, NY Post 2504
21. Cambridge, OH Post 311
22. Newton, IA Post 111
23. By Mail: American Legion Flag & Emblem
  P.O. Box 36460
  Indianapolis, IN 46236-0460
  (specify the Post # you wish to sponsor)
American Legion 100th Centennial Celebration

Ideas and Information Resources

Send Us your History!

Write a post history (share with American Legion, Department of Maine and American Legion National HQ)

Where do I get the information?

Post locally.

Post members:

Ask Post members what they know of Post history and check it out.

Post Files:

Look in Post files for Post histories and pictures.

American Legion Department of Maine Records:

The American Legion, Department of Maine should have copies of your Post histories.

Newspaper microfiche from library:

Newspaper likely carries stories about the Post, (when it opened, Memorial Day celebrations, etc.)

Look up your Post name, significant dates, Post commanders, etc.

Local Historical Society, Museums:

Will likely have records and pictures of town celebrations, buildings, and prominent citizens.

Online sources:

www.legion.org/centennial:

Has advice on how to write your history, share it online and promote your public events. (Get the Centennial Celebration Workbook)

Ancestry or other family history sources. Take a temporary membership - use to research for post newspaper articles; Post members names.

Facebook; My space, etc.

By Donald G. Haeds
Dept. of Maine 100th Anniversary Chairman

POST HISTORY

Barrows-Skidgel Post 105, Newport

According to the 1936 Newport Annual Report, Article 57 asked for the town of Newport to deed the property acquired by the town to The American Legion Post 105 with the plan that “said deed shall contain the provision that the wharf and swimming beach shall be for the use of the public.”

Since then, the Barrows-Skidgel American Legion Post 105 has seen many changes, WWII and several other wars and conflicts, each just as devastating as the ones before them. The first name change came after WWII and the second after the Vietnam War to honor 2 of our own that went to war and didn’t return home. The Post has welcomed home many Veterans since, each with his and now her own story.

Other changes came in the form of remodeling inside and enclosing the two porches to add much needed space to the Post. The most recent remodel expanded the kitchen and completely modernizing the main hall, with a higher ceiling, new walls, flooring and lighting.

During all of this time American Legion Post 105 has been a center of the Community, for our Veterans and the townspeople. If you grew up in Newport, you probably have memories of attending Scouts, birthday parties, weddings, showers and all other types of celebrations in this building. You probably learned to swim at the swim park night on June 15.

We kicked off our summer fun in June with 5 musical events scheduled (so far) to take place in Veterans Memorial Park. These are all free to the public so bring your blankets and chairs and spend the afternoon. The kitchen will be open at the Legion for all of our events so you can grab a snack and enjoy our peaceful piece of the Sebascoo Valley. We had our first outdoor family-friendly movie, free to the public, in the park on June 15.

Every Monday morning from 7 - 11, the post is open with coffee and homemade muffins for $1. Come read the paper, play cribbage or just chat with friends.

All scheduled events and updates will be posted on the Barrows-Skidgel American Legion Post 105 Facebook page, The Rolling Thunder, and the sign in front of the Legion. If you would like to sponsor one of these events please call, text, or email Kim Lander at 207-341-0787/ klander1@roadrunner.com.

During this time, the membership of the Post has ebbed and flowed, Veterans and families have come and gone along with the importance of the building with the townspeople.

So it’s time to start a new chapter at the Barrows-Skidgel American Legion. To begin this new start, on Memorial Day, a ceremony to dedicate the park behind the post in memory of all who served was held after the Memorial Day parade. It is called the Veterans Memorial Park. The stone dedicating the park was donated by Newport Monuments and rests on the dam side of the post. The swim front remains there for the next generations to swim, to fish from the shore, come for a quick picnic lunch and enjoy the outdoors.

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Bits ’N Pieces —

Camen Post 30

Camen Post 30 was presented with the 100% Membership award. Thanks goes to every member of Post 30 for paying their dues by December 31

Historian Norman Carver again was honored with the Department 2nd place award for History Scrapbook. Also, Post 30 received the Post Excellence Award.

Madison Post 39

Madison Unit 39 for their donations of $25 to St. Judes Children’s hospital in memory of Alta Vicniere, $50 to help mailing boxes to deployed military for the Comcast project, $50 to VAVS for comfort items, $25 to Camp Tall Pines, $50 to Madj/Cancer team.

Since last report, Maxine Dube and her helpers, Marie Wing and Barbara Wyman, have mailed out $30,571.78 worth of coupons.

ALR Chapter 39 donated $150 to Angel Flight, $100 to American Legion Caring Tree Program, $250 for Somerset Special Olympics and $160 to Dirigo Girls State.

Windham Post 148

Kudos to Windham Post 148 for receiving the Americanism Award. This is the 3rd consecutive Americanism Award for the post.

Post 148 Service Officer Henry “Chuck” Whynot received the Department of Maine, Service Officer of the Year award. This is Chuck’s 2nd Service Officer Award in the last three years. He was honored for his continued support of the Homeless Vet Food Pantry in Portland.

Congratulations to the post on receiving the Post Excellence Award, 1st place for Post History, 1st place for Post Newsletter, 100% Membership award, Americanism award, National Commander’s award for post’s all-time high in membership as well as nine consecutive years of all-time highs in membership.

Dave Tanguay was honored with the Adjutant of the Year and Recruiter of the Year awards.

Unit 148 received several awards, including National Recognition as the best example of the use of the 9/11 grant funds they received with their Naturalization program last fall.

Individual Recruiter awards went to Commander Mel Greener, David Watts and First Vice Commander Rebecca Cummings. Newsletter 1st place to Editor Dave Tanguay and Post History Scrapbook 1st place to Editor Dave Tanguay.

Post member John Wilson donated his 1952 M-37 Dodge truck to the Legion post on June 14. Within a few minutes after the transaction, the post transferred the vehicle to: Dan Wirtz, A Company, 1st BN 3rd ACTB, Joint Military Cadets of America under a Memorandum of Understanding. The M-37 will be used by the Cadet Corp. for training. The Legion still retains the use of the vehicle for specific events such as food drives, parades, etc.

At the Legion Memorial Day Open House, WWII Veteran, T5 Robert Miele, US Army Signal Corp, received his WWII campaign medals that he did not receive upon his separation after WWII.

Lisbon Post 158

Students at Lisbon Community and Sugg Middle Schools were recognized for outstanding leadership and good citizen traits. Receiving the Distinguished Achievement Awards were Ethan Brown (Sugg), Dylan Bailey and Julia Richter (Lisbon Community). Receiving Honorable Mention were Katherine Tibbetts (Sugg), Vanessa St. Pierre, Kelvin Harris and Gregory Blackwell (Lisbon Community).

Post History Scrapbook Winner: 

Department Historian Jeffrey Stevenson, left, presents 1st Place Post History Scrapbook award to Editor David Tanguay, Field-Allen Post 148, Windham at the Annual State Convention in Bangor on Jun 15.

**Field-Allen Post 148 also won 1st Place for the best Post Newsletter**
100th Annual State Convention Award Presentations
June 15-16 at Spectacular Event Center, Bangor

Roger’s Rangers: District 7 Commander William J. Cossette of Wiscasset receives the 2017-18 Roger’s Rangers Award for Outstanding Post Commander. Back, left to right, Department Commander Randall Kluj, 2nd Vice Commander Matthew Jabaut, and PNC Anthony Jordan.

EMT/Paramedic Of The Year: Law and Order Chairman Kirk Thurston, left, presents EMT/Paramedic Of the Year award to Gary L. Bennett of Naples while Commander Randall Kluj gives his applause to the presentation.

Law Officer Of The Year: Officer Jerry R. Locke of South Berwick, left, receives the Law Officer of the year award from Law and Order Chairman Kirk Thurston.

Firefighter Of The Year: Chief Dana R. Hatton of Charlotte Volunteer Fire Dept. gives thanks to those in attendance after receiving the Firefighter of the Year award presented by Law and Order Chairman Kirk Thurston.

Humanitarian Citizen Award: This year’s Humanitarian Citizen award went to Susan Hornbeck of York Beach, Me. Ms. Hornbeck received this award for her heroic action of taking part in saving the life of District 9 Commander Donald Chase of Winthrop who was in a terrible accident in 2017. She is seen here speaking of her experience to those in attendance along with her son Hunter who was also extremely helpful at the scene of the accident. Left to right, Commander Randall Kluj, PDC Edward J. Roach Jr., Hunter, Donald Chase, and Winthrop Post 40 Commander Colin Hewett.

Tony’s Tigers: Joseph T. Donahue, center, receives the 2017-18 Tony’s Tigers award for Outstanding Post Commander. Presenting the award is PNC Commander Anthony “Tony” Jordan, right, and Dept. 1st Vice Commander Scott Paradis, left.

Adjutant Of The Year: David R. Tanguay, Adjutant of Windham Post 148, receives Post Adjutant of the Year award from Dept. Commander Randall Kluj, right, and Dept. Adjutant Paul L’Heureux, left. This is the first time The American Legion, Department of Maine, has presented this award.

Appreciation Award: Department Commander Randall Kluj, left, and Department Adjutant Paul L’Heureux, right, present Office Manager Rachael Currie with an Appreciation award for her dedication and commitment to The American Legion, Department of Maine and for her devotion to The Maine Legionnaire newspaper which won 1st place Nationally in 2017 and recently again in 2018. Adjutant L’Heureux is seen here expressing a few words of appreciation after presenting Mrs. Currie her award.

Photos by Department Historian Jeffrey Stevenson
The Department of Maine recently released a Centennial Coin in celebration of 100 years of service to Veterans, families and local communities. All proceeds will go towards helping Veterans in the State of Maine, their families and various programs in The American Legion that require much needed assistance. Coins can be purchased online by visiting www.mainelegion.org, calling Department directly at 207-873-3229 or by check or money order. The coins are $10 each plus $5 shipping/handing.

TO PAY BY CHECK OR MONEY ORDER, please send payment in the amount of $10/coin, plus $5 shipping and handling up to 5 coins to: The American Legion, Department of Maine, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, Maine 04901-0727. Please make sure to include a return address for shipping purposes. Please include an additional $5 for every 5 coins purchased.

Coins are also available for free pick up at $10 each. You may pick up your order at The American Legion, Department of Maine, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, Maine 04901-0727.

Help Keep our Maine American Legion Programs Alive!
Support our Veterans and Donate Today!

Your donation will help support Veterans in the state of Maine as well as Children & Youth Programs and other various programs of The American Legion. A few of our programs are listed below. For a complete listing, please visit www.mainelegion.org.

Maine American Legion Programs: General Fund, Vet Aid, Homeless Vets, Legion Baseball, Dirigo Boys State, Oratorical, Jr. Shooting Program, Beals Hours, and Maine Special Olympics.

To pay by credit card, please visit www.mainelegion.org and select the DONATE button.

You may also mail your check payable to The American Legion, Department of Maine, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, Maine 04901-0727. Please indicate on the check The American Legion program you are contributing to.

Thank you in advance for your donation. It is generous donors like you that help provide the assistance needed to keep our programs alive so we can continue to provide support to our fellow Veterans, service members and their families.

Centennial Raffle Program
Get your Engraved Henry Rifle Raffle Ticket Today!
Ticket Price $10
Contact your local Post for tickets or call Department HQ at 207-873-3229.

Drawing will be held June 1, 2019
The Old American Legion Post
The Four Pillars

Donald G. Hands, 100th Anniv. Chairman
Special to The Maine Legionnaire

The Four Pillars—Part Three
(A teenager learns about The American Legion and asks important questions.)

“No, no, no; Parade and uniforms were important, but The American Legion isn’t all about the parades or uniforms”. “It was and is all about the veterans and supporting our way of life as Americans”. “The parades showed the public the Legion—but there was a lot that went on behind the scenes”.

“Like what?” “Look here” he handed me a pamphlet entitled 'The Four Pillars.'

What do they mean by pillars?

“Pillars are the large stone structures that hold up the roof. In this case; it means the beliefs and the missions of The American Legion”.

“Oh.”

I see the first one is “Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation”. What that all about?

“Keep reading”; the man urged. I read out loud – slowly trying to understand it all.

For more than 90 years, The American Legion has acted as the nation’s leading advocate for proper health care, economic opportunity and legal benefits for U.S. military veterans. The Legion was instrumental in the creation of the Veterans Administration in 1930, and an ardent supporter of its elevation to cabinet status when it became the Department of Veterans Affairs in 1989. The relationship between VA and The American Legion continues to evolve today. As it has for decades, The American Legion continues to aggressively lobby for adequate funding of VA health care, timely access to facilities, fair rulings on benefit claims, and economic opportunities for those who have come home changed by their military experiences. A nationwide network of American Legion department service officers works diligently to assist veterans as they pursue benefits and care they earned and deserve. At the local, state and national levels, thousands of Legionnaires provide countless hours to help veterans obtain their benefits. The American Legion provides professional representation in claims appeals, discharge disputes and transition assistance from active-duty to civilian status throughout the country.

The second one is “National Security”.

The National Security Division of The American Legion represents the organization’s positions on national defense, homeland security and quality of life for our service members and their families. Since its inception, The American Legion has steadfastly supported a strong national defense. The American Legion closely monitors issues that are most relevant to our nation’s vital security interests. The American Legion works closely with each branch of the U.S. Armed Forces in an effort to stay well informed about issues that affect our troops and our military families. As such, The American Legion continues to make troop strength and military quality of life a top priority. The American Legion’s national-security position is multifaceted. Key aspects include:

• A well-funded, well-equipped and well-trained military.
• Awareness and surveillance of rogue nations, terrorist groups and global threats to U.S. security around the world.
• Support for the Department of Homeland Security and urging protection of U.S. borders, ports and other points of access.
• Comprehensive disaster preparedness.
• Decent quality of life for troops and their families – active-duty and reserve components alike – that includes reasonable compensation, benefits, health care, child care and family-support programs; and an efficient and compassionate healing and transition program for wounded and ill warriors.
• Matters such as transition to civilian life and using the VA health-care system, TRICARE or TRICARE for Life also fall within the realm of national security. The American Legion represents military members during the medical-discharge process and assists in their pursuit of education benefits, employment counseling, training and health care.
• The American Legion works as an advocate for an improved disability-evaluation system within the Department of Defense by providing counseling, guidance and representation for service members through the proceedings of the medical-evaluation and physical-evaluation boards. Staff regularly meets with military personnel one-on-one and in group settings to alert them about the resources and opportunities available as they prepare to return home.

The third one is “Americanism”.

Many cultural, moral and patriotic values have come under serious attack in the United States in recent years. Prayer has been removed from schools. The U.S. flag is no longer protected from anarchists. Boy Scouts of America faces serious legal duels in the communities it serves. The institution of marriage is under siege. Immigration laws are defied. References to God have been challenged on U.S. currency, in the Pledge of Allegiance and in the public square, all by a minority of voices whose vision for America is far different from that of our Founding Fathers. Our nation’s very identity is at stake as more and more values

More on “THE FOUR PILLARS”, Page 15

A Message from the Director of Maine American Legion Riders

Greetings from The American Legion Riders of the State of Maine.

My message is going to be a bit different today. I want to discuss the POW/MIA monument. To me, it has a special meaning. I'm proud to say I knew several men who were POW’s for almost 3 years in Korea, finer gentleman you never met.

What the men and women endured during captivity is unimaginable.

Riders, we wear a POW/MIA patch on our vest. The monument at Department Headquarters will bear that same insignia. That is the only portion of the monument not funded currently. Ladies and gentlemen of the Riders, I’m going to make a plea with you. As you know, the POW/MIA Monument at Department Headquarters has been pretty much paid for in its entirety through the sale of the bricks and donations. This is due to the generosity of many of the Auxiliary Units, Riders Chapters, and SAL Squadrons as well and Legionnaires throughout the State of Maine. The purchasing of bricks is complete and made the building possible.

Four hundred and eighty Maine names will be inscribed on these bricks. These are the names of our brothers and sisters who will never see the light of day, no card at Christmas, or no fitting them in at the table for Thanksgiving. They won't be attending your child's graduation or your child's wedding. Ladies and gentlemen, they made the ultimate sacrifice. The families of these 480 brothers and sisters need a place to come, a place to sit, a place to touch the name of their loved one. What better place than the Maine home of the largest Veterans Organization in the world. An organization that works to help repatriate the remains of fallen Americans around the world and represents those that survived. I ask you ladies and gentlemen please donate what you can. I’d like to see it be a POW, or a lady, or a vet, or a family. One family's presence. Those are our brothers and sisters. Let us help to honor them, and more importantly honor the families who have suffered their loss.

The stone will look like the patch we wear so proudly and the new American Legion Riders sign will hang prominently on the building behind it. Please donate to The American Legion, Department of Maine (black stone project). Help us cap this monument with the stone our patch is modeled after.

I humbly thank you in advance. No amount is too small or too large - we started with only one idea and look where we are!

By Donald Mulcahy
American Legion Riders State of Maine Director

A Proud Member: Holding The American Legion Riders banner is Nathaniel Elsasser, the youngest Son member of Naples Post 155.
Oratorical Scholarship Program

The American Legion, Department of Maine High School Oratorical Scholarship Contest will once again be held at Thomas College in Waterville on February 9, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. Snow Date: February 16, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

The main purpose of The American Legion Oratorical Contest “A Constitutional Speech Contest” is to develop a deeper knowledge and appreciation for the U.S. Constitution among high school students. Other objectives of the contest include the development of leadership qualities, the ability to think and speak clearly and intelligently, and the preparation for acceptance of the duties, responsibilities, the rights and privileges of American citizenship.

Young orators will have the opportunity to earn some of the most generous scholarships. At the Post and District level, scholarships offered range from $50 - $100, and at the State level $50 - $1500. At the National level, each department (state) winner who is certified and participates in the National Oratorical Contest’s 1st round receives $1500 and those who advance through the 1st round get an additional $1500. The overall national contest winner gets an $18,000 scholarship. Second place takes home $16,000, and third gets $14,000.

The members of the Oratorical Committee will be working with both Area and District Commanders to prepare Posts and Districts for their local contests. We hope to have all Post contests completed by Mid-December 2018 and all District contests completed by the end of January 2019.

The 2019 National Finals is April 5-7 in Indianapolis, at the Wyndham Indianapolis West. Quarterfinal and semifinal contests are scheduled for Saturday, April 6, with the finals scheduled for Sunday, April 7. Certification of Department winners is due to National by March 18, 2019.

For more information about the Oratorical Contest in Maine, please visit www.mainelegion.org, or contact your local American Legion Post, or The American Legion, Department of Maine Headquarters at 207-873-3229. Please check out the State and Local Oratorical Contests by visiting National’s website at www.legion.org/oratorical.

WHAT’S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 1

Boys State Graduate Visits Ramsdell Rogers Post 56, York

Ian McCann, Boys State graduate, the son of Michael and Erin McCann recently visited Ramsdell Rogers Post 56, York, to share some of his thoughts about Maine Boy’s State.

Boys State was held at Thomas College June 17 to 21. Over 200 boys attended and one of Ian’s favorite parts of the event was “meeting new people”. He was thankful to Post 56 who sponsored his attendance.

Ian enjoyed hearing from many State officials including Maine Governor Paul LePage. Other speakers were Maine State Attorney General Janet Mills and Maine Treasurer: Terry Hayes. Ian stated, “they knew what they were talking about and helped me understand how the government runs.”

As for his role playing, Ian served as the State and local Moderator of the Health and Human Services Committee. He was also the Local Athletic Director.

He explained how the group filled out surveys, and based on the surveys; participants were designated as “Nationalists” or “Federalists” party members. Among other activities, they took part in campaigns, debates and of them Ian remarked, “I now understand why it is so hard to get things done in (Washington) DC.”

He was “surprised” that some of his peers seemed to know more than some of their government counterparts. He summed up his most important learning from the event as when you are voting, “be knowledgeable and do not just check something off.”

The purpose of Boys State is to provide Maine high school juniors with the opportunity to participate in a program that supplements their high school courses in government and its functions. In this program, young men role-play as they learn to campaign for local, county and state offices and then organize and carry out the functions of the state government.

Reviewing the purpose and processes of Boy’s State, there is no doubt in my mind that Ian learned more about our Government processes and left with a greater understanding of what it meant to be part of it.

Job well done.

By York Post 56 Commander, Donald G. Hands

Boys State Graduate Visits

York Post 56: Ian McCann, center, a recent graduate of Boys State of Maine poses with his father, Michael, right, and Ramsdell Rogers Post 56 Commander Donald G. Hands, left.

Alfred/ Waterboro Post 134 Honors Longtime Member

Browns-Emmons Post 134, honors long-time member Wesley Leighton of Waterboro, center, with a presentation of his Fifty Year Certificate at the monthly Post meeting on June 7. Left to right, Post members Alden Gile, Wesley Leighton, and Bob Littlefield.

Photo by Post Commander Thomas Collins

“The Four Pillars” (Continued from Page 14)

are driven toward extinction. As an organization dedicated to God and country, with a membership of military veterans that takes deep pride in the U.S. flag and all it means, The American Legion has always been a stalwart champion of patriotism, morality and citizenship. Upon the pillar of Americanism is The American Legion’s devotion to law and order, the raising of wholesome youth, respectful observance of patriotic holidays and remembrances, education and law-abiding citizenship. Among The American Legion’s highest Americanism priorities are:

The fourth one is “Children and Youth”. Hey, that’s me.

The American Legion’s Commission on Children & Youth manages a pillar of services guided by the main objectives: to strengthen the family unit, to support quality organizations that provide services for children and youth, and to provide communities with well-rounded programs that meet the physical, educational, emotional and spiritual needs of young people. The commission works to provide hope for children who face health, safety, discipline or home-life challenges, and provides opportunities for young people to succeed. The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation provides more than $500,000 in grants each year to nonprofit organizations that work to improve the lives of young people. These grants have aided organ-donor campaigns, supported efforts to help military children cope with deployment or the loss of a parent, and funded projects that increased public awareness of Huntington’s disease, autism, Reye’s syndrome, meningitis, spina bifida, diabetes, cancer and other conditions. The Commission on Children & Youth has focused recent attention on several important national programs, including the Children’s Miracle Network, Ronald McDonald House Charities, Special Olympics, youth-suicide prevention, Halloween safety, the Family Support Network, Temporary Financial Assistance, Operation: Military Kids, and others. The American Legion has been a staunch supporter of the children and youth of our nation since its founding in 1919. The commitment continues today for the National Commission on Children & Youth as it seeks to improve the well-being of all children. Every generation of veterans knows that the key to the future of a free and prosperous country is held by the children and youth of today. The Legion strongly supports traditional family values, assistance for at-risk children, and activities that promote their healthy and wholesome development. While there is no way of knowing what issues will face our youth tomorrow, our survival may well depend on the quality of care, education and training that we, as parents and citizens, provide for young people today.

“So you see, there is room for everyone in the Legion family”.

“The Legion family – what do you mean by that; I’m not related to everybody.”

“Of course not”, he answered; “But you can share priorities that all Legionnaires have”. “Priorities like the Four Pillars”.

“There are other groups that are part of the Legion family. “Who are they?...to be continued (Part 4 — The Legion Family) next issue.
WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 1 continued

POST HISTORY
Webber-LeFebvre Post 74

Exterior Look: The exterior building of Webber-LeFebvre Post 74 in Kennebunk.
Photo by Sergeant-At-Arms & Photographer
Breen R. Savage

Interior Look: The interior of Kennebunk Post 74 building from the Commander’s desk.
Photo by Sergeant-At-Arms & Photographer
Breen R. Savage

Flag Retirement Ceremony: Webber-LeFebvre Post 74 of Kennebunk held a Flag Retirement Ceremony on Flag Day, June 14. Left to right, Finance Officer Brian McBride, Captain John Fleshman, Commander Dennis Lamontagne, Vice Chairman John Gouveia and Robert Decherq.

Photo by Sergeant-At-Arms & Photographer
Breen R. Savage

Law Enforcement Officer of the Year

Each year, American Legion Departments nationwide presents a Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award to a “well-rounded law enforcement officer who has exceeded the duty requirements expected of his or her position and has demonstrated a distinct pattern of community service coupled with professional achievement”. This year’s recipient is Captain Jerry Locke, second in command at the Berwick, Maine Police Department.

Captain Locke began his law enforcement career as an Air Force veteran assigned to Pease Air Force Base in Portsmouth, New Hampshire where he served as a Rapid Response Security Specialist. He also worked in the Control Tower overseeing perimeter alarms as well as the nuclear storage areas. Jerry attained the rank of Staff Sergeant during his military service and began his career as a reserve law enforcement officer for the Town of Berwick in April 1987, transitioning to a fulltime police officer position shortly thereafter.

Captain Locke was a patrol officer for ten years and worked within School Administrative District 60 as a Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) instructor. An outstanding role model for today’s youth, Jerry’s efforts conducted in the destructive results of experimenting with and/or using drugs, alcohol and cigarettes, teaching them how to make good decisions and most especially how to say “No” when offered these substances.

Jerry Locke was promoted to the rank of Captain in 2001 and is a court officer who serves as the primary liaison between the Berwick Police Department and the District Attorney’s Office. His leadership helps to foster a successful team approach from investigation through prosecution, while his work with the Victim’s Advocates office results in a better exchange of information and support for those directly impacted by crime.

In 2004, the Berwick Board of Selectmen honored Captain Locke with an award for Outstanding Contribution for Service to the Community of Berwick. In 2009, Captain Locke received a departmental commendation for his supervision of the department’s response to an armed robbery of the Kennebunk Savings Bank.

For the past decade, Captain Locke has been an active member of the Southern Maine District One Regional Training Council where he has been instrumental in bringing current, progressive and highly rated training to officers throughout York County, ensuring his fellow officers are better prepared to serve their communities.

For nearly his entire career, Captain Locke has supported the Law Enforcement Torch Run benefiting Special Olympics of Maine, by participating in the run and helping to raise much needed funds. Additionally, he has always freely volunteered his personal time to many community based programs such as the Berwick Library, South Berwick Strawberry Festival, the Berwick Police Benevolent Association and Berwick’s Charles S. Hatch Post #79.

One of his strongest qualities is his devotion to and support of his family. Captain Locke’s wife and adult children are all public servants in one form or another and are known as wonderful, caring and compassionate citizens (his son is also a law enforcement officer, serving as a New Hampshire State Trooper!)

In his Letter of Recommendation, Berwick Town Manager Stephen G. Eldridge wrote: “…Jerry’s leadership skills and easy-going personality has been crucial to the development of the department and safety of our citizens”. In the nomination package, it was noted that Captain Locke is dedicated to his department, his profession and his fellow citizens…that our community would not have the quality of life everyone enjoyed were it not for individuals of his caliber.

Congratulations to you Captain Locke on your receipt of this most prestigious award – a fitting recognition for a patriotic American who personifies the motto of your police department: “We serve because we care”.

First Place Post History Book Award

Maine Historian Robert Place presents Berwick Post 79 Historian Robert Place the 1st Place Award for his Post History Book at the American Legion State Convention in Bangor on June 15.

Photo by Paul Lapierre

Robert K. Place of North Berwick has done it again! At this year’s 100th Annual American Legion State Convention in Bangor, Bob’s show stopping Post History Book won top honors (Best in the state from among all of Maine’s 17 American Legion Districts). Department of Maine Historian Jeffrey M. Stevenson presented Bob with the First Place Award for his impressive workmanship on this 2017-2018 post history.

The road to first place doesn’t come easy and this remarkable achievement took long hours and tremendous effort. Bob joined Berwick’s Charles S. Hatch Post 79 fifteen years ago and proudly served to become the Post Historian. Following a unanimous vote by the membership, Bob worked under the tutelage of then post commander Robert Stillings, himself a legend renowned for both his writing and computer skills. It took many long visits to the Stillings home working on the first post history book back in 2008, and to no one’s surprise but Bob, he received 1st place that year! The following year he placed second which only served to fuel his desire to once again achieve top honors.

With feedback from the state level, Bob persevered and by following department advice and guidelines, he recently received his incredible 8th first place win. Creating a one-year history book requires the kind of effort and diligence required to construct a college yearbook, except very stringent guidelines must be followed. There is a specified format and designated chapters designed to produce a complete and accurate yearbook containing all newspaper clippings, photographs, copies of programs, tickets and other items documenting the activities and functions of the members of Charles S. Hatch Post 79. The judging standards are very rigorous, with points awarded for format, graphic account/readability, illustrations and judge’s option/originality, totaling 90 potential points. Over the course of the year, it takes thousands of hours of effort to document the activities of this 160+ member post, along with well-honed writing, photo and computer skills. The end result is a time capsule capturing the events of the past year within the 200 plus pages of this year’s winning entry!
**WHAT’S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...**

### District 1 continued

**“History Award”**

(Continued from Page 16)

In addition to his work for The American Legion, Bob Place is a member of South Berwick’s Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 5744, where he also serves as Post Historian. Bob is also a proud greeter of military flights at Pease International Trade Port, a service he has gladly rendered for military personnel transiting this seacoast New Hampshire stopover for the past eight years. In both 2012 and 2013, Bob’s Post History placed 2nd at the national level, and this year’s winning entry has been sent to the American Legion headquarters in Indianapolis, Indiana, where Bob has positioned himself for a first place win for best history book in the nation! Congratulations Bob on this monumental achievement and best of luck at the national level.

### District 2

**Placing Flags:** Several members of Harold T. Andrews Post 17, Portland, went to the Forest City Cemetery on Lincoln Street in South Portland to place 1500 flags on Veteran’s graves on May 23. Left to right, Julie Mardas, Brian Sawyer, Tim Curran, Rick Anderson, Mary Dunphe, Steve Dunpe, Post Commander Curtis J. Ballantine, Theresa McDonough, William J. McDonough, Post 17 Finance Officer Joe Rich, and Thomas O'Connor. Missing from photo is Dan Sawyer.

**Memorial Day In Portland:** Harold T. Andrews Post 17 held a Memorial Day Parade on May 28 in Portland. Congress Street was closed from Longfellow Square to Monument Square for the event. At the end of the parade, a large crowd gathered at Monument Square to listen to speeches by several local dignitaries. After the parade, a fish chowder lunch was served at Post 17 on Deering St. in Portland.

**Lowe’s Helps With Post 35 Renovation:** Lowe’s Home Improvement Store of Scarborough was involved in the renovation of South Portland Post 35. Left to right, John Hart, Store Manager Bob Estes, Lead Store Contact John O’Conner, and Post Commander Guy Linscott.

**South Portland American Legion Team** at a home game on June 30. The team played in Bangor for the State Finals in a 1:1 double elimination game.

**Husband & Wife Team Leadership:** Stephen W. Manchester Post 62 of Westbrook inducted husband and wife team to become the leadership at the local post. Gary York is the Post Commander and his wife Roxann is the Auxiliary Commander of the Westbrook Post. Please note both are standing in front of the new preamble poster provided by member Dennis Marrotte. Congratulations to both Gary and Roxanna!

**Windham Post 148 Dedication:** Vietnam Memorial in Windham’s Memorial Garden, that Post 148 dedicated in 2016 to the 53 Cumberland County Vietnam Vet KIA.

**A Proclamation of the Town Council Town of Windham**

WHEREAS, the American Legion Charles W. Field Post 148 was chartered on April 15, 1938 by a group of twenty-six Windham World War I veterans to honor the memory of US Army Lieutenant Charles W. Field, the first Windham boy killed in action in World War I while leading a charge against an enemy machine gun emplacement, and

WHEREAS, the Field-Allen Post 148 of Windham changed its charter in 1949 to the Field-Allen Post to honor the actions of United States Marine Corps Sergeant James Allen of Windham, killed in action in World War II during the assault on the Pacific Island of Iwo Jima, and

WHEREAS, the Field-Allen Post 148 has been in continuous service in support of Windham veterans and the Windham community for the past eighty years, and

WHEREAS, the Field-Allen Post each year has exemplified true patriotism by the coordination of the Memorial Day parade and ceremonies for the Town of Windham to honor the town’s veterans from all wars, and

WHEREAS, the Field-Allen Post has recognized the town’s veterans annually with the placement of a U.S. flag on the graves of each veteran interred in the town’s twenty-six cemeteries; and

WHEREAS, the Field-Allen Post further supports the community with annual food drives and, more recently, the collecting of food weekly for the support of the Portland Veterans Center Food Pantry that provides assistance to the homeless and food insecure veterans in the area, and

WHEREAS, the Field-Allen Post supports a variety of youth programs in the community including high school scholarships, Boys State, the National Oratorical Program, and Youth Air Rifle program,

NOW, THEREFORE, We, the Windham Town Council, hereby proclaim June 30th, 2018 as Field-Allen American Legion Post 148 Day.

**Supporting Legion Baseball:** Four Officers from South Portland Post 35 were present at an American Legion home game for our local team on June 30 where Post 35 Adjutant Mike Pock threw out the first ball. Outside the dugout, left to right, Post 35 Sergeant-At-Arms Paul Neal, Zone 3 Manager Al Livingston, Post 35 Adjutant Mike Pock, and Post 35 Commander Guy Linscott. Post 35 2nd Vice Commander Tony Batchelor was present, but not for the photo.
**WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...**

**District 2 continued**

**Windham Post 148 Flag Ceremony:** Field-Allen Post 148 Honor Guard members conduct a flag ceremony at the Little League Field at Kiwanis Beach in Standish Sun., June 24. Recipient of the flag was Tyler Haskins who had recently lost his U.S. Navy Vet Grandfather Tom Drame. American Legion Honor Guard members included David Rendall, Craig Pride, Post Chaplain and narrator Richard Drapeau and Post Adjutant David Tanguy. Left to right, Post Chaplain Richard Drapeau, Tyler Haskins, and Post Adjutant David Tanguy.

**A Rousing Sendoff:** Chapter 155 American Legion Riders give a rousing send off to Liam Opie as he embarks on his military career in the U.S. Army. Liam was an Oratorical contestant in the American Legion Oratorical Contest this past fall. He is also a member of the Sons Of The American Legion, and upon return, he will become a Legionnaire. Left to right, Don Mulcahy, Liam Opie, Bob Ellis, and Bill O’Neill.

**Welcome Home:** Life Long SAD 61 employee and Harrison’s own Phil Denison was welcomed home from his Honor Flight to Washington, D.C. He and other WW2 and Korean war Veterans enjoyed a 2 day trip to our Nation’s Capital to view the monuments and memorials built in their honor. Greeting him is Chapter 155 American Legion Rider Line’ Mulcahy.

**WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...**

**District 3**

**Sabattus American Legion Post 135 Holds a Dignified Flag Disposal & Army Birthday Party**

Harry J. Conway Post 135 of Sabattus holds their Annual Flag Day and Army Birthday Celebration at the Post as we approach our Legion Centennial.

Heavy rain did not dampen the spirits of those present; fortunately, we moved indoors in the nick of time. The event started with the dignified disposal of flags, then a formal ceremony and did not finish until 6:00 p.m.

The ceremony was followed by a complimentary Hot Dog Dinner for over 80 people in attendance, culminating in singing Happy Birthday to the Army and a cutting of the cake by the Post Leadership.

Every Scout in attendance was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for participating in the ceremony. This event has grown steadily over the past four years and gets better and better each year.

District 5

**Buckfield Post 58 Installation Ceremony:** An Installation Ceremony was held at Buckfield Post 58 on May 17. The installing officers were District 5 Commander Randy Canwell and District 5 Chaplain Joy Boredeaux. Left to right, Commander James Lowell, 1st Vice Commander Ralph Hart, Adjutant Gloria Hall, Finance Officer Conrad Conant, and Sergeant-At-Arms Tony Bruno. Absent was Chaplain William Rice, IV.
WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 5 continued

Grand Marshall of the Greenwood Memorial Day Parade at 102 Years Young

One hundred years ago, when Roy Day was but two years of age, if his parents brought him to view what was then the Decoration Day Parade, he would have seen the “Old Boys” of the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.), mostly locally of the 5th and 17th Maine Volunteer Infantry Regiments, marching beside their sons, the veterans of that “Splendid Little War” – the Spanish American War, paying their mutual respects to their comrades buried in Greenwood’s (Locke Mills) Mt. Abram Cemetery. Common to Maine in every village, hamlet, town, and city, the marching veterans of the G.A.R. were themselves the grandsons of soldiers of America’s Glorious Revolutionary War. These men had brought their families to Maine, then a largely unoccupied district of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to settle on land grants bestowed by the Commonwealth in payment for their military service.

In 1918, the grandsons of the G.A.R. were in their turn serving the nation in the Great European War, known today as WWI. It was those boys, when they returned to Greenwood, Woodstock, and Mason Township, in 1919 who joined together in constituting the newly formed American Legion Jackson-Silver Post 68, of the Department of Maine, now celebrating its Centennial Year.

POST HISTORY
Mundt-Allen Post 81

In January 1920, Bethel received a charter to form the George A. Mundt Post 81 American Legion. George A. Mundt for whom Post 81 was named was killed in action July 19, 1918 while serving his artillery gun in an open field in France. At the close of World War II in 1945, Stanley W. Allen’s name was added to Mundt’s making the Post name Mundt-Allen Post 81. Ensign Allen lost his life in the December 7, 1941 Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Allen was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma which was bombed, torpedoed, capsized and sank carrying 429 of its crew including Allen with it.

For more information about our Post, please visit our website at Post81Bethel.com or our Facebook page at: https://www.facebook.com/American-Legion-Post-81-178871558529253/

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 6

Women’s Veterans Recognition Lunch: War Memorial Post 30, Camden, held a Women’s Veterans Recognition Luncheon on June 30. A total of 16 women attended from different branches of service. All eras were represented; WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Post 911 Veterans. Front row, left to right, Zakia Thesen, Amy Stevens, Patricia Hurlburt, Maureen Malley, Madeleine Littlefield, M. “Mike” Liason, and Helen Waldron. Back row, left to right, Betty Richards, Barbara Perkins, Melissa Hepburn, Gloria Hall, Kristen Nelson, Kathleen McNary, (hidden) Donnamarie Talaris, and Garnett Trai.

Many Gather for the Dedication of the New Veterans Memorial at Vinalhaven Post 18

Dedication Draws Huge Turnout: Veterans Memorial Dedication US Airforce (Retired) Captain Earl Morse speaks to a crowd of approximately 200 as the featured speaker at Vinalhaven’s new Veterans Memorial Dedication on July 7.

Vinalhaven’s New Veterans Memorial

Guest Speaker: Dept. Adjutant Paul L’Heureux speaks to a crowd of approximately 200 as a guest speaker at Vinalhaven Post 18 new Veterans Memorial Dedication Ceremony on July 7.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 7

Local Effort Collects 48,000 Pounds of Supplies for Hurricane Relief

Due to the generosity of local businesses and residents, a tractor-trailer filled to capacity with bottled water, clothing, pet food, and other hurricane-rebuild supplies departed Damariscotta for Florida the afternoon of Sun., Sept. 17, a full nine days earlier than organizers anticipated.

The truck, donated by Yankee Pride Transport, of Damariscotta, and a trailer donated by Northeast Transport Inc., of Waldoboro, has sat in the parking lot of The American Legion Wells-Hussey Post No. 42 in Damariscotta since Sept. 8. Since then, there has been a steady flow of community members and businesses stopping by with everything from pallets of bottled water to canned goods.

“It’s truly been remarkable,” said Bonnie Poland, the American Legion Auxiliary unit president. “The community really supported this, and that’s why they’re heading out earlier than we expected.”

More on “HURRICANE RELIEF”, Page 20
“Hurricane Relief” (Continued from Page 19)

Several local businesses and organizations gave major donations to the drive, Poland said, including Ames True Value Hardware & Supply, Damariscotta Hardware, Louis Doe Home Center, Renys, and the Waldoboro and Friendship fire departments. Bath Iron Works donated more than 200 pairs of coveralls and the organizers of the Damariscotta Pumpkin fest & Regatta contributed T-shirts and other apparel left over from previous years’ events.

Other donations included canned goods, cleaning supplies, and bedding. One couple, who was celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary, asked friends and family to donate pet food to the drive rather than give gifts, Poland said.

By Sunday, approximately 48,000 pounds of supplies had been loaded into the trailer by Legion volunteers, Poland said. Yankee Pride driver Woodbury “Woody” McLean departed Damariscotta with the trailer just after noon.

Originally, the trailer was bound for Houston to help the victims of Hurricane Harvey. The plan changed, however, after Yankee Pride Transport owner Larry Sideling heard from an American Legion post in Houston that the city had received an influx of donations from across the country and suggested the trailer be rerouted to help with their relief efforts. The drive received more than $5,200 in cash donations from across the country and is expected to travel to Florida American Legion to be disbursed where needed.

Sideling and Poland credited the generosity of the community for making the drive a success.

“The people and the businesses are the real superstars for giving all that they did,” Sideling said. “We’re just doing what we do best and making sure it gets there.”

While one local relief effort has wrapped up, another is just getting underway. Sumner Fernald “Ricky” Richards IV and Moira Rose “Rosie” Mahegan recently kicked off a fundraiser in the Twin Villages to help people impacted by Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma.

The fundraiser, which will run through the end of the month, will raise money for All Hands Volunteers, a disaster relief organization that both Richards and Mahegan volunteered with in the past. The nonprofit responds to areas impacted by natural disasters to not only help rebuild structures, but also to help renew a sense of community.

Richards and Mahegan, who run S. Fernald’s Country Store in Damariscotta, organized a Raffle for Relief to support All Hands Volunteers.

For more information about the raffle, go to Fernald’s Instagram and Facebook pages.

WHAT’S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 8

Harperswell Post 171 Memorial Day Parade: Harperswell Post 171 members march in the Harpswell Parade on Memorial Day.

Harperswell Post 171 Flag Day 2018 was held on June 22 at the Merriconeag Grange. Scouts from Troop 646 (Topsham) assisted. Also present were Scout leaders Dave Remis (646) and Karen Norton (648). Left to right, Karen Norton (648), all Troop 646 Scouts, Jackson Brown, Chris and Jeff Jellison-Boseman, Jeffrey Remis, and Dave Remis, far right.

Harperswell Post 171 Memorial Day Ceremony: Harperswell Post 171 1st Vice Commander speaks at the Memorial Day Ceremony and post member Laddie Whidden was Grand Marshal. Back row, left to right, Commander Mike Doyle (hidden, POW flag), and Gary Cornell. Front row, left to right, Bugler Rollie Weeman, Paul Standridge, Maine Representative Jay McCreight, Shirley Thompson, Addie Huff, Dorie Barnes, Dan McMahon (hidden), Gale Doyle, Chaplain Roger Dumont USN (Ret).

Awning Installation At Togus VA Hospice: Harperswell Post 171 donated an awning to Togus VA Hospice. The ribbon-cutting ceremony was on June 7 followed by lunch. Patients are already using and enjoying the awning. Left to right, VA Volunteer Services Director Jonathan Barczyk, VA Hospice Nursing Director Katherine MacFawn, Bill O’Connell, VBA and Golf Tourney Volunteer Pat Iiles, USN (Ret.) Roger Dumont, USN Jeremy Yeske, Robert Webber, VA Social Worker Lisa Munzing, and USN (Ret.) Chris Langtry USN (Ret).

Placing Flags On Veterans’ Graves In Phippsburg: Phippsburg Memorial Post 216 members place flags on the graves of Veterans in Phippsburg. Comrade Bob Morse places a flag on the grave of Revolutionary War Veteran Dr. Johnathan Young in the Young Family Burial Ground.

National President Learns About Post 42’s Hurricane-Relief Efforts: Robert Sewall of Wells-Hussey Post 42 shakes hands with National President of The American Legion Auxiliary Diane E. Duscheck. Diane visited Damariscotta on Wed., Sept. 13 to learn more about the Post’s hurricane-relief efforts.

Working Together To Make A Difference: Damariscotta Post 42 and Auxiliary Unit 42 worked with two local trucking companies to collect a trailer full of supplies for hurricane relief. Left to right, Jane Toussaint, Robert Sewall, Jim Boutilier, Woodbury McLean, Bob Wilshire, Bonnie Poland, Bruce Poland, Gayle Gifford, Gerry Gifford, Larry Sideling, and Ron Toussiant.

Placing Flags On Veterans’ Flags In Phippsburg: Phippsburg Memorial Post 216 members place flags on the graves of Veterans in Phippsburg. Adjutant Mike Young places a flag on the grave of Revolutionary War Veteran Nathaniel Sylvester in the Sylvester Farm Burial Ground.

Special Awards Presented at Topsham Post 202 Law Enforcement Breakfast on April 14

Joe Donahue, left, presents Deputy Brian Carlton of the Sagadahoc Sheriff’s Department the Commendation to Outstanding Public Service Award.

Joe Donahue presents the Commendation to Outstanding Public Service Award to Firefighter Seth Bickford of Topsham Fire Department. Left to right, Joe Donahue, Seth Bickford, and Topsham Fire Chief Chris McLaughlin.

Joe Donahue, left, presents Doug Watson of the Bath Fire Department, right, the Commendation to Outstanding Public Service Award.

Joe Donahue and Richard Rizzo presents Stephen Vachon of the Brunswick Police Department the Commendation to Outstanding Public Service Award. Left to right, Joe Donahue, Steven Vachon, and Richard Rizzo.

All Photos by Dept. Historian Jeffrey Stevenson

Spirit of America Award

Bud Smith, 92 years old, is a Veteran of WWII and the Korean Conflict. The Town recently honored him with the Spirit of America Award for his volunteer efforts. Augusta Post 2 Commander Howard Betts had the honor and privilege to assist this man place flags on the graves of Veterans in the Town of Farmingdale, many of whom he served with in WWII. Bud has been honoring those Veterans who have passed for so long that even the historical society could not put a number to the years of continued service. It is fitting Fitzgerald-Cummings Post 2 recognize and thank “BUD” publicly for the dedication he has continued to provide to our fallen comrades for all these many years. Memorial Day is a day to take a few minutes to say a word of thanks for those who gave and continue to give of themselves that we could have this day.

Continuous Service To Our Fallen Comrades: Ninety-two year old Veteran of WWII & Korean Conflict, Bud Smith places flags on the graves of Veterans in the town of Farmingdale.

Goodrich-Caldwell Post 6 of Hallowell Color Guard At the State Centennial Parade in Bangor on June 16. Left to right, Gerald Stuart, Larry Auger, Mike Madden, Timothy McGuire, and Bruce Johnson.

Spring Court Of Honor: Boy Scout Troop 647, chartered by Goodrich-Caldwell Post 6 in Hallowell, celebrated its Spring Court of Honor on May 17. Merit Badges Ad Rank Advancements were awarded to all Scouts. Among the many notable achievements were several of the older Scouts receiving their Star Rank.

Spring Court of Honor: Alfred W. Maxwell, Jr Post 40 of Winthrop held their Installation of Officers Ceremony on May 11. Left to right, Commander Colin Hewett, Adjutant & District 9 Commander Don Chase, Service Officer Steve Harris, Sergeant-At-Arms Carl Smith, 2nd Vice Commander John Brennan, Finance Officer Dave Glidden, Chaplain Allan Hitt, Americanism Officer Ken Mason, and 1st Vice Commander Bart Wheeler. Missing from photo are Historian Bob Dawson and 3 Members at Large.

William R. Bold Post 181 Litchfield members raring to go at recent the State Centennial Parade in Bangor on June 16.
WHAT’S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 10
Fairfield Post 14; Skowhegan Post 16; Pittsburg Post 32; Madison Post 39; Bingham Post 99; Jackman Post 172; Harland Post 141; New Portland Post 173; Athens Post 192

Madison American Legion Post 39, Auxiliary members donate to Special Olympics.

"Still Serving America" is the motto of The American Legion. Veterans who continue their service to America by still serving their communities. Veterans whose involvement in the community creates and supports the feeling of camaraderie which makes The American Legion the nation's largest and the most respected organization of wartime veterans. It's a program which can have a positive influence in the lives of you and your family. It's a program of promise!

American Legion Tardiff-Belanger Post 39 continues to show that by donating in conjunction with the American Legion Auxiliary Tardiff-Belanger Unit 39 to Special Olympics. At their Installation of Officers on Mar. 30, left to right, representing the Post, Commander H. Ralph Withee and President of Auxiliary Unit 39, presented American Legion Department of Maine Commander Randy Kluj with their 32nd consecutive annual donation of $1,000 to the program!

To learn more about the American Legion and/or the American Legion Auxiliary's mission - or to volunteer, donate or join, visit www.alafveterans.org or www.alaveterans.org. You can always feel free to stop in at the Post for further information located at 20 S. Maple Street, Madison, ME.

Working Together To Help Special Olympics: Left to right, State Commander Randall G. Kluj, Madison Post 39 Commander H. Ralph Withee, and Madison Unit 39 Auxiliary President Robin Turek.

WHAT’S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 13
Banger Post 12; East Millinocket Post 13; Carina Post 73; Old Town Post 85; Lincoln Post 77; Millinocket Post 80; Orono Post 84; Howland Post 97; Brewer Post 98; Newport Post 105; Etna-Carrat Post 107; East Carlin Post 115; Lee Post 160; Hermon Post 200; Dixmont Post 201; Glenburn Post 211; Hampden Post 213

District 13 Installation Ceremony: Americanism Officer Debra Couture performed the Installation Ceremony on May 6 at Howland Post 97. Seated, left to right, Post 97 Chaplain Jean Neal and Department Americanism Officer Debra Couture. Standing, left to right, Post 97 Adjutant & Finance Officer John Neal, Service Officer Sheldon Hanington, Area 4 Commander Greg Couture, 2nd Vice Commander Tom Henry, Americanism Officer Darrell Savage, 1st Vice Commander Robert Rhodes, Commander Don Candage, Sergeant-At-Arms Jim Ewing, and Historian Tom Carle.

WHAT’S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

Barrows-Skidgel Post 105 Home In Newport

In Memory Of Those Who Served: Newport Post 105 greatly thanks Newport Monuments for donating the Veterans Memorial Park stone in Memory of All Who Served to the Post on May 18. Thanks also goes out to Ledgewood Landscaping for providing the prep and ground work, and to Kelly Smith Printing. A dedication was held on Memorial Day after the parade at the beautiful park behind Barrows-Skidgel Post 105 to "All Who Served".

Hermon Post 200 Service Officer Peter Mead, right, presents a Certificate of Training by Commander Ronald Judkins, left, for completing the Post Service Officer seminar at Department Headquarters on April 24. Peter is also connected with Togus and will receive service officer reports from Department Service Officer Carl Curtis.

Installation Ceremony: District 13 Commander Don Candage performed the Installation of Officers Ceremony with District 13 Sergeant-At-Arms Art Dullinger at Arnold R. Kelly Post 200 in Hermon on May 31. Standing, left to right, Service Officer Peter Mead, District 13 Commander Don Candage, Commander Ronald Judkins, Guest Art Dullinger, Judge Advocate Harry Rideout, Sergeant-At-Arms Mylon Frith, Adjutant & Finance Officer Tom Carle, and 2nd Vice Commander Lynwood Qumby. Seated, left to right, Historian & Americanism Norman Michaud. Not present were 1st Vice Commander Fred Blanke and Membership Committeeman & Chaplain John Clark.

WHAT’S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 15
Calais Post 3; Cherryfield Post 8; Machias Post 9; Eastport Post 11; Baileyville Post 23; Dedham Post 45; Pembroke Post 59; Lubec Post 65; Jonesport Post 108; Vanseboro Post 172; Topfield Post 191

To win and preserve freedom, and thank a Veteran you know for his or her part in protecting American Freedom! Judge Advocate Harry Rideout, left, and Commander Ronald Judkins, right, passed out the flags to bystanders prior to the start of the parade. They are standing in front of the memorial of the MAINE, an armored Cruiser, where on Feb. 15, 1898, an explosion onboard sank the ship in Havana’s Harbor. The Navy lost 75% of the crew that day.

Three Generations At Cherryfield Post 8: Cherryfield Post 8 sponsored a Memorial Day Program which included 3 generations. Left to right, 1st LT Peter Duston, USA-Ret, Bugler with military Honor guards, daughter SSG Erika Yates, paramedic with the 126th Aviation (medevac), MEARG and grandson A1cl Savage Bloomer, 101st Air Refueling Wing, MEANG.
## Taps Column

### WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

#### District 16

**Post 8 – Cherryfield**
- **Name:** Kenneth Thompson
- **Conflict:** WWII

**Post 8 – Cherryfield**
- **Name:** Lennox Ramsay
- **Conflict:** WWII

**Post 8 – Cherryfield**
- **Name:** Harold Sprague
- **Conflict:** WWII

**Post 13 – East Millinocket**
- **Name:** Ralph H. Tapley
- **Conflict:** WWII

**Post 20 – Brunswick**
- **Name:** William Cicciotte
- **Conflict:** Korea/Vietnam

**Post 20 – Brunswick**
- **Name:** Dennis R. Gillespie
- **Conflict:** Vietnam

**Post 24 – Rumford**
- **Name:** Raymond E. Breau
- **Conflict:** Korea

**Post 21 – Rumford**
- **Name:** Robert Wilson
- **Conflict:** Korea

**Post 30 – Camden**
- **Name:** Frank Rankin
- **Conflict:** Korea

**Post 36 – Boothbay Harbor**
- **Name:** Gerald P. Gormann
- **Conflict:** Korea

**Post 50 – Unity**
- **Name:** Richard A. Dalton
- **Conflict:** Vietnam

**Post 54 – Wiscasset**
- **Name:** Kenneth W. Conners
- **Conflict:** Korea

**Post 57 – Old Orchard Beach**
- **Name:** Raymond Bonang
- **Conflict:** WWII

**Post 72 – South Paris**
- **Name:** Glenn E. Chute
- **Conflict:** WWII

**Post 72 – South Paris**
- **Name:** William Damon
- **Conflict:** Korea

**Post 77 – Lincoln**
- **Name:** Nicholas S. Zagorianakos
- **Conflict:** Korea

**Post 77 – Lincoln**
- **Name:** Larry G. Arturs
- **Conflict:** Vietnam

**Post 80 – Millinocket**
- **Name:** George T. Blackburn
- **Conflict:** Korea

**Post 80 – Millinocket**
- **Name:** Dennis Murphy
- **Conflict:** Vietnam

**Post 82 – Norway**
- **Name:** Howard W. Palmer Jr.
- **Conflict:** WWII

**Post 82 – Norway**
- **Name:** Bruce D. Glines
- **Conflict:** Vietnam

**Post 82 – Norway**
- **Name:** William G. Bickford
- **Conflict:** Korea

### WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

#### District 17

**Van Buren Post 49**
- **Name:** William R. Everett
- **Conflict:** Vietnam

**Post 84 – Orono**
- **Name:** Robert R. Modery
- **Conflict:** Korea

**Post 84 – Orono**
- **Name:** Frances R. Mitchell
- **Conflict:** WWII

**Post 93 – Bucksport**
- **Name:** Norman P. Soper
- **Conflict:** Korea

**Post 94 – Greenville**
- **Name:** Bert Willey
- **Conflict:** Korea

**Post 94 – Greenville**
- **Name:** Bruce B. Collins
- **Conflict:** Vietnam

**Post 97 – Hillowd**
- **Name:** Andrew B. Stinson
- **Conflict:** WWII

**Post 97 – Howland**
- **Name:** Frank Kirsch
- **Conflict:** Korea

**Post 136 – Stockholm**
- **Name:** Linwood A. Peterson
- **Conflict:** Vietnam

**Post 142 – Peaks Island**
- **Name:** Walter Semon
- **Conflict:** Vietnam

**Post 149 – Waldoboro**
- **Name:** Clayton G. Hoak
- **Conflict:** WWII

**Post 149 – Waldoboro**
- **Name:** Clyde E. Genthner
- **Conflict:** WWII

**Post 155 – Naples**
- **Name:** Richard M. Cleveland
- **Conflict:** Vietnam

**Post 155 – Naples**
- **Name:** Philip Carlton
- **Conflict:** Vietnam

**Post 164 – Falmouth**
- **Name:** Donald Kinne
- **Conflict:** WWII

**Post 171 – Harpswell**
- **Name:** Richard E. Wyer
- **Conflict:** Korea/Vietnam

**Post 171 – Harpswell**
- **Name:** John L. Farmer
- **Conflict:** Vietnam

**Post 207 – Trenton**
- **Name:** Ralph Bennoch
- **Conflict:** WWII

**Post 207 – Trenton**
- **Name:** Vinson R. Carter
- **Conflict:** Vietnam

**Post 213 – Hampden**
- **Name:** Stephen Good
- **Conflict:** Korea

**Post 213 – Hampden**
- **Name:** Warren Chatto
- **Conflict:** WWII

**Post 216 – Phippsburg**
- **Name:** Myron J. Wyman
- **Conflict:** Vietnam

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**Congratulations!:** District 16 Commander Rod Collins, right, congratulates Houlton Post 47 new Commander Kris Watson, left, after the installation of officers on May 16.

*Photo by Peggy-Sue Watson*

**Certificate Of Appreciation:** District 16 Commander Renee Wells, right, presents Mike Malone of Mars Hill Post 118, left, with a Certificate of Appreciation on May 5 for all of the many programs he is involved in for The American Legion in the Post 118 area.

*Photo by Rod Collins*

**Have You Asked a Veteran TO JOIN Today?**

Help us increase membership for 2019!

Join online at www.mainelegion.org

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**Van Buren Post 49 Memorial Day at Local Cemeteries:**

- **Left to right, Chaplain Father David Cote, Post 49 Commander Harold Lausier, John R. Cyr, Thomas Chaplain and Lucian Ouellette.**

**Van Buren Post 49 Flag Raising Ceremony:**

- **Van Buren Post 49 Officers attend the Flag Raising Ceremony at Caribou VA Cemetery on May 14. The Post sponsored 2 flags at which time the names of deceased Veterans of the Post were read off. Thirty flags were raised at the same time after the names were announced. Post 49 has lost 10 members in 2017 – 2018. Left to right, Post Commander Alphy Durette and Adjutant/Historian Roy Doucette, and Service Officer Joe Michaud.**

*Photo by District 17 Commander Joe Michaud*
The deadline for material, stories and/or pictures to be submitted for consideration for use in the November 2018 Issue of The Maine Legionnaire will be October 26, 2018.

Please be reminded that only those articles and/or pictures which are sent in proper form will be considered for publication.

Ineligible stories or pictures that cannot be reproduced will be returned to you. A reminder that stories must be in story format, we are unable to compose your information for you.

As always, the editorial staff may edit all submissions at its discretion. We are once again asking for input from all posts, auxiliary units, S.A.L. squadrons, individuals, etc. To make this paper informative to you, it is imperative that we receive submissions from the membership.

Photos should be clearly marked as to who’s who in the picture as well as who took the picture.

Anyone interested in submitting a guest editorial should contact The Maine Legionnaire business office at:

State Commanders Of The American Legion, Dept. Of Maine 100th Anniversary Edition:

Chairman Donald Hands, center, talked briefly about the State Commanders book that he prepared for The American Legion, Department of Maine at the Annual State Convention on June 16. The book is to preserve the history of State Commanders as well as for sale with all proceeds going toward the 100th Centennial Celebration. A group of Past Department Commanders who purchased the book are pictured here with Mr. Hands at the Annual State Convention in support of his project/fundraiser. Left to right, PDC James Johnson, PDC Richard Graves, PDC Lloyd Woods, PDC Edward J. Roach Jr. (hidden), PDC Andrew Olson, PDC Brenda Dearborn, PDC Ronald Sailor, PDC/State Adjutant Paul L’Heureux, PDC/PNC Anthony “Tony Jordan”, Department Commander Randall Kluj, and PDC John Hargreaves.

To purchase a copy of the State Commanders of The American Legion, Department of Maine 100th Anniversary Edition, please send $35.00, plus $10.00 shipping/handling to: The American Legion, Department of Maine 100th Anniversary Edition, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, Maine 04901-0727 and earmark your check State Commanders. Please make sure to include a return address for delivery.

Memorial Day Wreath Laying: Milo Post 41 members, Willard Leeman, left and Kevin Bishop, right, place Memorial Day wreaths on Veteran Memorials in honor of our Veterans on Memorial Day May 14.

Photo by Post Historian Jeannette Page

A Special Visit to Headquarters

Falmouth Post 164 Past Commander Arthur Schade wanted to have a tour of the Department of Maine State Headquarters in Winslow. Being unable to drive himself, Arthur, age 94, and born July 18, 1927, reached out to one of his long-time friends, and Falmouth Post 164 Past Commander/Historian Ralph Bonville, age 100, born Jan. 8, 1919. Yes, you read this correctly, Ralph is 100 years old and still driving! Oh, and by the way, he is 2 months older than The American Legion.

Mr. Schade and Mr. Bonville decided to drive up from Falmouth on July 16 to get a one-on-one tour with State Adjutant Paul L’Heureux. They were very elated to have this opportunity to see that headquarters has come a long way in its appearance, productivity and its efficiency, but most importantly, that the “Compound” is home of the Legion, SAL, and Auxiliary.