

THE MAINE Legionnaire



AUGUST 2019

Vol. 34, Issue 3

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MAINE

32 Pages

Lewiston Man to Lead Maine American Legion

Currently serving as the Dept of Maine Commander,

Matthew Jabaut was born in Farmington, raised in Durham, and graduated from Lewiston High School.

Matt served in the US Army from 1997- 2005 as a combat medic. During his service, he led Evac and Treatment squads, served as Retention, EEO, and UPL NCO. He was an instructor at the Joint medical training center in Fort Lewis, WA, earned the Expert Field medical badge, and completed a combat tour in the middle east.

After transitioning out of the military Matt, attended Point Park University under the VA Voc Rehab program completing his BS in Human Resource Management and continued under the GI Bill completing a Masters in Organizational Leadership.

Shortly after returning to Maine, Matt joined the Legion at Post 202 in Topsham. Since joining he has served as 2nd Vice and as Commander. Matt has also served as Department Chaplain, Department Judge Advocate, Department 1st and 2nd Vice Commander and as



COMMANDER
MATTHEW JABAUT

Chair of the Department Legislative, Post 9/11, and Task Force for the Future committees and as a member of Resolutions, and National security committees.

In 2015, Matt attended National American Legion College and graduated at the top of his class. He has also worked with his fellow NALC alumni to begin a Department level Legion College that kicked off in May, 2018.

Matt looks forward to continuing to serve the Legionnaires and Veterans of his community.

Jeff's Catering & Event Center in Brewer Hosts Annual State Convention

The American Legion, Department of Maine celebrated its 101st Annual State Convention for the first time at Jeff's Catering & Event Center in Brewer on June 7-8. Many of those in attendance, including 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 event.

The American Legion Family received lots of positive feedback with the exception of only a few areas that still need to be worked out making this years convention a great success. Plans are already underway for Jeff's Catering to host next year's Annual State Convention June 12-13, 2020.

The 101st Annual State Convention began Friday, June 7 at 9:00 a.m. with the Resolutions Committee meeting. With no resolutions submitted this year, no further action was required.

At 12 noon, Department Commander Scott Paradis of Newport called the con-

vention to order in proper form and Past Department Commander Anthony "Tony" Jordan welcomed all those in attendance. Attendees were then greeted by Brewer City Mayor Matthew Vachon who welcomed everyone to the Brewer area.

Several guest speakers addressed this group of Legionnaires both Friday and Saturday including Rep. Michael Noyes who spoke on behalf of Senator Susan Collins, Rep. Edi Smith on behalf of Angus King, Rep. Pam Trinward on behalf of Congresswoman Pingree, and Congressman Jared Golden who gave greetings to those in attendance during the State Convention Installation of Officers. Also joining us this year were Secretary of State Matthew Dunlap, MVH Director of Public Relation Devin Robinson Assistant Director of Togus VA Regional Benefits Office Chris Smith, Strategic Relation Manager Brenda Pennels from Martin's Point Health Care, Maine Veteran Honor Flight Board Chairperson Laurie Sidelinger and a

More on CONVENTION, Page 4

Legion Act Signed into Law

In a significant legislative victory for The American Legion, President Trump signed a bill July 30 that declares the United States has been in a state of war since Dec. 7, 1941.

The American Legion sought the declaration as a way to honor approximately 1,600 U.S. servicemembers who were killed or wounded during previously undeclared periods of war.

The LEGION Act (Let Everyone Get Involved In Opportunities for National Service Act) also opens the door for approximately 6 million veterans to access American Legion programs and benefits for which they previously had not been eligible.

"Recognizing the service of these wartime veterans is the right thing to do and it is long overdue," National Commander Brett Reistad said. "The families of those who were killed or wounded during these wartime acts should take pride in knowing that we recognize their sacrifice and service. Moreover, we are proud to welcome any of the six million living veterans from the previously unrecognized periods into our organization and call them 'Legionnaires.'"

Now that the legislation has been signed, The American Legion's eligibility criteria immediately changes from seven war eras to two: April 6, 1917, to Nov. 11, 1918, and Dec. 7, 1941 to a time later determined by the federal government. No other restrictions to American Legion membership are changed.

The law's journey began on Feb. 14 when Sen. Kyrsten Sinema, D-Ariz., introduced S. 504, along with Sen. Thom Tillis, R-N.C. A companion measure, H.R. 1641, was introduced in the House

by Reps. Lou Correa, D-Calif., and Ben Cline, R-Va.

Reistad expressed gratitude to the bipartisan members of Congress for passing the legislation.

"We are grateful that President Trump fully acknowledges the importance of The American Legion by signing the LEGION Act in the White House today – just one week after it passed the House of Representatives," Reistad said. "In an era of partisan gridlock, Republicans and Democrats in Congress overwhelmingly recognized the importance of allowing thousands of honorable but previously ineligible veterans the right to join the largest and most influential veterans organization in the country."

Reistad pointed out that existing American Legion membership applications are in the process of being updated but can still be used. "In the meantime, I recommend that prospective Legionnaires and recruiters write 'LEGION Act' in the eligibility date section of American Legion membership applications if they fall outside the previous war eras," Reistad said. "The larger pool of veterans now eligible for The American Legion will also open their family members to eligibility in the Sons of the American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary as well."

—www.legion.org
The American Legion—July 30, 2019

Please visit Page 8 of this publication for available options as to how eligible Service members can join The American Legion and become a Maine Legionnaire!



Legion Act—Let Everyone Get Involved in Opportunity for National Service: President Donald J. Trump signs S. 504, the Let Everyone Get Involved in Opportunities for National Service (LEGION) Act Tuesday, July 30, 2019, in the Oval Office of the White House. Official White House.

Photo by Tia Dufour

A 'First' Look

Thank you, my Fellow Legionnaires, for the honor to serve as your 1st Vice Commander for the Department of Maine for 2019-2020.

It was a wonderful Department of Maine Convention in Brewer this year. It is a great new location and everyone worked hard putting it together and making sure all went well.

As we move into Yhe American Legion's 101st year, we will continue to focus on membership. Our Department Commander Matthew Jabaut, brought Kevin Mook, one of our National American Legion Membership Coordinators to Maine in March of this year. He worked for 3 days with Districts 1 and 2 and Legionnaires from around the State, to train us in how to reach out and connect with new members and how to extend the invitation to join their local Posts.

All Districts have been working very hard to reach 100% before July 26. Six districts achieved greater than 100% and a total of 14 districts were at 95% or greater by July 26. District 3 had all Posts at 100% or above. I applaud all for the great job that they have done.

As of July 26, Maine had moved up to 24th place, in a total of 55 Departments nationwide, on The American Legion Daily Membership Report.

The Department does not want to stop there. We will continue this momentum into this new year. I encourage all of



**DEBRA
COUTURE**

you to attend the Department's Fall Conference in Gray in September. Kevin Mook, who helped to guide the Department in March, will be with us again. Saturday, September, 21, will be the key day of the conference where you can learn how to attract new members and to invite them to join their local Posts. It is a day that you do not want to miss. Carpool and bring as many of your Post members as you can to this meeting.

Additionally, the U.S. House passed the bipartisan Legion Act (Senate bill S.504) on July 23. The President is scheduled to sign it by the end of July. It fills in the gaps of war eras and redefines The American Legion's membership eligibility dates, beginning with the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 and continuing until it is determined the United States is no longer in a state of war. The opportunities for new members with the passage of this bill is enormous. Several Posts that I have visited in the past week have already told me they have new members who have completed the membership forms. They are just waiting for the official OK to submit the paperwork.

Next week, Renee Wells, Area 7 Commander, and I will travel to Indianapolis to attend the American Legion National Membership Workshop. We hope to learn a lot from National membership training coordinators and also get ideas from other states that are in attendance on how they attract and retain members. A report will be put together after our return to give all a summary of what was presented. It will be sent out to all Department Officers and Area and District Commanders before the Fall Conference.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer. Stay cool, if possible. Blessings to all and remember to put **September 21** on your schedule. **See you in Gray.** Thank you.

Americanism Report

Comrades, first I thank you for allowing me the opportunity and privilege of being the Department Americanism Officer for another year.

This year, I would like to have at least one Flag Detail Team in each district, a team that will teach Flag Etiquette, and also attend as needed to funerals and memorials for our departed brothers and sisters.

It is time to get the Post Oratorical Scholarship Committees working and into the schools as soon as they resume. We need to get the information and applications out as soon as possible. Remember it



**ALFRED
MCKAY**

is open to all High School students, public, private, Christian, or Home schooled. Let's get 17 in the competition this year.

This is also a good time to start promoting Boy's State while you are in the schools. It is only 10 months until Boys State delegates' names need to be into the Department Headquarters.

Let us get with local schools and offer assistants with Veterans Day Programs, Flag Day, Memorial Day, etc., or maybe something like meet and talk with a Veteran, read to a class wearing your Legion Flight Cap.

Let's get active in our communities, get out and about to get the good name and programs of The American Legion out there. A great way to help achieve this is by attending the **PORTLAND SEA DOGS MAINE LEGION DAY AT HADLOCK FIELD**. The Seadogs will host the Department of Maine American Legion, Sunday, August 11 at 1:00 p.m. Gates open at 11:30 a.m.; mention the American Legion when purchasing your tickets. LET'S fill the stands with Legion hats.

NEC Update

Hello fellow Legionnaires.

As I was thinking about what I would write on for the upcoming issue of the paper, someone asked me just what the National Executive Committee does. After thinking on it for a moment, I responded that the NEC is somewhat like a Board of Directors for a civilian organization.

As stated in the National Constitution, Article VII titled National Executive Committee, the Committee has the administrative power vested in it, which shall be composed of the National Commander, the National Vice Commanders and one National Executive Committeeman and one Alternate from each Department with the alternate to act only in the absence of the National Executive Committeeman. All Past National Commanders while in good standing in their respective Posts, shall be members for life, without vote with vote to be exercised by them with their respective Departments.



**LLOYD
WOODS**

The Committee meets in a designated location at least twice a year, May and October, along with two meetings at National Convention, one prior to convention and one following or post-convention. As stated above, the meetings are mainly to cover any resolutions submitted to it prior to the scheduled meetings or prior to National Convention.

Each National Committeeman or Alternate in the absence of the National Committeeman represents the Department members and the Departments they are elected by for a term of office of two years. The term of office is as stated in Article VII, National Executive Committee, Section 2 of the National Constitution. Another source of information on the Committee is the Rules of the National Executive Committee of The American Legion adopted by the NEC on 11/21-22/1940 and revised 5/9-10/2012.

I consider being the Department of Maine's and your representative on this very important National Committee one of privilege and promise to do my best in representing you in any actions that may arise before it. I am available to assist anyone who asks just contact me. I will do my best to comply with your request(s).

Again, thank you for all that you do and will do for our great organization, The American Legion, Department of Maine.

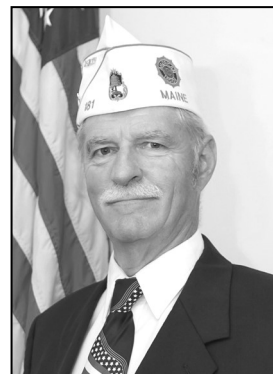
PROUD TO SERVE



Oakland Post 51 Award: National Executive Committeeman Lloyd Woods, left, presents Oakland Post 51 Commander Gary Grant, right, with a 100% Membership Certificate during Oakland Post 51 Installation of Officers on June 1.

Money Matters

As I sit here considering what I am going to write about, first I would like to thank Tommy Adkins for his hard work over the past 6 years in getting us to where we are in the Department today. Financially, Tommy, along with John Har- greaves, has helped to move the Department from renting a space from one of Maine's American Legion Posts to owning



**GREGORY
COUTURE**

a piece of property, which has brought not only the American Legion but the American Legion Auxiliary and the Sons of the American Legion into one location. This has truly made us an American Legion Family.

As with anyone taking on a new position, you always review what was done in the past and look for ways to improve the process. That is where I find myself today and I will endeavor to do my best to move the Department forward.

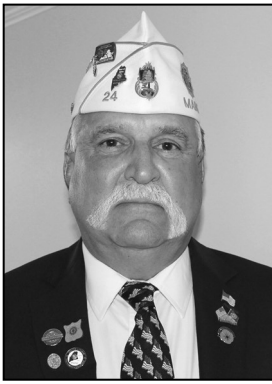
Long term, as your Department Finance Officer, I am working to understand the details of the last audit and to make sure to keep us on the right track, spending your funds properly, and getting the most bang for your buck.

Thank you for your support as your Department Finance Officer.



A 'Second' Look

It is an honor and privilege to serve as your 2nd Vice Commander for the coming year. I was fortunate enough this year to spend a few days at our Dirigo Boys State Program at Thomas College. The quality of young men that attended this year was very impressive



**KIRK
THURSTON**

and I would dare say that our future is in good hands. The dedicated staff of volunteers is remarkable to say the least. The boys and staff enjoyed seeing Legion Caps throughout the week, from the opening ceremony to the graduation. I strongly encourage you Legionnaires next year to attend any of the daily events. Stop by the Dirigo Boys State office to obtain a copy of the schedule. This year's Governor elect for Dirigo Boys State was Lucas Wright from Scarborough. If his name sounds familiar, it should. He has competed in our Oratorical contest for the last few years. The Samsung scholarship awardee this year is William Bradley of Stockton Springs.

On the Fourth of July, myself, the Commander and his Sergeant-At-Arms attended ceremonies at Buckfield and Turner. At Buckfield, Commander Jabaut fired the founding family's musket (the Brown Betsy) quite the honor. History of the musket is as follows: The "Kings Arm"

musket was brought from England in 1683 by Thomas Parris and used in the French and Indian War. It has been handed down in the Parris family each generation to the oldest son. When the news of the signing of the Declaration of Independence reached Pembroke, Massachusetts, where the family lived, the "Old Gun" was fired in celebration and has been fired on the Fourth of July every year since. It has been fired on two other historic occasions, Armistice Day, November 11, 1918 signifying the end of World War I and on D.E. Day victory in Europe, May 8, 1945, World War II. Donated to the Zadoc Long Free library in Buckfield, Maine, by Marion (Parris) Smith daughter of Edward L. Parris. It has been owned by Captain. Josiah Parris (Revolutionary War soldier of Buckfield) 1760-1851, Virgil Delphini Parris 1807-1874, Edward Lowden Parris 1873-1921 and Edward Lowden Parris Jr. 1887-1950.

In Turner, we joined Legionnaires from Buckfield and Turner to march in their annual parade. This is the second time that I have participated in this parade and it amazes me how appreciative and proud the locals are of the parade and their veterans.

I am currently working on our Mid-Winter conference schedule. If there is a topic that you would like to see covered please send me an e-mail (fuzzyt3@roadrunner.com) and I'll see what can be done.

By the time this is published, summer will have finished and I hope all was able to enjoy some of the great weather that we had. Hopefully you were able to see a Legion Baseball game or two. Hope to see you at Fall Conference in Gray. Safe travels.



Past State Commanders: American Legion, Dept. of Maine Past State Commanders together at the 101st Annual State Convention in Brewer on June 8. Left to right, Peter Johnson (2016), Richard Graves (2014), Andrew Olson (2009), Paul L'Heureux (2007), Lloyd Woods (2005), Donald Cole Jr. (1995), Ronald Sailor (1989), Anthony Jordan (1979), and Randall Kluj (2017). Standing at the podium is State Commander Scott Paradis (2018).

Photo by Dept. Historian Jeffrey Stevenson



Appreciation Award: Department Adjutant Paul L'Heureux, left, presents Outgoing Department Commander Scott Paradis with an Appreciation plaque at the Annual State Convention in Brewer on June 8 for his dedicated service to The American Legion, Department of Maine as State Commander during the 2018-19 year.

Photo by Dept. Historian Jeffrey Stevenson

On the Agenda

SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

District 5 – Oxford: Sept. 17, Oxford Post 112, 7 p.m., refreshments after mtg.
District 9 – Kennebec: Sept. 11, Oakland Post 51, 7 p.m.
District 11 – Waldo: Sept. 15, Brooks Post 183, 2 p.m.
District 14 – Piscataquis: Sept. 14, Guilford Post 119, lunch noon, mtg. 1 p.m.

OCTOBER MEETINGS

District 5 – Oxford: Oct. 15, Buckfield Post 58, 7 p.m., Pumpkin pie after mtg.
District 9 – Kennebec: Oct. 9, Winthrop Post 40, 7 p.m.
District 12 – Hancock: Oct. 8, Bar Harbor Post 25, 6:30 p.m. dinner, 7:30 p.m. mtg.
District 14 – Piscataquis: Oct. 19, Milo Post 41, lunch noon, mtg. 1 p.m.
District 15 – Washington: Oct. 13, Pembroke Post 59, 2 p.m.
District 17 – N. Aroostook: Oct. 6, Ft. Kent Post 133, dinner 1 p.m., mtg. 2 p.m.

NOVEMBER MEETINGS

District 5 – Oxford: Nov. 19, Bethel Post 81, 7 p.m., refreshments after mtg.
District 7 – Lincoln: Nov. 18, Wiscasset Post 54, 6:30 p.m.
District 9 – Kennebec: Nov. 13, Gardiner Post 4
District 11 – Waldo: Nov. 17, Palermo Post 163, 2 p.m.
District 12 – Hancock: Dec. 12, Northeast Harbor Post 103, 6:30 p.m. dinner, 7:30 p.m.
District 13 – Penobscot: Nov. 3, Lincoln Post 77, 2 p.m. Refreshments served.
District 14 – Piscataquis: Nov. 16, Monson Post 116, lunch noon, mtg. 1 p.m.
District 16 – S. Aroostook: Nov. 2, Houlton Post 47, 1 p.m. Meal is at discretion of the Post.
District 17 – N. Aroostook: Nov. 17, Frenchville Post 145, refreshments 1 p.m., mtg. 2 p.m.

The Adjutant Speaks

I hope you are enjoying the summer no matter where you are at this time. I must start off by thanking all who attended the State Convention for your patience because of a last-minute change to another facility. I made note of a few adjustments but overall the comments were very positive especially about the food preparation, quality and service. A special thank you to all those Legionnaires who took the time to step up and help overcome a few issues upon arrival. As your State Adjutant, I must tell you that I have not seen so many new faces and younger members with a positive attitude willing to make a difference in our organization. They are coming and they are our future. Thank you again.

There are more changes happening at your HQ starting with the POW-MIA Wall dedication on September 28th at 11:00 AM. There will be a few guest speakers including our National Commander and acknowledgements to those in the community that donated time, equipment and material to make this all come about. There will be time after the event to meet fellow Legionnaires, Community, and State leaders and food and beverages will be provided.

Please make every attempt to attend this historical event that all can be very proud of.

On another level at your HQ we have recently applied for a grant for Veterans Emergency Financial Assistance Program (VEFAP) and it became a reality in June. Because of the grant we can now assist those in need that we were not able to do so in the past because of limited funds. In order to accomplish this task, we need the help of all 177 Posts in The American Legion in the State of Maine. There is an application that can be acquired on our webpage (mainelegion.org) or you can call the office for an application. What we need from you is to reach out to that Veteran in your community and help guide them with the process. We want the local Post involved so we can verify certain information that we may need in order to help the Veteran. In a short time, we have had many success stories because of a local Post's involvement. We have a set of guidelines to follow and will work with the Veterans to try to meet his/her needs. We also can direct them to our Service Office for filing a claim or to other programs that we are aware of. We have even teamed up with the Post and have really made a difference in a short period of time.

It has been a very busy summer for many of us to make these two events part of our history, but as you can see, it has been an effort of Veterans helping Veterans. We would appreciate your support by attending the event on September 28th and reaching out to those Veterans in need. FORWARD & FOCUSED



**PAUL
L'HEUREUX**

Membership is Everybody's
RESPONSIBILITY

THE MAINE Legionnaire

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MAINE



Official Newspaper of The American Legion, Dept. of Maine.
Published at Sun Press, 104 Park Street, Lewiston, Maine,
by The American Legion — Department of Maine.
Business Office, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, ME 04901-0727

Website: www.mainelegion.org

Tel.: 207-873-3229 Fax: 207-872-0501

Email: rachael@mainelegion.org

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/maineamericanlegion>

Paul L'Heureux, Editorial Director
Rachael Currie, Managing Editor & Layout Editor

Third Class Postage paid at Waterville, Maine

Subscription for Maine Legionnaires \$2 as a part of their dues.

Other subscription Rate \$10 a year.
Average Circulation: 22,000.

CONVENTION

(Continued from Page 1)

special presentation from Masonry Services, Richard Ware regarding the POW/MIA Memorial from Concept to Construction.

Various committee reports also took place during this two day event by committee chairmen as well as special awards to some impressive individuals for achievement in their particular field. This year's Law Enforcement Officer of the Year was awarded to Officer Curt Andrick of Warren and EMT/Paramedic of the Year went to Kevin Curry of Union. Two Firefighter of the Year awards were presented this year to: Brunswick Fire/Ems Crew 3, including Captain Matthew Barnes, Firefighters Alan Boucher, Michael Dube, Justin Hagar, Steven Lunn, Dale Real, Deane Stanton, and Peter Wild, and Rumford Fire Department including Firefighters Christopher Arsenault and Ray Crockett. Humanitarian Citizen of the Year award was presented to Brycen Waugh of Mexico, Post Service Officer Award to Joy Bordeau of Rumford Post 24, Department Commander's Award to Allan Benner of Waldoboro, Outstanding Post Commander (Tony's Tiger) to Curtis Merrill, Naples Post 155, Outstanding District Commander (Roger's Rangers) to District 6 Commander Raymond Lewis and our own special surprise announcement for Legionnaire of the Year to Department of Maine Chaplain and recently elected Department Sergeant-at-Arms Patricia Thurston.

A complete listing of all special awards and scholarships presented during the 101st Annual State Convention can be seen on page 12 of this edition of The Maine Legionnaire.

The ceremony honoring the outgoing Department Commander Scott Paradis took place Saturday afternoon, conducted

by Department Adjutant Paul L'Heureux. Commander Paradis thanked everyone for their support and for a great year while Commander of The American Legion, Department of Maine. Following his response, the Chairman of Credentials Committee, Brian Knowlton read off the voting results for the 2019-20 Department officers: Department Commander Matthew Jabaut, Topsham Post 202; Department First Vice Commander Debra Couture, Litchfield Post 181; Department Second Vice Commander Kirk Thurston, Rumford Post 24; Department Adjutant Paul L'Heureux, Auburn Post 153; Department Finance Officer Gregory Couture, Litchfield Post 181; Department Historian Jeffrey Stevenson, Bath Post 21; Department Americanism Officer Alfred McKay, Damariscotta Post 42; and Department Sgt.-At-Arms Patricia Thurston, Rumford Post 24.

The 101st Annual State Convention concluded late Saturday afternoon, June 8, with our Sweepstakes drawing. The lucky winner for the top prize of \$1500 was awarded to Frederic Sanborn, Fairfield Post 14; \$500 to Lloyd Reynolds, Falmouth Post 164; \$300 to Richard Maguire, Cape Elizabeth Post 152; and \$200 to Robert Gilman, Westbrook Post 62. The convention adjourned at 2:30 p.m. after the Memorial Service-Post Everlasting and Retirement of Colors. The Legion Family then gathered for installation of Legion, Auxiliary, and Sons of The American Legion 2019-20 officers.

Sunday morning saw the DEC meet at 8:00 a.m. where the committee reviewed the various items on the agenda and other topics of business of the Department of Maine.

Thanks goes out to everyone who made this year's Annual State Convention a huge success.

Article by Rachael Currie, Office Manager
American Legion, Dept. of Maine

Looking Back; Then Marching Forward

Fellow Legionnaires, this is perhaps the last time that I will address you as the Chair of the Department of Maine 100th Anniversary committee. I give thanks to other members of the committee and fellow Legionnaires who have worked tirelessly to make our 100th Anniversary a success. The 100th Anniversary season of celebration ends with the National Convention this year.

When the Department first considered this tremendous opportunity, it was decided that the Department would embrace the following slogan; "Looking Back; then Marching Forward". It would also encourage Districts and Posts to do the same.

The celebration has been good for Legionnaires of Maine. We had a centennial parade, minted a centennial coin, published the Maine American Legion 100th Anniversary Members Directory, and have a centennial plaque now hanging in the Maine State Hall of Flags. Also, the Department has the book I wrote honoring our first 100 State Commanders. There has been a great amount of public exposure and we are ready to reap the awards of increased interest and membership.

Many Posts have had 100th Anniversary parties or other celebratory events which have showcased what the Legion has done and continues to do for Veterans.

As the time for celebration is ebbing away; I am reminded of the words of our first National Commander Franklin D'Olier when he retired as National Command-

er. I will share an excerpt from that speech which is as relevant today, as it was back at our 2nd National Convention.

"Our responsibilities at this convention in coming months and in distant years, will be heavy. To succeed, we must make use of two strong and inherent American characteristics – common sense and tolerance. More and more must the Legion become the friendly meeting place of Americans of diverse but sincere opinions. The West, the East, the South, and the North must continue to unite in our membership to exchange ideas and ideals. Of each man only this much must be required – the he has served America, has faith in America, and cherishes her free institutions".

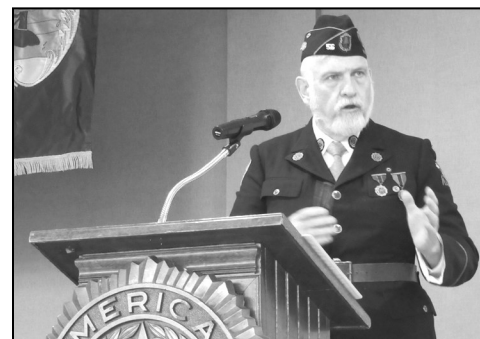
Comrades, we have looked back; now is the time to be "Marching forward". March forward with knowledge of what the Legion has accomplished in the past, an appreciation of the opportunities we have in our future, and a tenacity to support our Veterans through the four pillars of The American Legion.

As we begin the march forward into The American Legion's next 100 years; let us be mindful to use common sense and be tolerant with each other so that our Legion can be "the friendly meeting place of Americans of diverse but sincere opinions" our first National Commander envisioned.

By Donald G. Hands
Department 100th Anniversary Chairman

Farewell Address: Donald G. Hands speaks at the State Convention with his farewell address as the Chair of Department 100th Anniversary Committee.

Photo by Dept. Historian Jeffrey Stevenson



Adjutant Of The Year:

State Commander Scott Paradis, right, presents Camden Post 30 Adjutant Jeff Sukeforth, left, with Adjutant of the Year Award at the 101st Annual State Convention in Brewer on June 8. Congratulating Jeff for his achievement is District 2 Adjutant and Committee Chairman David Tanguay, center.

A Final Goodbye Speech: Department Finance Officer Tommy Adkins gives his final goodbye speech along with his last and final update on Department Finances to those attending the Annual State Convention in Brewer on June 8. Tommy volunteered his services from 2013-2019 serving as Department Finance Officer for The American Legion, Department of Maine.

Thank You Tommy Adkins!
You Will Be Forever Missed!!!

Photo by Department Historian Jeffrey Stevenson



President's Message

A warm hello to our Legion family,

First, I bring greetings, congratulations and best wishes with everyone's new Offices and roles within the Department of Maine. 2018-2019 was a wonderful year for fostering and leading by the idea of "The Legion Family." The environment and attitudes displayed exuded teamwork as we accomplished so many great things, together, or supporting the other in their projects.

It is my honor to serve as your 2019-2020 President and I am even more excited about being the American Legion Auxiliaries' Centennial President for the Department of Maine. I hope that all our Units will celebrate the event in some way. It is also my hopes that Post Families will embrace the Birthday as well and that everyone helps document all that the American Legion Family does. When planning your event or celebration ask yourself, what is the legacy that you want to leave for the next birthday, the 200th birthday, 100 years from now?

I look forward to a great year with The American Legion Commander Matthew Jabaut, the Sons of the American Legion Detachment Commander Ron Marr and Legion Rider Director Mike Llamend. I'm sure that we will all be doing some "Shaking Things Up" and trying new ideas through-out the year. The old saying goes, "If nothing changes, then nothing changes." The growth of today's "American Legion Family" depends strongly on our ability to be open minded



**PRESIDENT
VIRGINIA CHAPUT**

to new ideas. To embrace the bold and risky and be willing to do what might not have worked the first time or that we have never done that way.

After the last two Presidents incredible projects and the success they were, the P.O.W. Memorial at Department Headquarters, and the Stryker Chairs acquired for Togus V.A. I must admit I was a bit concerned about my ability to come up with a project that would be worthy and that would commemorate the Centennial year.

Time spent with our Veterans, their families, and Communities has dwindled over the years. It may be a case of not enough reporting, but with the very busy lives we all juggle while including our Legion Family commitments, sometimes it has become easier to write a check.

The joy an hour brings to a Veteran, a senior in our community, or a school aged child is priceless, and if you are like me, I get more from that time then I could possibly give to any of them. It feeds the soul and your heart with warmth. I apologize for preaching to the choir, so I'll get to the point. This year, I hope that we will all give a little more time to the ones we support.

While the money we donate is much needed, time costs so much less and is needed and appreciated even more. Let's invest time in our Veterans, their Families and Communities while we invest our fundraising and donations in our programs.

Please consider contributing to either the Auxiliary Emergency Fund or The Legion Foundation or both. By contributing to those programs, we are helping our own, and that help is what we stand for, we are the Veterans, their Families and Community.

Keep Inspiring and Mentoring for the next 100 years.

Respectfully, Virginia (Ginny) Chaput, President American Legion Auxiliaries, Department of Maine 2019-2020

Newly Installed Department Auxiliary

President: Past Dept. Auxiliary President Joan Caron watches as Dept. Auxiliary Parliamentarian Charlotte Hagan pins newly installed American Legion Dept. Auxiliary President Virginia (Ginny) Chaput during Installation Ceremony June 8 at Jeff's Catering & Event Center, Brewer.



Member Appreciation

Banquet Attendees: Auxiliary officers and staff in attendance during Member Appreciation Banquet held at Jeff's Catering & Event Center in Brewer on June 7. Left to right, Auxiliary Office Assistant Lillian Frace, Auxiliary Dept. of Maine Sgt.-At-Arms Veronica Gurney, and Vice President/ newly installed Department of Maine Auxiliary President Virginia (Ginny) Chaput.

Photos by Dept. Historian Jeff Stevenson

— Your Letters —

Scholarship Reward Thank you

American Legion,
I would like to take the time and say thank you for rewarding me with this scholarship. I am very excited to start my next adventure at Thomas College. Once again, thank you so much for rewarding me with this scholarship.

Sincerely,
Aubrey Schaeffer

other people's lives with the work that I am able to do in the future.

Once again, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to excel academically, which certainly will influence the trajectory of my life.

Sincerely,
Rachel Morse

Scholarship Helps Pursue Dreams of Higher Education

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to take this time to thank your board members for helping me pursue my dreams of higher education. I am very grateful for your scholarship, I cannot even begin to describe how much it means to me. I promise that I will remain on the path that you so graciously helped set me on. This scholarship will help me achieve the many dreams and goals that I have given myself. I cannot thank you enough for giving me this amazing opportunity. I assure that it will be used to the best of my abilities. Once again, I thank you for helping me to continue my education.

Warmly,
Lauren Headley

Amazing Experience at Dirigo Boys State

Dear American Legion,

Thank you for granting me the amazing opportunity to attend the "Dirigo Boys State" program at Thomas College. A highlight of the program for me was working with other students while we learned through experience how government processes work.

As a Maine resident with a strong interest in our state's political future, your program very much peaked my interest. Supplementing my studies with this kind of experience is a valuable way to start developing a career.

Again, thank you so much for allowing me these opportunities. They really give me vision and excitement as I look forward to making plans for my life after high school.

Sincerely,
William Colvin

Special Thanks for Putting out Flags

Special Thanks to all who helped from Post 30 American Legion, Camden for putting out flags on Veterans graves in Youngtown and the Upper and Lower Cemetery's on Heal Rd. yesterday in prep for upcoming Memorial Day.

If you know of a Veteran buried in one of these sites who didn't receive a flag let me know!

It's nice to get this done early!

Flags will remain out until after Nov. 11th in honor of Veterans Day. At some point after that we will be looking for volunteers to help take them down!

Rosey Gerry
American Legion Post 30

Scholarship Helps Support Future Endeavors

To The American Legion:

I would like to express my sincerest gratitude for the very gracious scholarship granted to me by your organization. This scholarship will go a long way in supporting my future academic endeavors.

As you may already know, I plan to attend the University of Southern Maine in the fall to pursue a business degree. My hope is to use this degree especially for nonprofit work, though I also have an interest in entrepreneurship and marketing. Simply put, I hope that this scholarship will not only help me, but change

Children & Youth Scholarship Provides more Opportunities

To The American Legion Department of Maine Children and Youth Scholarship Committee,

I would like to thank you for the scholarship award you provided me for the 2019-2020 academic year. This allows me to have many more opportunities in my secondary education in which I greatly appreciate it. I hope to use this scholarship in the best possible way and give back to the community in which they gave to me. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,
Emily Vraux



Service Office Update

So many things to talk about, that I do not know where to start. We are entering the hottest part of the summer, which means that football season is right around the corner. It also means that our older Veteran comrades maybe struggling.

Please continue to conduct buddy checks in your area. It truly can save a life. In July, I had the honor to conduct Service Officer training to 14 high motivated Legion family members in Caribou. That was a great time, and I look forward to continuing to conduct classes up there again. Although next time Joe needs to provide pizza for lunch. I am also in the process of getting pins made up for all graduates for the course. Hopefully that can be done very soon. If you have gone through the Service Officer class that I instructed, I owe you one.

Latest and greatest from the VA on Blue Water Navy. The Secretary of the VA has issued a stay on claims until 1 January of 2020. The only claims that will be processed before that time are Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA) decisions dated before July 1, 2019. While the waiting game continues, there are a couple of things that we can do. First, if you have a presumptive condition due to exposure to Agent Orange and have never filed a claim, please contact our office to submit a letter of intent at least. If you have previously filed and were denied, you should not have to do anything. It looks like unless the situation changes, they will go back to the previous denial. As I get more information, I will put it out.

In the last article, I talked about the Appeals Modernization Act. Considering it is a major change in the way the VA does appeals, it seems that at the VA level it is running smoothly. We are still seeing a few cases where Veterans are filing for conditions on the wrong form. Remember that if a Veteran has ever been denied for a condition, that condition must be filed as a Supplemental Claim Review. No matter when the condition was originally denied. This makes it a little harder for us to file a claim without having visibility of the claim file. As for the changes to the BVA, it is too early to tell. I can tell you that they now do

all the scheduling of hearings. It is out of the hands of the regional office. If you receive a letter from the BVA about a hearing, you must contact our office if we represent you. We catch most of them, but if we do not contact you, you **MUST** contact us. We need the time to schedule a meeting and tighten up the case.

PLEASE READ AND RESPOND TO YOUR MAIL FROM THE VA!

APPEALS OF CLAIMS. The appeals process is no longer the strict structure it was. If your decision was after Feb. 19, you fall under the AMA. There are now five lanes you can choose from. The first two are at the regional level. They are called supplemental review and higher-level review. Then there are three ways to appeal directly to the Board of Veterans Appeals. They are direct, evidence only, and hearing. The time limit is now one year from each decision.

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 first Service Officer seminar was amazing. There were 24 students full of questions and eager to help Veterans. If you have that same drive and want to be able to help with confidence, sign up for the next Service Officer training. The next one will be on June 25. If you have any questions, please send me an e-mail at 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.va.gov.

PLEASE USE THE DSO TO TRANSMIT YOUR CLAIMS/ EVIDENCE TO THE VA; THIS ENSURES 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,

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.



**SERVICE OFFICER
CARL CURTIS**



Service Officer Of The Year: Assistant Department Service Officer Maureen Malley, right, presents this year's Service Officer of the Year Award to Rumford Post 24 Service Officer Joy Bordeau, left, at the Annual State Catering & Event Center, Brewer on June 8.

*Photo by Dept. Historian
Jeffrey Stevenson*



Largest Service Officers Class held at The American Legion Department of Maine on Apr. 30, 2019. 1st row, left to right, Gary Kennedy, Tom Connors, Renee Wells, Raymond, Longlin, and Phil Rodgers. 2nd row, left to right, Peggy Brewer, Scott Brewer, Henry Dumont, Randy Canwell, Maura Quirk, James Gehring, Charles Green, Norm Carver, and Frank Carr. 3rd row, left to right, Steve Simard, Ron Edson, Jeff Wright, Bill O'Neil, Richard Quirk, Michael Brewer, Don Mulcahy, Rod Collins, Carl Olson, and George Labbe-Babin.

2019 Dirigo Boys State Awards and Happenings



Governors From Maine: Maine State Governor Janet Mills, right, was the Keynote Speaker for the Dirigo Boys State General Assembly held June 19 at Thomas College. She is seen here with Dirigo Boys State Governor Lucas Wright of Scarborough, Dirigo Town of Hunton who was voted in as Governor of Dirigo by his peers.



Leroy Keller Citizenship Award: Wyatt Sykes of Waldoboro, Dirigo Town of Williamson receives the Leroy Keller Citizenship Award. Standing back, left to right is Dirigo Boys State Director Shawn Babine and Assistant Director for Student Engagement Bill Jack.



Legionnaire & Counselor: “Doc” Clayton enjoys his 4th year on staff as a Counselor for Dirigo Boys State. Doc is a current member of Eliot Post 188.



Boys State Delegate Photo Op With Governor Mills during General Assembly held in Ayotte Theatre at Thomas College in Waterville June 19.

Young Men Learn What it Takes to Work in Government at 72nd Dirigo Boys State

WATERVILLE, Maine (WABI) - 200 of Maine's brightest young men are attending American Legion Boys State in Waterville this week.

They're learning the governmental process.

Some are a bit surprised by how difficult a job in government really is.

Nick Cohen and Zachary Weeks are acting as Senate President and Speaker of this House this week at Dirigo Boys State.

Weeks says, "We're working on parliamentary procedure right now to get the kinks out and everything."

In its 72nd session, the program teaches rising seniors the process of municipal and state government.

Lucas Wright was voted in as Governor

of Dirigo by his peers.

Wright says, "I have the ability to sign in laws. I have the ability to veto laws and essentially I am, the buck stops here. I am the last person a bill sees and I oversee all the other branches as well. It is a lot of responsibility."

The young men have exactly one week to form a governmental body, present legislation and vote on it, a shortened version of a typical legislative session.

But none the less challenging.

Wright says, "I didn't expect it to be this much work. I always thought politicians should be a part time job but now I realize it's not a part time job. It's challenged me in a way I've never been challenged before and it grows me as a person."

Matthew LeClair, Asst. Director of Dirigo Boys State says, "The main goal of this is to go back and have them be an educated voter and understand the process around voting. And, if they have issues, know the process to go create the L.D. or who to go to in their town to raise awareness and raise issues so that way they can make change in the world."

Many graduates of Boys State go on to pursue political careers of their own.

Wright says, "Why would you want to be a Governor, why would you want to be a representative. Honestly it's a very tough job. You have to realize the motivations for doing it. It's not for yourself, it's to serve and give back to the people."

—By Emily Tadlock
WABI 5 News, June 19, 2019



Attendees: Department 1st Vice Commander Debra Couture, right, and Past Department Commander, and Greenville Post 94 Commander Peter Johnson, left, in attendance at the 2019 Dirigo Boys State Graduation Ceremony June 20.



Dirigo Boys State Office Staff: The American Legion, Department of Maine Office Manager Rachael Currie, left, and American Legion Auxiliary Secretary Michelle McRae, right, work in the office during Boys State performing administrative duties for the program. This is Rachael's 11th year on staff and Michelle's 32nd year.

Presentation of Colors: The Maine Warden Service Color Guard posts the colors for the Graduation Ceremony prior to introductions presented by Dirigo Boys State Dir. Shawn Babine, left.



Boys State 2019 Award Winners

Award	Delegate's Name	Dirigo Town	Maine Town
Boys Nation Delegate #1	Lucas Wright	Hunton	Scarborough
Boys Nation Delegate #2	Zachary Weeks	Lincoln	Houlton
Boys Nation Alternate #1	Jacob Huesers	King	Winslow
Boys Nation Alternate #2	Derrick Spaulding	Cutler	Knox
James Boyle Winner	Nathan Mars	Hall	Scarborough
James Boyle Alternate	Owen Flibbert	Ames	Windham
Alexander LaFleur Winner	Syd Sanders	Ames	Belfast
Alexander LaFleur Alternate	Hunter Glidden	Cutler	Winthrop
Samsung Scholarship Governor	William Bradley	Ames	Stockton Springs
Senate President	Lucas Wright	Hunton	Scarborough
Speaker of the House	Nick Cohen	Lincoln	Gray
Chief Justice	Zachary Weeks	Hall	Greenville
Municipal Best Citizens	Nathan Mars	Hall	Scarborough
Ames	Daniel Jackson	Ames	Topsham
Cutler	Cameron Coyle	Cutler	Bangor
Hall	Tom Watt	Hall	Greenville
Hunton	Damon Underwood	Hunton	Presque Isle
King	Levi Sturtevant	King	Litchfield
Lincoln	Nicholas Cohen	Lincoln	Gray
Parris	Rodney Barnett Jr	Parris	Alton
Williamson	Wyatt Sykes	Williamson	Waldoboro
Leroy Keller Award	Wyatt Sykes	Williamson	Waldoboro
Best Exam	Lucas Wright	Hunton	Scarborough
Runners-up highest exam scores	William Colvin	Hall	Readfield
	Quinn Straus	Lincoln	Newcastle
	Alexander Tully	Williamson	Surry

Membership Renewals

Membership in The American Legion is based on a calendar-year from January 1st to December 31st. When a member pays their dues, they are paid up for that membership year. They will also receive twelve monthly subscriptions to The American Legion Magazine.

The renewal process begins in July for the upcoming membership year. Renewal notices are sent out in July, October, January, March and May. When a

member renews, they are removed from future renewal notices for that year. There are times when a member pays their dues, but they still receive a renewal notice. If dues are paid to the local post, it takes a little longer for national to be notified about the renewal and the member may receive another renewal notice. If this occurs, please check with your local post to ensure they have received your dues.

—www.legion.org

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP ONLINE TODAY!

VISIT WWW.MAINELEGION.ORG OR
VISIT WWW.LEGION.ORG/RENEW

How to Become a Maine Legionnaire! It's Easy—Join Today!

Veterans who qualify can join The American Legion in Maine by using one of following options:


Option 1: Join the traditional way—fill out the form provided below and give to a recruiter or Legionnaire who will then sign it and take it to a local Post. If a candidate is signed up at a Post, he or she can receive their membership card on the spot or will be sent a new card shortly thereafter.

Option 2: Join via snail mail—fill out the form provided below. Mail the form along with a check in the amount of \$40 to The American Legion, Department of Maine, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, Maine 04901-0727. By joining The American Legion, Department of Maine, you automatically are placed in Headquarters Post 178. If you wish to transfer to a local

Post, please wait until you receive a 9-digit membership ID #, then contact the Post you wish to transfer to.

Option 3: Join online—visit www.mainelegion.org and click on the Join Button. Fill out The American Legion, Department of Maine application and proceed with the payment options provided. By joining The American Legion, Department of Maine, you automatically are placed in Headquarters Post 178. If you wish to transfer to a local Post, please wait until you receive a 9-digit membership ID #, then contact the Post you wish to transfer to.

Need Help! Call The American Legion, Department of Maine at 207-873-3229 and someone will be available to assist you.

The American Legion Membership Application	
(Name)	(Date of Birth)
(Mailing Address)	(Phone Number)
(City)	(State) (Zip) (Post #)
(E-mail)	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female (Gender) (Dues)
<input type="checkbox"/> I certify that I served at least one day of active military duty since December 7, 1941 and was honorably discharged or am still serving honorably. Please check appropriate service era and branch of service below	
<input type="checkbox"/> Global War on Terror <input type="checkbox"/> Gulf War <input type="checkbox"/> Panama <input type="checkbox"/> Lebanon/Grenada <input type="checkbox"/> Vietnam <input type="checkbox"/> Korea <input type="checkbox"/> WWII <input type="checkbox"/> Other Conflicts	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Army <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Navy <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Air Force <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Marines <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Coast Guard <input type="checkbox"/> Merchant Marines (WWII only)
30-009 Signature of applicant _____ Date _____ Name of recruiter _____	

Receipt of Dues (Please Print)

From _____

\$ _____ for 20 _____ Post # _____

Recruiter's Name _____

Recruiter's Signature _____

Recruiter's Phone # _____

Listed below are just a few of the many programs The American Legion sponsors. Please check the one(s) that are of interest to you. If the program you like is not listed, please indicate it in the "other" area.

- ☐ Volunteer work at VA Hospital.
- ☐ Work with youth.
- ☐ Help/participate in Post's social activities... dances, dinners, etc.
- ☐ Participate in educational activities... (essay contests, oratorical contests, scholarships)
- ☐ Work with sports teams.
- ☐ Supervise groups (drill team, drum & bugle, scouts, etc.).
- ☐ Post improvement projects.
- ☐ Membership drives.
- ☐ Community projects.
- ☐ Other: _____
- ☐ Spouse would be interested in the Auxiliary.
- ☐ Son would be interested in the Sons of The American Legion.



Frequently Asked Eligibility Questions

Eligibility Questions

Are you eligible? Here are a few frequently asked questions regarding American Legion eligibility. For any other eligibility questions, feel free to contact us at membership@legion.org or 317-630-1321. You may also contact The American Legion, Department of Maine at 207-873-3229 or via email at legionme@maine.org.

I'm currently on Active Duty. Am I eligible? Yes, you are a veteran. The current eligibility period from is from December 1941 – Present, and includes the current war campaigns. All current active duty military are eligible for membership.

I didn't retire from the military, but was on active duty during one of the qualifying time periods. Am I eligible? Yes, you are a veteran. As long as you have served at least one day of federal active duty during any qualifying period, you are eligible for membership.

I served during one of the qualifying periods, but was never in a combat zone. Am I eligible? Yes, you are a veteran. Location of active duty service is not a consideration for membership.

I'm currently in the National Guard/Reserve. My unit was activated under Title 10 orders during a qualifying time period. Am I eligible? Yes, you are a veteran. Title 10 orders are issued by the Secretary of Defense and therefore are federal orders.

My National Guard unit was activated for crowd control under Title 32 orders during one of the qualifying periods. Am I eligible? No. Title 32 orders are issued under a governor's authority, whereas Title 10 orders are issued from the Secretary of Defense.

I'm currently a cadet at one of the U.S. Military Academies. Am I eligible? Yes, you are a veteran. The American Legion has considered service in the military academies as eligible for membership since WWI.

Can I be an honorary or social member of The American Legion? No. Per National Constitution and By-laws, no form or class of membership is authorized

except regular active or paid up for life.

I served my entire military career in the National Guard/Reserves, and only have a DD214 from my Active Duty for Training that I was in during one of the qualifying dates. Am I eligible? Yes, you are a veteran. In the mid-60's all basic training and occupational training schools were considered federal active duty service.

I served active duty as a SPAR, WAC, WASP, or WAVES during the one of the qualifying periods. Am I eligible? Yes, you are a veteran. Even though women served separately than men, their service is equal.

I served with allied military forces during one of the qualifying periods. Am I eligible? Yes, you are a veteran, only if you were a U.S. citizen at the time of entry.

I served with the Civil Air Patrol/Civilian Technical Corps/USPHS as a civilian during two qualifying periods. Am I eligible? No. Eligible members must have federal military service during a qualifying period and received an honorable discharge or discharge under honorable conditions.

I enlisted and went to basic training, but received an uncharacterized discharge due to a medical condition. Am I eligible? Yes, you are a veteran. Uncharacterized discharges for medical discharges are assumed to be under honorable conditions unless specifically stated otherwise. There are other categories of uncharacterized discharges and before they are determined eligible for membership the discharge should be sent to National for determination and a record will be maintained at National on final determination.

I'm eligible for The American Legion, but do not have a copy of my DD214 to show as proof of eligibility. How can I get one? You can go to archives.gov/veterans to request another copy of your discharge papers. A copy of orders putting you on federal active duty can be used as proof of eligibility as well.

Save a bundle.

USAA members can save when they bundle
USAA home and auto insurance!
Find out how to get your savings.

Get a quote.

➤ USAA.COM/LEGION • 877-699-2654

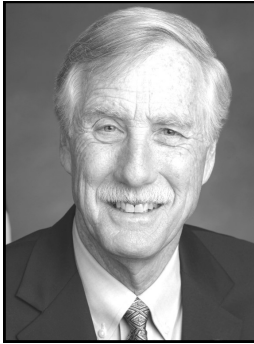


*Multiple product savings do not apply in all states or to all situations. Savings subject to change. Restrictions apply.

Use of the term "member" or "membership" does not convey any eligibility rights for auto and property insurance products, or legal or ownership rights in USAA. Membership eligibility and product restrictions apply and are subject to change. Property and casualty insurance provided by United Services Automobile Association, USAA Casualty Insurance Company, USAA General Indemnity Company, Garrison Property and Casualty Insurance Company, San Antonio, TX, and USAA Ltd. (Europe), and is available only to persons eligible for P&C group membership. Each company has sole financial responsibility for its own products. The American Legion receives financial support for this sponsorship. © 2016 USAA. 223240-0316

Four Decades of Caring for Our Veterans

In June, I had the privilege to travel with a bipartisan group of Senators, including Senator Susan Collins, to Normandy, where we marked the 75th anniversary of the D-Day invasion. It was an unforgettable experience, and Maine was well represented: two



**SENATOR
ANGUS KING**

Maine veterans who served during World War II were present and honored at the event. Charles Shay, a Penobscot Tribal Elder who served as an Army medic on D-Day, and Henry Breton, an Augusta man who fought in the Battle of the Bulge and was one of four brothers to serve during WWII. It should come as no surprise that Maine had such a strong presence at this event, because our state has one of the highest percentages of veterans in the country. They're our friends, our family members, our neighbors, and our heroes.

As I stared out over Omaha Beach, I found myself reflecting upon the importance of meeting our duty to care for those who served. We are fortunate in Maine to have people who know the importance of meeting this responsibility, and work every day to fulfill it. From the VA Center at Togus to Community-Based Outpatient Clinics to private organizations designed to support veterans, there are a number of valuable resources available to our state's veteran community.

But one key part of our state's infrastructure to support veterans often gets less

attention: Vet Centers, which provide community-based counseling for qualified veterans. Through five Maine locations – in Portland, Sanford, Bangor, Lewiston, and Caribou – the VA offers readjustment counseling to combat veterans, counseling for those who have experienced Military Sexual Trauma, and bereavement counseling services. Often staffed by counselors who are veterans themselves, these facilities are vital services for many Maine people, helping veterans readjust to civilian life and assisting their loved ones who are trying to understand and support the transition.

In Normandy, I heard from veterans who could recall an event from 75 years ago as if it happened yesterday, the details forever burned into their mind. These recollections were a reminder that America's veterans carry their days of service with them – both good and bad – in mind and body every day, which is yet another powerful reason we must work diligently to care for them.

Vet Centers have been rising to meet this need for years – in fact, exactly 40 years. June marked four decades since the Vet Centers program was established, and to celebrate this milestone, Maine's five locations held Open Houses which were open to veterans, loved ones, and community members alike. In honor of this anniversary, I want to take this opportunity to commend Vet Centers for all of the important work they've done. I'm grateful for their valuable efforts to support those who have made immense sacrifices in service to our nation.

If you believe that you or someone you know would benefit from working with a Vet Center, please visit www.maine.va.gov/visitors/VetCenters.asp to find the contact information for the nearest location.



Installation Night: Newly elected American Legion Department of Maine State Commander and Commander's Aide/Topsham Post 202 member Caroline Yarmala pause after a busy schedule of convention activities and installation at Jeff's Catering & Event Center in Brewer on June 8.

SAL Plaque Presentation: Maine American Legion Department Commander Scott Paradis, left, presents Sons of The American Legion Commander Scott Morton, right, with a plaque for his services as Detachment Commander of the Department of Maine Sons of The American during the 2018-19 year. The presentation took place at Jeff's Catering & Event Center, Brewer on June 7 during the 101st Annual State Convention. Looking on is SAL National Executive Committeeman Richard (Dickie) Huntley).



D-Day Visit Inspired Awe & Gratitude

“Time will not dim the glory of their deeds.” Those words by General of the Armies John Pershing about the troops who stormed the beaches at Normandy on D-Day, June 6, 1944, certainly rang true as I spoke with American veterans who landed at Omaha and Utah beaches. It was so powerful to meet these courageous men where, 75 years before, they carried out the largest and most difficult and dangerous amphibious assault in history and began their liberation of Nazi-occupied Europe in World War II.

Along with Senator Angus King and 16 other senators, I was part of the official Senate delegation participating in the 75th anniversary of D-Day in June. As we looked at the high cliffs above Omaha that were heavily fortified by the Germans, we were in awe of the courage of the Americans who landed in chest-deep, cold water and immediately faced a barrage of machine-gun fire from the German soldiers from the high bluffs above them. Still the allied soldiers pressed on.

One of those brave soldiers was Charles Shay, an elder of the Penobscot tribe and a graduate of Old Town High School. Just 19 years old on D-Day, he was a medic who repeatedly risked his own life by rescuing wounded and drowning soldiers. Over and over, he returned to the cold water, dragging drowning men to the beach, staunching their bleeding from horrendous wounds, and comforting those who were dying. For his heroism that harrowing day, Shay was awarded a Silver Star. Two years ago, he was also honored at a ceremony dedicating the Charles Shay Indian Memorial in Saint Laurent-sur-Mer Park which overlooks Omaha Beach.

As he showed me his medals, I called Shay a hero. He replied, “No, I am not a hero; I was just doing my job. The real heroes are those who are in that cemetery.”

I also met with World War II Veteran Henry Breton of Augusta, who enlisted at age 18 along with three of his brothers. Breton not only was part of the second wave of landings on D-Day, but also fought in the Battle of the Bulge. My own father was wounded twice in that fierce battle.



**SENATOR
SUSAN COLLINS**

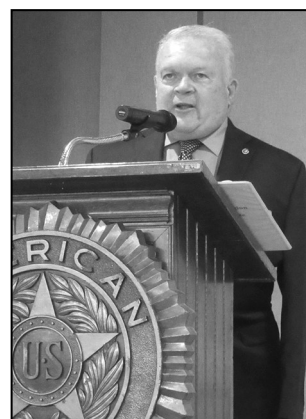
for his service.

At the Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial, rows and rows of white crosses interspersed with white Stars of David mark the graves of more than 9,380 Americans, including 83 Mainers, who lost their lives in the D-Day landings and the battles that followed. How proud I am that the superintendent of the Cemetery and Memorial is another Mainer, Scott Desjardins, a 1977 graduate of Madawaska High School.

Desjardins regards his care of the cemetery and memorial as a sacred duty. As he said to me, the families of those who lost their lives expect us to take exceptional care of their graves, and he wakes up every day thinking about that responsibility.

By the end of June 6, 1944, the Allies had succeeded in establishing a foothold in Nazi-occupied Europe. As a result of the extraordinary bravery of soldiers like Shay and Breton, the tide of the war turned, millions were liberated and the Nazis were defeated.

President Donald Trump and French President Emmanuel Macron both spoke at the D-Day ceremony about the sacrifices made by our armed forces. In a very moving gesture, Macron turned toward our veterans and expressed his heartfelt gratitude to them for liberating France. What an honor it was to commemorate this historic battle and to thank some of the extraordinary men who secured freedom for so many. Let us always remember those who sacrificed so much.



Veterans' Issues: Rep. Michael Knowles speaks on behalf of Senator Collins regarding Veterans Issues in Maine at Jeff's Catering & Event Center, Brewer on June 8.



2018, Brycen donated over \$600 to the Commander's Stryker Chair Project.

Humanitarian Citizen Award: Department Chaplain Patricia Thurston, left, presents Brycen Waugh of Mexico with the Humanitarian Citizen Award in recognition of numerous, selfless acts of empathy which aid all mankind by giving of yourself. In December,

— Bits 'N Pieces —

South Portland Post 35

Ace Hardware Corporation donated 500 flags to the Annual Flag Placing Event.

Richard Howard and Robert Schwartz were awarded 50 year Membership Certificates and various pins and memorabilia.

Madison Post 39

Madison Post 39 donated a \$15 Bingo package to benefit the Luck of the Draw fundraiser for the Maine Leatherneck Detachment Marine Corps League.

The Sea Cadet Unit along with the Anson Boy Scouts and volunteers placed 2019 marker flags on Veteran's gravesites in the local cemeteries.

Unit 39 donated a \$15 Bingo package to benefit the Luck of the Draw fundraiser for the Maine Leatherneck Detachment Marine Corps League and a four foot table to Maplecrest Living Center and Rehabilitation.

Madison ALR Chapter 39 donated \$100 for the POW/MIA Freedom Car, \$100 to Caring Tree, \$150 to Angel Flight, \$100 to YMC's for military children and \$250 for Somerset Special Olympics.

Norway Post 82

Norway Post 82 Commander Timothy Pike has held the office of Commander for the past two years and was present

ed with an American Legion all-weather jacket by the membership. Tim has served as post commander several times in the past.

Norway Post 82 member Doug Mawhinney and his wife placed over 200 flags on different outlying cemeteries. They take care of the several outlying cemeteries each year.

The colors of our nation adorn Main Street each year on holidays and special remembrances. This is accomplished by post member Randy. He also takes care of the memorial area raising and lowering as required.

Mars Hill Post 118

Many thanks to Dwayne Hatfield, Mars Hill Post 118, for providing the Military Trivia questions and answers for the weekly SMILE at Department Headquarters.

Phippsburg Post 216

Phippsburg Post 216 for their donations of \$50 to Homeless Veteran's Stand-down, \$50 to Honor Flight of Maine, \$50 to Girls State, \$50 to Maine Fallen Heroes Foundation, \$25 to Troop Greeters Museum, \$50 to Camp Sunshine, \$50 to Town of Phippsburg for the Bike Rodeo, \$50 to Phippsburg Girl Scouts, \$50 to "Take a Kid Fishing program", \$50 to YMCA-Military Kids Sponsor program and \$50 to Berwick Volunteer Firefighters Assoc. in memory of Captain Joel Barnes.



POW/MIA Memorial Presentation: Masonry Services, Richard Ware gives a presentation to those in attendance at the Annual State Convention June 8 on the POW/MIA Memorial from Concept to Construction.

Photo by Dept. Historian Jeffrey Stevenson

Greetings: Newly elected State Commander Matthew Jabaut, left, looks on as U.S. Congressman, the honorary Jared Golden gives greeting to those in attendance during Maine American Legion Family Installation Ceremony at the 101st Annual State Convention in Brewer June 8.

Photo by Dept. Historian Jeffrey Stevenson



Down Memory Lane American Legion Baseball



By DAN WARREN

Special to The Maine Legionnaire

I like many things about my clients at Libby-Mitchell American Legion Post 76 in Scarborough—their patriotism, their love of community, their constant quest to help their community—but most of all I like their sense of humor. And some of it is “dark humor,” which came out a lot in my 26 years running the Post's Legion baseball program.

Legion baseball has been a big part of baseball in this country since the end of World War II, and before.

Despite many international and domestic problems, over more than 75 years, Legion baseball has survived. Now, however, in 2019, Libby-Mitchell Legion Post 76 baseball is dead—as are many Legion teams in southern Maine.

Black humor?

The almighty dollar has gobbled up Legion ball, mostly, in southern Maine—AAU ball, private teams, and others. There have been some adult male leaders of the anti-Legion ball movement in southern Maine the past ten years—no need to name them here. But, let's call one of them John Doe.

Here is a T shirt Libby-Mitchell baseball guys came up last year to note the passing of our team---

ADOLPH HITLER COULDN'T KILL LEGION BASEBALL

THE KOREAN WAR COULDN'T KILL LEGION BASEBALL

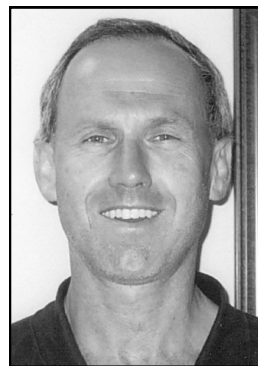
LACROSSE COULDN'T KILL LEGION BASEBALL

BUT JOHN DOE DID

Money 1 Baseball and Values 0

Oh, well.

Great T shirt.



DAN WARREN

Sad story.

But let's focus on the positive now, shall we?

Let's remember what goals and principles drove Legion baseball, and made it a valuable part of America, Maine, and many communities in our state for decades and decades. Let's celebrate a good thing that kids in the USA had in much larger doses than now for 75 years.

First, some history.

In 1999, Legion baseball in Scarborough was in trouble.

Kids had misbehaved on the multi-town team we had.

Zone Commissioner in our greater Portland geographic area would tell me soon that there were not enough players to keep a joint Scarborough-Gorham team going. He asked me if I wanted a chance to keep it all alive. I said yes.

I wanted to do two things: 1) check with Libby-Mitchell Post 76 in Scarborough about taking over sponsorship; and 2) I wanted to see if Scarborough High School alumnus and local sports legend Rick Libby would sign on as Head Coach.

My first task was to visit the Post and see Ken Dolloff.

Dolloff, D-Day veteran and tribal elder of Libby-Mitchell Post, was all ears. “We want to save the team, but we want you to do two things: 1. Put the Post name on the hats and uniforms from now on, no commercial sponsors; and 2. The kids shall be required to do community service in order to be on your ball club.” I took notes. Said it all sounded good to me. Let me check with coaches, parents and players in Scarborough.

“You can tell them all one thing—remember this” Dolloff said to me, walking me out the door. “Better human beings make better ballplayers.”

When I returned to my home town of Scarborough in 1983 to practice law, I asked my father, a World War II Navy pilot, if he had anything he wanted me to do in town. “Well...maybe you could help out the boys down at the Legion Hall,” he said. This was why. He told me later: “I like the way Ken does business.” Selfless,

More on “BASEBALL”, Page 11



1999 Libby-Mitchell Hat

Photo: This photo was the first one we used in 1999. It was very important to the Post to get the Post names back on the shirt, and the initials on the caps. Top middle is the 2001 cap with the black border, and at the top right is the 2003 hat with the thicker black border so some of the Post members with poor eyesight could see it better! At the bottom left of photo is 2006 - first hat with new team nickname- 76ers. Middle bottom is 2011 (my favorite) - first hat using red, white and blue thread. Far right bottom is final hat with bleak, black letters LM. That was when \$\$ triumphed over Post values - Post involvement in name only, no community service required, no season- ending BBQ at Post...

■ “Baseball” (Continued from Page 10)

community minded, leave things better than you found them, he said.

My next stop was to find a coach.

I went to see Rick Libby.

I told him of my talk with state Legion baseball, and Zone Commissioner Bob Philbrick. I said he needed players. I told him of my visit to the Post. I said Ken Dolloff wanted the Post name on the uniforms, and wanted a community service project by players, and participation in the town’s annual Memorial Day Parade.

We talked for an hour. Rick was energized. He talked about teaching the kids skills, basics—proper mechanics for throwing, hitting, running. Respect for the game, for umpires, for opposing players and coaches.

I told Rick: “I told Bob Philbrick if I could find a coach, we would rescue the team. And I have one.”

Rick said: “Great!! Who is it?”

“You!” I said.

The rest is history.

We both jumped in. Rick as Head Coach, me as General Manager and Assistant Coach.

Rick did it for five years. It was a challenge, and an adventure.

Libby-Mitchell Post 76 baseball lasted till 2017.

The team makeup varied from time to time. One year it might be Gorham and Scarborough boys. Another summer we might add Windham players, or players from the enrollment of Bonny Eagle High School of Standish.

We had some terrific coaches. Some great success. Some occasional struggles.

We did beach cleanups. Visits to the Maine Veterans Home. (Luckily, Matt Curran could not only sing Take Me Out to the Ballgame, but he could play the piano a bit!).

We had two “floats” annually in the Scarborough Memorial Day Parade (thank you to Shawn Moody of Moody’s Collision Center for loaning us two beautiful flat bed tow trucks each year! Add some red, white and blue crepe paper from Oak Hill Hardware each May, and you would have thought you were looking at the Macy’s Day Thanksgiving Pa-

rade on TV!).

Alas, baseball in southern Maine became a financial business for private coaches.

Indoor baseball facilities “drove the bus.” They needed kids to play on their out-of-state “travel teams.” They would promise kids road trips and tournaments in Fitchburg, Mass., Laconia, N.H. and elsewhere. Parents were assured their kids would be seen by pro scouts. College scholarships surely awaited. Perhaps pro contracts.

These private enterprises needed the players. They needed the hundreds and hundreds of dollars they would charge the families to play.

Legion ball, with its corny mission statements, \$200 sign up fees, local schedule of games in-state in southern Maine, and its requirement of helping the elderly, or little kids, or waving the flag, went by the wayside....

Legion ball continues to do well in many parts of the state, according to my friend Dennis Damon, the longtime on-field Director of Legion ball in Maine.

Maybe some day, the purposes of Legion ball will appeal again in southern Maine to coaches, players and parents. Maybe at some point we can get more than the current handful of teams to form and play in greater Portland. Maybe soon there will be a realization that only the top percentage of ballplayers should go the private travel team route. The rest should play in a good, solid, dependable, well organized American Legion league.

Let’s leave it this way—“to be continued...”

In the meantime, let’s spend some time in this column remembering the great players, events, games, and people that gave us such a rich and colorful history.

Let’s take a regular trip Down Memory Lane.

And, as Ernie Banks would say: “It’s a great day; let’s play two!”

(Dan Warren directed the baseball program for Libby-Mitchell American Legion Post 76 in Scarborough from 1999 thru 2017 as General Manager. He has also served as legal counsel for the Post for 36 years. He can be reached at: jonesandwarren@gmail.com or 883-4167).

DAVID DOLLOFF LETTER TO DANIEL WARREN—DEC. 7, 1998

Dear Dan: Your time and efforts in trying to get American Legion back into the town of Scarborough is a big undertaking. This will be good for the town of Scarborough, for Libby-Mitchell American Legion Post 76, and for the ballplayers.

I want you to know that you have our full support in this package you are putting together. If you need anything, please give me a call. I will do everything within my power to help you succeed in this endeavor.

Sincerely,
David Dolloff
Commander, Libby Mitchell Post 76



KENNETH DOLLOFF

2020 High School Oratorical Contest State Finals set for Feb. 8 at Thomas College

The American Legion, Department of Maine High School Oratorical Scholarship Contest will once again be held at Thomas College in Waterville on February 8, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. Snow Date: February 15, 2020 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 - \$1000, 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 2019 and all District contests completed by the end of January 2020.

The 2020 **National Finals is April 17-19** in Indianapolis, at the Wyndham Indianapolis West Hotel, 2544 Executive Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46241. Quarterfinal and semifinal contests are scheduled for Saturday, April 18, with the finals scheduled for Sunday, April 19. **Certification of Department winners is due to National by March 16, 2020.**

For additional questions and/or information pertaining to the Oratorical Con-

test in Maine, please contact Oratorical Chairman Dale Midgley at 207-590-3532 | e-mail: midgleyd@earthlink.net. More information can be obtained by visiting www.mainelegion.org, 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.

Letter from the Oratorical Chairman Dale Midgley—If you have never attended the High School Oratorical

Finals, you are missing the opportunity, to see some of the very Brightest and Talented High School Students in the State of Maine!

Did you know that: The Original proposed Bill of Rights contained 12 Rights not 10?

Did you know that: James Madison, author of the Bill of Rights, used the Magna Carta (1215),

English Bill of Rights (1689) and the Virginia Declaration of Rights (1776) in writing the proposed amendments to the Constitution.

Did you know that: The Constitution was finally ratified by all 14 States in January 1791, the last being Vermont. Did you know that: A proposed Bill of Rights Amendment submitted in 1789 was

not officially ratified until 1992 and became the 26th Amendment?

I didn’t know any of these things, plus a whole lot more, until I attended our Post Oratorical Contest, the District Oratorical Contest and the State Oratorical Contest.

The students who research and present their Prepared Speech and Assigned Topics will amaze you by how much time and effort they have spent rehearsing and polishing their presentations.

I hope to see you at the Oratorical Finals, for I am sure, I will learn even more about the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights again this year at the Post, District and State Finals.

For the Oratorical Committee,
Dale Midgley, Chair



Oratorical Update: Oratorical Chairman Donald Chase gives an update to those attending the Annual State Convention June 8 on The American Legion Dept. of Maine Oratorical Scholarship Program, recognizing Marina Long of Waterboro as this year state winner. Unfortunately, Ms. Long was unable to attend.

Photo by Dept. Historian Jeffrey Stevenson

History of Madawaska Post 147

Wow!! 2019 people in Madawaska have celebrated two birthdays in connection with The American Legion. Nationally, The American Legion (Nationally) is celebrating its birthday of 100 years. Another milestone is Thomas O. Cyr Post 147 in Madawaska turned 80 in 2019. There are many facts that have been documented over the years nationally for The American Legion. Here are some interesting facts about American Legion Thomas O. Cyr Post in Madawaska.

- The Madawaska Post was sponsored by American Legion Levasseur-Farrell Post 49 in Van Buren, Maine.
- The American Legion Thomas O. Cyr Post 147 in Madawaska Maine was organized in 1937 by a group of World War I Veterans.
- Post 147 was granted its permanent Charter on March 1, 1939.
- September 16, 1944, Madawaska qualified to have a Victory Ship named in its honor for going over its quota for selling war bonds.
- Thomas O. Cyr's mother Delphine Cyr traveled to Fairfield, Maryland to christen the second Victory Ship S.S. Madawaska.
- The first Post 147 home was purchased from Levite R. Daigle for the price of \$12,000.
- First steward/caretaker of Post 147 was Leo R. Cyr's family; he was paid \$12.00 per month, (which was the total cost of

rent, heat, lights and water).

- Madawaska residents that were members of Post 49 transferred into Post 147 were: Fred. T. Bouchard; James, J. Cyr; Leroy T. Dionne; Minnie (Richards) Cyr and Mack L. Violette.
- Minnie Cyr was the only World War I woman Legionnaire. Mrs. Cyr served as a telephone operator supervisor at General John J. Pershing's headquarters in France during the war.
- The Post was named after Thomas O. Cyr, son of Mr. and Mrs. Onesime Cyr of St. David. Thomas was the only Madawaska soldier to lose his life on the battlefield during World War I.
- Thomas was inducted into the United States Army, May 27, 1918; he had been in France exactly three months to the day when he was killed by a high explosive shell in the Bois de Sepsarges, North of Verdun on October 7, 1918. One week



S.S. Madawaska Victory Ship Christening: Mrs. Onesime Cyr christening the ship S.S. Madawaska Victory just before it slid down the ways.



Launching 2nd Victory Ship - Fairfield, MD - September 16, 1944, S.S. "Madawaska Victory".

received his brothers rosary and prayer-book.

- Vetal was a charter member of Post 147
- In 1939, The Cyr-Plourde Post 145 including Frenchville, St. Agatha, and Sinclair joined the Thomas O Cyr Post and remained until 1951.

• There are two World War I soldiers buried in St. David Cemetery; one is Thomas O. Cyr and the other is Victorie Gendreau who died in France in 1918 from Influenza. They both share a head stone with the inscription "OUR HEROES".

before his death, his brother Vetal unexpectedly met Tom while on a morning walk. The Brothers found out that their dugouts were about 200 feet apart. They visited back and forth until the fatal morning.

- Thomas's brother, Vetal,

- Boy State Program was started in 1947.
- June 1951, after 12 years members from Frenchville, St. Agatha, and Sinclair left Post 147 to reorganize Cyr-Plourde Post in Frenchville.
- Membership went from 467 in 1951 to 329 in 1952.
- Memorial Day in 1951, there was a total of 72 wreaths placed on Veterans graves

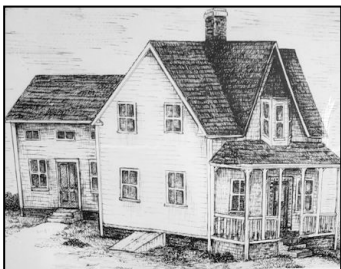
in seven cemeteries. This practice was discontinued and replaced with a single wreath at the cross in each cemeteries.

- Post 147 would mail out reminder cards for the monthly meeting, but this was discontinued due to the fact of the cost of a postage stamp was raised to 2 cents.
- In 1951, membership was at 525, this was 10% of Madawaska's population; 85% of members were PUFL.
- There are many more interesting facts about American Legion Thomas O Cyr Post 147 in Madawaska, these are just a few.
- Look back in the history of your Post and see what interesting facts that you can uncover.
- American Legion Post 147 celebrated both birthdays with a cookout, history display, and dance.

By Bridget Daigle



Madawaska Post 147 Post Home Now: Legionnaires of the Thomas O. Cyr Post 147 are very proud of their Post Home. It was built in 1950 at a cost of \$75,000, now valued at \$500,000, with land and furniture. It is mortgage free.



Madawaska Post 147 First Post Home: The former Levite R. Daigle House was the Post Home from April 1945 to February 1950.



Annual State Convention Awards Brewer, Me. June 7-9, 2019



Children & Youth Scholarship - \$500 scholarships: Rachel Morse of Fal-mouth, Travis May of South Paris, Aubrey Schaeffer of Rockport, Taylor Mackenzie Davis of Augusta, Emily Vraux of Greenville, Madison Greenlaw of Eastport, and Lauren Headley of Van Buren

Daniel E. Lambert Scholarship - \$1000 scholarship to Taylor Davis, Augusta and Nathan Curtis, Richmond

James V. Day Scholarship - \$500 scholarship to Kaila Roy, Hamlin

Humanitarian Citizen Award to Brycen Waugh, Mexico

Law Enforcement Officer of the Year to Officer Curt Andrick, Warren

Firefighter of the Year Award to Christopher Arsenault and Ray Crockett, Rumford Fire Department

Fire Fighter of the Year Award to Matthew Barnes, Alan Boucher, Michael Dube, Justin Hagar, Steven Lunn, Dale Real, Deane Stanton and Peter Wild, Brunswick Fire Department/Ems Crew 3

EMT/Paramedic of the Year Award to Kevin Curry, Union

Legionnaire of the Year Award to Patricia Thurston, Rumford

Post Adjutant of the Year Award to Jeff W. Sukeforth, Camden Post 30, Camden

Outstanding District Commander, to Raymond Lewis, District 6, Knox County

Outstanding Post Commander, Curtis Merrill, Naples Post 155

Post Americanism Award to Unity and Field-Allen Post 148, Windham

Post Americanism Certificates to Wells Hussey Post 42, Damariscotta; Bradford-Sortwell-Wright Post 54, Wiscasset

First Place Post History Book to Robert K. Place, Charles S. Hatch Post 79, Berwick

Second Place Post History Book to David Tanguay, Charles L. Lilly Post 148, Windham

Honorable Mention for Post History Book to Brian Gavang, Coombs-Mountfort Post 158, Lisbon

Norman Carver Jr, War Memorial Post 30, Camden

First Place Post History Scrapbook to Donald Hands, Ramsdell-Rogers Post 56, York

Second Place Post History Scrapbook to John Kennedy, Bradford-Sortwell-Wright Post 54, Wiscasset

First Place District Newsletter to 2nd District, Cumberland County

First Place Post Newsletter to Field-Allen Post 148, Windham

Second Place Post Newsletter to War Memorial Post 30, Camden

Third Place Post Newsletter to Winslow-Holbrook-Merritt Post 1, Rockland

Honorable Mention for Post Newsletter to Corey Edwin Garver Post 202, Topsham; Coombs-Mountfort Post 158, Lisbon; Lopeman-Potts Post 67, Bridgton; Henry B. Pratt Jr. Post 15, Caribou; Frank B. Holden Post 52, Oakfield, Stone-Smart Post 82, Norway; Smith-Wiley Post 4, Gardiner, Ray Goding Post 88, Presque Isle; Stewart P. Morrill Post 35, S. Portland

Fourth Estate Media Award (Newspaper) to Staff Writer Gillian Graham, Portland Press Herald

Fourth Estate Media Award (Magazine) to Jim Marston, Uncle Andy's Digest/LA Metro Magazine Publisher/CEO

First Place Multimedia Award to Gray Post 86, Gray

Post Service Officer of the Year to Joy Bordeaux, Rumford Post 24

Commander's Award to Allen Benner, Waldoboro & Damariscotta Post 42

Women's Advisory/WVAC Award to Nancy Laffin-Gillespie, Topsham

100% Post Membership by Dec. 31, 2018 to: **First District**—White-Tibbetts

Post 55, Limerick; Webber-Lefebvre Post 74, Kennebunk; Lebanon Memorial Post 214, Lebanon. **Second District**—Randall and Mac Vane Post 142, Peaks Island; Field-Allen Post 148, Windham. **Sixth District**—War Memorial Post 30, Camden; Baird, Calderwood, Morrison, Parsons Post 33, North Haven; Brian L. Buker Post 218, Warren. **Ninth District**—Boynton-Webber Post 179, South China. **Twelfth District**—Frank E. Whitmore Post 63, Ellsworth. **Thirteenth District**—West Penobscot Post 107, Etna-Carmel; Hampden Memorial Post 213, Hampden. **Fourteenth District**—Towne-Holmbom Post 116, Monson, and Fort Pepperell Post CN09, St Johns

Goal to Grow Awards to War Memorial Post 30, Camden; Cobscook Post 59, Pembroke; Lopeman-Potts Post 67, Bridgton; Randall & MacVane Post 142, Peaks Island; Field-Allen Post 148, Windham; Jandreau-Connors Post 180, St. Francis; Lewiston Memorial Post 210, Lewiston

Team 100 American Legion Family Ribbons to Rumford Post 24, Madison Post 39, Oakland Post 51, Kingfield Post 61, Lubec Post 65, Locke Mills Post 68, Greenville Post 94, and West Paris Post 151.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 1

Sanford Post 19; Biddeford Post 26; Limerick Post 55; York Post 56; Old Orchard Post 57; Kennebunk Post 74; Berwick Post 79; North Berwick Post 87; Saco Post 96; Kezar Falls Post 123; Bar Mills Post 130; Alfred Post 134; Wells Post 143; Kennebunkport Post 159; Dayton Post 177; Eliot Post 188; Lebanon Post 214



York Scouts & Post 56 Decorate Veterans Graves For Memorial Day:

York Scouts Troop 301 assisted Ramsdell-Rogers Post 56 in flag placement at the First Parish Cemetery on May 19 in York

where over 1,200 flags were placed. The Post is very grateful for the assistance of the Boy Scouts of America and feel that appreciating our Veterans is an important lesson for our youth to learn. With permission of Scout Leader Katie Spaulding, the scouts in photo are front row, left to right, Everett Burke, Ned Spaulding, Connor Pendergast, and Fabian Crespo. Back row, left to right, Andrew Hames, Darryk Kelly, Gabriel Caraballo, Hans Bakke, James Burke, Jasper Trafton, Post 56 Commander Donald G. Hands, William Bakke, David Meader, Andrew Meader, and Christopher Dimino. Thanks to Post Members Pete Doe, Jimmy Fitzpatrick, Jerry Allen, and Phil Roy for their continued participation.

York Post 56 Holds Installation

Ramsdell-Rogers Post 56 of York held their yearly installation on May 6. Department Judge Advocate Jason Hall was an honored guest and served as Installing Officer.

With a rap of the gavel, outgoing Post Commander Donald G. Hands called the meeting to order. Acting Post Chaplain M. Morgillo offered an opening prayer. All officers to be installed were then brought forward and took the following oath; repeated after Legionnaire Jason Hall:

"I do solemnly pledge myself to perform faithfully and impartially the duties of the office in The American Legion I am about to assume, and I further pledge I am not a member of, and do not subscribe to the principles of, any groups opposed to our form of government."

After citing their pledge, the officers were seated. The Officers installed were Post Adjutant & Chaplain Michael Morgillo, Post Service Officer James Carabello, Post Judge Advocate Robert Marlowe, Post Membership Coordinator Robin Greene, Post 2nd Vice Commander Charles Pratt, Post 1st Vice Commander & Historian Donald Hands, and Post Commander Paul Klebaur. Legionnaire Chuck Andrews who will continue to serve as Post Americanism Officer and Legionnaire Jerry Allen who will continue to service as Post Finance Officer were excused and will be installed at our next meeting. Legionnaire Jerry Allen will also serve as Post Sergeant-At-Arms.

Post officers were then called forward individually to receive their charges. The installing officer addressed

outgoing Commander Donald G. Hands and said; (in part), "Although the mantle of leadership is now being passed to another, a great responsibility remains with you. You possess a great wealth of knowledge gained through out your leadership experience. Place this wisdom at the disposal of your successors in order that your comrades my benefit there from. Through your station maintain the principle of freedom within this Post."

The installing officer addressed the newly installed Commander; (in part), "To you, comrade, is entrusted a very important duty of teaching and protecting the cardinal principles of The American Legion throughout your entire Post. Loyalty to your Post, to its membership, to the state and to the national organization are obligations which you now assume. By your sincere acceptance and earnest performance of these duties, may the great trust which your comrades have reposed in you be justified. To you I extend the congratulations of the (American Legion Department of Maine) and I wish you well as you assume the responsibilities of your office".

Legionnaire Hall then supervised the transfer of the gavel, the symbol of leadership of The American Legion, from outgoing Post Commander Donald G. Hands to the new Post Commander Paul Klebaur.

A word of thanks and appreciation was extended from the Post to Department Judge Advocate Jason Hall for performing as Installing Officer. A pledge of allegiance followed, then a prayer, and the meeting was closed with a rap of the gavel.

Submitted by Legionnaire Donald G. Hands



York Post 56 Incoming Commander Receives Gavel:
Left to right, Incoming Commander Paul Klebaur accepts gavel from Outgoing Commander Donald G. Hands as Department Judge Advocate Jason Hall officiated the installation on May 6.

York Post 56 Installation Of Officers:

Department Judge Advocate Jason Hall administers pledge to Incoming Officers of Post 56. Left to right, Commander Paul Klebaur, 1st Vice Commander & Historian Donald G. Hands, Judge Advocate Robert Marlowe, Adjutant & Chaplain Michael Morgillo, Membership Coordinator Robin Greene, and 2nd Vice Commander Charles Pratt on May 6.



Ramsdell-Rogers Post 56 Builds Committee Liaisons in Support of Veterans

On June 3, Ramsdell-Rogers Post 56, York, was visited by Barry Waddell who serves as the Chairman of the newly formed York Veterans Committee. Chairman Waddell carried the good wishes of the committee to post members. Chairman Waddell also shared the mission of the committee which is as follows: The mission of the committee is to serve as a point of contact for matters relating to Veterans and to the military, and to develop and maintain a broad perspective on the Town's approach to and participation in all such matters, to help ensure the Town honors Veterans and the military, and to advise the Board of Selectman accordingly.

York is the sponsor community of the submarine U.S.S. California. The

committee has been tasked by the town to liaison with the sub and other community organizations to welcome the crew and provide other opportunities for community engagement.

In addition, the York Veterans Committee is working with the Local American Legion, VFW, and the Daughters of the American Revolution, and other town organizations to organize Memorial Day and other Veterans ceremonies.

Currently, two legionnaires from Ramsdell-Rogers Post 56 serve on the committee. Legionnaire James Carabello is a Board member and Legionnaire Donald G. Hands serves as Vice Chairman.

By York Post 56 1st Vice Commander Donald G. Hands



Welcome: York Post 56 Commander Paul Klebaur, left, welcomes York Veterans Committee Chairman Barry Waddell during a visit to Ramsdell-Rogers Post 56.

Photo by Legionnaire Robin Greene

Both: Haven't we met before?

Originally published in The American Legion Weekly Magazine Dec. 19, 1919 edition



Both: Haven't we met before?



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 1 continued

Hussey Seating Donates Chair of Honor to House of Hope

The House of Hope Mission is an organization that has been serving seacoast families in Maine and New Hampshire since July of 2012, when they first opened their doors to provide a “free community restaurant for struggling individuals and families”. In addition to running a fully functional soup kitchen that now serves dinner three days a week, they also manage an emergency relief food pantry.

This incredible organization provides a safe place for those with a need to receive nourishment for the body, heart, and soul and is situated between two underserved communities of Berwick, ME and Somersworth, NH. The many services offered by this outreach ministry is available to people of all faiths and has no paid staff but is instead run by some 250 volunteers from across the seacoast community.

Through a collaboration with Hussey Seating Company, Berwick American Legion Post 79, Chapter 79 Legion Riders (members of the American Legion who are motorcycle enthusiasts) and the House of Hope staff, a Missing Man Table was put on permanent display in the House of Hope, complete with a Chair of Honor. A Missing Man Table, also known as a Fallen Comrade Table, is a ceremony and memorial in honor of fallen, missing or imprisoned service members (Prisoners of War or POWs/ Missing in Action (MIA). The table is set for one with an empty chair, a Chair of Honor that was made and donated by Hussey Seating Company of North Berwick.

At the dedication ceremony, Mr. Jeff Saucier, Territory Sales Manager, indicated that Hussey Seating began participating in the POW/MIA Chair of Honor program in 2013 and has since placed over 500 of these chairs in some

of the world's biggest venues and in community buildings, like the House of Hope, across the United States. Mr. Saucier went on to say that Hussey's purpose in supporting this program is so those who never make it home always have a seat waiting for them.

Following an introduction by Chapter 79 Director Gary Branyen, a solemn dedication was conducted by Paul LeBlanc from Rolling Thunder Maine Chapter 1 in front of the Missing Man Table. Mr. LeBlanc reverently recited from memory the name, rank, service, date lost, and home town of each of the thirteen Maine Veterans who never returned home as a brass bell was sounded after each name.

This initiative was truly a team effort, with American Legion members donating a table (Lynne Rendell) and Legion Rider Dennis Ouellette, who painstakingly refinished the table and sourced the era-specific table cloth and table settings, and Ron Vigue for arranging the donation of the Chair of Honor built and donated by Hussey Seating Company, with the space provided and prepared by House of Hope Executive Director Mike Hennessy and his staff and other members of the Chapter 79 Legion Riders. The display now serves as a permanent reminder to all who enter the House of Hope of the thousands of U.S Veterans who did not return from our war so that we all may always remain mindful that “Hope changes everything”.

To learn more about Rolling Thunder and their Chair of Honor Program, check out: www.rollingthundermel.org. To learn more about the House of Hope, or to volunteer, look up: www.houseofhopemission.org.

*Submitted by Rosanne Martin, PR Officer,
Charles S. Hatch Post 79*



Chair Of Honor: Jeff Saucier of Hussey Seating, left, and Ronald Vigue of Charles S. Hatch Post 79, right, with the Chair of Honor.

*Photo by Post 79 Public Relations Officer
Rosanne Martin*

Berwick Post Builds Vietnam Memorial Wall Parade Float

When past Post Commander Frank Milinski has an idea, you'd better follow his lead or get out of the way! Late last year Frank, a 22-year lifetime member with Berwick's Charles S. Hatch Post 79, saw a video that struck a chord and launched a post initiative that locals are still talking about.

The video showcased a parade float honoring the Vietnam Memorial Wall, created by members of the Solid Rock Baptist Church of Berlin, New Jersey. For the past ten years, members of the Solid Rock church have constructed patriotic parade floats honoring the greatest moments in American history. Their hope is that others would be inspired to make a similar impact in their community. (This specific float is based on the painting “Reflections” by artist Lee Teter, who wrote out a license to reproduce and distribute prints of this work to members of Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 172 of Cumberland, Maryland www.vietnamreflections.com).

Frank, a Vietnam Veteran, knew immediately that this was a project Post 79 should take on and organized a small committee that took this initiative from the proverbial drawing board and brought it to life. From January through March, with the assistance and support of Mr. Steve Guptil, and Post member Cliff Schweiger, Frank's committee met to share ideas, research costs and source materials and by early Spring, they had all they needed to start construction. Utilizing a trailer donated by Post member Robert Allen and using Post Member Dan Flint's workshop, the float started to take shape. Past Post commander Lou Sanfacon was instrumental in making much of the woodwork. Long time Legionnaires and Vietnam Veterans Phil Jenks, Lynn Rendell, Bob Irvine and Forrest Davis also pitched in along with Kimberly and Donna Flint.

The finished float features two black plexiglass wall panels listing the names of the Maine Veterans who were lost in Vietnam, to include two Veterans from Berwick who were killed in action (John Knight and Edward Dufault). A man in civilian clothing stands in front of the

wall, touching the panel in silent reflection. Behind the semi-transparent wall, is a diorama with an incredibly realistic jungle scene painted on the back along with jungle foliage. Several young soldiers in jungle fatigues stand at the ready, and one of them reaches forward, as if to reach out from beyond the wall to the civilian on the other side. A recording of “Taps” plays in the background. Regardless of your age, experience and knowledge of history, you cannot help but be moved by this float as it passes by.

Their Vietnam War Memorial Float generated so much interest that the Solid Rock Baptist Church created a website (www.patrioticfloats.com) with detailed information on how they built their float. While this information provided an important framework upon which to build, it was the Vietnam Memorial wall panels provided by the Portsmouth Sign Company of Newington, New Hampshire, that worked miracles for Post 79 and gave the float it's “soul”. The parade float virtually came to life when young Matthew Dos Santos, Mat Dupuis and Thomas McIntyre donned Vietnam era uniforms and helmets and stepped into the “jungle”. The accompanying photo “speaks for itself”!

It should have come as no surprise that float committee members unanimously voted to have Frank Milinski front and center on the float as it was towed through both North Berwick and Berwick's Memorial Day parades by 31-year Post 79 lifetime member Bob Allen. In between parades, Mr. Dana Hall is graciously providing storage as in the meantime, other towns and venues have expressed interest in this patriotic float. It goes without saying that while this initiative grew out of love of country and pride in our military service, the intangible benefit gained on this most special project was getting to work together, yielding hammers, nails, and paint and swapping war stories, to underscore that we, as Legionnaires, are very much, and always will be, comrades in arms.

*Submitted by Rosanne Martin, PR Officer,
Charles S. Hatch Post 79*



Charles S. Hatch Post 79, Berwick, Vietnam Memorial Wall Parade Float passes by with Past Commander Frank Milinski (in civilian clothes) in the foreground and Thomas McIntyre in the background (behind the wall panel).

Photo by Post 79 member Joelle McIntyre

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...**District 1 continued****Hannaford Appreciation Award**

The North Berwick Parks & Recreation Department and the North Berwick American Legion Post 87, along with the Ladies Auxiliary, present the North Berwick Hannaford Store on May 22 a Plaque in Appreciation for their generosity in supporting the Mill Field Festival for the past few years.

Presenting the plaque is North Berwick Post 87 Commander Don Beaupre and Parks & Recreation Director Kristie Michaud. Accepting the plaque is Hannaford Store Manager Gary Michaud.

Also present during the presentation were some of the members of The American Legion Post and Ladies Auxiliary, and Assistant Store Managers.

Post Commander Beaupre stated the North Berwick Hannaford Store is a big supporter of the community especially during the Mill Field Festival. Commander Beaupre explained that presenting this plaque at this time would be less disruptive to the store operation instead of the busy time in the August time frame.

By Robert K. Place



Plaque of Appreciation presented by North Berwick Post 87 Commander Don Beaupre and Parks & Recreation Director Kristie Michaud. Accepting the plaque is Hannaford Store Manager Gary Michaud on May 22.

Photo by Robert K. Place



North Berwick Post 87 Receives 100% Membership Award: A 100% membership award was presented to North Berwick Post 87 during a District 1 meeting held at Biddeford Post 26 on May 19. Accepting the award is North Berwick Post 87 Commander Larry Straffin, center, by Department 1st Vice Commander Matt Jabaut, left, and District 1 Commander Gordon Kendal, right.

West-Day Post 123 Kezar Falls 3rd Annual Golf Tournament: The 3rd Annual West-Day Post 123 Golf Tournament was held on June 8 at Province Lake Golf Course. American Legion Auxiliary Unit 123 members were on hand to provide assistance with registration, and logistical support. Left to right, Renee Lemieux, Diane Wentworth, Paula Jordan, and Unit President Cynthia Berube.



Post 134 Festival Parade Tribute To Korean War Members: Alfred-Waterboro Post 134 paid tribute to three of their Korean War members in the Alfred Festival Parade on July 19. Left to right, Alden Gile and Bob Liberty. Missing from photo is Cleve Stairs.

Photo by Thomas Collins

Eliot Post 188 Leads Eliot, Me. Memorial Day Ceremonies

People and organizations from Eliot and the surrounding areas filled the parade route leading to the Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

There, Eliot Memorial Post Past Commander Dana Norton stood at the podium in front of a tall memorial that was placed by the Post to honor Veterans years ago. He welcomed all and called

upon Post 188 Chaplain Reverend Mike Stevens for the invocation. Next, a smartly uniformed Boy Scout read "General Logan's Order". All joined in the pledge of allegiance.

Rosemary Staples and Crystal Colson sang the National Anthem which has become a welcome tradition over the years in Eliot. Then, the Marshwood High

School band played a collection of Armed Forces anthems.

Another tradition followed as Past Post Adjutant Kimberly Richards read a poem. This year's choice was Henry W. Longfellow's poem, "Decoration Day".

The guest speaker, Legionnaire Donald G. Hands spoke of several of Eliot's residents who had made the ultimate sacrifice. Then a boy and girl member of the Boy Scouts placed the wreath at the tall memorial. A moment of silence was held.

The 2nd Regiment of York County fired a cannon shot. This was followed by rifle shots from Post 188's firing squad.

As the sound of the rifles faded; taps and echo taps were played by members of the Marshwood High School band.

Legionnaire Dana Norton thanked all who participated. He was so pleased with the cooperation he received organizing the event. Eliot's Fire Department and Police force honor guard were present and posted colors. He greatly appreciated the Boy Scouts of America who "stepped up" to assist in the ceremonies. He noted the importance of teaching our young an appreciation for the sacrifices made and "a sense of patriotism".

By Donald G. Hands



Leading The Ceremony: Past Post 188 Commander Dana Norton leads the Memorial Day ceremonies.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...**District 2**

Portland Post 17; So. Portland Post 35; Gorham Post 60; Westbrook Post 62; Bridgton Post 67; Scarborough Post 76; Freeport Post 83; Gray Post 86; Yarmouth Post 91; Standish Post 128; Harrison Post 139; Peaks Island Post 142; Windham Post 148; Cape Elizabeth Post 152; Naples Post 155; Portland Post 161; Falmouth Post 164; Portland Post 168; Westbrook Post 197

Boys State Delegates: Lake Region High School seniors Thomas Kolosky and Walker Elesaeser were selected to participate in The American Legion Boys State Program at Thomas College in Waterville. During their week stay at Thomas College, students establish their own state legislature and governor. They then learn the process of proposing bills, writing bills, passing bills and enacting. It is one very busy and intense work. The American Legion District 2 is very proud of the candidates from SAD 61. Left to right, LRHS senior Thomas Kolofsky, Bridgton Post 67 Commander Donald Mulcahy, Department Commander Matthew Jabaut, and LRHS senior Walker Elesaeser.

**1500 Flags Placed On Veterans' Graves:**

Members of Harold T. Andrews Post 17 of Portland and their guests went to the Forest City Cemetery in South Portland on May 22 & 23 to put out 1,500 flags on Veterans graves. Those present on May 22, front row kneeling, left to

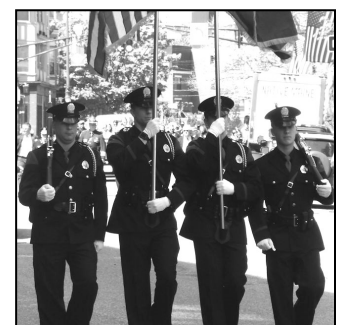
right: John Grant, Incoming Post Commander Paul Avery, Outgoing Post Commander Curtis Ballantine. Back row, standing, left to right: Susan Lamb, Robert Ayers, Greg Mrowka, Jack Kuntz, Maggy Russo, Adjutant Joe Rich, and Paula Hollenkamp.

Photo by Post 17 member/photographer Thomas P. O'Connor

Memorial Day Parade In Portland:

Harold T. Andrews Post 17 put on a Memorial Day Parade down Congress Street from Longfellow Square to Monument Square.

Photo by Post 17 member/photographer Thomas P. O'Connor





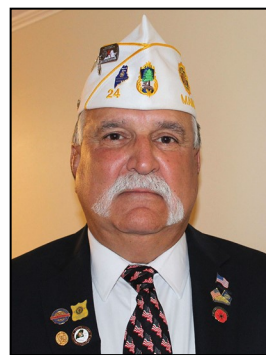
MEET THE OFFICERS 2019



MATTHEW JABAOT
Commander
Topsham Post 202



DEBRA COUTURE
1st Vice Commander
Litchfield Post 181



KIRK THURSTON
2nd Vice Commander
Rumford Post 24



PAUL L'HEUREUX
Adjutant
Auburn Post 153



GREGORY COUTURE
Finance
Litchfield Post 181



ALFRED MCKAY
Americanism
Damariscotta Post 42



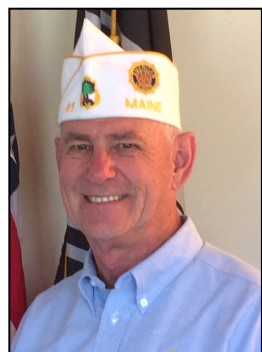
JEFFREY STEVENSON
Historian
Bath Post 21



PATRICIA THURSTON
Sergeant-At-Arms
Rumford Post 24



LLOYD WOODS
NEC
Madawaska Post 147



RANDALL KLUJ
NECA
Milo Post 41



JASON HALL
JUDGE ADVOCATE
Gray Post 86



ETHAN MCKENNEY
CHAPLAIN
Harrison Post 139



CARL CURTIS
Service Officer
Brunswick Post 20



MAUREEN MALLEY
Asst. Service Officer
Hallowell Post 6

101st Annual State Convention Award Presentations

PUBLIC SERVICE AWARDS



EMT/Paramedic Of The Year: Law & Order Chairman Kirk Thurston, right, presents Kevin Curry of Union with the EMT/Paramedic of the Year Award.



Firefighters Of The Year: Rumford Fire Department, front row, left to right, Firefighters Ray Crockett, Christopher Arsenault, and Fire Chief Chris Reed accept the award for Firefighters of the Year. Standing back is the interim town manager of Rumford Scott Cole.



Firefighters Of The Year: Brunswick Fire Department/EMS Crew 3, left to right, Firefighter's Michael Dube, Alan Boucher, Steven Lunn, Dale Real, Lieutenant Justin Hager, and Captain Matthew Barnes. Not pictured, Firefighters Deane Stanton, and Peter Wild.



Law Officer Of The Year: Officer Curt Andrick of Warren surrounded by his family receives Law Officer of the Year Award. Presenting the award is Law & Order Chairman Kirk Thurston, left.



Tony's Tigers: This year's winner for Outstanding Post Commander, aka Tony's Tiger Award went to Naples Post 155 Commander Curtis Merrill. Presenting the award is Anthony "Tony" Jordan, left, to Naples Post 155 members Cathy Merrill, Kim-Lea Crawford and Robert Shaw who accepted the award on Mr. Merrill's behalf at the 101st Annual State Convention in Brewer on June 8.



Roger's Rangers: Past National Commander Anthony "Tony" Jordan, left, presents District 6 Commander Raymond Lewis the Roger's Rangers Award for Outstanding District Commander at the Annual State Convention in Brewer on June 8.



Commander's Award: This year's Department Commander's Award went to Allan Benner, left, of Waldoboro, Maine for outstanding support of Veterans and remarkable dedication and commitment of 65 consecutive years to The American Legion, Dept. of Maine Annual State Convention. Presenting the award to Mr. Benner is State Commander Scott Paradis.

"This is my last convention"

All photos by Dept. Historian Jeffrey Stevenson



Help Support Maine American Legion Today!



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 House, 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.

To make a donation to The American Legion, Department of Maine Foundation, a non-profit 501 (c)(3) Charitable Organization, please see below.

Show your Support to our Veterans in the State of Maine!

MAKE A DONATION TODAY!

AMERICAN LEGION

DEPARTMENT OF MAINE

FOUNDATION

(A 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization)

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

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

Please show your support to our Vet-

erans in the State of Maine and donate today to make a difference!

Online donations can be made by visiting us on the web at www.mainelegion.org. Click on the FOUNDATION tab located on the navigation bar and scroll down to the **DONATE TODAY** button or the AL Dept. of Maine Foundation brochure.

Checks should be made payable to American Legion Department of Maine Foundation and mailed to: American Legion Department of Maine Foundation, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, Maine 04901-0727.

Please make sure to provide your name and address so that we may send you a tax receipt.

Thank you in advance for your generous contribution!

Car Donation Fundraising Program



Owners of unused vehicles can donate them for possible tax credit and benefit Veterans in the state of Maine.

This is a free, convenient service

for converting that extra car, truck, or RV into a tax deductible donation..

Our affiliate program makes sure your vehicle is properly handled so you get your tax deduction and Veterans in Maine get the benefit of your donation.

You can currently donate online by visiting www.v-dac.com, or call 877-999-8322 to make your donation.

For more information, contact The American Legion, Department of Maine at 207-873-3229 or via email at www.legionme@mainelegion.org.



Support Maine Veterans and Buy your Centennial Coin Today While Supplies Last!

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/handling.

TO PAY BY CHECK OR MON-

EY 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.

Amazon Smile Fundraising Program

Dear Friends of the American Legion Department of Maine:

We are up and running! American Legion Department of Maine Foundation can now accept contributions from Amazon through the "Amazon Smile" program as an IRS 501 (c)(3) Charitable Organization.

It does not cost anything to sign up or donate! When you make purchases on "Amazon Smile", Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible Amazon Smile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.

Here is how to sign up!

If you already have an Amazon Account, there is no need to create another one.

You just log in at this link: <http://smile.amazon.com>; When you are asked

to designate to your charity, type in American Legion Department of Maine Foundation and start shopping.

Please note: (You must log in through the Amazon Smile portal each time you shop for our Foundation to receive the donation. Do not go in through the regular Amazon portal when you shop.)

The funds come directly to "American Legion Department of Maine Foundation to help Maine Veterans in need and support Legion programs in Maine!"

Please help us get the word out and email to your friends and family!

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

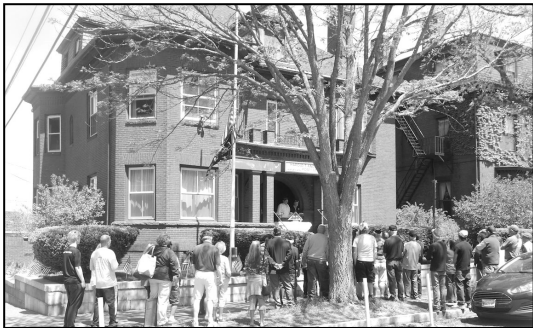
The American Legion State HQ Office Staff At The 101st Annual State Convention:

A lot of hard work and preparation took place throughout the year setting up for the Annual State Convention in Brewer thanks to The American Legion State HQ office staff, left to right, Alyssa Currie, Rachael Currie, Sue Risinger, Kierra Washington and Sherry Carey (not pictured).



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 2 continued



In Memory Of Post 17 Member Finn

Wilhelsen: After the parade, a group of people gathered at the front steps of Portland Post 17 for a memorial ceremony for Finn Wilhelsen who died on March 12. Finn was the man who started the tradition that continues today of cooking a haddock fish chowder after the parades for those who took part in the parades, their guests, Post members, and the homeless. Finn continued this from 1974 until 2014. Since then, the tradition has lived on through Finn's son, Dana Herwood, right up to the present. After the memorial service there was chowder for everyone.

Photo by Post 17 member/photographer Thomas P. O'Connor

Post 62 Memorial Day Cemetery Flag Collection:

Following Memorial Day, as directed by policy, the following volunteers from Westbrook Post 62 collected over hundreds of American Flags from graves of our Fallen Heroes.

Left to right, Post member David Berry and wife, Auxiliary members Donna, Laurie Berry, Dan Attonweiler, member Jan Fish, Commander Gary York, member Mark Camp from Rowe Ford (Proud Sponsors of Honor Flight Maine), Auxiliary member Beverly Barton and member Bob Barton. So honored to have great volunteers!



Westbrook Post 62 Awards Two Scholarships:

American Legion Post 62 awarded two scholarships for Americanism to Westbrook High School graduating students on June 6. Left to right, Post Commander Gary York, Recipient Tyler Brackett of WHS Class of 2019, Post Americanism Officer/Board Chairman Phil Spiller, and 2nd Vice Commander Dennis Marrotte. Absent from photo is recipient Mackenzie Bickford also of WHS Class of 2019.

Photo by Michael Russell and Post 62 2nd Vice Commander Dennis Marrotte



Concerts In The Park: Every Wed. evening during the Summer Park Concerts in Westbrook held behind the Post 62 building at Riverbank Park, Post 62 Auxiliary Women and Post Members work hard to earn proceeds for needy projects in the local community by providing barbecue food services during these concerts. Over \$4,000 is usually raised during each summer concert series. Pictured are Auxiliary Vice President Mary Leclerc in charge of condiments, Post Commander Gary York popping popcorn, Sergeant-At-Arms Greg Beane warning rolls, and Doris Rodriques at the grill.

Photo by Dennis Marrotte

Memorial Day in Bridgton

As Commander of The American Legion Post 67 in Bridgton, I would like to say thank you to all of the great folks from Bridgton and the Bridgton area who turned out to pay tribute to the fallen soldiers and sailors on Memorial Day on May 27.

The turnout was so great it was very humbling. The kind words from everyone after the ceremony were heartwarming. A special thank you to Pastor Mike Zullo. My friend, your prayers were on target.

Memorial Day is both a somber and joyous. We at Post 67 spent several days visiting the graves of the Hero's who lived and walked among us, Revolutionary war, Civil War, Spanish American War, World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan, they are all there. These are the sons, the daughters, the mothers, the fathers, the aunts, and the uncles. These are the people who built the community we live in. They fought for this country so that we could

enjoy the quality of life we have. The freedoms that we have and take for granted and enjoy every day. It was an honor to replace their flags, their medallions, and to spend days with them as we did this. Please remember their families; they sacrificed their life with their loved ones for our freedoms. They live the heart ache of the loss for the rest of their lives.

Our mission at Post 67 is dedicated to not only the Veteran but to the Veteran's families to make sure they are taken care of; to ensure the family left behind will

have what they need; and the children have access to a good education through our Legacy Fund, a fund sponsored by The American Legion Riders. Last year, \$750,000 in scholarships were awarded to students whose parents were 50% or greater disabled or deceased in the fight on terrorism Post 911. Yes ladies and gentlemen, we do take care of our own and we would love if you would please join us. For God and Country!

Written by Post 67 Commander Donald Mulcahy



Bridgton Post 67 Rifle Squad and Flag Detail.

Bridgton Post 67 Installation Of Officers:

Bridgton Post 67 held their Installation of Officers Ceremony during the District 2 meeting at the Post home on Sat., June 1. District 2 Commander Curtis Merrill and Acting Sergeant-At-Arms Bill Stuart conducted the

Installation Ceremony. The Installation of Officers followed the Pancake Breakfast at the Bridgton Community Center. The revitalization of Post 67 continues. This slate of Officers have their work cut out for them over the next year. Front row, left to right, Post Adjutant Bill O'Neil, Vice Commander DJ Brady, and Commander Donald Mulcahy. Back row, left to right, Sergeant-At-Arms Michael Brady, Finance Officer Ron Edson, Service Officer/Chaplin Kelly Ela, and Historian Skip Brown.



Bridgton Post 67 Flag History & Folding Instructions:

Bridgton Post 67 Commander Donald Mulcahy, left, and Post Adjutant William O'Neil, right, paid a visit to Stevens Brook Elementary School on Fri., May 3 to instruct the 5th grade class on Flag history, etiquette, protocol, as well as the proper way to fold and unfold the flag. The students were extremely enthusiastic with their questions and volunteering to demonstrate the folding of the flag.



Demonstrating how to properly fold the flag are student volunteers Bob Sellick, left, and Ana Priola, right.

Post 67 Veterans Outreach Program:

Bridgton Post 67 Adjutant Bill O'Neil, left, and Commander Donald Mulcahy, right, with two volunteers from Habitat for Humanity (not pictured Finance Officer Ron Edson) ready to distribute donations from their "Veterans Outreach Program". They donated cabinetry, flooring, and light fixtures to Habitat for Humanity in



Portland. Habitat for Humanity has aided in various Homeless Veterans Projects throughout the State. They felt it only fitting and proper to donate unused building materials unnecessary for their building renovation on Depot Street. We assure you these materials will be utilized for deserving families. Sometimes a cabinet or a case of flooring does not fit our particular project but it may provide exactly what someone may need. God Bless the people who have made generous donations of building materials to us. A special thanks to those who have helped us and enabled us to help others. The renovations and revitalization of Bridgton Post 67 is in full swing.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 2 continued**Bridgton Post 67 Family Cooking For Ball Tournament:**

Left to right, Craig Stevenson, Vinny Yedynak, Bill O'Neil, Post Commander Donald Mulcahy, and Barry Bisco.

**4th Of July Cookout:**

Bridgton Post 67 chef Barry Bisco ready for the 4th of July crowd.

**Legion Riders Chapter 67 Ready for 4th of July**

Parade including our future Rider Sons of The American Legion member Nathaniel Elesaeser.

**Kenison-Hooper Post 128 Blue Star**

Banners: Post Commander Bryan McManus and Adjutant Lou Stack from Standish Post 128 present Blue Star Banners to four families on Armed Forces Day May 18.

Order of Saint Maurice Presentation: William I. Pembroke Post 139 1st Vice Commander 1SG (ret) Jeremy Wentworth and Past Commander Stephen Wentworth present the Order of Saint Maurice Medallion to COL (ret) Errol Briggs over Memorial Day 2019. The Order of Saint Maurice is awarded to Infantrymen who have served above and beyond the call of duty.



Squad, left to right, Bob Almstrom, Eric Bickford, Larry DeHof, David Rendall, Harley Clark, Jeff Cook, Roger Timmons and OIC Craig Pride.

Windham Field-Allen Post 148 Render Final Honors to Seaman McCulloch at the dedication ceremony held at the Memorial Everlasting Gratitude Garden, Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery in Augusta on May 13. Rifle

Recognition of Windham Post 148 Member & U.S.S. Pueblo POW Norman Spear

A ceremony was held in the WVC Memorial Garden to dedicate a black granite stone in memory of Windham Post 148 member and U.S.S. Pueblo POW, Norman Spear. A large contingent of Norm's family was present for the dedication. They received a surprise when the Post, with the help of U.S. Navy Commander (retired) Mike Wisecup, presented the family with a shadow box containing

Norm's military awards. Receiving the awards is Norm's Son, William Spear. Norm was a POW in North Korea from Jan. to Dec. 1968. During that period, his term of enlistment had expired. His enlistment was extended until his return to U.S. soil and Norm departed the service soon after without receiving his awards. His DD-214 listed only the National Defense Medal as his award. Research by the Post

148 Adjutant Dave Tanguay revealed that all U.S.S. Pueblo AGER-2 crewmembers received the following: The Purple Heart, The Navy Commendation Medal with "V", the POW Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal and the Combat Action Ribbon. The Post had a shadow box made up with Norm's Awards. Norm Spear is interned at the VA Mount Vernon Cemetery in Augusta. The Stone dedicated in the Memorial Garden will allow those family and friends not able to make the trip to Augusta to visit with him in the Memorial Garden.



Military Awards Presented: Windham Post 148, with the help of U.S. Navy Commander (retired) Mike Wisecup, right, surprises the family of Norman Spear with a shadow box containing Norm's military awards. Receiving the awards is Norm's son, William Spear.

Windham Post 148 Rifle Squad Render Honors:

Post Rifle Squad, under the supervision of OIC, Craig Pride, render honors with a 21-gun salute at the end of the ceremony on May 13. Squad members, left to right, Roger Timmons, Jeff Cook, Wally Clark, David Rendall, Larry DeHof, Post 1st Vice Commander Eric Bickford, and Robert Almstrom.

**Internment of U.S. Navy EN3, Norman Spear -**

POW on the U.S.S. Pueblo AGER-2, at Services at Mount Vernon Cemetery, Augusta. A ceremony held on May 13 for Legion Member and U.S.S. Pueblo POW, Norman Spear, who passed away last December. In the chapel, Windham Post 148 Honor Guard members Bob Christie and Post Henry "Chuck" Whynot stand by the coffin during service and assist in the flag folding.

**Field-Allen Post 148 and Troop 805 Flag Day Ceremony**

Promptly at 7:00 p.m. June 14, Flag Day, The American Legion Field-Allen Post 148 and Boy Scout Troop 805 and Pack members conducted a solemn Flag Retirement Ceremony at the Windham Veterans Center. Prior to the ceremony, the Troop and Pack members were instructed in the origin of these flags that were about to be retired. The flags were collected over Memorial Day weekend from the graves of our local veterans and replaced with bright new flags for the coming year.

After receiving instructions on the proper procedure for retiring the flags by burning, the Scouts participated in the retirement ceremony and in turn placed their bundle of flags on the fire. Each bundle of flags had been previously inspected and deemed unserviceable and ready for disposal by the Post 1st Vice Commander Eric Bickford and Post Americanism Officer David Horne. During the ceremony, it was noted by Commander Mel Greenier that, "A flag

may be a flimsy bit of printed gauze or a beautiful banner of the finest silk. Its intrinsic value may be trifling or great, but its real value is beyond price, for it is a precious symbol of all that we and our comrades have worked for, lived for and died for - a free nation of free men and women, true to the faith of the past, devoted to the ideals and practices of justice, freedom and democracy." He then Commanded, "Let these faded flags of our country be retired and destroyed with respect and honorable rites and their place be taken by bright, new flags of the same size and kind and let no grave of our soldiers, sailors, Marines and airman dead, be un-honored and unmarked".

Following a brief prayer by Post Chaplain Richard Drapeau, Sergeant-At-Arms Richard Graves directed the scouts to in turn place their bundle of flags on the fire. He then retired the troop.

Submitted by District 2 Adjutant David Tanguay

Retiring Flags: Post Sergeant-At-Arms instructs the Boys Scout Troop and Pack members in the proper procedure for retiring flags. Left to right, Americanism Office David Horne and Post 1st Vice Commander Eric Bickford. The Solemn Ceremony was held on Flag Day, June 14 at the Windham Veterans Center.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 2 continued



Honoring The Town's Korean War Veterans: Each year during the Town of Windham's Memorial Day parade, a group of Veterans are recognized. This year, the Town's Korean War Veterans were selected for a special recognition in the parade and at the Memorial Day Ceremony. Windham Post 148 Korean War Veterans enjoy an interesting ride in a 1950's Korean War M-37 Dodge Military Vehicle in the Parade. Veterans included: Don Swander, left, in Cab w/driver and Cadet 1SG Dan Wirtz. In the rear are Jerry Black, Walter Braley, Milton Rogers, Alden Whittemore and Lyndon Varney. The 1952 M-37 Dodge Military Vehicle is maintained by the Joint Military Cadets of America located at Windham High School.

Legion Memorial Day Weekend Annual Food

Drive: Field-Allen Post 148, in collaboration with the Joint Military Cadet of America (A co.1st BN 3rd ACTB) Windham High School, held its 10th Annual Food Drive at North Windham Walmart in support of the Town of Windham Food Pantry Summer Youth Program. The Cadets and Post members filled an M-37 Dodge Military Vehicle with food products and received \$1,500 in cash donations for the cause. Left to right, 1st SG Dan Wirtz, C/PVT Cataldi, C/PVT Currier, Post Adjutant David Tanguay, Collette Gagne (receiving \$1,500 check), C/CPL Carpenter, C/PV2 Hemond, and C/PV2 Allen. The Cadets were a significant help to this year's Food Drive.



World War II Remains

Returned After 75 Years: As the remains of World War II Army Air-Corps Pilot, 1st Lt Burleigh E. Curtis are carried from the Advent Church, Windham Post 148 Honor Guard render a final salute. Honor Guard members, Dick Drapeau, Bob Almstrom, Dick Graves, David Rendall, Eric Bickford, David Horne, Chuck Whynot, and OIC Craig Pride. Lt Curtis was shot down over France June 14, 1944 and his remains were buried by a local French farmer. DPAA had recently recovered the remains, and after 75 years, Burleigh Curtis was interned with his family at Chase Cemetery in Windham. Military support was provided by New Hampshire and Maine Air and Army National Guard.



Veterans Serving Veterans -

Ramp Detail: Larry DeHof put out a call for help to have a wheelchair ramp installed at Carol and Bob Christie's home in Sebago. Bob is a Post member and Korean War Veteran and, along with his wife, both needed support. Larry was storing a previously used ramp salvaged earlier in the year by Post members. With the call out on Monday, Tuesday the working party of three Post members, left to right, Craig Pride, David Horne, and David Rendall, along with Larry (not in photo), started work at 10:00 a.m. at the Christie home and had the project completed a little after noon. Another example of Veterans Supporting Veterans.

day, Tuesday the working party of three Post members, left to right, Craig Pride, David Horne, and David Rendall, along with Larry (not in photo), started work at 10:00 a.m. at the Christie home and had the project completed a little after noon. Another example of Veterans Supporting Veterans.

Photo by Larry DeHof

The Hero's Who Lived and Walked Among Us

Bridgton Post 67 pays their respects, both with honor and privilege, to long-time friend and comrade at Russell Littlefield's Internment on Sat., May 11. His ashes were buried along with his beloved dog "Bear". Mr. Littlefield passed away on Feb. 6.

He was a retired Marine Gunnery Sergeant having served 20 plus years and was very active in the American Legion serving as a Commander 4 times and as a District Commander.

Donna Greenlaw officiated the service. A Bible was given by Naples Post 155 Chaplain Cathy Merrill to his widow Sis Littlefield of Bridgton. Providing the Guards of Honor Volley Shots was by Post 155 Adjutant Dick Bell, Past Commander Bill Stewart and Past Commander/District 2 Commander Curtis Merrill. Taps was played by Lake Region High School Senior Matt Mayo.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 3

Livermore Falls Post 10; Lewiston Post 22; Auburn Post 31; Lisbon Falls Post 66; Turner Post 111; Sabattus Post 135; Mechanic Falls Post 150; Auburn Post 153; Lisbon Post 158; Lewiston Post 210

RSU 73 2019 Dirigo Boys State Delegates

Livermore Falls Post 10, through support of many sponsors, 11 boys from RSU 73 Spruce Mountain High were able to attend 2019 Dirigo Boys State Program held in June at Thomas College. These businesses donate any amount of money toward the program. Post 10 makes up the rest. They are as follows:

- Lyn Jellison, JLF Lions Club
- Thomas Welch Grand Knight, Knights of Columbus Council 320
- Steve Maki, Spruce Mountain Pharmacy
- Sarah Hayes, Otis Federal Credit Union
- Hillside Sports Club
- Franklin/Nemi Publishing, Inc.
- Androscoggin Bank
- Livermore Falls Fire Dept., c/o Veronica Duguay
- Franklin Savings Bank
- Commander Lane-Dube AmVets Post 33
- PalletOne of Maine, d/b/a Isaacson Lumber Company
- A. Maurais & Son, Inc.
- Jay Fireman's Association
- Livermore Falls American Legion Post 10

RSU 73 Dirigo Boy State Delegates,

front row, left to right, Brandon Frey, Brandon Coates, and Scott Jackson. Back row, left to right, Jakob Nichols, Thomas Hebert, Bryson Bailey, Jack Bryant, Colby Hamblin, Logan Moffett, Connor Beaulieu, and Evan Dow.



The Soldier's Cross: Colton Vandiver of Scout Pack 187 places the dog tags on the Soldier's Cross.



Turner Post 111 Flag Presentation: Philip S. Bryant Memorial Post 111 of Turner, BSA Scout Troop 187 and Cub Scout Pack 187 were honored by a request from the Music for Mavis and the Honor Flight organizations to display a presentation on May 28 of our American Flag, Organization Flags, POW/MIA Flag and our Service Flags. The Legion members were assisted by the BSA Scouts in the Flag presentation; the Cub Scouts assembled the Soldiers Cross; and the Webelos folded the American Flag. In attendance were members of The American Legion, BSA Scouts and Cub Scouts.



Flags Placed At Jewish Cemetery: On May 24, flags were placed at the Jewish Cemetery in Auburn by Auburn Post 153 members for Memorial Day. (Left Photo): Left to right, Roland Jordan, Past Commander Dan St. Pierre, Commander Steve Simard, Stella Chase, Donald Peck, Ray Longtin, Tracy Rioux, Mike Spaulding and Claire Poirier. (Right Photo): Auburn Post 153 Past Commander Dan St. Pierre, left, and Commander Steve Simard placing flags at the Jewish Cemetery.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 4

Farmington Post 28; Kingfield Post 61; Phillips Post 64; Strong Post 78;
Wilton Post 117; Rangley Post 120;

Farmington Honors Veterans

Farmington - Farmington veterans were honored on Monday with the 151st Memorial Day celebration held at the Roderick-Crosby American Legion Post #28 on High Street. The ceremony, led by selectman and Color Guard member Stephan Bunker, paid tribute to the area's veterans with song, memories and remarks made by Governor Janet Mills and others.

"What did they all fight for? What did they die for? For the right to disagree? For the right to express an opinion, whether anyone is listening or not?" Mills said. "So many rights all too fragile and often taken for granted."

Mills went on to ask the crowd to share their experiences with the younger generations, so that they can learn to re-

ject fear and doubt, to stand up for what they believe in and to learn the importance of responsibility and self sufficiency- the values of our civilization, she said.

"It's up to all of us to show our sons and daughters how to come home again and live with sometimes the scars and lessons of battle. They will need you, as we always have, so stand up and be counted," she said.

Veterans were then invited to walk or ride in the parade that looped down from High Street into town and up Main Street. The veterans were followed by the Western Maine Foothills Band, members of the local Girl Scouts troops and 4-H, and other groups.

*Posted by Amber Kapiloff
Farmington Daily Bulldog
May 27, 2019*



Governor Janet Mills stands with 92-year old World War II Veteran Francis Paling of Jay.



Girl Scouts march in the parade.



The Dusty Boots 4-H club marches with their decorated horses.



Kingfield Post 61 Receives 100% Membership Certificate: Department Americanism Officer Alfred McKay, left, presents 100% Membership Certificate to Kingfield Post 61 Commander Johnny Maynard, II on May 19 at District 4 meeting in Kingfield.



Phillips Post 64 Installation Ceremony took place at the Post home on May 6. Installing Officers were Department Sergeant-At-Arms/Chaplain Patricia Thurston and Area 2 Commander Kirk Thurston. Left to right, Post Chaplain/Finance Officer Chris Bethune, Adjutant/Service Officer Hector 'Bud' Tremblay, Commander Irene Tremblay, 2nd Vice Commander/Outgoing Howard, and Installing Officer & Area 2 Commander Kirk Thurston.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 5

Rumford Post 24; Buckfield Post 58; Lockemills Post 68; So. Paris Post 72; Bethel Post 81; Norway Post 82; Dixfield Post 100; Oxford Post 112; Fryeburg Post 137; West Paris Post 151; Peru Post 199

**The Shot Heard All**

Around Buckfield: Following a longstanding tradition, a Revolutionary War musket was taken down from its sacred place in the Buckfield Town Library on Independence Day, loaded by Post Commander James Lowell, District 5 1st Vice Commander Ralph Hart, and, this year, fired by Department Commander Matt

Jabaut. The event was observed by what passes for a multitudinous crowd in the town. Given that Buckfield was incorporated as a Town in the propitious year of 1776, the Township's claim of possessing a Revolutionary War heirloom is probably justified. Left to right, Post 58 1st Vice Commander Ralph Hart, Merton Jones, Shirley Jones, Department Commander Matt Jabaut, Department Sergeant At-Arms Tricia Thurston, Department 2nd Vice Commander Kirk Thurston, Post 58 Commander James Lowell holding Venerable Town Brown Bess Musket, Dave Stroud, and Conrad Conant.

**Nation's 250th Anniversary Is upon Us
Scouts Told Before Flagging**

In year three of Cub, Boy, and Girl

Scouts, along with siblings, participation in Jackson-Silver Post 68 flagging of more than 100 Veterans' graves in five of thirteen Greenwood cemeteries, the Scouts were informed by the Post Commander before they set out, that they were indeed fortunate. They would likely witness the Nation's 250th Anniversary as a Republic from the first commemorative event in 2020 to the celebration of the inauguration as President of the United States of the Immortal Washington in 2039. The Commander informed the Bethel Area Scouts that the 250th Anniversary would begin about ten months from Memorial Day 2019, in nearby Massachusetts on March 5, 2020, with the living history reenactment on March 7 of the Boston Massacre. Then, year by year, other dates leading up to the Glorious Revolution, which began on April 19, 1775 at Concord and Lexington, will be remembered, and thence through the eight years of War before the Nation was truly established through the Ratification of the U.S. Constitution on June 21, 1788, taking effect on March 4, 1789, and America's first National election the

same year.

Of particular note to citizens of Maine will be the commemoration of the Boston Tea Party, which took place on December 16, 1773; 17 Patriots of Maine travelled to Boston in time to actively participate in brewing a pot of tea in Boston Harbor. The Post Commander, being a member of the National Society Sons of the American Revolution, very much looks forward to participating in that commemoration.

The Scouts and their siblings set out and flagged the graves of Greenwood Veterans who served in every war from the Revolution through the War on Terror. After flagging Locke Mills Mt. Abram Cemetery, the largest in Greenwood, all adjourned to the nearby Locke Mills Union Church Hall for a Pizza Party, hosted by the Commander and his wife, Unit 68 Auxiliary Secretary Susan Vacca.

It is hoped that the Scout Flagging Project in Greenwood, and elsewhere in Maine, will continue for another 250 years in the freest nation on this planet.

*Submitted by District 5 Adjutant & Post 68
Commander Harry G. Orcutt*



Scouts, left to right, Ruth Snogren, Emilia Wright, Noah Phelps, Cameron Wright, David Chase, Harper Phelps, and Clara Chase.



Visiting An Unknown Soldier's Grave: Emilia Wright sits by an unknown Revolutionary War soldier's grave.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 5 continued



Poppy Girls Flower Salute: On Memorial Day, American Legion Locke Mills Auxiliary Unit 68 members Hazel Cole and Susan Vacca escort Poppy Girls Hailey Lake and Annabelle Withey to honor this nation's fallen military members in the Locke's Mills tradition by casting flowers on the water for sailors and at the Jackson-Silver American Legion Post's Veterans monument for our military on land and air.

Norway Post 82 Flag Disposal Ceremony:

Norway Post 82 in District 5 hold Flag Disposal Ceremony on June 12. Left to right, Silas Parlin, Timothy Pike, James Neary, Post Commander Bryant Polvinen, Arnold Pendexter Jr., and Unit member Ruth Gurney.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 6

Rockland Post 1; Vinalhaven Post 18; Camden Post 30; North Haven Post 33; St. George Post 34; Thomaston Post 37; Union Post 110; Warren Post 218

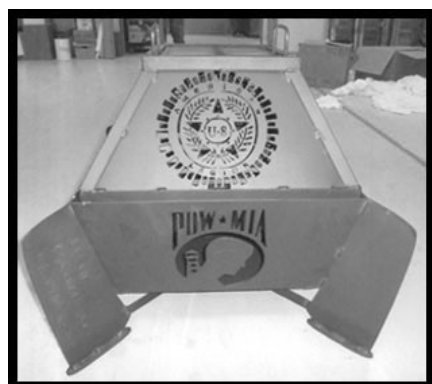


In Memory Of Post Commander Frank R. Carr: War Memorial Post 30 of Camden celebrated the memory of their recently departed Commander Frank R. Carr, USMC, MSGT, who passed away on June 15. Post 30 held a remembrance gathering of friends and fellow Veterans joined together to remember Frank. Speakers included State District 94 Representative

Vicki Doudera, Randy Stearns of the Camden Historical Society, Reverend Jerry Stone of the Camden Lions Club, David Paul of the Mid-Coast Detachment Marine Corps League, and Post 30 Adjutant Jeff Sukeforth. Left to right, Ben Hazen and Rosey Gerry provide sideboard for Frank's memorial table.



Camden Post 30 Donate Legion & Auxiliary Plate Settings to be displayed at Department Headquarters in Winslow. Left to right, Post 30 Commander Frank Carr (sadly missed), Department Adjutant Paul L'Heureux, and Post 30 Historian Norman Carver.



American Legion Brian L. Buker Post 218 Fire Pit Raffle

Drawing Date: November 15th

Get your Fire Pit Raffle Ticket Today! \$1 each or 6 for \$5

Contact Department HQ for tickets at 207-873-3229

Smithsonian Eagle Soars Above Legion Post

CAMDEN - A new cupola and weather vane were installed atop the War Memorial Post 30 American Legion building under blue skies and sunshine May 18.

Maynard Tolman, a Korean War Veteran, donated the Smithsonian copper eagle weather vane and cupola to the American Legion Post, in memory of Tolman's son Ben, who died seven years ago. Ben was a Seabee in the Naval Reserve Brunswick Attachment. Tolman senior was the original builder of the Legion Post at 91 Pearl St. around 1966. He served in the Army from 1953 to 1956, in the military police as a criminal investigator and in the Maine National Guard.

The old weather-beaten cupola had been taken down. On May 18, a crane from Arthur D. Henry Crane Service raised the new cupola to the roof. Carpenter Heath Barrett took care of the complex cupola and weather vane installation and calibration. Copper and Azek PVC synthetic wood trim were added, so the assembly should not require painting. Barrett, who is a graduate of Southern Maine Technical College, loves his work. He mentioned that there are many craft jobs waiting to be filled.

Tolman's sons, Eric Tolman, who owns Rockport Machine, and Nelson Tolman, who owns Camden Glass, assisted in the installation

Norman Carver of Lincolnville helped choose the Smithsonian eagle weather vane from a Maine supplier. It was also chosen by a group of members and officers of Post 30, including Maynard Tolman. Carver and his wife, Judy, made the trip to Hermon to pick up the weather vane and bring it to Tolman to be installed on the cupola. Carver is the member whom the Post calls, because he knows how to fix anything fast and do it at a reasonable price, Post members said. Members help as they can to reduce expenses.

The land on Pearl Street was purchased from Richard A. Wentworth next door "at a reasonable price," according to

accounts. The building was designed by George Dodge of Owls Head for no charge. The original members of Post 30 were World War II veterans who met in the old firehouse on Washington Street.

The first Commander at the Pearl Street location was Donald Carr. Second in command was Richard Benner. Others in charge were Bob Barrow and Fred Merchant. Today Frank Carr is Post 30 commander (no relation to Donald Carr). Legion members have made many upgrades recently and expect this building to be a landmark. The building should be thought of as honoring men and women of the service who have passed. Members come from Camden, Rockport, Hope, Appleton, Lincolnville and surrounding towns.

Members of Post 30 usually meet the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m., with occasional potluck suppers. There are two monthly Monday morning 9 a.m. coffee hours open to folks who are interested. Members march in parades, but also do much more. Lately they have held twice monthly Sunday pancake breakfasts.

A speaker from the state recently talked about how he was looking for a volunteer to serve as Knox County's draft board chairman. Should a person not register for the draft as required, they might lose their eligibility for a government job forever. At another meeting, Camden resident Hank Lunn gave a talk about having German prisoners of war work on his family's farm after the end of World War II. War Memorial Post 30 is a non-political organization. Camaraderie is offered in a positive way for those who were ready to risk their lives for their country.

For more information, call Jeff Sukeforth at 691-2270 or go to the War Memorial Post 30 Facebook page.

Published in Village Soup, Knox Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Article & Photos by Paul Satkowski who is historian for the War Memorial Post 30 American Legion in Camden. Susan Mustaphi, assistant editor, Camden Herald, contributed to this story.



Camden Post 30 American Legion building on May 18.

Guiding The Cupola: Carpenter Heath Barrett guides the new cupola as it is lowered by the crane onto the roof of Camden Post 30 Amer-



Eagle Weather Vane "A Striking Sight To See!": The Smithsonian copper eagle weather vane is a striking sight as it is lifted into the air by crane at American Legion Camden Post 30.



Weather Vane & Cupola Installation: Carpenter Heath Barrett, left, and Skip Pierce, right, with the newly installed Smithsonian Eagle weather vane and cupola.



Camden Post 30 Builder: Maynard Tolman, a Korean War Veteran, built The American Legion Camden

Post 30 building at 91 Pearl Street in the mid 1960's.

All photos by Camden Post 30 Historian Paul Satkowski

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 6 continued

Tenants Harbor Post 34 Honors Veterans During Flag Raising Ceremony: Each year, Kinney-Melquist Post 34 honors a Veteran with a flag raising at the Memorial Ball Park in Tenants Harbor. (Right photo) Commander Thornton Batty, Jr., presents a flag box on April 13 to Donna Cline,

left, daughter of Ralph Cline, Jr. (deceased). Ralph was the 2018 Honoree. (Left photo) Commander Thornton Batty, Jr., right, presents a flag box on April 13 to Edgar Post, left, who is 98 years old, a World War II Veteran of the U.S.C.G., the 2019 Honoree, and a resident of South Thomaston.

WWII Veteran Laid to Rest

On June 5, 2019, former Darby's Ranger, Lloyd D. Richards, was laid to rest at the Sea View Cemetery in Rockport, Maine. Ranger Richards had passed away during the early hours of May 23, peacefully at his home in Thomaston, after a last battle with cancer. His battle for life had begun at the age of two when he broke his back falling across a shaft between a tractor and wagon. Told he would never walk again, he beat it and walked while still a young boy. Because of his back, Ranger Richards was told he would never be able to enter military service multiple times. He beat that and, after finally passing a physical, Ranger Richards was drafted into the Army on Dec. 9, 1942.

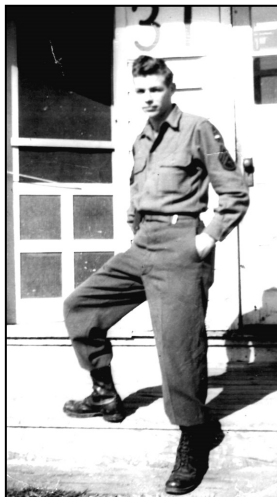
At the end of March, 2019, the Maine Department of the American Legion was contacted by Pastor Peter Scheff of the Abundant Grace Fellowship Church in Searsmont. Pastor Scheff had made arrangements for Ranger Richards to participate in the 2019 Honor Flight to Washington, D. C. that makes it possible for World War II and Korean War Veterans to be honored for their service to the United States. Ranger Richards' cancer had progressed to the point where he was unable to participate in the flight.

This was when Pastor Scheff made contact with The American Legion, Department of Maine, and asked for their help in trying to honor Ranger Richards in some way. On the weekend of March 30/31, the Maine Department was holding their first session of the Legion College for 2019. Two members, Jeff Wright and Post Historian George Robinson, Jr., of the Williams-Brazier Post 37, of Thomaston were attending the college. Department of Maine Adjutant Paul L'Heureux spoke with Wright about Ranger Richards. Wright then spoke with Robinson and they both decided to do what they could for Ranger Richards.

Wright had Ranger Richards' information and called him to make arrangements for the two Legionnaires to meet Ranger Richards. In the meantime, Pastor Scheff had made arrangements with Maine television station, WABI, to run a story on

Ranger Richards. Everyone met on the same day beginning a series of interviews and visits by Robinson.

From the meetings, a commemoration was developed to honor Ranger Richards on the 6th of June, as part of a celebration for the 75th Anniversary of D-Day. In addition to Darby's Rangers, Ranger Richards also served with the First Special Service Force, the forerunner of today's Special Forces, and the 474th Infantry Regiment (Separate) during his military service. The veteran organizations for each unit were contacted and all contributed to what would have been a great commemoration.



T-3 Lloyd D. Richards at Fort Dix, New Jersey, Oct.-Nov. 1945

On the morning of May 23, Robinson was called by Pastor Scheff and was told Ranger Richards had passed away earlier that morning. Arrangements were made to hold a Celebration of Life and reception at the Abundant Grace Fellowship Church in Searsmont by Pastor Scheff. Legionnaire George Robinson, Jr. asked to speak, told of Ranger Richards' military service. Prior to the beginning of the Celebration of Life, Robinson, with the help of the Funeral Home Director, placed a World War issue Ranger diamond above Ranger Richards' heart and a Canadian two dollar coin commemorating the First Special Service Force in his hand.

With the assistance of the Post 37 Commander William Demmons and 2nd Vice-Commander Dawn Wright, as well as Department of Maine Adjutant Paul L'Heureux and Department of Maine Americanism Officer Al McKay, a military funeral was held at the Sea View Cemetery. Full honors were given to Ranger Richards consisting of a Gun Salute by the local Marine Corps Honor Guard and the playing of Taps by Army personnel from Bangor. In addition, the two soldiers folded the National Colors and then presented it to the widow, Mrs. Shirley Richards.

Ranger Richards was a brave and decorated soldier. He fought in five campaigns; Sicily, Naples-Foggia, Southern France, Central Europe and the Rhineland. He was awarded the Purple Heart on Dec. 28, 1943, Good Conduct Medal and the European-

Africa-Middle East Service Medal as well as the World War II Victory Medal. In addition, Ranger Richards was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge on Oct. 1, 1944 during an announcement at Camp Butner, North Carolina, when several Rangers were discharged from service. He earned this award while with the 4th Battalion, Darby's Rangers. Ranger Richards was also awarded the Combat Medic Badge, on July 7, 1945, in Oslo, Norway. He participated in four beach assaults during the war, Sicily, Salerno, Anzio and Southern France.

Five days before his funeral, it was discovered that Ranger Richards had been awarded the Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster as the result of being awarded his two combat badges. A study in 1947, had led to the policy of bestowing the Bronze Star for being awarded the Combat Infantry and Combat Medic Badges. Richards did not know that he was awarded the Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster for his service with the 4th Battalion, Darby's Rangers and the 474th Infantry Regiment. On Aug. 17,

2019, Mrs. Richards will be presented with these two awards.

Ranger Richards said that he was nearly killed 3 times during the war, all three by mortar rounds. One time was when he saw a mortar round coming right at him. Probably not really thinking about it, Ranger Richards tried to catch the round. With his arms outstretched he felt someone grab him from behind. The thing was, he was alone. The round hit right in front of Ranger Richards but did not go off, a dud. Another time earned him the Purple Heart while with the 4th Battalion on a mountain in Italy. This was probably during the winter battles for San Pietro, Venafrro and Cassino. Ranger Richards only referred the mountain he was wounded on as "that mountain."

During the early morning of May 23, Ranger Richards lost his last great battle with cancer. In the end, his body was too weak for his heart to keep alive.

*Story by Post 37 Historian G. Lewis Robinson
Additional information and facts provided by Julie Belanger, Descendants of WW2 Rangers*



Presentation of National Colors to Mrs. Shirley Richards.

Photo by Julie Belanger

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 7

Boothbay Harbor Post 36; Damariscotta Post 42; Wiscasset Post 54; Waldoboro Post 149

'A Vacation from All the Stares'

Serviceman who lost leg thanks WMHS for Travis Mills Foundation fundraiser.

When Michael Liscomb and his family went to camp in 2017, no one was asking his wife or his children what happened to him.

The other spouses and children were in military families, so they didn't stare at the device that replaced the left leg he lost in 2017. The leg got slammed between a Humvee and a pickup truck in 2008, during Liscomb's tour of duty in Iraq.

Several operations followed, then the infection that claimed his leg.

Those other families at the Travis Mills Foundation camp understood, Liscomb said. "It's a vacation from all the stares," he told Wiscasset Middle High School students and staff in Stover Auditorium Friday.

The school and American Legion Post 54 of Wiscasset donated a combined \$400 to the foundation. Staff and students raised \$277 in a recent McDonald's night. The student council added \$23 to make an even \$300, and the Legion post gave \$100, speakers at the afternoon assembly explained.

Liscomb, an ambassador for the foundation, said he did not have words to describe what it meant to him when his family got to see him kayaking without anyone's help, thanks to adaptive equipment.

At the camp, everyone is used to seeing military wounds, and has their own story, he said.

"Thank you, guys. What you did, the money you donated, it's definitely going to help," he told the audience. When he finished, students and staff applauded and rose to their feet.

"It meant a lot to see that," the Skowhegan man said in the lobby afterward. "And it definitely shows that military stuff means a lot to the teachers here in Wiscasset and the students."

The fundraising and the show of support also impressed Post Commander William Cossette Jr. "It was great to see the young people doing this. The kids have worked so hard. So many young people don't have any idea what's going on with veterans."

Student Council President Matt Chapman emceed the assembly. He and fellow student council members Chris Loyola and Caleb Gabriele stood feet from Liscomb for his speech. Then they all observed Cossette's explaining to the audience a display honoring prisoners of war or those missing in action: A candle for hope, the table's small size reflecting one person against their oppressors, a rose for blood the POW/MIA may have shed, a lemon slice representing bitter pain, an inverted

More on "ALL THE STARES", Page 24

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 7 continued

■ “All the Stares”

(Continued from Page 23)

glass for their absence, and a red ribbon for the determination to account for them.

"It almost brought a tear to my eye, for how much veterans have done for our country," Chapman said after the assembly about Cossette's and Liscomb's remarks. "Every time I meet a veteran, I always thank them for their service. They deserve it for putting their life on the line, in guaranteeing our freedom."

Near the assembly's close, Chapman,

on the student council's behalf, praised first-year WMHS Principal Charles Lomonte for his work with the student council. The senior said he has never seen a principal as involved with it. "He's heard our voices a lot."

What did the recognition mean to Lomonte? "Everything," because it came from the students, he commented later.

Student Council Advisor Deb Pooler said later, the kindness and responsibility Chapman showed that day was an example of why she loves her job: "The students."

*By Susan Johns, Wiscasset Newspaper
May 20, 2019*



Travis Mills Foundation Ambassador Michael Liscomb speaks as Student Council members, from left, Matt Chapman, Caleb Gabriele and Chris Loyola look on.

Photo by Susan Johns/Wiscasset Newspaper

Members of Wiscasset Post 54 At Assembly: Left to right, American Legion Post 54 Service Officer Neil Page, Historian Wally Pitcher, and Commander William Cossette Jr.

Photo by Susan Johns/Wiscasset Newspaper



Wiscasset's Fourth of July Brings Fun, Smiles, Town Spirit

The Fourth of July is a memorable day for many, and Wiscasset's celebration both honored veterans and had no shortage of fun.

Town events kicked off in the morning with a delicious pancake breakfast at Morris Farm. Participants were invited to attend the first-ever, free July 4 Community Breakfast. When asked what formulated the idea, Elizabeth Palmer, the operator of the Morris Farm store, said, "I've had so much fun meeting people in this town, this is going to be my first Fourth of July parade as a Mainer, and the community breakfast is something that used to happen here, and recently I started having a community breakfast at the farm every Saturday and, at one of those, ideas came up that we could have the Fourth of July one here."

She also noted she was delighted because she feels a lot of these events happen downtown and this is the farm in Wiscasset's backyard. "So I love the idea that we could be a part of (the day)."

Line up for the parade was on Churchill Street. This year, the Grand Marshal William Cossette Jr., commander of American Legion Post 54 Wiscasset, and color guard led off the parade. When asked how he felt about the honor, Cossette said, "I am very happy to be selected ... especially

where I am the commander of American Legion for Wiscasset and District 7. It is also the 110th anniversary for the Legion. It's great that there is a float in the parade and that I am able to lead it. It is very worthwhile and it's a great day!"

While waiting for the parade, recent Wiscasset Middle High School graduate Zack Mank said he was most excited to see all of the cool floats. "I like the fireworks and the police cars. My favorite part of the Fourth of July is just hanging out with friends and family." Mank was waiting with family to view the parade.

The route followed Hooper Street to Federal Street, to Route 1, to Water Street, then to the Recreation Pier. Families gathered along the route to enjoy the floats that went by, along with the occasional throwing of candy.

After the parade, a continued tradition of the day included strawberry shortcake Wiscasset Yacht Club sold through 2 p.m. Many people enjoyed this favored dessert over great conversations with friends and community members, and a beautiful view of the waterfront.

*Published in Boothbay Register/
Wiscasset Newspaper
Vanessa Dunn News Contributor
July 11, 2019*



Wiscasset Post 54 Parade Float: American Legion Wiscasset Post 54 parade float in this years Wiscasset 4th of July parade. Grand Marshal William Cossette Jr., commander of American Legion Post 54 Wiscasset, and color guard led off the parade.

Students Share WWII D-Day Lesson with Post 54 Vets

Wiscasset Middle High School students shared their knowledge of D-Day Friday afternoon with six veterans, all members of the Bradford-Sortwell-Wright Post 54 of the American Legion.

D-Day, the most famous battle of World War II, was when the combined Allied armies of the United States, United Kingdom and Canada stormed the Normandy beaches of German-occupied France. The battle's 75th anniversary is June 6.

English teacher Michelle Fraser said the program was part of her ninth grade's reading curriculum. She required her students to read six texts on the battle.

"They really responded to the subject matter so much that it evolved into a hands-on project," she told the Wiscasset Newspaper. Among the facts the students learned was many of the soldiers on both sides of the battle weren't much older than themselves.

"That made an impression on them along with the bravery demonstrated during the fighting," she said.

One student noted the platoon leaders were among the first soldiers to lose their lives when the Allies stormed the beaches; others had to step up and assume command.

Among the quotes students shared from the battle was this one from an American private, the only survivor in his launch boat: "(The) ramp went down and our captain was the first man off, and they just riddled him."

The exercise included students writing

an essay based on what they'd read attempting to put themselves in the shoes of the D-Day participants. Several students also built dioramas depicting the battle.

Fraser reached out to Assistant Principal Warren Cossette about inviting members of the American Legion in Wiscasset to attend. William Cossette, Warren's father, serves as Post Commander of Post 54.

Commander Cossette said the past year has been particularly hard for Post 54. "We lost what I'm quite certain were our last two Wiscasset World War II veterans, George Jones and Roy Farmer," he said. Farmer was a 74-year member of Post 54.

Cossette was grateful the high school invited Post 54 to attend the program and hear the students. He said it was important for young people to remember the many sacrifices men and women made during WWII.

Other Post 54 Legionnaires attending were John Kennedy, Cliff Hendricks, Wally Pitcher and Neil Page.

D-Day facts:

-The battle centered around five beaches that were code-named "Utah," "Omaha," "Gold," "Juno," and "Sword."

-D-Day was among the largest amphibious assaults in military history.

-Over 425,000 Allied and German troops were killed, wounded or went missing during the D-Day, also known as the Battle of Normandy.

*Boothbay Register/Wiscasset Newspaper
News Contributor Phil Di Vece
May 12, 2019*

Members of Bradford-Sortwell-Wright Post 54 attending Friday afternoon's program at WMHS were, from left, John Kennedy, Cliff Hendricks, Wally Pitcher, Commander William Cossette and Neil Page.



WMHS English teacher Michelle Fraser and Cliff Hendricks from Wiscasset Post 54.



Helping Construct the Diorama: Tristan Pepe helped construct this diorama depicting the WWII D-Day battle.

Photos by Phil Di Vece/Wiscasset Newspaper

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...**District 7 continued****First Female Commander of Waldoboro Legion a 34-Year Veteran**

The first female commander of the American Legion post in Waldoboro is a native of Waldoboro and 1972 graduate of Medomak Valley High School who served in the military for nearly 34 years.

Retired U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Donna Wallace was in the military from 1972-2006. She was in the U.S. Navy, U.S. Navy Reserve, and U.S. Coast Guard Reserve before serving her final 20 years on active duty as an officer in the Air Force. She is now commander of Charles C. Lilly Post No. 149.

Wallace is the daughter of the late Douglas and Marjorie Wallace. She, along with her sister, Leona, and two brothers, Douglas and Dana, was raised on a large farm in Waldoboro with about 1,000 laying hens. Her father also worked as a commercial fisherman to support the family.

Wallace and her father, a veteran of World War II, were close. When she was in the reserves, she hauled lobster traps with him while going to college.

"My dad was my best friend all through life, right up to the day he died at the age of 90," Wallace said.

Her father enlisted in the U.S. Army at the age of 18. After basic training, he was assigned to the U.S. Army Air Forces 5th Division.

On Christmas Day 1943, he was on a transport ship in an 80-ship convoy on its way to the Philippines when the convoy was attacked by Japanese kamikazes.

Her father told her two kamikazes flew over his ship, each crashing into a ship on either side of his. The impact from the explosions on those two ships caused significant damage to his ship, with the crew hanging on while the Japanese continued to attack.

Donna Wallace remembers asking her father if he was afraid. After a brief pause, he said, "No. We thought we were going to die. We had accepted the fact we were not going home to our families and I was just waiting for death to come."

But her father survived and was in Japan when the Japanese surrendered in August 1945. He received the Purple Heart for injuries received during that attack, as well as the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Philippine Liberation Medal, and World War II Victory Medal.

After graduating from high school, Donna Wallace wanted to continue to learn, but knew her family did not have the money to send her to college. She talked to her father about going into the military to serve her country and further her education. Her father suggested the Navy, because he knew

how much she enjoyed the water.

On June 9, 1972, her 18th birthday, she enlisted in the Navy and began a long and accomplished military career.

U.S. Navy, 1972-1976

After enlisting in the Navy, Wallace was sent to Orlando, Fla. for boot camp, followed by training as a dental technician in San Diego, Calif. She served as a dental technician throughout most of her time with the Navy.

She was stationed at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif. before being separated from active duty in August 1976 with the rank of petty officer second class.

Navy Reserve, 1976-1978

From 1976-1978, she served in the Navy Reserve in Maine and California. Back in Waldoboro, she decided to go back to school and further her education.

While pursuing an associate degree in dental hygiene, she went lobstering with her father. Her father built her a 17-foot wooden lapstrake skiff to haul her own lobster traps with. He had built his own 29-foot lobster boat, the MASSU, that was his pride and joy, according to his daughter.

Coast Guard Reserve, 1978-1986

In 1978, Wallace transferred into the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve. She served in Maine and California until 1986.

She earned an associate degree in dental hygiene from the University of Maine at Orono in 1979, a bachelor's degree in dental health technology from the University of Washington in Seattle in 1980, and a Master of Business Administration from New Hampshire College in 1986.

After receiving her master's degree, Wallace applied for a commission in the Air Force "and was blessed to be accepted," she said.

She achieved the rank of petty officer first class in the Coast Guard Reserve.

U.S. Air Force, 1986-2006

Wallace was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Air Force in April 1986. She was assigned as chief, Administrative Division, School of Health Care Sciences, at Sheppard Air Force Base in Texas.

She was promoted to first lieutenant in November of the same year. She reached the rank of captain in 1988, major in 1996, and lieutenant colonel in 2000.

She still had a desire to learn. In 2000, she completed a residency with PacificCare of Texas and received a master's degree in health care administration from Baylor University in Texas. She also took advantage of education offered by the Air Force, attending Squadron Officer School in 1993, Air

Command and Staff College in 1999, and Air War College in 2003.

While serving in the Air Force, Wallace had some interesting assignments. She was chief of professional staff management at the Office of the Surgeon General, Bolling Air Force Base, Washington, D.C.

She served as flight commander of the 319th Recruiting Squadron at Portsmouth, N.H. for all New England states, and was commended for leading her team to success in all programs.

In 2003, she was assigned to Randolph Air Force Base in Texas as deputy chief, Physician Utilization Branch, Air Force Personnel Center. Her duties included responsibility for assignments and career management for over 3,600 physicians.

Wallace retired from the Air Force on Jan. 1, 2006. She was honored for her service at Randolph Air Force Base on Dec. 28, 2005.

She has been awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Coast Guard Reserve Good Conduct Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, National Defense Service Medal, and Navy Good Conduct Medal.

Ongoing Service

Wallace said she is grateful for the

opportunities her military service provided.

She was recently elected commander of the American Legion post in Waldoboro. She is proud and honored to be the first female commander of her hometown post, which she joined with her father in the mid-1970s.

In her role as commander, she plans to promote programs that benefit all veterans and their families. She is also an active member of the American Legion Auxiliary in Waldoboro.

Wallace is a mother of four sons: Ian Montgomery, the late Elliot Montgomery, Aren Montgomery, and Chade Montgomery.

She enjoys spending time with her granddaughter, Izabella Montgomery, who was the Waldoboro auxiliary unit's 2019 Poppy Girl, and she is looking forward to soon having a new grandson.

Wallace has traveled to all 50 states and more than a dozen countries. She has hiked 200 miles from Porto, Portugal to Santiago de Compostelo, Spain; seen the Arctic and Antarctic; and sailed from Friendship, Maine to Bermuda. But there is no other place she would want to live, she said, than in her hometown of Waldoboro.

*By Charlotte Boynton
The Lincoln County News
July 2, 2019*



A 19 Year Old U.S. Navy Seaman Apprentice Donna Wallace in 1973. Wallace would go on to serve nearly 34 years in the military before retiring and returning to her native Waldoboro.

Photo courtesy Donna Wallace

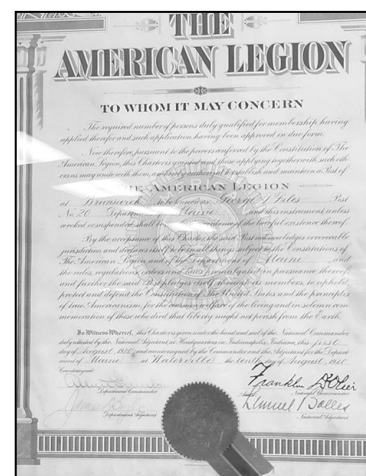
WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...**District 8**

Brunswick Post 20; Bath Post 21; Harpswell Post 171; Thompson Post 202; Phippsburg Post 216

Brunswick Post 20 & Unit 20 Celebrate 100th Anniversary: George T. Files American Legion Post 20 Brunswick and American Legion Auxiliary Unit 20 Brunswick celebrated their 100th Anniversary in July. Pictured are Unit 20 Auxiliary President Melissa Farris and Post 20 Commander David Watson.



The Original Charter For Post 20 From 1919 which was given as a surprise gift to the Post from member Albert Farris & his wife Auxiliary President Melissa Farris.



First Female Commander Of Waldoboro Post 149: Retired U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Donna Wallace is the first female commander of the Charles C. Lilly American Legion Post No. 149 in her hometown of Waldoboro.

Photo by Charlotte Boynton/Lincoln County News

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 8 continued



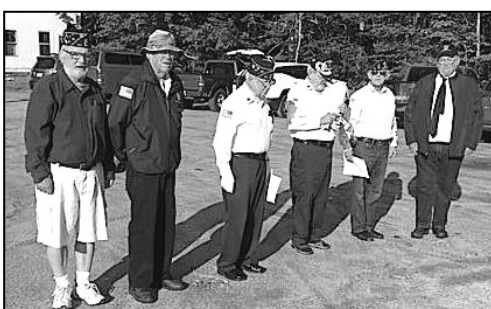
Brunswick Flag Day Disposal Ceremony: George T. Files Post 20 of Brunswick conducted a Flag Disposal Ceremony at the Joshua Chamberlain Statue on Sat., June 15. Officiating was Post 20 Commander David Watson, Post Chaplain Read Rich & Post Member Mike Hory.



Troop 2441 member Emma Farris, left, with the assistance of Post 20 Sergeant-At-Arms Carl Curtis. (Right Photo) Subsequent flags were presented for disposal by members of Cub Scout Pack 648 Den 1.

Scouts Present Flags For Disposal: Brunswick Post 20 conducted a Flag Disposal Ceremony at the Joshua Chamberlain Statue on June 15. (Left Photo) The first folded flag was presented for disposal by Girl Scout

Photo courtesy of Nancy Hory



Harpswell Post 171 Flag Day 2019 Celebration: Left to right, Bill O'Connell, Steve Collins, Bill Allen, Commander Mike Doyle, Bob Webber, Al Golden. Not shown are John Ott and Paul Standridge.

Photo by John Ott



Harpswell Post 171 Flag Disposal: Steve Collins and Bill O'Connell prepare for unserviceable flag disposal.

Photo by John Ott



Harpswell Post 171 Memorial Day March: Harpswell Post 171 members marching in the 2019 Memorial Day Parade.

Photo by Donna Frisoli



Harpswell Post 171 Memorial Day 2019: Left to right, Chris Collins, Chuck Collins, Bob Webber, Jim Swol, Howard Yanik, Matt Maurer, John Ott, Steve Collins, Bill O'Connell (hidden), Mike Doyle, and Paul Standridge (who played Taps).

Photo by James Chan



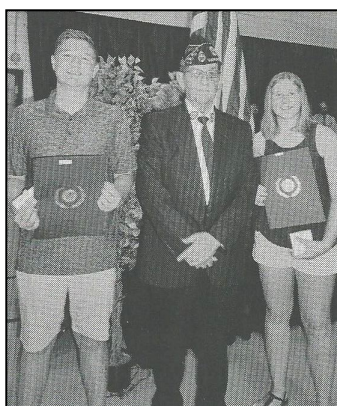
Fundraising Event: Phippsburg Post 216 members work with the community in providing lawn care services to the Tax Brackett II on June 15. This event is a fundraiser for American Legion programs and events.

Photo by Chilloa Young

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 9

Augusta Post 2; Gardiner Post 4; Waterville Post 5; Hallowell Post 6; Winthrop Post 40; Oakland Post 51; Togus Post 90; No. Vassalboro Post 126; Richmond Post 132; So. China Post 179; Litchfield Post 181; Clinton Post 186; China Post 195; Monmouth Post 204; Augusta Post 205



Gardiner Post 4 Recognizes Two Exceptional Students: Smith-Wiley Post 4 Americanism Officer Roger Paradis, center, went to the Gardiner Middle School on June 10 to present a Certificate and a Brass Medallion to 2 exceptional students, Dakota Lovely, left, and Avery Markos, right. For 3 years, they have excelled at school in the following qualities of Courage, Honor, Leadership, Patriotism, Scholarship and Service.

Americanism Awards Presented By Hallowell Post 6: Goodrich-Caldwell Post 6 presents Americanism Awards for the graduating Hall-Dale 8th Grade class on Wed., June 19. Americanism Awards for the Hall-Dale Senior class were also presented along with acknowledgment of the nine graduating band members who supported The American Legion over the past four years at parades in Hallowell. Left to right, Hugh Stevens, Mike Madden, and Post Commander Maureen Malley.



MVH June Birthday Celebrations: Goodrich-Caldwell Post 6, Hallowell, prepares cake and ice cream for 31 residents of Maine Veterans Home in Augusta on June 21. Birthday gifts were presented to 11 members who were celebrating their birthday in June. Left to right, Post Commander Maureen Malley, Dave Ranslow, Judy Madden, Larry Auger, Hugh Stevens, and Dana Parker. Steve Mairs was the coordinator for the 100th Anniversary Committee and is seen here in the far back.



Hallowell Post 6 100th Anniversary Event: Hallowell Post 6 held a 100th Anniversary event honoring its current Past Commanders at a banquet in conjunction with the installation of the new officers for 2019-2020 on Monday, May 13. Guest speakers were Department Adjutant Paul L'Heureux, Past National Commander

Anthony "Tony" Jordan. Installing Officer was Past Department Commander Brenda Dearborn. Past Commanders, left to right, Steve Mairs, Dana Parker, Gerald Stuart, Ernest DeRaps, Robert Stubbs, Maureen Malley, Mike Madden, Peter DeRaps, and Roger Theberge. Guests included Department 2nd Vice Commander Debra Couture and Area 4 Commander Greg Couture.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 9 continued

Hallowell Post 6 100th Birthday Celebration: Goodrich-Caldwell Post 6, Hallowell, celebrate their 100th birthday on June 28 with many friends and guests including members of the City Council, Senator Shenna Bellows, Department Commander Matthew Jabaut and Department Adjutant Paul L'Heureux; Hosted by Post 6 Commander Maureen Malley.

Color Guard Joins Hall-Dale Little League Program:

Goodrich-Caldwell Post 6 Hallowell Color Guard joined the Hall-Dale Little League Program for their opening day ceremony on May 4. Left to right, Comrades, Sergeant-At-Arms Tim McGuire, Past Commander Steven Mairs, Past Chaplain Larry Auger, Building Committeeman Carroll Whitman, Adjutant Jerry Stuart, 1st Vice Commander Lew Gibson. In attendance Commander Maureen Malley, Scout Master Glen Glidden and Scout Troop 674 members with many family and friends.



King Celebrates Flag Day at Carrie Ricker School in Litchfield

Litchfield, Maine – Today, U.S. Senator Angus King (I-Maine) attended the ninth annual RSU4 Flag Day Ceremony at Carrie Ricker School in Litchfield. The Senator joined K-5 students and faculty, area Veterans, and Litchfield and Sabattus community members in honoring the flag, remembering fallen service members, and celebrating the perseverance, bravery, and determination of all who work to keep the nation safe.

"Years ago – after hearing our national anthem sung thousands of times at civic events or ballgames – I had a realization: the first stanza of the Star Spangled Banner ends with a question," said Senator King. "The final line goes: 'Oh, say does that star spangled banner yet wave, O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?' That question mark is significant – and I think the answer lies in the line itself. This flag will continue to fly over the land of the free, as long as we are the home of the brave. On Flag Day, we have an opportunity to reflect on both the values that our flag represents, and the sacri-

fices made by our men and women in defense of those national ideals. Our freedoms are not guaranteed – they must be nurtured and protected by each successive generation. Today, I had the wonderful opportunity to celebrate this flag, and all it stands for, with the next generation who will carry forward our ideals so that the star spangled banner may continue to fly from sea to shining sea."

Earlier this month, Senator King took part in the bipartisan Senate delegation to Normandy, France, to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the D-Day invasion by Allied forces during World War II. The 75th anniversary ceremony honored the sacrifice and heroism of those who fought, including the more than 2,500 Americans who died that day and the thousands more who were wounded. There are 83 soldiers from Maine buried at the cemetery, six of whom died on D-Day. During his visit to Normandy, Senator King met with World War II Veterans who made the trip for the occasion. Maine veterans in attendance included Charles

Norman Shay, a Penobscot Tribal Elder and Veteran who served as a combat medic during the D-Day invasion and is the namesake for the Charles Shay Indian Memorial in Normandy that honors the service of Native Americans during World War II; and Henry Breton, an Augusta Veteran who was one of four brothers to serve during World War II.

On Memorial Day, Senator King joined community members at Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery in Augusta to pay



Senator King calls on a student during the ninth annual RSU4 Flag Day Ceremony at Carrie Ricker School in Litchfield.

tribute to America's fallen heroes and Family Tax Relief Act, bipartisan legislation that would provide financial relief for the families of U.S. service members who have died while on active duty.

www.king.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases
June 14, 2019



Senator King Meets With Local Veterans at Carrie Ricker School in Litchfield on Flag Day, June 14.

Student Salutes Flag On Grave:

Abby Lovering of Oak Hill Middle School of Wales salutes the flag on the grave she has decorated at Plains Cemetery in Litchfield.

The Oak Hill Middle School decorated the cemetery with flags in honor of our deceased Veterans for Memorial Day. American Legion Post 181, Litchfield, works with the students each year and teaches them about flag etiquette.



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 122; Harland Post 141; New Portland Post 173; Athens Post 192

Skowhegan Post 16 Installation Ceremony:

Skowhegan Post 16 held their Installation of Officers at the Post home on May 5 with Department Adjutant Paul L'Heureux as their Installation Officer. Front row, left to right, Finance Officer Gary Orcutt, 2nd Vice Commander Roger

Brown, Commander Steve Spaulding, 1st Vice Commander Greg Dore, and Service Officer

Ira Stoddard. Back row, left to right, Chaplain & Historian Tina Richard, Sergeant-At-Arms Daphne Pratt, Americanism Officer Bob Mercer and Department Adjutant Paul L'Heureux.



the local funeral homes for any deceased Veteran. They currently work with Guiberson's in Madison and Smart & Edward's in Skowhegan. This service is coordinated with the Military Flag Folding detail, the surviving families' wishes, and the attending clergy. Post 39 also provide the Legion Hall for "Celebrations of Life" and will provide a Legion Funeral Ceremony for these upon request. Left to right, Aaron Rollins, Pete Petersen, Dale Bickford, Vincent Santoni, and John Ziacoma.

Madison Post 39 Honor Guard:

Madison Post 39 has a 12-man Funeral Detail that provides services upon request from

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 12

Bar Harbor Post 25; Ellsworth Post 63; Southwest Harbor Post 69; Blue Hill Post 85; Bucksport Post 93; Stonington Post 102; Northeast Harbor Post 103; Trenton Post 207



Post 25 Recognition Ceremony For Veterans: This group of Veteran-era military Veterans were honored Saturday, June 22 at a recognition ceremony

hosted by the American Legion George Edwin Kirk Post 25 in Bar Harbor. Each Veteran received a pin and personal thanks from Command Sgt. Maj. Jimmie W. Spencer, U.S. Army, Ret.

*Islander Photo by Liz Graves
June 27, 2019*

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 13

Bangor Post 12; East Millinocket Post 13; Corinna 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-Carmel Post 107; East Corinth Post 115; Lee Post 160; Hermon Post 200; Dixmont Post 201; Glenburn Post 211; Hampden Post 213



Etna-Carmel Post 107 Placement Of Veterans Memorial Flags: Four American Legion members, Ryan Simpson, his wife, and his daughter from Carmel placed flags on Veterans' graves in four cemeteries on May 18. The members were District 13 Commander Don Candage, Post Commander Bob Sibley, Post 2nd Vice Commander Ansel Cetterman, and District 13 Historian Tom Carle. Left to right, Don Candage, Mrs. Simpson, Ryan Simpson with his daughter in front.

Etna-Carmel Post 107 Installation Of Officers: Past District 13 Commander Bill Benson performed the installation ceremony May 16 at the Etna-Carmel Post home. Left to right, Past District 13 Commander Bill Benson, Service Officer Matt Stenieros, Sergeant-At-Arms George Edwards, Adjutant/Finance Officer Don Candage, 2nd Vice Commander Ansel Cutterman, and Commander Bob Sibley. Absent from photo, 1st Vice Commander J Pike, Chaplain Dave Roberts, Historian John Smart, and Americanism Officer Enrlyn Bowers.



Photo by District 13 Historian Tom Carle



Hermon Post 200 Installation Ceremony: Hermon Post 200 held their Installation of Officers Ceremony at their regular meeting on May 30. Front row, left to right, Adjutant/Finance Officer Tom Carle and Commander Ron Judkins. Middle row, left to right, Historian/Americanism Officer Norman Michaud, District 13 Commander Tom Healey, and 2nd Vice Commander Lynwood Quimby. Back row, left to right,

Clark, District 13 Sergeant-At-Arms/Chaplain Bob Sibley, Chaplain Jack Campbell, Sergeant-At-Arms Myron Frith, and Service Officer Peter Mead. Installing Officers were District 13 Commander Tom Healey and District 13 Sergeant-At-Arms/Chaplain Bob Sibley.

Photo by Post 200 Member Ron Judkins



Hermon Post 200 Flag Retirement: A total of 15 Legion members were present for Hermon Post 200 Flag Retirement Ceremony held in June. Members present were from Bangor Post 12, Etna-Carmel Post 104, and Hermon Post 200. This year, the grade

school was having an assembly for all students but were unable to attend. Holding the large flag, left to right, Henry Rideout, John King, and Lynwood Quimby.

Photo by Post Adjutant/Finance Officer Tom Carle

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 14

Dover-Foxcroft Post 29; Milo Post 41; Dexter Post 53; Brownville-Jct. Post 92; Greenville Post 94; Monson Post 116; Guilford Post 119; Sangerville Post 165

Greenville Post 94 Find Grave Markers at Rockwood Cemetery

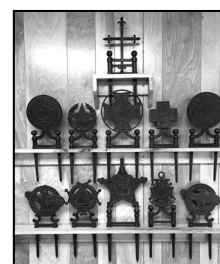
These Grave Markers were found next to the Cross in the rear section of the Rockwood Cemetery in year 2002 by a member of The American Legion Auxiliary Greenville Unit 94 while cleaning the cemetery. They were taken to the nearby church and placed in the basement in hopes of finding information on who and why they were left there in a pile next to the Cross.

As time went by, they were forgotten about, and while cleaning the basement of the church in 2018, they were located again and brought to The American Legion Greenville Post 94 to see what should be done with these Markers. After setting in

the corner of the Legion Hall for 6 months, one of the members took the Markers to his home to clean, preserve and build a wall rack for display. When completed, it was voted to mount the Markers on the wall of the Post home for display.

Members are still searching for any information on why they were left next to the Cross at the Rockwood Cemetery and where they came from. If anyone has any information on the Markers, we ask that you please contact The American Legion Greenville Post 94.

By Greenville Post 94 Adjutant Butch Billing



Markers On Display: Top center, 1607-1775 Colonial War; second row, left to right, 1917-1918 World War I, Army-Navy; 1846-1847 Mexican War, U.S. Veteran; 1622-1624 Indian War Veteran; 1898-1902 Spanish-American War; 1917-1918 World War I, Army-Navy; bottom row, left to right, 1941-1945 World War II; 1775 ASR, Sons of the American Revolution; 1861-1865 U.S. Civil War; 1812 War of 1812; 1941-1945 World War II.

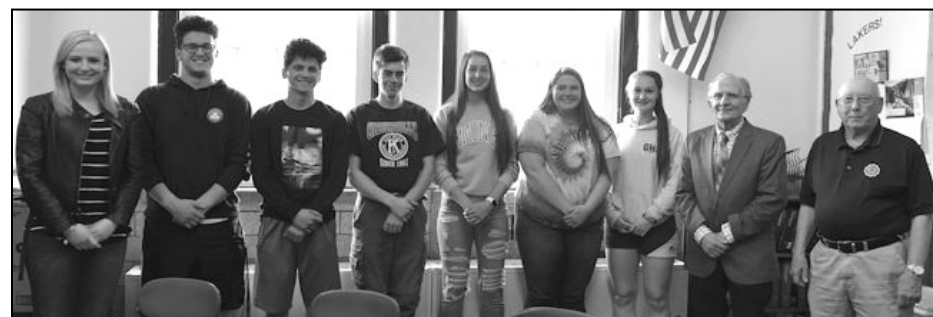
Greenville High School Students Learn About Dirigo Boys & Girls State Program

Greenville High School Students attending the 2019 Dirigo Boys and Girls State Program met with the 2018 Graduates and American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary Representatives to learn about the program. Pictured from left to right are: Seniors Delanie Boone and Nick Caiazzo 2018 Graduates; Juniors Chris Caiazzo and Thomas Watt scheduled to attend Dirigo Boys State and Halle Pelletier, Allison Savery, and Bianca Breton scheduled to attend Dirigo Girls in June. (Absent from photo are Noah Bilodeau and Aubrey Kronholm who will also attend Dirigo Boys State). Greenville Post 94 Commander Pete John-

son, right, and Greenville High School English teacher & Boys State Contact Alan.

The Dirigo Boys and Girls State Programs are sponsored by The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary which is designed to educate high school juniors in the importance of our state, county and local forms of democratic government. Students attend a 5-day course at Thomas College (Boys) and Husson University (Girls) and learn the functions of Maine's government structure through role playing activities.

*Photo by Greenville Auxiliary Unit 94
President Nancy Billing*



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 14 continued

Squad Of Girl Scouts Assist At July 4th Parade: Greenville Post 94 Legionnaire Jim McKeon, a 53 year member of The American Legion and a Legion College Graduate, is shown with his Squad of Girl Scout assistants at the Greenville July 4th Parade. Assisting Jim and Legionnaire Brenda Nicholas (not shown). Left to right, Girl Scouts Addi Menz, Katie Hanson, Allie Kane and Nola Mason. The young Scouts

passed out over 1,400 flags to young people and spectators at this year's parade until they ran out of flags. They are planning to more than double that number next year.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 15

Calais Post 3; Cherryfield Post 8; Machias Post 9; Eastport Post 11; Baileyville Post 23; Danforth Post 45; Pembroke Post 59; Lubec Post 65; Jonesport Post 108; Vanceboro Post 172; Topsfield Post 191

Calais Post 3 Meet & Greet: Calais Post 3 held their "Veterans Meet & Greet" on April 30 with a great turnout of U.S. Army Veterans and U.S. Marine Veterans. The next one was Memorial Day May 27. Starting "Project Branch of Service Flags" Phase I this week. Still accepting donations. Any correspondence, contact Commander Calais Sherman Brothers Post 3, P O Box 311, Calais, ME 04619; email: calleg3@yahoo.com; Facebook: Calais American Legion. Tel: 207-214-4410. Please leave message.



Flags Placed On Fallen Veterans Graves: Calais Post 3 Commander Mike McLean and Maine Senator Marianne Moore place flags on Fallen Veterans Graves at the Calais Cemetery.

A Lonely Cross – Remembering the 75th Anniversary of D-Day

It was a lonely cross engraved: "Known but to God."

Last June, my wife and I visited the U.S. military cemetery on the bluff overlooking Utah Beach on the Normandy coast where the D-Day invasion took place 75 years ago. We were in France with the Washington County Children's Chorus who were on a singing tour. I had brought my beat-up Boy Scout bugle with the goal of playing Taps in that sacred place. There were tour buses, a huge car park and easily several hundred visitors and no quiet or personal place for me to play Taps. Wanting to get away from the crowds, I followed the walkway along the bluff overlooking the English Channel to the farthest end of the cemetery passing row upon rows of white crosses and a few Stars of David each bearing witness to the soldier buried in that sacred ground. The crosses were arranged so that they ended on that single lonely cross at an apex of that remote section. I was alone with that unknown soldier and no other visitors in sight. I took a deep breath,

breathed a solemn prayer and stood at bugler attention to play the very best Taps I could muster. This unknown's grave was the farthest from the main Memorial, so I figured he never got to hear Taps where he lay during the various memorial programs over the years. As I meditated in that shaded glen, I experienced a feeling of awe and was reminded that freedom is not free.

The beginning of the end of the "Big One" as many Veterans called WWII was Liberation Summer – 1944. Five years ago, a huge celebration of remembrance took place in France remembering the 70th Anniversary. Many WWII Veterans attended. This year, their ranks will be significantly thinned. A million people assembled on the Western French coast to commemorate the opening event of Liberation Summer, the Normandy invasion. "D" Day, June 6, 1944, saw the greatest amphibious landing of troops and equipment ever in the history of warfare. The opening of the Western Front would reinforce the Eastern Front of the advancing Soviet Army and within a year

end the War in Europe defeating Nazi Germany and destroying Adolf Hitler's plan to dominate Europe from the British Isles to the Ural Mountains. Most adults are familiar with "D" Day from the movies. "The Longest day" in black and white and Tom Hank's in "Saving Private Ryan" burned the image of those landing craft on the Normandy beaches of Utah, Omaha, Sword and Gold into people's brains with the horror and death coloring the sand and water red with the blood of thousands of American, British and Canadian soldiers as they stormed, crawled and washed up on the French shore. The surviving participants whom we have known never talked about it. I remembered taking a young friend to the "Saving Private Ryan" showing at the Milbridge Theater and there were a number of old "guys" in the audience. During those Normandy scenes, sobbing and crying could be heard in the dark. I explained to my young friend that those had to be WWII Veterans reliving the horror of their memories shut away for all those years. Sometime later, I ran into Joe Cummings coming out of the bank and casually asked if he had seen the movie. I knew that he was a Veteran of the Battle of the Bulge in December 1944 but had no idea how or when he had landed in France. A look came over his face and he said: "Oh my God, you just don't know, Peter!" As we stood on the

sidewalk there in Cherryfield, his story came rushing out. He was a combat Ranger and had gone ashore on Omaha Beach in the dark prior to the actual invasion with his Ranger Team to clear avenues of approach up the beach through barb wire entanglements. The defending Germans on the cliffs above did not fire on them waiting for the main invasion force so that their defending firing would be as deadly as possible. Joe's Ranger group made it to the base of the cliffs and waited for the assault. As dawn broke, they sat there, relatively safe against the cliff and watched the slaughter on the beach as thousands of their fellow American soldiers died in front of their unbelieving eyes. Tears rolled down Joe's face and he shook as the pain welled up out of him. I was so shaken by this event as I had no idea and it caught me by such surprise – we hugged impulsively, each needing the support to stay on our feet. I got Joe into his truck so he could sit down as I excused myself to get home and sit myself. The next time I saw Joe, we never mentioned that event and it never came up again in the few years left before his death. Yes! An eyewitness to "D" Day that made it so real for me all these years later, it still shakes me today and made more poignant by that lonely cross in a shady corner of the Normandy Cemetery.

PS: We returned to Normandy this year for Memorial Day and the D Day remembrance. Even with the thousands in attendance, that remote end of the cemetery and that lonely cross were just as I left them last year. A group of French middle school children came by and since I had my uniform on, the teacher asked me to speak with the children. It was a wonderful opportunity to educate them about what their freedom cost with the blood of our young soldiers buried there.

*Written by 1LT Peter Duston, USA-ret,
Army Bugler
June 6, 2019*



The Lonely Cross – "Known but to God" : Remembering the 75th Anniversary of D-Day is 1LT Peter Duston, USA-ret, Army Bugler.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 16

Caribou Post 15; Fort Fairfield Post 27; Houlton Post 47; Washburn Post 48; Oakfield Post 52; Presque Isle Post 88; Mars Hill Post 118; Limestone Post 127; Easton Post 187; Masardis Post 208

American Legion Post No. 47 Celebrates Flag Day

HOULTON - There are many myths and misconceptions when it comes to the proper etiquette for displaying the American Flag.

So on Flag Day, Fri., June 14, American Legion Post No. 47 in Houlton felt it was fitting for their group to recognize those businesses and individuals who properly display the flag during a special breakfast and ceremony.

Post Adjutant Gerry Riley said the Legion felt it was important to recognize those businesses and individuals who go above and beyond with their displays of the American Flag.

"Often when we get together here at the Legion, members have stated 'Wow, this person has a nice flag display,' or 'That business really did a nice job with their flag,'" Riley said. "We decided it was time for us to tell people we appreciate

what they are doing."

"The flag code originated from Congress in June of 1923," Riley explained. "Over the years, there have been many revisions to that code. In 1976, Congress revised the code to state that the flag was a living symbol of a living country. That is why we honor and respect the flag."

There are a number of myths surrounding the proper display of an American Flag. One myth states that only the current version of the American Flag, with all 50 stars, may be flown. Actually, according to the code, a U.S. flag never becomes obsolete, therefore, any prior versions of the U.S. flag are acceptable to display.

Another myth states one must destroy a flag when it touches the ground, while

More on "POST 47 FLAG DAY", Page 30

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 16 continued

another false statement is that the flag code prohibits washing or dry cleaning of a flag. In actuality, there are no such codes prohibiting washing a flag.

One of the most common myths, however, is that the code no longer requires a flag flown at night to be illuminated.

According to the American Legion flag etiquette booklet, "It is the universal custom to display the flag only from sunrise to sunset on buildings and on stationary flag staffs in the open. However, when a patriotic effect is desired, the flag may be displayed 24 hours a day if properly illuminated during the hours of darkness."

Marking the first year that the Legion has lauded businesses and individuals for their flag displays, Riley said he hopes it will be something that continues each year.

A committee was formed to review and

photograph the displays, which resulted in a group of more than 20 potential honorees. That group was narrowed down to six businesses and six individuals who were recognized during the ceremony.

Honored during the meeting were residents Carl Lord, Larry and Judy Suitter, Galen and Barbara Hogan, Barbara Foster, Matt and Cheryl Quint and Dana and Mary Williamson, and businesses F.A. Peabody Company, Smith and Wesson, McDonald's, Houlton Water Company, Dunn Funeral Home and J. McLaughlin Construction.

Chaplin Dean Mitchell opened and closed the ceremony in prayer and also sang the National Anthem during the breakfast

Published in The County, Bangor Publishing Company
June 14, 2019
By Joseph Cyr



Flag Day Recognition

Ceremony: Gerry Riley, right, Adjutant for The American Legion Post No. 47 in Houlton, welcomes those in attendance for the Post's first "Flag Day Recognition Ceremony" on Fri., June 14. The Post honored six individuals and six businesses for their displays of the American Flag.



Display of Proper Flag Etiquette: Carl Lord, left, was one of the six private individuals lauded Fri., June 14, by The American Legion Post No. 47 for his display of proper flag etiquette. Presenting him with a certificate is Post Finance Officer Dan Blake.



F.A. Peabody's Flag

Etiquette: Steve Fitzpatrick, left, of F.A. Peabody Company, accepts a certificate from Dan Blake, Finance Officer of The American Legion Post No. 47 in Houlton, for the Company's flag etiquette.

Photos by Joseph Cyr

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 17

Van Buren Post 49; Fort Kent Post 133; Stockholm Post 136; Frenchville Post 145; Madawaska Post 147; Eagle Lake Post 176; St. Francis Post 180



Frenchville Post 145 Honors Veterans Lost At Sea: American Legion Post 145 Frenchville, St. Agathe honor our departure Veterans on Memorial Day. Here, honoring your Veterans Lost at sea are the colors & rifle squad under the

leadership of Post Commander Sinclair and Sergeant-At-Arms Roger Bosse at the Sinclair Bridge.

Flag Raising at Caribou Veterans Memorial Cemetery

Flag raising took place at the Caribou Veterans Cemetery on May 14 at 11:00 a.m. **THIS IS THE ONLY VETERANS CEMETERY IN THE UNITED STATES TO DO THIS EVERY YEAR.** The 30 flags are sponsored by family members, a friend of a deceased Veteran, or a Veterans Organization. Each U.S. Flag sponsored have a representative of that person or organization raise the U.S. Flag at the same time. The Flags are raised on this day and will stay until after Veterans Day in November. They will Fly 24/7. In November, if the sponsor would like to have the flag back at that time, it will be saved for them. Sometimes these flag are battered and torn, so if the sponsor would like to have it before, they can replace the one that is flying and have their flag earlier then November. Flag Raising itinerary/event for this year was hosted by the Northern Maine Veterans Cemetery Corporation.

Opening Ceremonies by Larry Theriault

Posting of Colors by Loring Job Corps Students

Invocation by Father David Cote, Retired U.S. Air Force Colonel

National Anthem by Vicki King, Caribou High School Chorus

Reading of the Veterans and their sponsors by flag number.

Poem Reading by Ted Clark, grandson of Larry Theriault

Performance by the Caribou High School Chorus

21 Gun Salute by the American Legion Riders Chapter 147 of Madawaska

Taps played by Meagan Dube, granddaughter of a deceased Veteran Alonzo Keaton Jr.

Invocation given by Father David Core

Closing Remarks Larry Theriault

List of Veterans Honored by Family or

a Veterans Organization are as follows:

All deceased Veterans: 1. Donald Collins, 2. Larry Kingsbury, U.S. Army Vietnam Veteran, 3. Michael Picard, U.S. Army Airborne Veteran, 4. Colonel Lee A. Wilber J. Doody, 5. Clayton Harrington, U.S. Army World War II Veteran, 6. Boyd Nelson, Veteran,

7. Frederick Hafford, U.S. Army World War I Veteran, 8. Nizar Hafford, World War I Army Veteran, 9. Alton Dunham, Korean War Veteran, 10. Lester Junkins, World War II Veteran, 11. CPL Donald P. Rafford, Korean War Veteran, 12. Christian O. Guerrette, U.S. Army Veteran, 13. Alonzo Keaton Jr, U.S. Army Korean War, 14. Richard Bragdon, U.S. Army Korean War Veteran, 15. Robert Estes, U.S. Army Korean War Veteran, 16. Maynard K McIntyre, U.S. Army Veteran, 17. Norstate Federal Credit Union for all deceased Veterans, 18. Raymond Doucette, U.S. Army World War II Veteran and Scott Sylvester U.S. Marine Corp, 19. Aurele Doucette, Rodney Ayotte, Donald Dumond, Randy Anderson, Philip Dufour, and Daniel Martin, 20. Hurbain Cote, U.S. Maine Corp Vietnam, 21. O'Neal Labbe, U.S. Army Vietnam, 22. Nathan Randolph, Vietnam Veteran, 23. Claude Guerrette, World War II Veteran, 24. Claude Guerette, 25. Wade Smith Korean War Veteran, 26. Neal O'Rourke and William Michaud, 27. Hurbain Cote, Herbert Weaver, Louis Lavasseur, Norman Beaupre, and Peter Miesburger, 28. Robert Ellinwood, Ernest Berube, Wilbert J. Bouchard, Edmond O. Damboise, and Larry West, 29. Leo A. Gregoire, Richard A. Hammond, Richard O. Learnard, John C. McAtee, and John M. Michaud, 30. William J. Ossenfort, Daniel L. Peter, George G. Rowan, Roy Bilman, and Erben Wardwell.

By Bridget Daigle



Flag Raising day at Maine Veterans Memorial Cemetery on May 14.

Photo by Diane Daigle



Madawaska Chapter 147 Members of the Firing Squad during Flag Raising Day at Maine Veterans Memorial Cemetery on May 14. Left to right, Sergeant-At-Arms Fern Lavoie, Ed Ellis, Claude Roy, and Jenn Collin firing.

Photo by Diane Daigle



Madawaska Chapter 147 Shows Support For The Bottle Drop Inn:

Chapter 147 shows their support for a new business in Grand Isle, The Bottle Drop Inn. The owner is Jessica Daigle. The Riders brought in a bag of bottles but everyone had a can as they walked through the door (ha, ha). Left to right, Ed Ellis, Bridget Daigle, Dave Russell, Owner Jessica Daigle, Denise Russell,

Chapter 147 Director Jenn Collin, Diane Daigle, and Robert Thibodeau. The support was greatly appreciated by Jessica.

T a p s C o l u m n

POST	NAME	CONFLICT	POST	NAME	CONFLICT
Post 12 – Bangor	Joseph C. Mizda	Korea	Post 79 – Berwick	Nelson H. Clement	Vietnam
Post 12 – Bangor	Kenneth O. Rowell	Korea	Post 79 – Berwick	M. Scanlon	Vietnam
Post 19 – Sanford	George Travis	Korea	Post 79 – Berwick	Louis R. Freedman	Vietnam
Post 20 – Brunswick	Edwin A. Springer Sr.	WWII	Post 82 – Norway	Gerald Geisler	Vietnam
Post 20 – Brunswick	Henry W. Welzel	WWII/Korea	Post 84 – Orono	Raymond White	Korea
Post 20 – Brunswick	Robert Frizzle	Vietnam	Post 88 – Presque Isle	Robert Flewelling	Korea
Post 24 – Rumford	Roger W. Miller	WWII	Post 88 – Presque Isle	Ervin Murchison	Vietnam
Post 24 – Rumford	Richard A. Comeau	WWII	Post 90 – Togus	James L. Arsenault	Korea
Post 24 – Rumford	Ralph E. Partridge	Vietnam	Post 99 – Bingham	Gail W. Cuddy	Vietnam
Post 24 – Rumford	William Mock	Vietnam	Post 99 – Bingham	Fayette Atwood	
Post 24 – Rumford	William Thierault	Vietnam	Post 102 – Stonington	Raymond A. Buckminster	Korea
Post 24 – Rumford	Allan Gallant	Korea	Post 103 – Northeast Harbor	Robert Taylor	Korea
Post 24 – Rumford	Michael Orfe	Vietnam	Post 118 – Mars Hill	Carl Charette	Vietnam
Post 26 – Biddeford	Roy O. Wermenchuk	Korea	Post 126 – North Vassalboro	James W. Gray	WWII
Post 30 – Camden	Frank R. Carr	Vietnam	Post 145 – Frenchville	Paul E. Bosse	Vietnam
Post 30 – Camden	Charles D. Gibson	WWII	Post 149 – Waldoboro	Russell H. Creamer	Korea
Post 30 – Camden	Clifford Stinson	Korea	Post 157 – Stockton Springs	Michael K. McKnight	Vietnam
Post 40 – Winthrop	Gary R. King	Korea	Post 157 – Stockton Springs	Basil M. Staples	Vietnam
Post 40 – Winthrop	Ernest H. Gates	Korea	Post 157 – Stockton Springs	Gertrude P. Fraser	WWII
Post 40 – Winthrop	Eleanor R. Harington	Korea	Post 173 – N. New Portland	Thomas Kannally	Korea
Post 42 – Damariscotta	Gordon A. Benner	Korea	Post 197 – Westbrook	Charles A. Leighton	Vietnam
Post 42 – Damariscotta	Lucy Levitt	WWII	Post 197 – Westbrook	Robert G. Danis	Vietnam
Post 42 – Damariscotta	Chester Wright		Post 197 – Westbrook	Antonio DeSalle	Korea
Post 42 – Damariscotta	Frederick York	Vietnam	Post 197 – Westbrook	Richard A. Jenen	
Post 47 – Houlton	Hank L. Watson	Vietnam	Post 197 – Westbrook	Ray Littlefield	Vietnam
Post 50 – Unity	David P. Stewart	Vietnam	Post 202 – Topsham	John Avery	Korea
Post 54 – Wiscasset	Charles A. Fluharty	Korea	Post 202 – Topsham	Richard Chattick	Korea
Post 54 – Wiscasset	Richard Verney	WWII	Post 202 – Topsham	Francis Lovine	Korea
Post 54 – Wiscasset	George E. Knight	Vietnam	Post 202 – Topsham	Paul Leavitt	Vietnam
Post 67 – Bridgton	Donald L. Miles	Korea	Post 202 – Topsham	Robert Lupfer	Vietnam
Post 72 – South Paris	David S. Ramsay	WWII	Post 202 – Topsham	Brian Patterson	Vietnam

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT...

District 17 continued

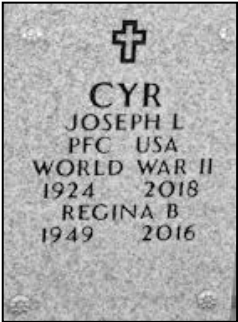


A Service For WWII Veteran And Post 147 Member: A service for World War II Veteran Joseph Cyr was held May 31. Jo-

seph was a member of Thomas O. Cyr Post 147 of Madawaska. Joseph had no family but he always had the Legion Family. At his service, he was not alone nor should any Veteran! Front row, left to right, Ed Ellis, Rick Vaillancourt, Jean Daigle, Roland Marquee, District 17 Commander Joseph Michaud, Richard Pelletier, and Claude Roy. Second row, left to right, Willard Cyr, Bob Thibodeau, Post 1st Vice Commander Mike Pelletier, National Executive Committee Lloyd Woods, John Chasse, Gate Bourgoin, Post Chaplain Roger Corbin, Director of Chapter 147 Riders Jenn Collin.



Madawaska Post 147 Firing Squad John Chasse, Rick Vaillancourt, Gate Bourgoin, and Sergeant-At-Arms Fern Lavoie.



Chapter 147 Member Given His Last Ride: Madawaska Chapter 147 Director Jenn Collin had the honor and privilege of taking one of our own members of The American Legion Riders Chapter 147 for his last ride. Pink Panther held on tight to his friend and fellow Veteran Jolyn "Boy" Michaud. The 57 mile came to an end at the Caribou Veterans Cemetery where now you can rest easy! Francine Michaud, thank you for allowing Jenn to give your husband his last ride! Pink Panther is holding him.

Eagle Lake Post 176 Honors WWII Veterans

Eagle Lake Post 176 honored two World War II Veterans on June 8 during a luncheon held at the Post home.

The first Veteran honored was World War II Veteran PVT Rosaire Thibodeau. Mr. Thibodeau was inducted May 1944 at Ft. Deans, MA. He did his basic training in Ft. Blanding, Florida. Next on his travels with the military was back to Ft. Mead and then onward to North Carolina for more training. December 1944, Mr. Thibodeau was shipped out to Naples, Italy waiting to get shipped into combat. From Italy, he went to Japan till the war ended. Mr. Thibodeau was then transferred back to Ft. Devans to guard German POW's till his discharge in 1946.

The second World War II Veteran who was honored was PFC Norman Labbe. Unfortunately, Norman was unable to attend the luncheon. PFC Norman Labbe was drafted in 1943 at 19 years old. Mr. Labbe did his basic training in Ft. McLan, AL then onto New York to

be an interpreter (french). Mr. Labbe left NewYork on a ship and went to Ft. Shay (overseas somewhere around Scotland) waiting to go to Normandy. From there, he got on a train and went to London to get his wings (101st Airborne Div. Screaming Eagles). Then, onto Holland for a month and then to France at Bastogne in the winter time where they nearly froze. He was a radio operator for his squad. They were getting slaughtered when General Patton's Armored Division came to help them. PFC Labbe was also in the Battle of the Bulge. After his discharge, he returned home and furthered his education by getting his Masters and teaching school. PFC Norman Labbe, as well as others, can be found in the book written by his platoon leader Robert Bomen (Fighting with the 101st Screaming Eagles). Mr. Norman Labbe resides at Mercy Nursing Home in his home town of Eagle Lake.

By Bridget Daigle



Eagle Lake Post 176 Honors WWII Veterans: First row, left to right, Dale, Alice, Margaret, and Mr. Rosaire Thibdeau, Roger, Pauline, Betty, Patricia. Second row all Veterans who attended this Luncheon to honor these two World War II Veterans. Left to right, Roger Soucie, David Levesque, Roland Albert, Falen Devoe, Ed Ellis, Dalton Tibbets, Fred Michaud, Dana Laferriere, Warren Harvey, and Post 176 Commander Raynold Blair.

Photo by Denise Russell

Department of Maine
American Legion
5 Verti Drive
Winslow, ME 04901-0727

NON PROFIT
ORANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PORTLAND
MAINE
PERMIT NO. 493

Attention: Next Deadline is Oct. 25

The deadline for material, stories and/or pictures to be submitted for consideration for use in the November, 2019 issue of The Maine Legionnaire will be October 25, 2019.

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:

(207) 873-3229

or via email at:

legionme@mainelegion.org or

rachael@mainelegion.org



Please join us Sept. 28, 2019 from 11:00 am—12:00 pm in celebration of The American Legion Family Department of Maine POW/MIA Memorial Dedication, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow.

Ribbon Cutting will be at noon followed by a light lunch and refreshments. Dress Code: Business/Casual

Please RSVP by September 20th to legionme@mainelegion.org | Tele: (207) 873-3229 | Mail: The American Legion, Department of Maine, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, Maine 04901.



100th Anniversary Rifle

Winner: Department Adjutant Paul L'Heureux, left, hands over the 100th Anniversary Rifle to Winner Jeff Chapman of Lisbon Falls Post 66 at Department Headquarters on June 27. Drawing was held at Jeff's Catering & Event Center in Brewer on June 8 during The American Legion, Department of Maine State Convention.



Legionnaire Of The Year: Patricia Thurston of Rumford Post 24 receives the 2018-19 Legionnaire of the Year award from Past Department Commander and NECA Randall Kluj, left, and Commander Scott Paradis, right during the 101st Annual State Convention held in Brewer on June 7. This is the highest award granted by the Maine American Legion, with only one member chosen for this prestigious award annual.



Stryker Chair Donation:

Thanks to the American Legion Auxiliary and the American Legion Family for the donation of EIGHT high-end patient transport chairs valued at \$24,000!!!! In early 2018, American Legion Auxiliary Past President Joan Caron, Sabattus Post 135, set out to raise the money to purchase two of these chairs for the Red Coat Ambassador volunteers who transport Veterans around the Togus VA Medical Center.

A year later, she far surpassed her goal by pulling together the efforts of the American Legion family to purchase eight! These chairs will literally lighten the load for our volunteers as they push Veterans around the facility and their multi-functionality will allow Veterans with varying physical abilities to easily transition on and off the chair. Thank you for everything you do for our Veterans and our volunteers! For more information on our Red Coat Ambassador volunteer program or to find out how you can get involved at VA Maine, please contact Voluntary Service at VAVSMaine@va.gov or 207-621-4886.

DISCLAIMER

Neither The Maine Legionnaire editorial director, nor managing editor is responsible for misinformation, discrepancies, or embellishments, intentional or unintentional that may be contained in communications in any form that appear in The Maine Legionnaire.

Due to time constraints and staff limitations to fact check all material sent in, we depend on the honesty and integrity of those who submit material for publication and on the expertise of our members and readers to correct misstatements or misinformation whether intentional or not.