



## The American Legion Department of Maine

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### Weekly Update



May 4, 2007

**The leader who figures out a way for  
everyone to win is the leader who wins.**

☺ **SMILE** ☺

**Homecoming for Maine's  
National Vice Commander**

Thomas O. Cyr Post 147 of Madawaska is proud to announce the Homecoming event for National Vice Commander Lloyd Woods to be held on Saturday, May 19, 2007 at the Black Bear Inn in Orono, located just off exit 193 of Interstate 95. Social hour: 5 – 6 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m. with a program to follow. Dinner selections will be Baked Haddock or Roast Top Round of Beef for \$20 per person. In addition, Congressman Mike Michaud will be addressing our group and no doubt will be talking about veterans' issues.

Please send reservation requests, along with a check or money order, payable to the Thomas O. Cyr Post 147, 353 Main St., Madawaska 04756. Please indicate "homecoming" on the check and your choice of Baked Haddock or Roast Beef. All tickets will be held at the door.

**30 Days Prior**

May 17, 2007, is 30 days prior to our Annual State Convention. This is the date used to determine your membership quotas for next year. Whatever the count is on this day will be the 100% figure used for the 2008 membership year.

The membership total on May 17, 2007 will determine your delegate strength to Convention. Each post is entitled to one delegate and one alternate for the post and one delegate and one alternate for each one hundred members of part thereof. For example; if your post has 200 members on May 17, 2007, the post is entitled to three delegates and three alternates; if your post has 201 members, the post is entitled to four delegates and four alternates.

**Notice: The 2008 membership cards, rosters and post adjutant's packets are now available at Department Headquarters if you would like to pick them up. For posts unable to do so, we will have them at convention for you.**

## **Consolidated Post Report**

The Consolidated Post Report is more than a template for your Post's achievements; it gives a way for The American Legion to speak with a collective voice, which is much stronger than that of 14,600 individual posts speaking on their own.

It is a great communication tool when it comes to getting the attention of our Congressmen, Senators and elected officials. It conveys our true influence in our local communities. With the tremendous amount of volunteer service and dedication we can show with this report, it encourages our elected officials to take a second look whenever we have an issue to address with them.

When our Department Commander Don Simoneau, who also doubles as our Legislative Chairman, is in Augusta at the Legislature, it gives him instant credibility and a much bigger voice than he would otherwise have. When National Commander Paul Morin is addressing issues in Congress, he definitely gets a better reception than he would otherwise when he is able to recite our numbers to the politicians.

Commander Simoneau and Commander Morin have issued a challenge to all department, district, and post leaders to complete the Consolidated Post Reports and submit them to headquarters so that our organization, The American Legion, the world's largest veteran's organization, can have a loud voice in the halls of Congress or the Legislature for the betterment of all veterans.

## **American Legion Riders**

The American Legion Riders will be hosting an information booth at the Lewiston/Auburn Harley Davidson Open House on route 202 on Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. This open house is an annual event that draws large crowds of motorcycle enthusiasts, many of whom are veterans and potential members of the Legion.

This is an invitation to gather the riders in your post for a ride to Lewiston to show your support. The weather is looking good, the food is always great, and I am sure you will meet other Legion Riders who are also showing their support.

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The American Legion Riders of Post 1 in Rockland have been invited to join the Maine Patriot Guard Riders to participate in a memorial ceremony in honor of SSF. Dale Kelly, a Maine soldier from Richmond who was killed in action last May in Iraq. The ceremony, with full military honors will take place this Sunday, May 6, 2007 at the Maine Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Augusta.

We will be staging at the Augusta Civic Center at 2:00 p.m. to travel to the cemetery. The mission is to stand silent vigil around the gravesite with each member holding a 3' X 5' U. S. flag. Once situated, we will await the arrival of the Patriot Guard, who will be escorting the family and military unit for a 3:00 p.m. service.

Rockland Post 1 is inviting all ALR Posts to join them in this ceremony to show our support to the Kelly family.

## State Convention Housing

The following information will assist you in your planning for the convention in Bangor, June 15 – 17, 2007. Please mention The American Legion when calling.

**Bangor Motor Inn** – 947-0355 – Hogan Rd., double, \$72.76; king, \$79.18 tax included.

**Best Inn** – 942-1234 – 570 Main St., \$67.36 tax included for all rooms.

**Days Inn** – 942-8272 – 250 Odlin Rd., single, \$73.83; double, \$84.53 tax included.

**Econo Lodge** – 945-0111 – 372 Odlin Rd., single, \$65.22; double, \$80.20 tax included.

**Fairfield Inn** – 990-0001 – 300 Odlin Rd., single \$116.63; double \$127.33 tax included.

**Super 8** – 945-5681 – 462 Odlin Rd., single, \$71.69; double, \$82.39 tax included.

**Holiday Inn** – 947-0101 – 404 Odlin Rd., \$96.25 tax included.

**Howard Johnson** – 942-5251 – 336 Odlin Rd., single, \$85.55; double, \$96.25 tax included.

## Vietnam Memorial Run

On May 19<sup>th</sup> a group has put together an event to recognize Oxford County's fallen heroes of the Vietnam War. A Memorial Stone will be placed at the end of Congress Street in Rumford. At this time a parade with the National Guard, Marines, several marching bands, military vehicles, marchers, (American Legion, VFW etc.), and a fly-over are planned. Several of our State Leaders are planning to attend and even Governor Baldacci may be there.

Another part of the day is a motorcycle parade to start the event. It will meet at the old Ames Complex on route 2 just a couple of miles out of the center of town. They are asking the bike groups to be there about 10 a.m. to prepare for the ride. As it stands, several groups plan on attending, one being our own Legion Riders. To give you an idea of time, Rumford is about a 50-minute ride from Auburn. All of our Legion Riders are invited from across the state. As of today, Topsham, Auburn, and Rumford have committed. I know others are coming, but cannot remember which groups.

The parade will start by the Hannaford Grocery store and march to the Memorial. All are invited to march and show our respect for our comrades. For those who do not want to march the full distance, you can start at Post 24 and fall into the parade as it passes. We hope to see all of our Legion Riders attend and show what we stand for. Following this event Post 24 will be open and a potluck lunch will be available to the participants. This should be a great event and we are looking forward to having all our Legionaries and Legion Riders here for the day.

Bob Richardson, Commander  
Rumford Post 24

## Echo Taps at Togus

On May 19, 2007, which is Armed Forces Day, the Echo Taps organization will be conducting a ceremony at the National Veterans Cemetery at the VA facility at Togus starting at 11:00 a.m. Individuals, schools, and organizations such as The American Legion are invited to be a part of this unique tribute.

Echo Taps' mission is to:

- Honor and remember our American military veterans through a worldwide musical performance of Taps.
- Foster a new generation of buglers who will help preserve the tradition of a live bugler to play Final Military Honor.
- Raise awareness of our National Cemeteries in the U. S., the American Battle Monuments Commission cemeteries overseas and VA benefits.

If you wish to know more about Echo Taps, please visit the web site at [www.echotaps.org](http://www.echotaps.org) on the Internet.

## Kudos

Old Orchard Beach Post 57 for their donation of \$300 to the OOB Recreation Department for the purchase of gym equipment and \$100 each to Bryan Belanger and Shawn Towle for their participation in the Cancer Foundation walk-a-thon.

Department Historian Charlie Foss for his donation of \$200 to the Auxiliary Unit 92 Juniors program.

Milo Post 41 for their donations of \$200 each to Boy Scout Troop 115 and the Penquis Navigator Legion Baseball team.

Milo Post 41 for their exceptional recognition of Bill Knight of Bangor Post 12, head of the Bangor Troop Greeters, for his dedication to this program.

Gray Post 86 for their donation of \$25 to the March of Dimes walk-a-thon.

## Donations

THANK YOU    THANK YOU    THANK YOU    THANK YOU    THANK YOU

Belfast Unit 43	\$1,000.00 – Maine Special Olympics
Bath Post 21	\$690.00 – Boys State
Bath Iron Works	\$460.00 – Boys State
Belfast Unit 43	\$100.00 – Commander's Project
Livermore Falls Fire Dept. of Maine	\$115.00 – Dirigo Boys State

## What's Happening?

**Windham Post 148:** May 16, 5:30 p.m., spaghetti supper to honor 60-year member Robert Dolby and several other long-time legionnaires with membership ranging from 17 years to 48 years. No cost, but donations accepted. RSVP to [myngame@aol.com](mailto:myngame@aol.com) by May 11 if you plan to attend.

**Hermon Post 200:** May 19, 4:30 – 6:30 p.m., Bean Supper at the Rescue Squad Building on the Billings Road in Hermon. Adults \$5, children \$2.50.

**Hermon Post 200:** May 19, 7 p.m., Armed Forces Day ceremony at the Hermon High School Auditorium. Capt. Michael Frasco, returning active duty veteran, will speak on “Why We Serve” and about his experiences overseas.

**Graveside Service:** May 21, Pingree Center Cemetery in Parkman, 11 a.m. for the committal service of Ed Higgins, Past Fifth District Commander of Guilford Post 119.

**Vietnam Memorial:** May 24 – 28, Old Orchard Beach. At Memorial Park at the corner of Staples and First Street. FMI please call OOB Rec. Dept. at 934-0860 or e-mail [jwebber@oobmaine.com](mailto:jwebber@oobmaine.com)

## District Meetings

**13<sup>th</sup> District:** May 6, Howland Post 97, 12 p.m. noon lunch, installation.

**2<sup>nd</sup> District:** May 6, So. Portland Post 35, 2 p.m., convention.

**12<sup>th</sup> District:** May 8, Dinner at 6 p.m. at the Harbor Café on Main St. in Stonington, 7:30 mtg.

**9<sup>th</sup> District:** May 9, Augusta Post 205, 7:30 p.m., election.

**8<sup>th</sup> District:** May 10, Topsham Post 202, District Convention, 6:30 p.m.

**16<sup>th</sup> District:** May 12, Caribou Post 15, 1 p.m. dinner.

**14<sup>th</sup> District:** May 12, Greenville Post 94, 6:30 dinner.

**5<sup>th</sup> District:** May 15, Fryeburg Post 137, 7 p.m.

**6<sup>th</sup> District:** May 17, Thomaston Post 37, 6 p.m., election.

**11<sup>th</sup> District:** May 20, Winterport Post 138, 2 p.m.

**17<sup>th</sup> District:** May 20, Madawaska Post 147, 3 p.m. dinner, election. **(Note time change)**

**15<sup>th</sup> District:** May 20, Woodland Post 23, 2 p.m.

**3<sup>rd</sup> District:** May 20, installation, TBA.

## Sick Call

Mary Stoddard, Litchfield Post 181, Maine Veterans Home, 310 Cony Road, Augusta 04330.

**Sons of The American Legion  
Detachment News**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the two special individuals who are the respective heads of the rest of The American Legion Family. These two people have been outstanding leaders for their organizations. Of course I am talking about Marlene Angers and Don Simoneau. The miles that they have traveled and the time they have invested is only a small sacrifice to these two for their organizations. I know that they will be thinking of the organization long after their tenure is done. Congratulations to both of them on a job well done and my apology for not being at their testimonial, because I have to be in Indianapolis. As the Chairman of the National Finance Commission my commitment is there and unfortunately the timing is not perfect. Vice Commander Bruce Pierce will be representing The Detachment of Maine Sons of The American Legion at this auspicious event.

Membership continues to come in and I am very proud of the efforts this Detachment has made during the 2007 membership year. There was a good transmittal made last week and I know that with a little effort we can surpass 2496 members very soon.

We were able to make 100% membership in mid December of 2006 and the effort that you have put in to this membership year is extreme. Let us together, reach this pinnacle of the 2007 membership year. We need approximately 100 members to complete our goal by May 9<sup>th</sup>. I have to be honest, as I would like to pull ahead of the Detachment of Maryland. You see I have some friends that belong there and the Detachment is very organized, so I think we should show a little Yankee ingenuity and surpass them at least for a while.

We still do not have a lot of the new Consolidated Report Forms completed and returned. Please do this; I think you know the importance of these numbers. I believe that there are only five that have been returned and I know that there has been something done at every Squadron. All Squadrons were sent a copy so please let's complete it and return it. Don't submit the report for your own recognition, but submit it for the Congress to see just how much this American Legion Family subsidizes their programs. This will show them that they need to increase funds to insure that our communities, children and veterans have sufficient funding. Thank you all for your attention to this matter

Don Allisot  
Detachment Commander

Best Wishes,

Ron Sailor  
Department Adjutant

**DEPARTMENT OF MAINE, THE AMERICAN LEGION**

**20 \_\_\_\_ - 20 \_\_\_\_ POST OFFICERS**

ELECTED: \_\_\_\_\_(DATE)

Commander \_\_\_\_\_

(Name) (ID Number) (Mailing Address) (Zip)

(Home telephone) (Business telephone) (e-mail address)

Adjutant \_\_\_\_\_

(Name) (ID Number) (Mailing Address) (Zip)

(Home telephone) (Business telephone) (e-mail address)

Finance Officer \_\_\_\_\_

1st Vice Commander \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

2nd Vice Commander \_\_\_\_\_

Sergeant-at-Arms \_\_\_\_\_

Historian \_\_\_\_\_

Chaplain \_\_\_\_\_

Americanism Officer \_\_\_\_\_

Service Officer \_\_\_\_\_

(Home telephone) (Business telephone) (e-mail address)

Meeting Nights and Time \_\_\_\_\_ Post Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address, Post home \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill in the name, street address or Post Office box, town, zip code and telephone numbers of **ALL** officers and return this form to: THE AMERICAN LEGION, P.O. Box 900, Waterville, ME 04903-0900. If additional page is needed please use same.

Note: In order for your post to receive correspondence or be listed in The American Legion State Directory, this form must be filed with the Department Adjutant's office, at the address listed above, on or before the deadline. **This form needs to be completed every year, even if your officers do not change.**

**DEADLINE: June 1**

(Name of Post) (Location) (Post No.)