



The American Legion Department of Maine

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Weekly Update



April 17, 2009

☺ **SMILE** ☺

**The best way to look for faults
in others is to close your eyes.**

Congratulations to the following for achieving 100% in membership:

Lincoln Post 77

Freeport Post 83

Gray Post 86

Stockholm Post 136

**Maine Legion Baseball
On A Roll**

Department Athletic Committee Chairman Chuck Berube of the William J. Rogers Post 153 in Auburn recently reported to this office the continued expansion of American Legion baseball program in Maine. We now have 50 American Legion baseball teams here in Maine, an increase from 41 just four years ago. On top of that, the Department of Maine initiated a Junior Legion baseball program three years ago, which has grown to 17 teams since its inception.

The total of 67 American Legion baseball teams means that over 1,200 youngsters have the opportunity to play organized baseball at a top level. This is something most of our legionnaires do not know about and quite a significant accomplishment by Chairman Chuck Berube and the other committee members who drive this program. Kudos to Chuck, Dennis Damon, Brian Strickland, Dave Paul, Chad Drouin, Bill Brackett, Bob Philbrick, Bob Moody, Al Livingston, and the many other coaches, managers, schedulers, and assistants for all their extraordinary efforts to make this program one of the top baseball programs in the nation. We are fortunate to have such dedicated individuals who give many, many hours of their own time to The American Legion baseball program here in Maine.

The Senior Legion Baseball state tournament will be held in Augusta this year from July 29 to August 2, 2009 at the CARA Complex, directly across from AMHI on Route 27. Everyone is welcome to this event and it truly is some of the best baseball you will see in the state. A complete schedule of this tournament is on the back page of this newsletter.

Veterans In Need

Past Department Commander Herman Wright is working with a veteran who needs assistance. This 82 year-old WW II veteran recently had his leg amputated and needs to have a ramp built at his home. Money is needed for the materials and he also needs someone to build the ramp. In addition the veteran also needs an electric wheelchair. If any post or individual can provide part or all of these items, please contact Herman at 449-1388.

The American Legion Service Office at Togus is looking for an Oxygen Concentrator for a veteran in need. If anyone has a concentrator they no longer need, please contact the American Legion Service Office at 623-5726.

**Award & Forms
Submission Deadlines**

Legionnaire of the Year Award	May 1
Humanitarian Award	May 1
Law Officer of the Year	May 1
Firefighter of the Year	May 1
EMT/Paramedic of the Year	May 1
Educator of the Year	May 1
Past National Commander's Leadership Awards:	May 1
Post Commander of the Year (Tony's Tiger)	
District Commander of the Year (Roger's Ranger)	
Daniel E. Lambert Scholarships (2)	May 1
James V. Day Scholarships	May 1
Children and Youth Scholarships – (7)	May 1
Resolutions to State Convention (properly signed and dated)	May 1
Consolidated Post Reports	May 1
Delegates to Convention Form	June 1
Post Officer's Report Form	June 1

All of the above forms have been sent to each post throughout the year, but are still available on-line at www.mainelegion.org or you can request them from this office.

Thank You

Dear Legion Family:

We would like to thank all members of the Legion family who supported us following the passing of our mother, Auxiliary Past State President Sandy Steward. Whether you sent a card, came to the funeral home or funeral, made a phone call, sent an e-mail, or made a donation to Hospice, we truly appreciate everyone's support. Thank you.

Michelle McRae and Charles Strom, children

**Department Seeking
Mid-Winter Conference Bids**

The next Mid-Winter Conference will be held January 15 - 17, 2010 and we are seeking bids to hold this conference. In addition to the criteria listed below, there may be social activities planned for Friday and Saturday evening. If your post is interested in hosting this event, please send the information to Department Headquarters not later than August 1, 2009. The following criteria should be addressed when sending the information:

- Three meeting spaces for Saturday set up theater style for: Legion – 100, Auxiliary – 100, SAL – 25.
- Two meeting spaces for Sunday morning set up theater style for: Legion – 75, Auxiliary – 75.
- 80 Motel rooms in close proximity to meetings at a reasonable rate, with handicap accessible rooms.
- Banquet facility to hold 125, with head table.
- Reasonably priced menu selections for Saturday evening banquet.
- Saturday lunch is optional.
- If the conference is to be held at an American Legion Post, the lounge must be closed during the daytime meeting sessions. (Usually until 4:00 p.m. on Saturday)

There are other considerations such as proximity to the I-95 corridor and winter traveling conditions, but the above items are a must to be able to hold this event. This event does not necessarily have to be held at a post home and can all be held at a commercial facility as we have sometimes done in the past.

**Gifts of Gratitude
Fundraiser**

Smith-Tobey Post, Unit and Squardon 21 of Bath has been shipping care packages to our troops about every 45 days and to date have shipped 129 boxes weighing over 1,400 pounds. This program called Gifts of Gratitude Troop Support, as you can imagine, has been well received by many, many deployed troops. In order to sustain this high level of support for our troops the Legion family in Bath has been approved for a state-wide fundraiser and has come up with a great raffle idea.

Bangor's Hollywood Slots Hotel has donated a 3-night stay at their hotel, including breakfast and six passes to their Epic Buffet. The package is approximately a \$500 value and valid through June 2010. This would be a great way to attend the Annual Legion State Convention in Bangor this June.

The raffle will be drawn on June 4, 2009 as reservations at the Hollywood Slots Hotel must be made 14 days prior to the convention, if that is how the winner chooses to use the prize.

Tickets are \$5 each or six for \$25 and can be purchased through American Legion Post 21, Gifts of Gratitude, 200 Congress St., Bath 04530. FMI or for tickets, please call Ginny Chaput at 319-2427.

Donations

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

PNC Anthony Jordan	\$100.00 – National Commander’s Campaign
Donald Best	\$100.00 – National Commander’s Campaign
Morgan Knox	\$100.00 – Cemetery Flags
PDC Edward J. Roach	\$150.00 – Maine Special Olympics

Kudos

To Portland Post 17 for replacing tattered American flags at Portland High School and the Ronald McDonald House at a cost of \$180.

To Old Orchard Bch. Post 57 for their donation of \$1,000 to the Captain Christopher Scott Cash Scholarship Fund.

To Augusta Post 205 for donating the hall and holding a benefit supper for Caleb Crosby. Between the supper and an auction with Maine Humorist Gary Crocker as the auctioneer, \$5,100 was raised.

To Waterville Post 5 for donating proceeds from their Legion Birthday dinner and a 50/50 raffle held at their American Legion Beano. Between the two over \$600 was raised for Caleb Crosby.

What’s Happening?

Bean Supper: Apr. 18, 4:30 – 6:30 p.m., by Hermon Post 200 at the Rescue Squad Building on the Billings Road in Hermon. All you can eat. Adults \$6, children \$2.50

National Oratorical Finals: Apr. 19, www.legion.org, 10 a.m. Live Internet coverage of the National Oratorical Finals through the above Legion web site or direct at: <http://legionvideo.youcastrsports.com/home>

Spaghetti Supper: April 24, Caribou Post 15, 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. \$6 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. Proceeds will go to the Girl Scouts.

Department Adjutant Testimonial: April 25, Orono Post 84, social hour 5 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m. Dinner will be a buffet with black oak carved ham and baked stuffed haddock for \$16 per person, which includes admission to the dance. Reservations can be made through the Department of Maine, P. O. Box 900, Waterville 04903 or by calling the office at 873-3229. Cutoff is April 21. For anyone who may wish to stay overnight, the following Orono motels have quoted these rates: Black Bear Inn - \$89.95 plus tax. Tel: 866-7120 / University Motor Inn: \$92.00 plus tax. Tel: 866-4921.

Camp Tall Pines Clean-Up Day: May 2, Middle Range Pond, off Route 26 in Poland, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. The Legion family Camp Tall Pines committee will host a luncheon cook-out for all who join them this day. Please call 879-0489 prior to Apr. 30 if able to volunteer. This helps plan for the right amount of food for lunch.

District Meetings

District 14 – Piscataquis: April 18, Dover-Foxcroft Post 29, 6:30 p.m. supper, 7:30 mtg.

District 3 – Androscoggin: April 19, Sabattus Post 135, 2 p.m.

District 11 – Waldo: April 19, Unity Post 50, 2 p.m.

District 15 – Washington: April 19, Lubec Post 65, 2 p.m., meal to follow

District 5 – Oxford: April 21, Rumford Post 24. A light meal will be served at 6 p.m. and both District 5 and Rumford Post 24 officers will be installed together at 7 p.m.

May District Meetings

District 16 – S. Aroostook: May 2, Caribou Post 15, 1 p.m.

District 17 – No. Aroostook: May 3, Madawaska Post 147, elections, 1 p.m.

District 13 – Penobscot: May 3, Howland Post 97, noon lunch, 1 p.m. mtg., installation

District 14 – Piscataquis: May 9, Greenville Post 94, 6:30 p.m. supper, 7:30 p.m. meeting, installations

District 12 – Hancock: May 12, Stonington Post 102, 6:30 dinner, 7:30 mtg.

District 4 – Franklin: May 14, Weld Post 203, 7:30 p.m. meeting

District 8 – Sagadahoc: May 14, District Convention, Bath Post 21 6:30 p.m.

District 11 – Waldo: May 17, Unity Post 50, 2 p.m.

District 15 –Washington: May 17, Woodland Post 23, 2 p.m.

District 5 – Oxford: May 19, Fryeburg Post 137, 7 p.m.

Directory Change

Pg. 62, Adjutant James Camick e-mail: jcamick@roadrunner.com

Auxiliary Corner

Can you believe it? It is time to start getting ready for State Convention.

Reminders: Please send in your yearly reports and your delegate forms for State Convention. If you have not received your forms please contact ALA Headquarters ASAP to get your copies.

Testimonial for 4th District President Myrtle Brown: Fitzgerald-Cumming Unit #2, Augusta on May 2, 2009. Social Hour 5-6 pm, Dinner 6-7 pm. Menu: Roast Pork \$14.00, Baked Lasagna \$12.00 with all the trimmings. Make check payable to: Joyce Thurlow, 1 Meadowrue Drive, Augusta, ME 04330. Tel: 626-8136. Cutoff Apr. 30.

Thank You: The American Legion Auxiliary Leadership Committee would like to thank the following American Legion Posts who opened their doors to leadership workshops this past year: Rumford Post 24, Locke Mills Post 68, Greenville Post 94, Stockholm Post 136 and Auburn Post 31. We appreciate your welcoming attitude for the Legion family. Thanks again.

Nana Haines, Dept. Leadership Chairman

ALA Jr.'s Convention: April 26, 2009 at Chadbourne-Merrill Unit 29 Dover-Foxcroft. 10:00 a.m.

Donna L Greenlaw
Department President

Best Wishes,

Ron Sailor
Department Adjutant

Maine American Legion Baseball

2009 State Tournament

Augusta CARA Complex

The American Legion's State Baseball Tournament will be held Wednesday, July 29 through Sunday, August 2 at the Augusta CARA Complex

Date	Game	Teams	Times
Wed. July 29			
	Game 1	Zone 1 Winner vs. Zone 5 Winner	10 a.m. - McGuire
	Game 2	Zone 2 Winner vs. Runner-up*	11 a.m. - Morton
	Game 3	Zone 3 Winner vs. Runner-up*	2 p.m. - McGuire
	Game 4	Zone 4 Winner vs. Runner-up*	4 p.m. - Morton
Thurs. July 30			
	Game 5	Loser Game 1 vs. Loser Game 2	10 a.m. - McGuire
	Game 6	Loser Game 3 vs. Loser Game 4	11 a.m. - Morton
	Game 7	Winner Game 1 vs. Winner Game 2	2 p.m. - McGuire
	Game 8	Winner Game 3 vs. Winner Game 4	4 p.m. - Morton
Fri. July 31			
	Game 9	Winner Game 6 vs. Loser Game 7	11 a.m. - Morton
	Game 10	Winner Game 5 vs. Loser Game 8	1 p.m. - McGuire
	Game 11	Winner Game 7 vs. Winner Game 8	3:30 p.m. - Morton
Sat. Aug. 1			
	Game 12	Loser Game 11 vs. Winner Game 9 (note 1)	11 a.m. - Morton
	Game 13	Winner Game 11 vs. Winner Game 10	3 p.m. - Morton
Sun. Aug. 2			
	Game 14	Winner Game 12 vs. Winner Game 13(note2)	12 Noon - Morton
	Game 15	Winner Game 12 vs. Winner Game 13 (if necessary)	3:30 p.m. - Morton

Playoffs for the last two Runner-up spots will be played at a neutral site; officials for the games will be assigned by the umpire in charge for the State Tournament, Zone Commissioners for teams to supervise the games. Host will collect at the gate to pay for officials and retain the profits if any or teams will share the cost. Teams will also provide the balls equally.

Pairings for the first round games will not have two teams from the same zone meeting until the 3rd game.

Note 1—Pairings for Game 12 and 13 will not match previous opponents unless absolutely necessary.

Note 2—If three teams remain after Game 13 the winner of Game 11 will receive the bye in Game 14.

The Regional Tournament will be held at Gill Stadium in Manchester, New Hampshire, August 11.

The 2009 World Series is scheduled for August 14 - 18, in Fargo, North Dakota.