



The American Legion Department of Maine

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Website: www.mainelegion.org

Weekly Update



August 14, 2009

☺ **SMILE** ☺

Have a lot of patience. Know what to pay attention to and what to ignore.

Congratulations to the following for achieving 100% in membership:

Glenburn Post 211

Paid Up For Life

Effective October 1, 2009 the Legion's program known as PUFL (Paid Up For Life) will change. The rates will change according to the individual's age bracket and the individual will be allowed to make time payments for a longer period of time than before. Another change will be that proof of date of birth will be required when making the application for PUFL.

Also effective October 1 the rate will be going up and can be figured by utilizing the chart attached to the application. If the individual wants to pay on the time plan, the time plan has been extended from 12 months to 36 months. Also new is the individual applications must be accompanied by a copy of the member's separation form (DD214 or similar) or a copy of their current active duty military identification. If neither is available, a brief explanation and a copy of the member's current driver's license must be submitted with the application. The PUFL application will not be processed if eligibility documentation is not provided and will be returned to the Department Headquarters for resolution. The forms will be available on the legion web site at www.legion.org by August 7. National will be sending out letters to the Posts in the Department this week pertaining to this new change.

Fall Conference

Fall Conference menu, package deal lunch and dinner, if paid by Sept. 8, \$25 otherwise \$30. Lunch consists of beef stew or corn chowder, biscuits/crackers, condiments and dessert. Dinner consists of baked ham, potatoes, vegetables, salad and dessert. Checks may be sent to Tina Mae Nicholson, 26 Forest Ave., Millinocket 04462. FMI please call Tina Mae at 723-8515.

**19th Annual Jr. Air Rifle National
Air Rifle Championships**

The 19th annual Junior Air Rifle National Championship was held August 6 – 9, 2009 at the USA Shooting range, Olympic Training Center, Colorado Springs, Colorado. In the precision category, Emily Quiner of Brooklyn Park, Minnesota won with 2467.5/2509. She also set a new precision standing record of 788-54/800, breaking the previous record of 785 set by 2006 National Champion Thomas Santelli. In the sporter category, Deckard Day of Albuquerque, New Mexico won with a score of 2308.9/2509. Deckard set a new sporter kneeling record of 764, breaking the old record of 756 co-held by 2005 National Champion Micaela Jochum and 2004 National Champion Wesley Hess.

**American Legion
Baseball**

The results of the Regional American Legion Baseball Tournament show that the Department of Maine again this year has a team to be extremely proud of. The Portland Nova Seafood team has our highest praise and thank you for such a great showing even though the final score shows that we did not get the chance to go to the World Series this month in Fargo, N.D. Nova beat Londonderry, NH on 8/6 with a score of 9 to 5. Then on 8/7 they beat Warwick, RI with a score of 10 to 0. On 8/8 they beat Berlin, CT 13 to 3 and on 8/9 won with a score of 12 to 2 playing an undefeated season team of Newburyport, MA. This put Nova into the finals against a team that Nova beat previously, Berlin, CT. On 8/10 they played two games losing both to Berlin, CT with scores of 9 to 4 and 8 to 5. The players, managers and coaches should be proud of their showing as I know all of the Department of Maine is. CONGRATULATIONS NOVA!!! The World Series will be webcast August 14 thru 18 at www.legion.org/baseball.

Letters

Dear Department of Maine, American Legion,

We gratefully appreciate your donation of \$525 to the Beals House. This will be used in a wise and caring manner for families of hospitalized veterans. Thank you so much for your continued support.

Mary Duquette
Secretary, Board of Directors, Beals Hospitality House

Post Officers Form

In order for your post to be listed correctly in the directory and to receive correspondence, the Post Officer's Form needs to be completed and mailed to this office. This form needs to be completed every year, even if your officers do not change. The following posts have **NOT** submitted a Post Officers Form for 2009-2010. **PLEASE** fill out the Officer's form and return it to Department Headquarters or e-mail to lloyd@mainelegion.org by **SEPT 1st**.

DISTRICT ONE

26 Biddeford
55 Limerick
130 Bar Mills
159 Kennebunkport
177 Dayton

DISTRICT TWO

35 S. Portland
67 Bridgton
139 Harrison
148 Windham
152 Cape Elizabeth
168 Portland
212 Great Diamond Island

DISTRICT THREE

153 Auburn

DISTRICT FOUR

120 Rangeley

DISTRICT FIVE

82 Norway
137 Fryeburg
151 W. Paris

DISTRICT SIX

18 Vinalhaven
34 St. George

DISTRICT SEVEN

54 Wiscasset

DISTRICT NINE

90 Togus
195 China
204 Monmouth

DISTRICT TEN

32 Pittsfield
122 Jackman
192 Athens

DISTRICT TWELVE

25 Bar Harbor

DISTRICT THIRTEEN

160 Lee
213 Hampden

DISTRICT SIXTEEN

48 Washburn
187 Easton
208 Masardis

DISTRICT SEVENTEEN

49 Van Buren
180 St. Francis

Kudos

S. China Post 179 held a blood drive and netted 42 pints of blood. Thanks to all the people who helped and gave on a hot summer day.

Donations

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

Post 24 Legion Riders		\$500 – Legacy Fund
Post 73 Legion Riders		\$500 – Legacy Fund
Post 150 Legion Riders		\$3,500 – Legacy Fund
Post 1 Legion Riders		\$4,000 – Legacy Fund
Post 153 Legion Riders		\$1,500 – Legacy Fund
Post 176 Legion Riders		\$1,009 – Legacy Fund
Post 133 Legion Riders		\$1,003 – Legacy Fund
Post 147 Legion Riders		\$200 – Legacy Fund
Post 49 Legion Riders		\$62 – Legacy Fund
Post 145 Legion Riders		\$50 – legacy Fund
Robert Stevens, Bath Post 21		\$25 - VETAID

District Meetings

District 17 – N. Aroostook: Sept. 6, Ft. Kent Post 133, 1 p.m. dinner

District 9 – Kennebec: Sept. 9, Oakland Post 51, 7 p.m.

District 8 - Sagadahoc: Sept. 10, Topsham Post 202, 6 p.m.

District 3 – Androscoggin: Sept. 13, Lisbon Post 158, 2 p.m.

District 13 – Penobscot: Sept. 13, Millinocket Post 80, 12 p.m. lunch, 1 p.m. mtg.

District 15 – Washington: Sept. 13, Pembroke Post 59, 2 p.m., potluck

District 14 – Piscataquis: Sept. 19, Guilford Post 119, 7:30 p.m.

District 11 – Waldo: Sept. 20, Brooks Post 183, 2 p.m.

What's Happening?

Togus Benefit: August 15, Lisbon Post 158, starting to serve at 1 p.m. All proceeds to benefit VAVS at Togus through a BBQ with choice of chicken, steak, or ribs for \$6. Tickets are available at the door or in the canteen and donations for VAVS are also being accepted. Rain or shine. "Come out for some good home cookin' and help out our vets at Togus at the same time."

Harpwell Post 171 Barbecue: August 16, Harpswell Post 171 "Grill Team" led by Grill Master Steve Collins will barbecue 1000 chickens at the 8th Togus Veterans Picnic and Car/Motorcycle Show sponsored by the Rusty Nuts Car Club of Wiscasset. Bring your friends and family! Food serving starts at 11:45 am.

District Five Dinner: August 18, District 5 will have dinner with the residents at the Veterans Home in S. Paris at 4:30 p.m. followed by a District meeting. Bring a bunch, please let them know how many in the bunch. All veterans are welcome. The host post is West Paris Post 151. FMI call Edward Roach at 562-7304.

Concerts in the Park: August 19, Oxford Veterans' Memorial Park, Rt. 121, Oxford, 6:30 p.m. Concert will be hosted by Oxford Post 112, rain or shine. Music by the Record Family Band. Post 112 will be giving awards for the local police, fire and EMT of the year. Please bring your own chairs. FMI please call Ted Heidrich at 539-4102. Refreshments are available.

Twelfth Annual Northern New England Military Retiree Activity Day: August 22, Augusta Armory, 8-9 a.m. registration, 9 a.m. opening ceremony, 9:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. stations and displays open. All activities will be indoors. Round trip transportation provided from the armory to the Camp Keyes PX and Maine's outstanding Military Museum at Camp Keyes, Hdqtrs. of the Maine National Guard. AAMA will provide lunch for a small cost. Information on legal assistance, health care, veterans affairs, veterans cemeteries, veteran homes, DEERS/ID card renewals, survivor benefits, recreational facilities, commissaries & exchange and much more will be available. Military retirees and dependents to include Gray area and all branches of the Armed Forces/Uniformed Services are invited. Directions to RAD 2009: Take exit 109 off the Maine Turnpike, stay right on Western Ave., Armory is ½ mile on left. Sponsored by The National Guard of Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont in cooperation with Brunswick Naval Station and Fort Drum, The Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont Retiree Councils and the Retired Activities Offices of Brunswick Naval Air Station and the Portsmouth Naval Ship Yard. FMI contact LTC(RET) James Laflin at 685-3152 or jlaflin@roadrunner.com

ANNUAL LOBSTER BAKE: - August 22, Manson Libby Road, Scarborough Ind. Park, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., rain or shine. Tickets are \$20- Advance Sale Only. Call 883-3902 for reservations. Sponsored by Unit 76 and Squadron 76. Proceeds to go to the Boys & Girls State programs.

Future Togus Programs: August 26, Scales & Tails; September 23, Predators; October 21, Bats of the World presented by the Chewonkie Nature Program.

Yard Sale: Sept. 12, Waterville Post 5 and Unit 5 will hold a combined yard sale in the post parking lot, 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. In case of rain, it will be held inside.

POW/MIA Recognition Day: Sept. 18, US Post Office, Main St., Farmington, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Bring a flag! POW/MIA or a US flag. If you are a member of the American Legion, please wear your legion cap. See you there. FMI contact Dept. Sergeant-At-Arms, Charlie Bennett at 778-2340.

Sick Call

PNC Tony Jordan's wife Claudette is at home recuperating and doing well. We wish her a speedy recovery. Cards may be sent to Claudette at 6 Fairway View Dr., Unit 131, Vassalboro 04989.

District Nine Commander Lu Lamoreau is in the ME Veteran's Home, Augusta recuperating from a recent fall. He is expected to be there a week or so. Cards may be sent to him 171 Johnson Ln., W. Gardiner 04345.

**Sons of The American Legion
Detachment News**

Just a reminder for all Detachment and District officers, we have a meeting Sunday, August 16th at noon. This meeting is being hosted by Squadron 14, Fairfield who is doing a light luncheon afterwards. This meeting is about getting this year's program underway.

Membership is very quiet, Adjutant Ron Densmore tells me. Our first target date is September 14th for 10% membership to National. That is exactly one month away.

If you happen to be at Togus this Saturday for the annual barbeque, motorcycle ride in & car show, you might just see the Detachment Commander on his motorcycle. Maine summers are short, let's get out there and enjoy it with a veteran.

If your Squadron has an event and would like it in the SMILE, contact me by Wednesday at unclebru2@aol.com.

Yours in Service.
Bruce Pierce
Detachment Commander

Best Wishes,

Lloyd Woods,
Department Adjutant

WISH LIST – August, 2009
Department of Veterans Affairs Center (135)
1 VA Center
Augusta, Maine 04330
(207) 621-4886
mysti.grass@va.gov

VOLUNTEER ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Drivers for Volunteer Transportation Network (Bangor, Rumford, Bath/Brunswick)
2. Mealtime companions for long term care patients (any lunch and dinner during the week)
3. 73 Patriot Place and Dialysis - 1-on-1 visitation/reading and talking with patient
4. Back up Shuttle driver

ONGOING PROGRAM SUPPORT:

1. Calling cards (60 minutes or more per card)
2. Comfort Items, i.e., shampoo, deodorant, disposable razors etc. (*No alcohol based products*)
3. Diabetic snacks funds
4. Coffee funds (provides coffee in waiting areas/wards/clinics)
5. Newspaper funds (provides newspapers in waiting areas/wards/clinics)
6. General Patient Comfort Fund including Memorial Donations
7. Adapted Sports Equipment/Outings - Recreation Therapy
8. National Rehabilitation Events (Golden Age Games, Winter Sports, Wheelchair Games, and Creative Arts)

SPECIAL REQUESTS/PROJECTS:

1. Televisions for patient rooms (*approx \$300 ea.*)
2. Unit 4 South activity sponsorship (*approx \$50 pizza party, \$25 ice cream social*)
3. Organizations to sponsor entertainment on 73 Patriot Place
4. Parking Lot Shuttle Vehicle Project
5. Volunteer shirts (*approx \$2000*)
6. 73 Patriots Place furniture project (*approx \$4500*)
7. Caribou Vet Center Client trip to the Vietnam Memorial Wall (*approx \$2400*)

NOT NEEDED AT THIS TIME! Afghans/Blankets; Used Stamps; any clothing that is stained or torn; Jigsaw Puzzles; Playing Cards; Hardcover Books; Magazines over three months old; Dental Floss; Soap; After-Shave; Hand Lotion; Writing Tablets; Pens; and Envelopes. **Due to Infection Control policies we are unable to take used walkers, canes, or crutches at this time.**

The Internal Revenue Service has announced that under the Tax Code, donations to the Department of Veterans Affairs' General Post Fund for exclusively public purposes are deductible from federal income taxes in the manner and to the extent allowable. The announcement reflects the tax law provision, which makes those donations deductible as "donations to the United States". Donations to support any of the Department's programs are deductible, whether the donor directs that the donated funds be used for a specific purpose or allows the Department to decide how the donated funds will be used. Donated funds made by check should be made out to "VAVS" and sent to the address above.