



## The American Legion Department of Maine

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### Weekly Update



December 19, 2008

**Honest criticism is the highest praise**

☺ **SMILE** ☺

**Congratulations to the following for achieving 100% in membership:**

**Milo Post 41      Topsfield Post 191**

**Mid-Winter Conference  
To Be Held At York Post 56**

Ramsdell-Rogers Post 56 in York will host our annual Mid-Winter Conference on Saturday, January 17, 2009 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Department Commander John Doyle and Vice Commander Randy Kluj will offer an interesting agenda, covering several topics with Vietnam veteran Chuck Knowlen addressing a topic that is sure to hold your attention – Vietnam; Erase The Hurt. Also, Past National Vice Commander Linda Perham of Vermont will be our guest speaker at the Saturday evening program and on the daytime agenda too.

York Post 56, which recently opened their new 13,000 square foot post home, will have a complete package for all to enjoy. On Friday night at the post there will be a DJ for your dancing and listening enjoyment. Post 56 will have a luncheon available on Saturday at noontime and will also host the evening meal that day. As well on Saturday, following the dinner, the band Crazy Horse will play in their lounge.

The 6:00 p.m. Saturday evening dinner, which will be preceded by a 5:00 p.m. social hour, will offer a choice of Breast of Chicken or Crab stuffed Fish with Maine Clam Chowder and Strawberry Shortcake for dessert for \$20. Checks can be sent to York Post 56, P. O. Box 35, York 03909 or call Steve or Candice at 363-0376 and be sure to indicate your entrée choice. The Saturday lunch for \$11.95 will offer turkey, ham or roast beef, potato salad, macaroni salad, tossed salad and cookies. Cutoff for dinner reservations is Jan. 12.

For those who may be staying over for either Friday or Saturday nights or both, the following have offered discounted rates. Please make your reservations directly with the motels.

Best Western York Inn – Single or double; \$59.99 plus tax. (\$49.93 if 25 or more Legion rooms. Tel: 363-8903.)

Microtel Inn and Suites – Single; \$60 plus tax. Double; \$69.52 plus tax. Suite; \$76.42 plus tax. Tel: 363-0800.

Union Bluff Hotel – Single; \$79 plus tax. Double; \$89 plus tax. Suites avail. Add \$40 per room for ocean view.

Legion discount from these rates: 10% for one night, 20% for two nights. Tel: 363-1333.

**Post Commander  
Loses House/Business**

Fairfield Post 14 Commander Gary Bulger recently lost his house and his business to a fast-moving electrical fire. Gary and his wife Marlene, who were home at the time the fire started, said they were fortunate there were no injuries. Gary was preparing to attend a meeting and was awaiting a ride from a friend at around 5:30 p.m. When the friend arrived to pick him up he noticed smoke coming through the side door and immediately notified Gary and Marlene. The fire destroyed the rear of the house, the second story, and the contents of his garage, which housed his auto body business. He said that some of the tools in the garage can be salvaged. Unfortunately the house and business were not insured.

The Fairfield Post family members and many individuals within the Fairfield/Benton community have pitched in to help Gary and Marlene, but I'm sure they could use any support that would be offered.

**Oratorical Contest**

Oratorical Chairman Bill Barr has announced the state finals for the Department Oratorical Contest will be held at Thomas College in Waterville on Saturday, February 14, 2009 with the semi-finals starting at 9:30 a.m. and the finals to be held at 1 p.m. Please note this on your calendars.

**Baseball Fees Increase**

Athletic Committee Chairman Chuck Berube has notified us that the baseball entry fee for each American Legion team will be increased to \$60 for the upcoming season. Please note this change when paying your team's entry fee this spring.

**Thank You**

Thank you to all who attended and helped with the Gifts of Gratitude second annual Christmas auction at the Smith-Tobey American Legion Post 21 in Bath and particularly to NECA Paul L'Heureux who was a great auctioneer and National Vice Commander Jim LaCoursiere of Connecticut who was on hand to show his support.

We raised over \$4,100 this year and on December 8<sup>th</sup> we packed and shipped our seventh shipment of the year, which was 16 boxes of supplies to Afghanistan to a unit of 20 Maine troops. Since the beginning of this year's program, we have shipped 97 boxes thanks to the generous donations and support of individuals such as those who attended the auction.

Ginny Chaput, Chairperson  
Bath Unit 21 Gifts of Gratitude

**Canadian Friendship Award  
Nomination (information sheet)**

**Purpose:** To submit nomination(s) for the Canadian Friendship Award.

**Conditions:** It shall be awarded to specific individuals who shall be war veterans within the accepted meaning of the term and members of an authentic veteran's organization in Canada.

The award shall be given to individuals in recognition of outstanding service in the field of veterans' affairs and in the development and perpetuation of the spirit of international goodwill and comradeship between The United States and Canada and between their veterans' organization and The American Legion.

Nominations may be made by any member of The American Legion in good standing, under such rules and regulations as shall be approved for such award.

**Nominations:** Receipt of award is limited to one (1) per branch and nominations are limited to one (1) per post.

**Documentation:** Each nomination shall be thoroughly documented (testimonials and other credentials, newspaper clippings, copies of awards, etc.) by the person placing the name in nomination. If space on the nomination form is insufficient, additional pages may be attached for consideration.

The nominator will be responsible for making definite time/place/presentation plans, subject to approval of the nominee for the award.

**Deadline:** Nominations must reach Department Headquarters by January 31.

**Mail to:** The American Legion, Department of Maine, P.O. Box 900, Waterville, Maine 04903-0900.

**NOMINATION FORM AT END OF NEWSLETTER - DUPLICATE AS NECESSARY**

**District Meetings**

**District 16 – S. Aroostook:** Jan. 3, Easton Post 187, 1 p.m.

**District 3 – Androscoggin:** Jan. 11, Mechanic Falls Post 150, Oratorical 1 p.m., meeting 2 p.m.

**District 10 – Somerset:** Jan. 12, Skowhegan Post 16, Oratorical, 6:30 p.m., meeting to follow.

**District 11 – Waldo:** Jan. 18, Belfast Post 43, 2 p.m.

**District 5 – Oxford:** Jan. 21, S. Paris Post 72, Oratorical, 7 p.m.

**What's Happening?**

**Hermon Post 200 Baked Bean Supper:** Dec. 20, Rescue Squad Building on the Billings Rd. in Hermon, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. All you can eat; adults \$6.00 and children \$2.50

**Old Orchard Beach:** Jan. 1, Lobster Dip, 12:00 noontime. Come to OOB in front of the Brunswick Hotel to see many Legion family members take a cool dip in the Atlantic Ocean to raise money for Special Olympics of Maine.

**Donations**

**THANK YOU    THANK YOU    THANK YOU    THANK YOU    THANK YOU**

Waterville Post 5  
James Harper (Topsham Post 202)

\$500.00 – Maine Blind Camp  
\$50.00 – VA&R

**Kudos**

Sanford Post 19 family donated 40 complete Thanksgiving dinner baskets to the Sanford Veteran's Center for distribution to area veterans. Also delivered was \$1200 worth of toys and other Christmas gifts for 54 area veterans' children and \$450 for the Veteran's Center Christmas dinner. Forty Christmas dinner baskets will be delivered to the Center next week.

**Directory Changes**

**Pg. 50,** Bingham Post 99, monthly meetings will be held at the Bingham Town Office on Murray Street until May 2009.

**Pg. 54,** SW Harbor Post 69, Service Officer, Nancy F. Hawk, 14 Wentworth Way, Bar Harbor 04609

## Auxiliary Corner

First, Thank you to all the volunteers who helped out at Togus and our VA Homes in getting all the Christmas gifts wrapped and getting the gifts that needed to be mailed out done! We could not have done it without your help. Job well done!!!

Secondly, thank you to Teri Owens, our ALA Music Chairman, for always doing a great job pulling us together and to everyone that came up to Togus last Sunday to join us in our yearly Christmas caroling to the Veterans. Fun was had by all!

**Comfort Items For Our Troops:** I would also like to share with you that the ALA Members of Hermon Unit 200 are asking for our help. Our troops are looking for small 8” by 6” head/neck pillows for their trip across the sea. If you have any extra plain colored material & stuffing materials (please no camouflage or loud bright colors), please help our auxiliary members of Hermon Unit 200 make and hand out pillows along with the Troop Greeters. How to sew: Stitch up bottom, sides and  $\frac{3}{4}$  top by machine. Turn right side out, stuff and finish with a hand stitch to close.

Please send to the ALA Hermon Unit 200, Pres. Gladys Knowles, 659 York Rd, Hermon, ME 04401 or you may bring them to the Mid-Winter Conference in York. If you have any questions or need more information contact Georgine Butman, Dist. 5 Pres. 207-695-2806 or e-mail [moosharp@medmaine.com](mailto:moosharp@medmaine.com)

In closing I wish you and your families “Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!”

Donna L. “Bunny” Greenlaw  
Department President

Best Wishes,

Ron Sailor  
Department Adjutant

# THE AMERICAN LEGION CANADIAN FRIENDSHIP AWARD NOMINATION FORM

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY

Nominee's Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee is a member of \_\_\_\_\_, an authentic veterans  
(Veterans Organization Name, Branch or Chapter #)

organization in Canada. Nominee is a veteran of the Armed Forces of Canada and served during  
\_\_\_\_\_, at which time Canada was allied with the United States of America.  
(Name of War)

Nominee holds, or has held, the following offices in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Veterans Organization)

This nomination for the Canadian Friendship Award is recommended in recognition of outstanding service in the field of veterans' affairs and for service and contributions made in the development and preservation of good will and comradeship between the veterans' organization of the nominee and The American Legion, as is evidenced by the following:

(NOTE: PLEASE ATTACH ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION TO THIS FORM.)

**RECEIPT OF THIS AWARD IS LIMITED TO ONE PER BRANCH AND NOMINATIONS ARE LIMITED TO ONE PER POST.**

THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION SUBMITTING NOMINATION			
(Name)	(Department)	(Post)	(Member ID No.)
(Street Address)	(City)	(State)(Zip Code)	
(Signature)	(Date Submitted)		

**MAIL COMPLETED NOMINATION FORM BY JANUARY 31 TO:**  
The American Legion, Department of Maine, P.O. Box 900, Waterville, Maine 04903-0900.