



## The American Legion Department of Maine

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### Weekly Update



January 11, 2008

**Do not undermine your worth by comparing yourself with others,  
it is because we are different that each of us is special.**

☺ **SMILE** ☺

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

**Fairfield Post 14**

**Freeport Post 83**

**Stockholm Post 136**

#### Mid-Winter Conference

**Fireside Inn and Suites in Auburn – just off Maine Turnpike Exit 75**

#### Saturday, January 19, 2008

7:00 – 9:00 a.m.		Coffee and donuts for sale (overnight guests are comp)
8:30 a.m.	Opening ceremony	Andy Olson, Dept. Second Vice Commander
	Welcome	POW/MIA Tree of Hope Ceremony
9:00 a.m.	Americanism Programs	Paul L'Heureux, Department Commander
	Vet. Property Tax Exempt.	Charles Foss, Dept. Americanism Officer
	Maine Troop Greeters	Tony Cincotta, Berwick Post 79
9:45 a.m.	Post Insurance Program	Randy Kluj, Milo Post 41
10:00 a.m.	Healthy-e-Vet	Dyke Shannon, Post Insurance Program Director
10:30 a.m.	Internal Revenue Service	Lindsey Jackson, AmeriCorps VISTA
11:15 a.m.	American Legion Riders	Beth Munn, Internal Revenue Service
11:30 a.m.	Remarks	Bill Kilde, Topsham Post 202
11:45 a.m.	Lunch Break	Dept. President Kitty Wing & Det. Commander Don Allisot
1:00 p.m.	Games of Chance	Lunch Break at Hotel or on your own
	Liquor Laws for Legion	Barry Hathaway, Maine State Police
2:00 p.m.	Military Funeral Honors	Craig McCabe, Maine State Police
2:30 p.m.	Membership	MSG (ret) Frank Norwood, Coordinator for Maine
3:10 p.m.	Sweepstakes Drawing	Dept. Vice Commanders Doyle and Olson
3:15 p.m.	Closing Ceremony	Prizes: \$3,500, \$1,000, \$500, \$200
3:30 p.m.	Meeting	Dept. Commander L'Heureux and Vice Cmdr. Olson
5:30 p.m.	Social	Past Commanders Club
6:30 p.m.	Banquet	

**Legion Riders To  
Hold Annual Meeting**

This year's annual meeting of The American Legion Riders of Maine will be held at Topsham Post 202 on Saturday, February 2, 2008 starting at 1:00 p.m. There will be a light lunch served at noon and a chance to meet and talk with other Riders from all over the state.

Because of our unexpected growth this past year, we will be conducting a business meeting to move the Riders forward as we expect more posts to come on board with this exceptional Legion program. We presently have over 300 members and we have been in contact this past month with three more posts showing interest.

Many of you will have questions about the guidelines set by our National Organization and this will be the time to get most of those answers. We will also be discussing a state-wide ride with all Riders as well as comparing calendars to share events with each other. Bill Kilde of Topsham Post 202 will be laying out the plans for the upcoming Legacy Run and fundraising programs. This meeting is open to anyone who is interested in starting a Rider group at their post or would just like to sit in to see what we are all about.

We hope to see all the Riders in attendance stay for the evening's dance at Post 202 and there are many quality motels in the area as well as many places to dine. FMI, please give me a call at 754-6044.

Paul L'Heureux  
Department Commander

**Some Veterans Pay  
Ruled Tax-Free**

Washington (January 7, 2008 ) -- Payments provided to veterans under two specific programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) -- the Compensated Work Therapy (CWT) and Incentive Therapy (IT) programs -- are no longer taxable, according to the Internal Revenue Service. Veterans who paid tax on these benefits in the past three years can claim refunds.

Recipients of CWT and IT payments no longer receive a Form 1099 (Miscellaneous Income) from VA. Veterans who paid tax on these benefits in tax years 2004, 2005 or 2006 can claim a refund by filing an amended tax return using IRS Form 1040X.

**Free Park Passes**

Soldiers who have been deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) or Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF), are Maine residents, and have served Outside the Continental U. S. (OCONUS) for a minimum of three consecutive months are entitled to a year of free admission into the Maine State Parks. FMI please contact Wendy J. Moody, Transition Assistance Advisor, State House Station 33, Augusta, Maine 04333 or call Wendy at 626-4221.

**From Litchfield Post 181**

The William R. Bold Post 181 in Litchfield will have a guest speaker on hand at their regular meeting on January 17, 2008 at the Legion Hall at 233 Plains Road in Litchfield starting at 7:30 p.m. and wish to invite anyone who might be interested.

The speaker, Conrad Edwards, is a veterans' advocate with Maine Veterans Services and will make about a 15 minute presentation on veterans' benefits followed by a question and answer period. Conrad will have time available after the meeting for individual discussions.

**Buckfield Post 58 To Hold  
Welcome Home Party**

Army Specialist Scott Violette, currently serving in Iraq, will be honored at a Welcome Home party to be held at the Buckfield Post home on Sunday, Jan. 20, 2008 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

**Donations**

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

New Auburn Post 153	\$100.00 – Special Olympics (Lobster Dip)
Richmond Post, Unit & SAL 132	\$300.00 – Special Olympics (Lobster Dip)
Tibby Dupuis, Post 153 (for Paul)	\$5.00 – Special Olympics (Lobster Dip)
Don Beaulieu, Post 153 (for Paul)	\$5.00 – Special Olympics (Lobster Dip)
Paula Giguere, Unit 153 (for Paul)	\$5.00 – Special Olympics (Lobster Dip)
Paul Robitaille, Post 153 (for Paul)	\$5.00 – Special Olympics (Lobster Dip)
Brenda Longtin, Unit 153 (for Paul)	\$5.00 – Special Olympics (Lobster Dip)
Rene Plourde, Post 153 (for Paul)	\$5.00 – Special Olympics (Lobster Dip)
Ellie Morin, Unit 153 (for Paul)	\$5.00 – Special Olympics (Lobster Dip)
Tim Ricker, SAL 153 (for Paul)	\$5.00 – Special Olympics (Lobster Dip)
Carol Ricker, Unit 153 (for Paul)	\$5.00 – Special Olympics (Lobster Dip)
Kevin Chapman, SAL 153 (for Paul)	\$5.00 – Special Olympics (Lobster Dip)
Celeste Chapman, Unit 153 (for Paul)	\$5.00 – Special Olympics (Lobster Dip)
Jim Smythe, Post 153 (for Paul)	\$5.00 – Special Olympics (Lobster Dip)
Hugh Brown III, Post 153 (for Paul)	\$10.00 – Special Olympics (Lobster Dip)
Hugh Brown, Jr., Post 153 (for Paul)	\$20.00 – Special Olympics (Lobster Dip)
Bob & Amy Rich, Post 158 (for Paul)	\$20.00 – Special Olympics (Lobster Dip)
Bath Post 21 (for Kitty)	\$100.00 – Special Olympics (Lobster Dip)
Ernie Jennison, Post 21 (for Kitty)	\$60.00 – Special Olympics (Lobster Dip)
Mike & Angie Frelk, Post 21 & Unit 21 (for Kitty)	\$50.00 – Special Olympics (Lobster Dip)
Oxford County Council (for Kitty)	\$25.00 – Special Olympics (Lobster Dip)
Various donations from \$5.00 to \$20.00 for Kitty	\$305.00 – Special Olympics (Lobster Dip)
Stockton Springs Post 157	\$25.00 - VAWS

## Directory Changes

**Pg. 32**, Gray Post 86, Commander Kenneth Welton, 293 Sabbathday Rd., N Gloucester 04260 (926-3795)

**Pg. 43**, Camden Post 30, Acting Adjutant, Ray Lewis, P.O. Box 297, Lincolnville 04849 (236-3191)

**Pg. 45**, Waldoboro Post 149, send all correspondence to the post.

**Pg. 62**, Lubec Post 65, Commander Rod Green, P.O. Box 44, Dennysville 04628 (726-9590)

## Canadian Friendship Award

**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 veterans' 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:** Awards are limited to one (1) per branch and nominations are limited to one (1) per post.

**Documentation:** Each nomination shall be documented (testimonials, 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. Please mail nominations to The American Legion, Department of Maine, P.O. Box 900, Waterville 04903. **Note:** form can be found at the end of this newsletter.

## What's Happening?

**Boy Scout Committee Meeting:** Jan. 19, Fireside Inn and Suites, time TBA.

## District Meetings

**District 3 - Androscoggin:** Jan. 13, Mechanic Falls Post 150, 1 p.m. Oratorical, 2 p.m. mtg.

**District 17 - No. Aroostook:** Jan 13, Stockholm Post 136, 1 p.m. dinner, 2 p.m. mtg.

**District 7 - Lincoln:** Jan. 14, Boothbay Harbor Post 36, 7:30 p.m.

**District 5 - Oxford:** Jan. 17, So. Paris Post 72, 7 p.m. (Oratorical)

**District 14 - Piscataquis:** Meeting for Jan. 19, Brownville Jct. Post 92 has been cancelled. An attempt will be made to hold a brief meeting directly after Mid-Winter Conference.

**District 11 - Waldo:** Jan. 20, Belfast Post 43, 2 p.m.

**Sick Call**

Harry Lang, Windham Post 148, Maine Medical Center, Room R4, Bramhall St., Portland 04102  
Past Department President Audrey Daigle, P.O. Box 277, Anson 04911  
NECA William "Gene" Bickford, 22 Sanborn Circle, Norway 04268  
Jim Fiedler, National Staff, P. O. Box 99, Springfield, South Dakota 57062

**Sons of The American Legion  
Detachment News**

Membership is beginning to come in. We received a report last evening and it is showing that the Detachment is at 53%. One year ago yesterday we were at 43%. Today is 60% target date for the sons and we are a little short of this goal. Many squadrons are really doing an exceptional job at gathering the membership, while others are going to need some help and we can provide that help. The assistance we can provide will help you promote this great organization within your communities. You are an extension of The American Legion Family and a direct link to your towns. You are an ambassador of the organization. As is said, the first impression is usually a good indication of the quality of any organization. Please work hard towards our membership goals. As many of you know, we cannot do anything without membership. Without members there is no one to promote programs or to do anything. As I have said "Membership Creates Activity and Activity Creates Membership".

We are getting ready for Mid-Winter Conference. Next week I will have the agenda prepared, but I can tell you we will begin our meeting on Saturday, January 19 at 9:00 a.m. at the Fireside Inn and Suites located just off the Maine Turnpike Exit 75 in Auburn. We will again have a section that allows you an opportunity to voice your concerns and possibly share some of your experiences in your squadrons with all of us. There will be a staff meeting directly following adjournment of the conference. This will allow us to set a plan for the rest of the year, hopefully to accomplish the rest of our goals.

Again I am asking any squadrons if they would like me to visit one of your meetings. This would be great but if no one asks I guess I will have to call you! So don't be surprised if someone calls.

Don Allisot  
Detachment Commander

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 DOCUMENTION 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