



The American Legion Department of Maine

5 Verti Drive, Winslow, ME 04901-0727

Tel: (207) 873-3229 Fax: (207) 872-0501

E-mail: legionme@mainelegion.org

Website: www.mainelegion.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/maineamericanlegion



November 30, 2016

☺ SMILE ☺

Success is the sum of small efforts repeated day in and day out.

Mid-Winter Conference

The annual Mid-Winter Conference will be held Jan. 21 - 22, 2017 at the Spectacular Event Center, 395 Griffin Rd, Bangor, ME 04401 (207) 941-8700.

The conference will be hosted by Commander Peter Johnson and 2nd Vice Commander Scott Paradis.

Hotel Reservations can be made at the following:

Days Inn: 250 Odlin Rd., Bangor, Maine 04401. Phone: 207-942-8272

Room rate: \$76 for room with king bed or 2 double beds. Includes hot breakfast.

Rodeway Inn, formerly Econo Lodge: 327 Odlin Rd., Bangor, Maine 04401. Phone: 207-945-0111

Room Rate: \$59 (rooms with one queen bed). \$69 (rooms with 2 double beds). Continental breakfast included.

Please state **"Legion"** when calling for reservations.

Arrangements will be made and publicized in the SMILE and on www.mainelegion.org website as soon as they are made. Please watch future editions for further information regarding, meals, lodging and speakers.

From The Adjutants Desk

We currently have no one serving on the Special Olympics Committee other than representatives from The Auxiliary and The Sons of The American Legion. The Department is looking for 3 dedicated individuals to assist us on filling these openings. Remember that we do make a difference every day in people's lives. Please consider stepping forward to help. Contact the State Commander, Peter Johnson at 207-280-0888 or call the State HQ at 207-873-3229

To all Posts:

After asking all of you to stand by while we researched the Maine Sales Tax Exemption for The American Legion we are now ready to provide you with a step by step procedure that you may all follow. It will include some of the paperwork and information needed to pass the requirements. This packet that we will send you will provide you with 80% of the needed information. (You may stop at the office and pick one up also)

Now the other side of the story---If you have not kept up with State & Federal requirements, this will add more work for you to process this form in a timely matter. Please read the sheet on How to Obtain a Sales /use Tax Exemption Certificate carefully.

In order to receive one of these packets you must e-mail or call this office to request one which will be mailed to you. We will track these request for further results. Thank you again for your patience.

Free Alcohol Server Training

As a Post Insurance Program policyholder, you get access to an online Alcohol Server Training course at no cost to your fraternal organization. Take advantage of this program benefit offered by AIX and Lockton Affinity.

Course highlights: Responsible server techniques, including spotting fake IDs and eliminating drunk driving, understanding your state laws for alcohol service, State-specific responsible alcohol server certification and an interactive online course that can be completed anywhere at your convenience. Complete your certification in only 2 – 4 hours. The first course is free and additional courses are just \$9.95 per course (a \$40 value).

Go to www.myservertraining.com

1. Click the yellow "Register for Training" button
2. Register by following the on-screen instructions. You'll need your Active Policy Number, which is LFZ-BP-0031641-2. Click the "Sign Up" button at the bottom of the page.
3. Once you've registered, you'll receive an email containing the username and password needed to access the training course. Simply return to www.myservertraining.com and enter your username and password in the Student Login boxes.

Take the course!

Directory Changes

Pg. 17, Education & Training Committee, David Patch, e-mail: dapatch@roadrunner.com

Pg. 19, Legislative Committee, David Patch, e-mail: dapatch@roadrunner.com

Pg. 21, National Security Committee, David Patch, e-mail: dapatch@roadrunner.com

Pg. 23, Special Olympics Committee, please remove Geoff Ragsdale, Bob Wright and Fred Kennedy

Pg. 49, Boothbay Harbor Commander David Patch, e-mail: dapatch@roadrunner.com

Pg. 49, Boothbay Harbor Post 36 Finance Officer, please replace Brian McKenna with Robert Raudenbush

Pg. 110, Aid to Camp, please remove Robert Rich

District Meetings

District 9 – Kennebec: Dec. 14, Augusta Post 205, 7 p.m. All members and their wives are asked to bring a gift in the \$10 to \$15 range for a Yankee Swap Christmas. Please note if it is for female (pink ribbon) or male (blue ribbon) or anyone. The Post 205 Commander has okayed alcohol as a gift or consumption if you're so inclined. In addition there will be a casserole supper. Please contact Adjutant Eileen M Krawczyk at eileensashamia@gmail.com to let her know what kind of food you're bringing. I would ask Eileen to post as often as possible what is being promised so everyone can plan around that. Also fun and games.

District 2 – Cumberland: Dec. 18, Naples Post 155, 2 p.m., Christmas party exchange of gifts, Leg Dist. 2 and Aux Dist. 1

District 5 – Oxford: Dec. 20, Locke Mills Post 68, 7 p.m. Appoint nominating committee. District Christmas party.

Military Trivia

Which US General along with Schwarzkopf was leader in the Gulf War?

Department Officers Visitation

Department Commander Pete Johnson:

Department 1st Vice Commander Randy Kluj:

Department 2nd Vice Commander Scott Paradis:

Department Americanism Officer Deb Couture and Chaplain Greg Couture:

Department NEC John Hargreaves:

Area 5 Commander Lee Leeman
12/5/16, Monson Post 116, 2 p.m.

Service Office Update

How to Apply for VA Health Care

You can apply for VA Healthcare in three ways:

- Online: Health care application on www.vets.gov.
- Paper: VA Form 10-10EZ, then submit to the VHA or submit to your VSO for transmittal. (I can help you fill it out)
- Telephone: 877-222-VETS (8387) (8:00 am – 8 pm EST).

When you apply make sure you have your (DD 214) Separation Document and last year's Income Tax filing nearby as you will need information from those documents during the application process.

P.S. Reapply if you were "Group 8 in the past and your income has changed; have retired and are just living on Social Security (Call me for income limits)

NOTE: Assets are NO LONGER counted toward VHA eligibility.

To learn more about applying for health benefits, please visit VA's Health Benefits [webpage](#).

Amedeo "Deo" Lauria, Department Service Officer, VA Togus, Building 205, Room 318
Phone: (207) 623-5726, FAX: (207) 621-4821 (Primary), FAX: (207) 623-5778 (Alternate)
Email: amedeo.lauria@va.gov

Volunteer Hours at Maine Veterans Home Caribou

Kudos to the following members of Caribou Post 15 and Unit 15 for volunteering at the Maine Veterans Home:

Dale McGlinn – 2 hours, Fred Schieber – 2 hours, Bill Francis – 2 hours, Richard Bechtel – 6.5, Luana Reitmeyer – 1.5 hours, Kathy Schieber – 2 hours, Marty Francis – 2 hours, Doris Nadeau – 19 hours, Madaline Guerette – 1.5 hours, Martha McGlinn – 2 hours and Claudine Cyr – 24.5 hours

Influenza Shots

11/30/2016	Bangor CBOC	8:00 AM	11:30 AM	
12/7/2016	Bangor CBOC	8:00 AM	11:30 AM	
12/12/2016	Togus Outpatient Pharmacy		1:00 PM	3:00 PM
12/19/2016	Togus Outpatient Pharmacy		1:00 PM	3:00 PM

Even More Opportunities!

Rumford CBOC, Monday thru Friday, 1:30 - 4 pm, **Lincoln CBOC**, Monday thru Friday, 1pm - 3 pm, **Bingham VA Clinic**, Tuesdays & Wednesdays, 7:30 am - 4 pm, **Calais CBOC**, Wednesdays, 1 pm – 4 pm, **Caribou CBOC**, Monday thru Friday, 9 am - 3 pm, **Houlton VA Clinic**, Wednesdays, 8 am - 4:30 pm.

Donations

Richard Leland, Waterville Post 178

\$25 – Homeless Vets

Kudos

Guilford Post 119 for their donations of \$500 to Abner Wade Masonic Lodge for Project Santa, \$500 to Honor Flight Maine and \$150 to Wreaths Across America.

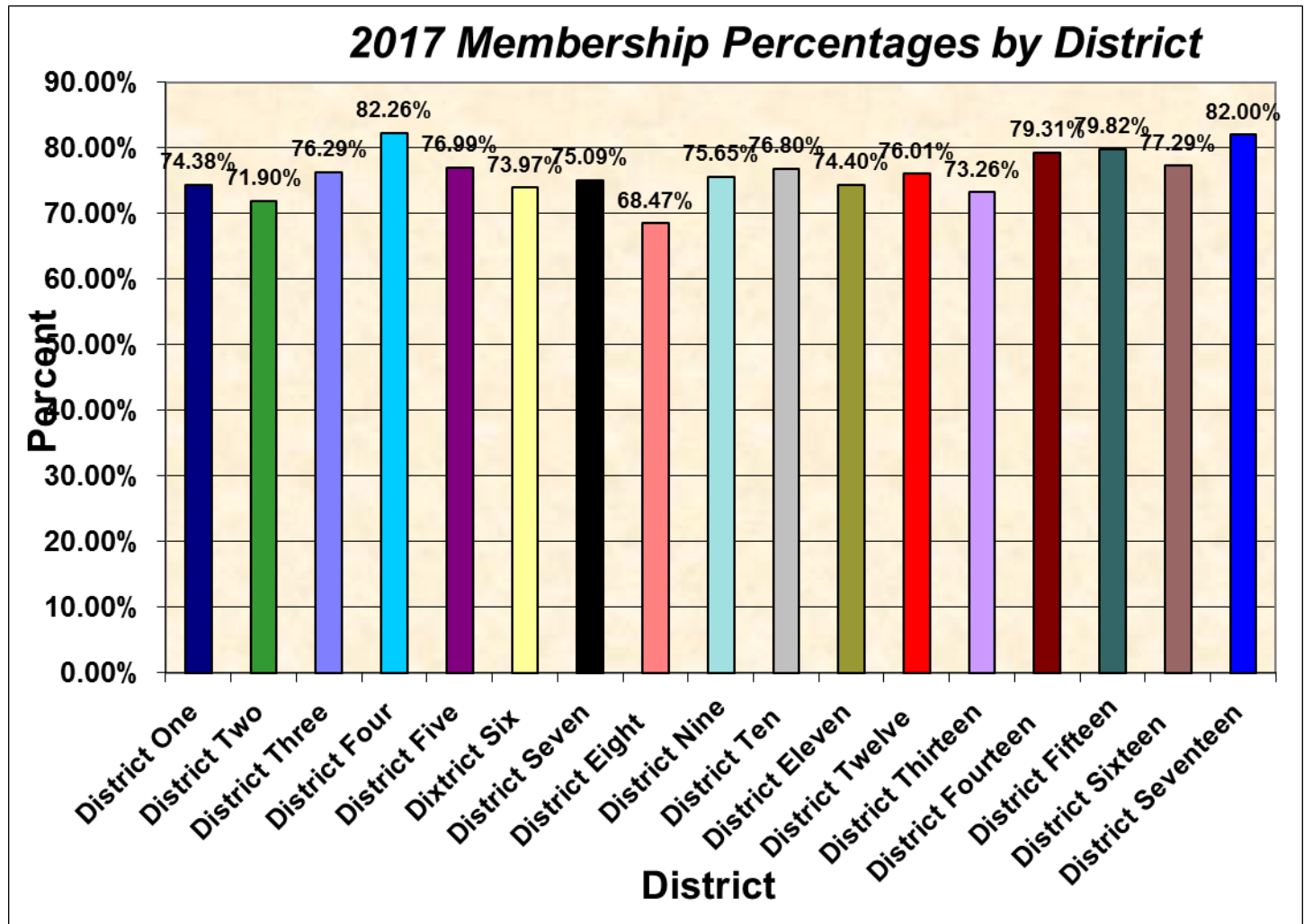
Wiscasset Post 54 for their donation of \$100 to Wreaths Across America.

District 7 for their donation of \$100 to Wreaths Across America.

Wreaths Across America

On December 11, Wiscasset Post 54 and District 7 members will meet the Wreaths Across America convoy at Medomak Valley HS at 2:30 p.m. as they make their way to Arlington Cemetery. Everyone is welcome to attend. FMI, please call Dale Skillin at 882-7485 or go to wreathsasscrossamerica.org.

Membership



Holiday Cards for Veterans

We need your help! We're collecting holiday cards to disburse to veterans at the Togus VA Hospital. Collected by 12/19/16. Drop-off location: Tri County Mental Health Services, c/o Jerry DeWitt, 1155 Lisbon St., Lewiston ME. FMI, please contact Jerry DeWitt at 783-9141, ext. 228 or jdewitt@tcmhs.org Sponsored by Tri-County Mental Health Services.

Recurring Events

Augusta Post 2:

Friday Night Karaoke: Fridays, Augusta Post 2, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday Night Dance: Saturdays, Augusta Post 2, 7 p.m., \$7, live bands.

Gardiner Post 4:

3 Card Challenge: Fridays, Gardiner Post 4 Club Room, 6 p.m.

Cribbage: Every Sunday, Gardiner Post 4, 1 p.m.

Trivia Contest: Every Friday, Gardiner Post 4, 6:30 p.m.

Open Jukebox: Every Thursday, Gardiner Post 4, 5 – 8 p.m.

Darts: Steel Tip Dart Tournament every Tuesday night at 7 PM starting Nov. 1. \$5 entry fee every week for 14 weeks. Cash prizes at the end. Members & guests welcome.

Livermore Falls Post 10:

Post 10 Suppers: Third Saturday each month, 4:30 – 6 p.m. \$7 adults, \$4 students under 12. For local delivery please call 897-5676. Join us for a great meal and bring your friends with you for a fun gathering.

Caribou Post 15:

Texas Hold-Em: First and third Sat., Caribou Post 15.

Line Dancing: Every Friday evening, Caribou Post 15.

Sanford Post 19:

Live Music: Every Friday night. Great bands and lots of fun.

Winthrop Post 40:

Pool League Tournament: Mondays, Winthrop Post 40, 7-10 p.m.

Free Pool: Saturdays, anyone can sign up.

Texas Hold-Em Poker: Sundays, Winthrop Post 40, 2 p.m., \$55 Buy-in.

Norway Post 82:

Coffee Hour: Every Tuesday, Norway Post 82, 9 a.m. Everything is free. Coffee, many different types of donuts, coffee cake, muffins. Any veteran is invited to come by and enjoy the company of other veterans.

Dixfield Post 100:

Public Supper: Third Saturday of the month, Dixfield Post 100, \$7 adults, Children ½ price, meals vary, FMI call 562-8030.

Sabattus Post 135:

Dart Tournament: Every other Monday starting Sept. 19, Sabattus Post 135.

Cribbage Tournament: Tuesday, Sabattus Post 135.

Fridays Nights DJ: Come dance the night away with our new DJ, Sabattus Post 135

Windham Post 148:

Texas Hold-Em Poker: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 6:30 pm. Windham Veterans Association & Post 148 at Dena's Restaurant, next to Windham Post Office - Jct. Rtes. 115 & 302. \$60 buy in.

Eagle Lake Post 176:

Wings Night: Fridays, Eagle Lake Post 176, 5 – 9 p.m.

Lebanon Post 214:

Spaghetti Supper: Second Saturday of the month, Lebanon Post 214, Adults \$7, Children under 10 free. Held at the hall in the First Parish Congregational Church, 650 Center Road, Lebanon. FMI, please call 658-7182.

Current Events**Condolences**

Past Department Commander Robert Rich has passed away. He was a lifetime member of the Lisbon American Legion Post No. 158 where he served as Commander. He was also Maine State Commander from 1975 to 1976. Cards may be sent to his wife Armance at 200 Stetson Rd. Apt. 431, Auburn ME 04210. Messages of condolence may be sent to www.finleyfuneralhome.com. A funeral service with full military honors will be held 11 AM, Saturday, December 3rd at FINLEY FUNERAL HOME, 15 Church Street, Livermore Falls, Maine. Interment at Maine Veterans Cemetery, Civic Center Drive, Augusta, Maine. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to: www.campcourageous.org or Camp Courageous, P.O. Box 418, Monticello, Iowa 52310.

E. Munroe Hawkins, Farmington Post 28 Past Commander, passed away at the ME Veterans Home in Augusta on November 4. He was a member of Post 28 for 63 years and had been a navigator on a B 24 Liberator with 35 missions and awarded a DFC. He was also a member of the Sons of the American Legion. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to the Munroe and Juanita Hawkins Scholarship Fund at the Alumni Office of University of Maine at Farmington; Roderick Crosby Post 28 American Legion; or The Franklin County Animal Shelter, 550 Industry Road, Farmington, ME 04938.

Sick

John Schlaack has been diagnosed with cancer and is evaluating a course of action at this time. Please send cards to him at 1069 Pinkham Brook Rd., Durham ME 04222.

**Sons of the American Legion
Detachment News**

Comrades,

November is Children & Youth month alongside of Homeless Veterans & Children. Please send your donations of support to these very important programs. Let's make a difference.

Membership is coming in slowly, let's reach our target date ASAP. Time is getting short and the new year is fast approaching.

When on a conference call Sunday night, our National Vice Commander Joe Korba wishes everyone a great holiday season.

Always willing to serve,

Ron Marr, Detachment Commander 1779 Hotel Rd Auburn Me 207-701-9675 debra.ann.marr@gmail.com

Answer to military trivia question: Powell

Best Wishes to The Legion family,
Paul L'Heureux
Department Adjutant



You're invited to a special event in support of our Veterans

Join us for networking, resume writing and interviewing skills. Enter to win great prizes including tickets to Bruins and Celtics games and autographed merchandise. Speakers from TD Bank, City of Boston Office of Veterans Services, Dress for Success Boston, and Bruins Alumni.

Wednesday, December 14, 2016 • 10:00AM–3:00PM

Legends at the TD Garden, 100 Legends Way, Boston, MA 02114

Enter through West Premium Doors.

Lunch will be served and we will be providing private guided tours of the TD Garden and The Sports Museum. There is no cost to attend. *Seating is limited.*

Please respond by

December 5, 2016 to Abby Koss at intern@dfsbboston.org

Hosted by

TD Bank in conjunction with the Boston Bruins® and Dress for Success Boston

For questions please contact Tina Martell at 1-207-756-6863