



The American Legion Department of Maine

5 Verti Drive, Winslow, ME 04901-0727

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E-mail: legionme@mainelegion.org

Website: www.mainelegion.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/maineamericanlegion



May 24, 2017

☺ SMILE ☺

Its obvious that we don't know one millionth of one percent about anything.—Thomas Edison

Congratulations to the following posts and districts for reaching 100%

Caribou Post 15 Turner Post 111 Sabattus Post 135 Auburn Post 153 Naples Post 155

Holiday Reminder

Department Headquarters and Service Office will be closed on Monday, May 29 for Memorial Day.

From The Adjutants Desk

I know it's short notice but we have been working with the Maine State Police and we think we have a great opportunity to help the youth in the State of Maine. It will be a short notice this year but with your support we think this will be a great program.

Maine Youth Law Enforcement Explorer Academy

A comprehensive and challenging experience for high school students ages 14 (and graduated from the 8th grade) through 20 from across the state seriously interested in the field of law enforcement. This program has been designed for students intending on pursuing a career within any branch of law enforcement or military service and will provide them with an overview of modern day police work at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy in Vassalboro. The academy is conducted in a high-stress, paramilitary environment that is full-time for an entire week. Students are requested to be in good physical condition prior to the commencement of the program.

Academy dates: June 26th through the 30th

Graduation June 30th

Cost: \$325.00

Application must be turned in by June 1st

Please call or email me for the complete application & information. Again --- yes it may be too late this year but we may still be able to help a few enter this program.

CONVENTION REQUESTS

We are in need of an American Legion Honor/Color Guard to present the Colors at our State Convention. In the past we have acquired other organizations to present the colors but many feel that it would be great to see Legion members step up to the plate and make something happen. Remember it does not have to be all Legion members, it could be a combination of Auxiliary, Sons and Legion Riders. Let's get something together soon and contact me at 873-3229 or email: paul@mainelegion.org or my cell 754-6044. The date would be Friday June 16th at 12:00 noon.

Maine Veterans Cemetery

Sat. May 27th, Grave Flag Program, 9 A.M., May 27, 2017

Maine Veterans Memorial Cemeteries, Civic Center Drive & Mount Vernon Rd., Just off US Route 95 Augusta, Maine. From the South I 95 take exit 112B or from the North I 95 take exit 112. Turn right on Route 27 toward Belgrade. At the MVMC Sign turn right on Blue Star Highway. **We will gather at the top of the hill at the Civic Center Drive location near the flag pole at 9 AM for opening by Maine Public Safety Pipes and Drums, Prayer, Introductions and Instructions.** Question contact Don Simoneau @ 207-897-4139 or the American Legion Hqts @ 207-873-3229. **Donations are always needed for flags, as we lose 750+ Veterans each yr that are buried in the MVMC system.** Make Checks Payable to: "The American Legion", In Note Section "Grave Flag Program". Mail Donations to: 5 Verti Dr., Winslow ME 04901
The Look of 15 Thousand American Flags Waving On These Veterans Graves Will Live In Your Heart Forever



2017 NATIONAL CONVENTION RENO, NEVADA AUGUST 18 – AUGUST 24, 2017

HOUSING: The Department of Maine's hotel will be the Silver Legacy Resort and Casino, 402 North Virginia Avenue, Reno, NV 89505 <http://www.silverlegacyreno.com/>. The hotel room rate is \$126.72 (includes Tax Rate of 13.5% and City Fee of \$3.00 per room/night) for King or Doubles. Additional Occupant in Room – \$10.00 plus tax per person/day (3-4 persons); Rollaway Rate per Day – \$10.00 plus tax per day; Parking Rate per Day – Complimentary Self and Valet- No Resort Fee

Reno-Sparks Convention Center is located on 4590 S Virginia Street, Reno, NV 89502

Find it on the map by visiting <http://www.legion.org/convention/resources>

CAMPGROUNDS/RV PARKS: For Reno area campgrounds/RV parks, please visit www.legion.org/convention/resources

FLIGHTS: Everyone is responsible for their own flight reservations.

SCHEDULED EVENTS:

Commission and Committee Meetings: Saturday, August 19 and Sunday, August 20.

National Historian's Luncheon: Saturday, August 19, at 11:30 a.m. Atlantis, Treasures, Sections C&D, 2nd Floor. Please call Department Headquarters for more information.

National Chaplain's Breakfast: Sunday, August 20 at 7:00 a.m. Atlantis, Emerald, Sections A-C, 2nd Floor. Please call Department Headquarters for more information.

Convention Parade: Sunday, August 20 – 4:00 p.m. Court & Virginia to 6th & Virginia.

Patriotic Memorial Service: Sunday, August 20 at 11:00 a.m. Reno-Sparks Convention Center, Hall #4, 1st Floor.

National Commander's Banquet: Tuesday, August 22, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. Reno-Sparks Convention Center, Hall #3, 1st Floor. The cost is \$47 per person.

General Sessions: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, August 22 – August 24. Reno-Sparks Convention Center, Hall #4, 1st Floor.

Hospitality/Caucus Room: Silver Legacy Resort and Casino

Friday, August 18 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. & 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Silver Barron 5 & 6

Saturday, August 19 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Silver Barron 5 & 6

Department Caucus Information: Silver Legacy Resort and Casino

Sunday, August 20 - 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. – Silver Barron B

NATIONAL CONVENTION SHIRTS: AUXILIARY

WHEELCHAIR & SCOOTER INFORMATION: For our American Legion family members that may need to rent electric scooters/wheelchairs, please visit www.legion.org/convention/resources

TENTATIVE EVENTS FOR ENJOYMENT:

Monday, August 21, 2017: American Legion family members attending the 99th National Convention in Reno can purchase discounted group tickets to the Monday, Aug. 21, Reno Aces baseball game. The Reno Aces will play against the Fresno Grizzlies at the Greater Nevada Field at 7:05 p.m. Discounted tickets only available for pre-sale and upon availability. Regardless of order date, credit cards will not be charged until two weeks prior to game day. To order tickets, please visit https://renoaces.formstack.com/forms/american_legion. Please contact Brian Moss with the Reno Aces at (775-334-7018) for any questions and/or cancellations.

Tour Opportunities: Please visit www.legion.org/convention/resources

For more Information on the Convention, please visit www.legion.org/convention/resources

Employment Opportunity

**Employment Opportunity American Legion
Department of Maine Part-Time Assistant Department Service Officer**

Opening Date: Immediately

Position: American Legion Assistant Department Service Officer (ADSO-Part Time)

Term of Office: Negotiable

Salary: Negotiable

Application Period: May 1st, 2017 – June 30th, 2017

Send Resume and Cover Sheet to: American Legion, Department Service Officer, PO Box 3411, Augusta, ME 04330 or email to amedeo.lauria@va.gov

Qualifications:

- Be an active member in good standing of the American Legion.
- Nominated by the Department Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation (VR&A) Committee with approval of the Department Commander and the Department Executive Committee (DEC)
- The ability to pass a personal background investigation conducted by the VA.
- The ability to obtain accredited status by the Office of the General Counsel of Veterans Affairs (VA) within 6 months of employment.
- The ability to achieve, upon appointment, accredited veteran service representative status by the American Legion.

Duties: (Article X - American Legion Department of Maine - Constitution and By- Laws)

- Works under the direction of the Department Service Officer.
- Assist veterans in filing claims with the VA Veterans Benefits Administration. (VBA).
- Coordinate support with the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) and Veterans Hospital Administration (VHA).
- Assists the veterans in obtaining and/or interpreting the following information to support claims for pension and compensation:
 - o DD Form 214 (Issued at separation)
 - o Service medical records (outpatient), dental records, entrance and separation examination reports
 - o Inpatient hospitalization records (private or military)
 - o Private outpatient medical records (if applicable)
 - o Personnel file
 - o Line of Duty (LOD) investigation reports
 - o Overseas or temporary duty (travel) orders
- Ability to read and apply Federal Laws Rules and Regulations as they apply to veteran's claims; specifically rules and regulations covered under Code of Federal Regulations (CF) 38.
- Prepare appeals documents for veterans if their claim is initially denied base upon a review of the reason given for denial and/or in the Statement of Case (SOC) or Supplemental Statement of Case (SSOC).
- Ability to prepare and present arguments on behalf of the veteran during the appeals process; specifically Decision Review Officer (DRO) and Board of Veterans Appeals (VBA) hearings.
- Monitor claims through the DVA and provides on-site representation through the entire processing cycle.

Skills/Qualifications:

- Ability to use automated office hardware and software to include Microsoft Office to include MS Word, MS Excel, MS Access and MS PowerPoint

Familiarity with various VSO databases in use by the VA to track claims; CAPRI, COVERS, MAP-D, SEP, SHARE, VBMS, Virtual VA and VACOLS.

Excellent internal and external communication skills.

Ability to express ideas and concepts verbally and in writing.

From The Department Finance Officers Office

Just a reminder to all Post Finance Officers: Don't forget your IRS-990 forms will be due soon. Here are a few veteran-related policy items we've been following this week.

Legion Publication Page

All –

Here is a link to the Legion Publication page. It has a lot of good resources for your post! It is a fountain of good ideas for post programs to attract new members. There are also good Membership signs to print on a color printer (Staples?) and up around your city/town. <https://www.legion.org/publications>

Department Adjutant

2018 Membership Cards

The 2018 membership cards and post rosters are now available at Department HQ for those interested in picking them up. Otherwise, we will have them at the State Convention in Bangor for you.

Military Trivia

While the U.S. President is Commander-in-Chief of the United States Armed Forces, only two presidents have actually commanded troops in times of war. Who were they?

District Meetings

District 8 – Sagadahoc: May 28, Brunswick Post 20, 1 p.m.

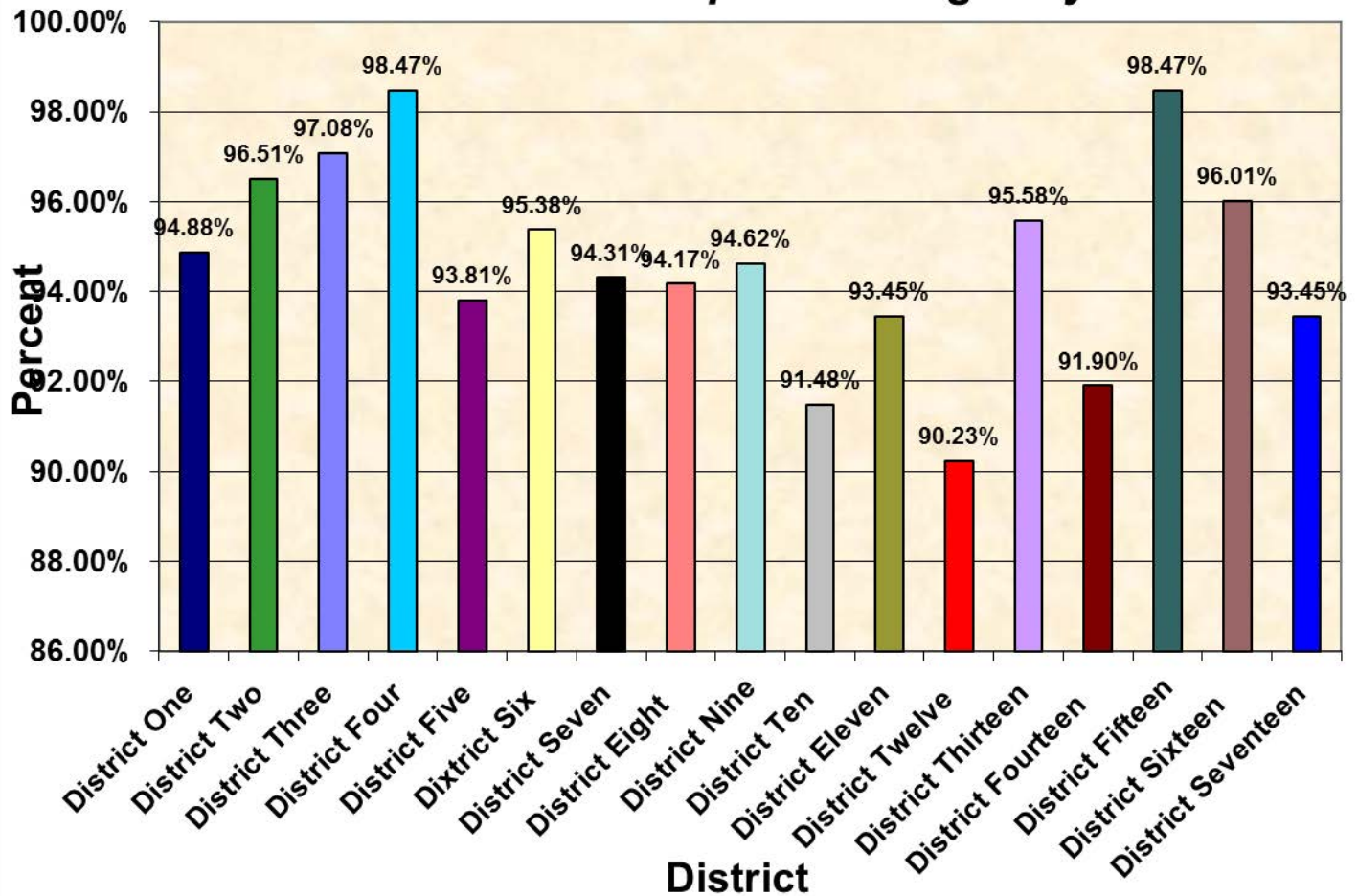
June meetings

District 3 – Androscoggin: June 11, Auburn Post 153, 2 p.m.

District 12 – Hancock: June 13, Southwest Harbor Post 69, 6:30 p.m. dinner, 7:30 p.m. mtg.

Membership

2017 Membership Percentages by District



Recurring Events

Rockland Post 1:

Sunday Morning Breakfast: 8 - 10 a.m., all you can eat - \$8

Karaoke Night: Every Friday night, 6 - 10 p.m.

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:

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

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

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.

Line Dancing: Every Friday evening.

Winthrop Post 40:

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

Cribbage Tournament: Tuesdays, 6 p.m. Food available at the bar. Anyone can sign-up. \$5 – buy in.

Free Pool: Saturdays, anyone can sign up.

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

Damariscotta Post 42:

Texas Hold-em Tournament: every 2nd Sunday and last Sunday of the month. \$35 Buy-in. Food and drinks are available.

York Post 56:

Trivia: Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.

Fish and Chips: Fridays, 5 – 7 p.m., fish, regular or sweet potato fries, tartar sauce, coleslaw), \$10

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.

Gray Post 86:

ALPS: Third Monday of each month, Gray Post 86, 6:30 p.m.

Dixfield Post 100:

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

Richmond Post 132

Reg. Meetings: 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 7 p.m.

Bingo: Saturdays, 6 p.m.

Texas Hold-Em: 3rd Friday, 6:30 p.m.

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.

Maine Fallen Heroes Foundation:

Gold Star Family Dinners: Aunt Gin's Restaurant wants to feed Gold Star families from Maine. Dinner will be served by appointment only. Free every weekend all year long. Make your reservation now.

Current Events

Lewiston Post 22 Memorial Day Parade: May 27, start at Kennedy Park, 9 a.m. All post veterans organizations welcome. Walk or ride, FMI Jerry DeWitt 576-0376.

Volunteers Needed: May 28, to put flags on veterans graves at St. Peters Cemetery, 10 a.m. Volunteers needed, over 3000 flags to post. Take Switzerland Road off Main Street Lewiston by Harley Dealer. FMI to volunteer, Jerry DeWitt 576-0376.

Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony: May 29, Clinton Post 186 invites all Veterans, current Service men and women of the Armed Forces and other marching units (such as Boys Scout, Girl Scouts) to participate, 10 a.m. The Veterans and Veteran's organizations, marching units EMS, Fire Department, Law Enforcement and units wishing participate should arrive at the Clinton Post Office on Railroad Street at 9:30 a.m.

Memorial Day Free Cruise For Veterans: May 29, 3 – 4:30 p.m. Rain or shine. The Naples Lions Club invites you and your family to a one and a half hour Memorial Day cruise on the Songo River Queen II on Monday, May 29, 2017 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. (rain or shine) to honor and pay tribute for your time served in the United States Military. Veterans or Active Duty Service men or women, and their immediate family board for **free**. Please inquire in advance if additional guests are desired. Please bring an ID or documentation to show active or prior military involvement. Boarding begins one half-hour before departure. We hope you will come and enjoy a leisurely cruise along beautiful Long Lake. Complimentary appetizers and desserts will be provided. A snack bar and cash cocktail bar are available on board. Advance reservations are recommended. Secure your seat(s) as follows: For more information or to make a reservation call: Dave Gerrish 207-693-6854, or email: atozdave@yahoo.com, search on the web – “Naples Maine Lions Club” and check on Vet Cruise tab, In person at the Naples Public Library (207-693-6841)

Gardiner Post 4 Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony: May 29, the parade will form up behind the Gardiner Armory on Brunswick Avenue at 9 a.m. and will step off at 10 a.m. and march down Brunswick Avenue to the Gardiner Common. There will be a ceremony with speakers and bands on the Common. After the ceremony you are invited back to the Post for a light lunch.

Red Cross Blood Drive: May 30, Auburn Post 31, 2 – 7 p.m. Come support your local community by donating blood. We need 30 donors.

Texas Hold-em: June 2, Winthrop Post 40, 6:30 p.m. \$55 Buy-In.

Post 40 Rejuvenate Gala: June 3, Winthrop Post 40, 5 p.m. Cash Raffle Prizes: \$500, \$250, \$100, \$50, Raffle Tickets \$10 each. Only 300 Tickets. Dinner at 6 p.m. Tickets \$10. Karaoke to follow, all proceeds to Rejuvenate American Legion Post 40. Anyone can sign in.

Public Baked Beans and Casserole Supper: June 3, Gray Post 86, 15 Lewiston Road, 5 - 6 p.m. Pies will be the featured dessert. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children younger than 12.

FIRE & IRON Presents The Fallen Rider Memorial Ride: June 4, Gardiner Post 4. Will assemble in the parking lot behind the Gardiner Legion on Griffin St. Registration begins at 10 a.m. with KSU at 11:15. \$25 per bike which includes lunch & 1 event t-shirt. All proceeds go to the Fallen Rider Fund. RAIN OR SHINE!!! Please join us in remembrance of our biker friends lost too soon.

Texas Hold-em: June 4, Winthrop Post 40, 2 p.m., High Stakes \$100 Buy-In.

Large Flea Market: June 4, Auburn Post 31, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Come shop and browse all the vendors. Interested vendors can call the post @ 783-6992 for more information or see our facebook
Facebook event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1778850569110444/>

Open House at The Calais CBOC: June 6, Calais CBOC – 50 Union Street, Calais, 1 – 4 p.m. VA Maine will be conducting an Open House at the Calais CBOC to showcase the healthcare and other VA services available to Washington County Veterans. There will be tours of the clinic and staff will be on-hand to assist Veterans in applying for VA healthcare as well as getting established in MyHealthVet for those already enrolled in VA healthcare. Hot dogs, chips, cookies and water will be available at no charge. Veterans, family and the general public are cordially invited to attend. Come see what VA is all about!

Texas Hold-em: June 8, Winthrop Post 40, 6:30 p.m. \$35 Buy-In.

Charitable Golf Scramble: June 9, Kezar Falls Post 123 at Province Lake Golf Course, 18 Mountain Rd., Parsonsfield, Maine. Registration 7:30 a.m., Shotgun Start 9 a.m. Teams are still needed. For more information or to register, please contact Allen Wentworth at 207-625-4603 or Harold Gilman at 207-625-7381. Format: Scramble, Entry fee \$80/person.

Open House: June 10, Augusta Post 2, 7 Legion Dr., 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Commander Howard Betts invites all to attend to learn about the American Legion and its programs.

Day of Service for Veterans: June 24, free dental care for veterans. Call to make an appointment: 844 277-3646 or 844-ASPEN-HMM. There is a location in Augusta. Maybe others. During appointments on June 24, volunteer dentists and teams will focus on treating the most urgent need of each veteran by providing free services - including fillings, extractions and basic denture repair - to help get them out of dental pain.

Donations

Bangor Post 12	1 boy to Boys State
Bath Post 21	1 boy to Boys State
SAL Squadron 21	1 boy to Boys State
Damariscotta Post 42	1 boy to Boys State
Wiscasset Post 54	2 boys to Boys State
Naples Post 155	2 boys to Boys State
District 2	1 boy to Boys State
Sabattus Post 135	2 boys to Boys State
Turner Post 111	3 boys to Boys State
Lincoln Post 77	1 boy to Boys State
Boothbay Harbor Post 36	1 boy to Boys State
Greenville Post 94	1 boy to Boys State
Rangeley Post 120	1 boy to Boys State

Sick

Gil Ormsby of Post-20 in Brunswick could use some cards of encouragement while recovering from some medical issues. He is at: Horizon Living & Rehab Center, 29 Maurice Drive, Brunswick, ME 04011.

Condolences

PDC John Doyle has passed away. A graveside service and celebration of life will be held on Saturday, June 3rd. The graveside service, with military and American Legion honors, will be held at Oak Grove Cemetery, Oak Grove Avenue in Bath at 1 p.m. Take 2nd left in cemetery. From American Legion Post 21, head east on Congress Ave. toward Oak Grove Ave. then turn left onto Oak Grove Ave. A celebration of life will immediately follow at Bath American Legion Post 21, 200 Congress Avenue, Bath. Cards may be sent to Charlotte "Kitty" Doyle at 111 Ridge Rd., Bath ME 04530.

Sons of the American Legion Detachment News

Comrades,

Membership is slow but getting there. Keep sending in your dues and let's get our 100% or more, I want to thank those Squadrons who reached their 100% goal.

Detachment Adjutant Bruce Pierce is back from a well-deserved vacation and rested up for the next challenge, "Convention" is just around the corner.

Please, our Children and Youth Program needs your help! I am asking all Squadrons to please send a contribution to this one of our most important programs. Don't forget to write C&Y in the memo spot on your checks. Thank you for your contribution in advance.

Always willing to serve,

Ron Marr, Detachment Commander
1779 Hotel Rd Auburn, ME 04210, 701-9675, e-mail: ronaldmarr.rm@gmail.com

Answer to military trivia question: George Washington and James Madison

Best Wishes to The Legion family,

Paul L'Heureux
Department Adjutant



**The American Legion, Department of Maine
2017 Annual State Convention
Spectacular Event Center, Bangor
June 16-17, 2017**

The 2017 Annual State Convention of The American Legion, Department of Maine will be held at the **Spectacular Event Center, 395 Griffin Rd, Bangor, ME 04401, June 16-17**. Department Commander Peter Johnson will call the convention to order promptly at noontime, Friday, June 16.

Please see below important information and forms (required/optional) pertaining to the Annual State Convention including: Member/Guest Registration, Post Delegate/Alternate Registration, Saturday night Installation Dinner and Gotham City Ball Member Appreciation Banquet.

When filling out the Post Delegate form, please do not use nicknames. Also, if you are a DELEGATE AT-LARGE, please do not fill out the MEMBER/GUEST REGISTRATION FORM. Please see on form who is qualified as AT-LARGE. To avoid confusion at convention, please pay for all delegates prior to the day of voting.

All invited guests and family members will not have to pay the registration fee.

Member/Guest Registration

If you are planning to attend the convention this year, all members and/or guests are required to pay a registration fee of **\$10**. The registration fee covers both sessions to be held June 16-17 as well as access to coffee and bottled water throughout the day. Each member and/or guest will receive a name tag upon arrival. Please fill out the Member/Guest Registration Form below and mail form along with a check made payable to The American Legion, Department of Maine earmarked **"Member/Guest Registration"** to **The American Legion, Department of Maine, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, Maine 04901-0727 by June 1, 2017.**

MEMBER/GUEST REGISTRATION FORM**\$10.00/person**

	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	MEMBER (✓)	GUEST (✓)	POST NO.
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					

Please mail Member/Guest Registration Form and check payable to The American Legion, Department of Maine earmarked “**Member/Guest Registration**” to: **The American Legion, Department of Maine 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, Maine 04901-0727 by June 1.**

THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF MAINE
POST DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES TO THE 2017 STATE CONVENTION

Following are the elected delegates and alternates for this post to the 99th Annual State Convention of The Maine American Legion to be held at the Spectacular Event Center in Bangor on June 16-17, 2017. Election of delegates has been in accordance to the Call to State Convention. **This year all Delegates and Alternates are required to pay a registration fee of \$10.** This form must be mailed to the Department Adjutant's office by June 1, 2017. The 1976 State Convention mandated that all delegates MUST register prior to voting. Evidence of registration will be requested by the credentials committee.

Post Adjutant's Signature

Post Commander's Signature

DELEGATES

ALTERNATES

1. _____

1. _____

2. _____

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3. _____

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11. _____

12. _____

12. _____

DELEGATES-AT-LARGE: (Department Officers, Past Department Commanders, District Commanders and Area Commanders)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Credentials Committee will meet June 17, 2017 at 8 a.m. Registration fee of \$10 for each delegate and alternate MUST be paid by sending a check payable to **The American Legion, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, Maine, ME 04901-0727 by June 1, 2017. ALL DELEGATES MUST BE PRE-REGISTERED.**

NAME OF POST _____

LOCATION _____ POST NO. _____

No. of delegates allowed (Office Use Only) _____

STATE CONVENTION INSTALLATION DINNER

An Installation dinner and dance will take place following the Annual State Convention at the Spectacular Event Center June 17 beginning at 6:00 p.m., social - 6:30 p.m. dinner with installation to follow. Dinner Cost: \$28/person

Dinner Buffet will include the following:

Coffee & Tea

Freshly Baked Dinner Rolls

Garden Tossed Salad *mixed greens, vegetables and choice of two dressings*

Zucchini and Summer Squash

Garlic Mashed Potatoes

Chicken Cordon Bleu *topped with creamy Alfredo sauce*

Baked Stuffed Haddock *with lemon cream sauce*

Assorted Cheesecakes

Those interested in attending should fill out the State Convention Installation Dinner Form below and mail form along with check payable to The American Legion, Department of Maine earmarked **“Installation Dinner”** to **The American Legion, Department of Maine, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, Maine 04901-0727 by June 1, 2017.**

State Convention Installation Dinner *June 17, 2017 – Spectacular Event Center, Bangor*

6:00 p.m. Social – 6:30 p.m. Dinner

Banquet Cost: \$28.00/person

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	Gluten Free (✓)	Phone No.
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-

\$ AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$_____.

Please mail State Convention Installation Form and check payable to The American Legion, Department of Maine - earmarked **“Installation Dinner”** to: **The American Legion, Department of Maine, 5 Verti Drive Winslow, Maine 04901-0727**

Deadline for Installation Dinner is June 1, 2017



The American Legion Family

Proudly Presents the

GOTHAM CITY BALL

MEMBER APPRECIATION BANQUET

Come one, Come all to the Gotham City Ball! Come dressed to the nines, come as your favorite Super Hero, arrive as yourself, but be there!

This year's banquet will be a Legion Family event where we will honor our Unit Members of the Years as well as the Legionnaire of the Year.

Last year's event was a great success, so join again this year for an evening of fun and entertainment. This will not be a long, drawn out evening with speakers. It will be fast-paced and fun.

Date: Friday, June 16, 2017

Location: Spectacular Event Center,

Social: 5:00 p.m. Cash Bar will be available. Dinner: 6:00 p.m.

Menu: **Buffet to include** chicken picatta, baked salmon, garden salad, red roasted potatoes, vegetable, rolls, coffee and tea and strawberry shortcake.

Tickets: \$28.00 per person. **DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS: June 1, 2017 NO tickets will be sold at Convention.** (Everyone must buy their own, Department will not be paying for any tickets)

Make checks payable to "Maine ALA" earmarked "**Appreciation Banquet**" and mail to:
MAINE ALA, 5 Verti Drive, Suite B, Winslow, Maine 04901 by June 1, 2017.

Name(s): _____

of tickets: _____

Amount enclosed: \$_____



STATE OF MAINE VETERANS' BENEFITS

<http://www.maine.gov/veterans/benefits/index.html>

TAX EXEMPTIONS

- **Military Pensions:** Fully exempt from income tax as of 1/1/16.
- **Property Tax:** \$50,000 for paraplegic veterans; \$6,000 for 100% disabled veterans with or without a service connection or 62 or over. War time periods apply.
- **Homestead Exemption:** \$15,000 in 2016, \$20,000 in 2017. Also available for Vietnam Veterans with any amount of active duty service between 2/27/61 and 5/8/75.
- **Vehicle Excise:** 100% permanent and total, service-connected disabled veterans exempt from one registration fee, title fee, and driver license renewal fee.

EDUCATION

- **Veterans Dependents Educational Benefits:** 100% tuition waiver at University of Maine schools, Community Colleges, and Maine Maritime Academy for dependents of 100% permanent and total, service-connected disabled veterans who have been residents of Maine for five years.
- **Postsecondary Education for Maine National Guard Members:** 100% tuition waiver at University of Maine schools, Community Colleges, and Maine Maritime Academy for fully qualified, drilling members of Maine's National Guard.

EMPLOYMENT

- **Veteran Assistance at Career Centers:** All of Maine's Career Centers have dedicated Veteran Employment Representatives who help veterans find jobs by assisting with resume writing, network-ing, and interviewing skills.
- **State of Maine Veteran Hiring Preference:** Any veteran candidate who meets the minimum qualifi-cations for a State job is guaranteed an interview, including veterans with an Other Than Honorable discharge. Gold Star spouses are also eligible for the hiring preference.
- **Accelerated Occupational Licensing Initiative:** Provides fast-track civilian licensing for veterans with military expertise in Boiler, Electrical, Fuel, Plumbing. Includes occasional one-day workshops that offer on-site, civilian licensing.

RECREATION

- **Free Lifetime Veterans Park Pass:** Maine veteran residents who were honorably discharged may receive a free, lifetime park pass for complimentary admission to most of Maine's State Parks and Historic Sites.
- **Free Active Military Personnel Day Use Park Pass:** Maine's active duty personnel may receive a free Day Use park pass that provides complimentary admission for the service member and his/her spouse and children to most of Maine's State Parks and

Historic Sites.

- ❑ **Disabled Veterans Controlled Moose Hunt:** First of its kind in the nation, the Moose Hunt offers 25 disabled veterans (15 in-state residents and 10 out of state residents) the opportunity to tag a moose, with nearly all guide services, equipment, lodging, food, and meat processing costs covered by sponsors. The Hunt is a joint effort of the Bureau of Veterans' Services, the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and Bridgewater, Maine-based Smoldering Lake Outfitters.
- ❑ **Disabled Veterans Free Licenses:** Veterans with a service-connected disability of 50% or more may receive a complimentary license to fish, trap, hunt a range of wildlife (bear, migratory bird, pheasant, wild turkey, among others). The license remains valid for the life of the license holder, as long as the license holder continues to satisfy residency requirements and the license is not revoked or suspended.
- ❑ **Disabled Veteran Access to State Parks:** Any veteran displaying a specially designated disabled veteran license plate or other placard (in accordance with Title 29-A, section 523, subsections 1 and 2) is allowed free admission to any state-owned park, camping area or beach.

VETERAN IDENTIFICATION

- ❑ **Free Copies of DD 214s:** Maine veterans may request a free copy of their DD 214 from the Bureau of Veterans' Services' Archive of more than 45,000. Veterans must have this critical document to prove veteran status for everything from retail discounts to applying for state and federal benefit programs.
- ❑ **Military Service Driver's License:** Honorably discharged veterans in Maine may obtain a driver's license that identifies them as a veteran. The Veteran Designation allows the license-holder to prove veteran status to obtain retail and restaurant discounts, as well as to enjoy complimentary admission to most of Maine's State Parks.
- ❑ **Complimentary Veteran License Plates/Special Veteran Plate:** Maine's Bureau of Motor Vehicles offers honorably discharged veterans (former POWs, Purple Heart recipients, Medal of Honor winners, and disabled veterans) 10 different license plates that are exempt from registration fees. Veterans may also select a Special Veteran License Plate (at cost), that includes 33 Commemorative Decals reflecting the branches of service, specific awards or commendations, campaign awards for service in a hostile fire zone, among others.

ELDERCARE, BURIAL AND SURVIVORS' BENEFITS

- ❑ **Maine Veterans' Homes:** With six locations stretching from Caribou to South Paris, the Maine Veterans' Homes provide Expert rehabilitative, skilled nursing, and long-term care for Maine's veterans, spouses, and Gold Star parents. The Homes Consistently receive Excellence in Quality Awards from the American Health Care Association, outranking thousands of facilities from across the nation.
- ❑ **Maine Veterans Memorial Cemeteries:** With two cemeteries in Augusta, one in Caribou, and one in Springvale, Maine offers beautiful, final resting places for honorably discharged veterans and their eligible dependents. The Cemeteries have received consistently high scores by the National Cemetery Administration, thereby maintaining equivalent standards as those kept at Arlington and other National Cemeteries.
- ❑ **Gold Star Family Plates:** Gold Star families in Maine may receive a specially designated license plate, to honor their fallen Family member. Maine's program is distinct in that it not only provides Gold Star Plates to those who lost a family member to combat, but also to those whose family member died while honorably serving as an active member of the United States Armed Forces, but did not die in combat. Maine's program also offers family members the opportunity to create a one-of-a-kind customized, vanity Gold Star Plate.