

THE LEADERSHIP LEDGER

Vol. 7 Issue 5
MAR. 19, 2026

The American Legion, Department of Maine
5 Verti Drive, Winslow, Maine 04901-0727
www.mainelegion.org | legionme@mainelegion.org | 207-873-3229
www.facebook.com/TALDepartmentofMaine



Welcome to the 159th Edition of The Leadership Ledger. It includes post, department and national reports, leadership training events, upcoming conferences/conventions as well as rules and regulations pertaining to local, state and national laws. The Ledger is available by visiting the Department's website at mainelegion.org under "News & Events" or on the home page. If you have any information to be published in The Leadership Ledger, please forward to Dept. HQ via email at: legionme@mainelegion.org



Donate to the National Commander's Campaign

Donations for the 2026-27 National Commander's Campaign are greatly appreciated! Scan the QR code with your phone or [Click Here](#) to make a donation. **On the donation page, please choose "Other" from the "Use this donation for" dropdown menu and notate "National Commander's Campaign" under the notes.**



[See the Letter on Page 8 for More Information.](#)

Maine American Legion College

Mark Your Calendars!

March 20-22, 2026 at 9:00 am

Location: Department Headquarters Training Center,
5 Verti Drive, Winslow.

[Click Here](#) or see [Pg. 10](#) for more info

To all Legionnaires who may be attending Legion College at HQ in the near future, remember that the [Basic Training Course](#) must be taken online before you can attend. After completing the course, print off the certificate and email it to Dept. HQ or Jason Hall.

To register, contact Jason Hall at jason@mainelegion.org
or 207-873-3229 Ext. 1

LEGION POSTS: FILE IRS FORM 990

This form must be filed by the 15th day of the fifth month after the end of your organization's accounting period.

Reminder to all American Legion posts: File IRS Form 990

Federal tax regulations require every American Legion post to file IRS Form 990. This must be filed by the 15th day of the fifth month after the end of your organization's accounting period. For example, if your calendar year ends Dec. 31, the form is due May 15.

The American Legion is tax-exempt under Section 501 (c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended. Every post needs to obtain an Employer Identification Number from the government to be listed as a tax-exempt charter of the Legion.

Download the IRS Form 990 at: www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f990.pdf

ANNUAL STATE FILINGS

American Legion Posts must file annual reports with their respective State Corporation Commission (or Secretary of State) to maintain their legal incorporation status, protect members from liability, and retain their good standing. These state filings, often in addition to IRS Form 990 filings, keep the nonprofit organization compliant.

File Corporate Annual Reports Online by visiting: <https://www.maine.gov/portal/business/corporate.html>

District Meetings

Be Connected • Be Heard • Be Informed

MARCH & APRIL 2026

District 14 – Piscataquis: Mar. 21, Brownville Junction Post 92,
12:00PM, Nomination of Officers

District 1 – York: Apr. 11, Location to be determined
Officer elections for 2026-2027

District 3 – Androscoggin: Apr. 20 Turner Post 111,
6:30PM Elections

District 5 – Oxford: Apr. 15, Rumford Post 24, 6:00PM
District 5 Installation – Supper

District 13 – Penobscot: Apr. 12, Millinocket Post 80
(Tentatively) 2:00PM - Lunch at 1:00PM

District 14 – Piscataquis: Apr. 18, Dexter Post 53
12:00PM, Election of Officers

District 16 – Aroostook: April 4, Presque Isle Post 88, Prayer
before meal at 12:00 PM, Nominations & Elections of Officers

District 17 – Aroostook: Apr. 12, St. Francis Post 180, 12:00PM
Meal with meeting at 1:00PM - Nomination of Officers



THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY
DIRIGO STATE

Colby College
4000 Mayflower Drive, Waterville, ME 04901
Sunday, June 21 2026 - Friday, June 26, 2026

Registration: Sunday, June 21 at Noon
Graduation: Friday, June 26 at 3:00 pm
Cost per student is \$400

Packets have been mailed and emailed to posts and high schools. The forms that need completion and mailed to The American Legion, Department of Maine along with a check in the amount of \$400/student are: [Dirigo State Application](#), [Parental Consent](#), [Medical Authorization](#), and [Performing Arts \(if participating\)](#).

Checks should be made payable to The American Legion, Department of Maine and mailed to The American Legion, Department of Maine, Attn: Dirigo State, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, ME 04901-0727

For more information, please contact 873-3229 Ext. 1 or 522-5471. Email: jason@mainelegion.org

Volunteers Needed! If you're interested in volunteering for Dirigo State, please [Click Here](#).

Legion Baseball Registration

[Register for the 2026 American Legion Baseball season here.](#)

More than 3,400 teams and nearly 55,000 youth participate in the program yearly from all 50 states and Canada.



For more information please visit:

www.baseballmaine.com/team-registration

Register Online: www.legion.org/baseball

View/Download Legion Baseball Forms:

www.baseballmaine.com/important-legion-baseball-forms

MILITARY TRIVIA

Q: In January of 1973, President Nixon announced a halt to US military

involvement in Vietnam, but Bob Hope was doing one of his last shows there. What happened that made history between Bob Hope & the Vietcong?

~ Submitted by Dwayne Hatfield, Mars Hill Post 118

THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY

CELEBRATE AMERICA'S BIRTHDAY!
SATURDAY, JULY 4, 2026

JOIN THE CELEBRATION!

SEE PAGE 11 FOR DETAILS

Celebrate America's 250th Anniversary with Maine American Legion!

Get Your Limited Edition Coin Today, While Supplies Last!

Coins can be purchased online by visiting www.mainelegion.org, by scanning the QR code with



your phone, or by check/money order in the amount of \$20/coin + \$7 shipping & handling. Make check payable to

The American Legion, Department of Maine and mail to 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, ME 04901-0727.

Coins are also available for free pickup at \$20 each.

All proceeds go towards helping veterans in the state of Maine, their families, and various programs in The American Legion.

For any questions, please call the Department at 207-873-3229.



NEW! 250th Anniversary Coin (front & back)

★ DONATIONS ★

The American Legion Department of Maine

Commander's Project – Ember's Paws of Hope

Peaks Island Post 142.....	\$500
Phippsburg Post 216.....	\$50

Beals House

Brian Knowlton.....	\$100
Phippsburg Post 216.....	\$50

Blind Camp

Brian Knowlton	\$200
Guilford Post 119.....	\$200
Windham Post 148.....	\$100
Corinna Post 73	\$100
Madawaska Post 147.....	\$100
Phippsburg Post 216.....	\$25

Dirigo State

Phippsburg Post 216.....	\$50
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Homeless Vets

Phippsburg Post 216.....	\$50
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Maine Veterans' Homes – Machias

Phippsburg Post 216.....	\$50
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National Commander's Campaign (Jay Bowen)

Brian Knowlton	\$100
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Oratorical

Phippsburg Post 216.....	\$50
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VAVS

Phippsburg Post 216.....	\$50
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VET AID

Phippsburg Post 216.....	\$25
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VA&R

James Nelson.....	\$50
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Thank You!

Make a Donation to The American Legion Department of Maine

Help support Maine veterans with a donation to The American Legion Department of Maine.

To donate by cash or check, please mail your donation to: The American Legion Department of Maine, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, ME 04901-0727.



To donate by card, PayPal, or Venmo visit www.mainelegion.org and click the "Donate" button or scan the QR code, left, with your phone. If you need assistance, please call our office at 207-873-3229 and we'll be happy to help you.

Attention Adjutants & Commanders:

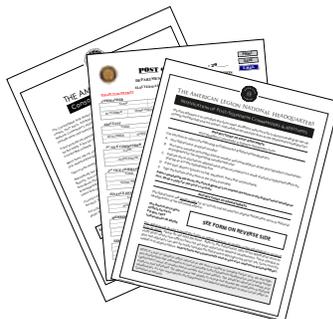
The Annual Post Data Report forms have been mailed to posts. Please fill out the form accordingly and **mail it back to Dept. HQ as soon as possible, arriving no later than April 9th**, or scan & e-mail it to: legionme@mainelegion.org.



The Consolidated Post Report (CPR), Post Officers Form, Notification of Post/Squadron Commanders & Adjutants Form, and instructions relating to submission information

and deadline requirements were also mailed. Please be on the lookout for these documents and return to Dept. HQ before the deadline indicated.

For more information, please call Department HQ at 207-873-3229. Thank you for your prompt reply!



Renew Your Legion Membership Online Today!

Online renewal is fast, convenient, and safe!



Simply Scan the QR Code with the camera on your phone or visit: www.legion.org/renew

If you believe you have not paid your 2026 dues within the last few weeks and you encounter this message when renewing online, "Sorry, you do not have a renewal at this time. Please contact us if you need assistance," please call Dept. HQ at 207-873-3229 and we will happily assist you.

MILITARY TRIVIA

A: When President Nixon announced the end of U.S. involvement in Vietnam, Bob Hope was just wrapping up a USO tour for American troops in the region. Eager to celebrate the news with the soldiers, Hope hopped into his USO van and started to plan his final act. To his surprise, though, the van immediately drove off base, and when he stepped out, Hope found himself standing in the jungle before 4,000 raucous Viet Cong cheering beneath a homemade banner that read "National Liberation Front for South Vietnam Welcomes Mr. Hope." Ever a brilliant performer, Hope evaded capture by running into the jungle instead of doing an encore, and found his way back to the U.S. military base three days later.

2026 Honor Flight Maine Dates:

Flights are all charter flights on Allegiant:

- April 10-12 Portland Jetport
- May 29-31 Bangor International Airport
- Sept 18-20 Portland Jetport
- Oct 16-18 Bangor International Airport





Honor Maine Veterans - Donate in Memory of a Veteran Today!

Deadline for Submission May 15, 2026

DONATE \$25 Receive a Be The One Challenge Coin & Name in Yearbook	DONATE \$50 Receive a Be The One Challenge Coin, Lobster Lapel Pin & Name in Yearbook	DONATE \$100 Receive a Be The One Challenge Coin, Lobster Lapel Pin, Name in Yearbook, & 2026 Convention Yearbook
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DONATE \$150 or More - NEW!
Receive all of the above, PLUS our newest, limited edition American Legion challenge coin in celebration of America's 250th birthday!



Honor a veteran's legacy by sponsoring the Maine American Legion Convention Yearbook Program. When you make a donation in memory of a veteran, both your name and your honoree's name will be proudly featured in our 2026 Maine American Legion Yearbook, available in print and online at www.mainelegion.org. Please provide the name and town

of the veteran honoree in the notes section at checkout. To donate with Debit/Credit Card, Paypal, or Venmo click the button below, or simply scan the QR code with your phone. You may also visit www.mainelegion.org and click on the Maine American Legion Convention Yearbook Donations Welcomed button. If donating by check, please make payable to The American Legion, Department of Maine earmarked "Yearbook Program" and mail to: The American Legion, Department of Maine, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, ME 04901-0727.

For more information, please call 207-873-3229 Ext. 2 or email rachael@mainelegion.org.



COMMANDER'S PROJECT 2025-26

Department Commander
Leroy McKenzie asks that each Post and Legionnaire support his goal!

EMBER'S PAWS OF HOPE



EMBER'S PAWS OF HOPE:

A nonprofit organization dedicated to providing emotional and mental support to veterans and first responders through the use of future certified therapy dog(s). Members of our team have a diverse



background which include being trained in critical incident stress management and peer support, and we visit fire stations, police stations, hospitals, and veterans facilities to offer comfort and companionship to those who serve our communities.

THE ANGEL: Ember was 9 weeks old when she moved in with Tim Nickels, the goal was to have Ember become a therapy dog. It was discovered that Ember was too attached to Tim but no one knew that would save him later on. Anytime Tim was having a hard day or a bad shift Ember would sit with Tim. Tim was diagnosed with PTSD in 2020, Ember wouldn't leave his side. Ember knew something was up. Tim became suicidal and made attempts to end his life. Ember stopped him at least three times. When the days were dark, Ember wouldn't let him leave without her.

THE PROJECT: National American Legion asks Departments to partner with local organizations to support BE THE ONE. Commander McKenzie has chosen to partner with Ember's Paws of Hope (EPOH), an organization committed to provide, comfort, support, and emotional healing to veterans and first responders through the unconditional love and companionship of therapy dog. EPwOH is dedicated to enhancing the wellbeing of those who serve our communities and country, offering a source of solace in times of stress, trauma and hardship.

THE PLAN: We are asking all American Legion Posts and/or members to financially contribute to Ember's Paws of Hope. This new 501-c-3 needs funding to provide more trained therapy dogs and make more appearances to provide physical, emotional and social well-being to others in need.

Donations can be made to The American Legion Dept. of Maine, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, ME 04901-0727. Please place in the memo line of the check: *Ember's Paws of Hope or Commander's Project 2025-2026*

If you would like to donate with a Debit or Credit Card, please call 207-873-3229 or visit: www.mainelegion.org and click on the DONATE button.

Check out new web site features at



Build a uniform cap with real-time images



Self-serve apparel personalization



Optional Right-Chest Lettering

Enter optional lettering (22 characters/line, up to 4 lines):
Item No. RIGHT.CHEST

\$12.00

Category filters to narrow your search

Home > Legion > Apparel > Shirts

Home > Patriotic > Flags > American Flags

Shirt Type

- Button-Down (17)
- Polos (71)
- Sweaters (1)
- Sweatshirts & Fleece (6)
- T-shirts (58)

Use

- Indoor (6)
- Mini & Auto (6)
- Outdoor (39)
- Sets & Banners (6)
- Stick & Gravemarker (9)

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And don't miss single-page checkout for easy shipping & payment



USAA is proud to be the Preferred provider of Insurance and Financial Services to The American Legion. Please visit usaa.com/legion or call 877-699-2654.

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NO-COST-TO-YOU ACCIDENT INSURANCE PROTECTION
For Online Activation Visit: TheLIT.com/LegionCare2

Current members only are entitled to the \$5,000 No-Cost-To-You Accident Insurance Protection. If your membership was expired at any point, you will have to sign up again to receive coverage.

[Click Here To Learn More and Sign Up](#)

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Wellcare Medicare Advantage & more of the benefits veterans deserve.

See how a Wellcare Medicare Advantage plan works seamlessly alongside your VA coverage to give you more of the benefits you can use every day.

If you have Medicare and Medicaid, limited income, recently lost employer coverage, are turning 65, or you've just moved, you may be eligible for one of many qualifying events that allow you to enroll now.

Find out if you qualify today.

877-890-8194 (TTY: 711)

8 a.m.-8 p.m., 7 days a week

Wellcare4Veterans.com



How to Use MyLegion.org

VIEW MEMBERS

Home > My Views > Group Profile > Members

Available for Posts, Squadrons, Districts and Counties.

- From your My Account page, enter My Groups to access Group Profile.
- Go to "View Members" from the left MY VIEWS menu.
- The list appears on the Group Profile window.
- **Print/Save full roster**
- Select all records by selecting "View All" and checking the box to the left of Member ID to select all records from Actions pulldown, "Export Full Roster" or "Print Roster"
- **Print/Save selected records**
- Select desired records by checking the box to the left of Member ID
- From Actions pulldown, "Export Selected Records"
- **Email a Member**
- Search member in list
- Click on members email address to open email
- Email group of Members
- Select all records y selecting "View All"
- Select desired records by filtering desired data
- From Actions pulldown, "Send Email". Browser will open will all records that have an email address in the Blind Copy field.

About View Members:

- Viewing the list will not display all records if greater than 2000. To view all members, export the list using the Actions menu.
- View members allow you to email a member or a group of members directly from the list.
- Click a name in the list to view and edit membership details. District and County have view only.
- Rosters are available in Reports/Labels.

Mailing Labels (3x10 size)

Home > My Views > Group Profile > Reports / Labels

Available for Posts and Squadrons.

- From your My Account page, enter My Groups to access Group Profile
- Go to "Reports/Labels" from the left MY VIEWS menu.
- Select the 3x10 label option.
- Set group, last paid year and click "View Report"
- Names display one column. From the export pulldown menu export to a PDF.
- Print labels from PDF document.
- About this report: Members who are paid for the current membership year and purchase a Paid Up For Life (PUFL) membership will display with a Last Paid Year (LPY) for the next membership year. Example: Member is paid for 2025 and purchases a PUFL membership. LPY will display as 2026.

View Member Online Renewals

Home > My Views > Group Profile > Reports / Labels

- **Available for Posts.** Create a report to view members that have renewed online to your group. Member online renewal is limited to Legion members only.
- From your My Account page, enter My Groups to access Group Profile
- Go to "Reports/Labels" from the left MY VIEWS menu.
- Select Member Online Renewal.
- Set parameters. First select group, next set the date range using the calendar icons and "View Report".
- The report generates. From the export pull down menu export the document to the desired application.

For more MyLegion.org tutorials and training, login into your MyLegion account at www.mylegion.org and view "HOW TO USE MYLEGION.ORG" in the "FIND HELP" menu item.

Training Tuesdays

The last Tuesday of each month American Legion National Headquarters staff will present 60 to 90-minute sessions on topics aimed at post commanders and adjutants. Each session will be recorded and made available for later viewing.

[Click Here to Register and Watch Previously Recorded Sessions](#)

Department of Maine Americanism Officer Briefing

Upcoming Events:

- **Dirigo State** June 21-26. Sign in at 12 pm, sponsors from post, PTA, businesses etc. Cost \$400 per student. Graduation is 3 pm Friday (26th), location Colby College, 4000 Mayflower Drive, Waterville.
- **Baseball** signups are now open. Full Registration opens Jan. 1 for the 2026 American Legion Baseball Season. For more information please visit baseballmaine.com/team-registration - Register online at legion.org/baseball or Legion Baseball Forms See Legion.org for schedule.
- **Shooting Sport** just completed their competitions. David Watson reports it was very successful.
- **Honor Flight Maine** Dates are April 10-12 and Sept 18-20 out of Portland, May 29-31 and Oct 16-18 out of Bangor. More details are on the Honor flight Maine web-site.
- **Legion College** March 20-22, 2026 see Leadership Ledger for details.

Volunteers are needed for:

Baseball: Sponsoring a team or share a sponsorship, and the days of competition.

Dirigo State: If you're interested in volunteering for Dirigo State, please [Click Here](#), or just come and visit during the week, but most of all come to graduation and show your legion support and support your candidates.

Legion College: See Leadership Ledger [Pg. 10](#) for details.



The American Legion

Department of Maine, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, Maine 04901-0727

Tel: (207) 873-3229

FAX: (207) 872-0501

E-mail: legionme@mainelegion.org

Website: mainelegion.org

January 21, 2026

To Our Fellow Legionnaires:

Each year, the Department of Maine supports the incoming National Commander with a donation to their campaign seeking such position. Our own Tony Jordan, when seeking the position of National Commander received financial support from the various departments of The American Legion for his campaign and it is only appropriate that we do the same for anyone seeking that position.

As a part of the process of supporting the individuals seeking the National Commander position, we like to present the donations of individuals who have submitted support of the campaign to the individual as soon as we possibly can after receipt. Sometimes, we have presented the check to the individual at the Fall Meetings or the Spring Meetings or at our Department Convention.

Individuals who have been selected to receive an official call or are listed as members in the National Commission/Committee book are asked and encouraged to donate to support the campaign. Donations from posts, districts or legionnaires in general are encouraged as well.

Please make the check payable to The American Legion, Department of Maine and note in the "Memo" section "National Commander's Campaign".

Your assistance in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Lloyd Woods
National Executive Committeeman

Anthony G. "Tony" Jordan
Past National Commander



**DEPARTMENT OF MAINE
THE AMERICAN LEGION**

PAST COMMANDERS CLUB

It is with great pride and pleasure that we the membership of Post # _____ submit the names of all our living Past Commanders for membership to the Past Commanders Club. Along with the names, we have enclosed the annual dues of **\$5.00** per member with the understanding that this will continue to provide two (2) \$500.00 scholarships. The recipient must be the son/daughter, grandson/granddaughter of a member of The American Legion.

Membership in the Past Commanders Club goes from January 1 to December 31 of each year.

Post Adjutant

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

- 1. _____
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- 22. _____
- 23. _____
- 24. _____

Use back side if additional space is required.

SUBMIT TO:

**The American Legion, Dept. of Maine
5 Verti Drive
Winslow, Maine 04901-0727**

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
PAST COMMANDERS CLUB**

BECOME THE LEADER YOUR POST NEEDS

American Legion College Department of Maine

The American Legion depends on strong, informed, and confident leaders. This training is your opportunity to strengthen your skills and join a network of legionnaires committed to excellence.

MARCH 20-22, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.
DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS
5 VERTI DR, WINSLOW ME

WHY SHOULD YOU ATTEND?

- BUILD A STRONG FOUNDATION FOR YOUR POST
- STRENGTHEN LEADERSHIP, COMMUNICATION AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION SKILLS
- LEARN BEST PRACTICES FOR RUNNING EFFECTIVE MEETINGS AND MANAGING POST OPERATIONS
- GAIN INSIGHT WITH FELLOW LEGIONNAIRES AND SHARE IDEAS THAT STRENGTHEN THE ORGANIZATION
- PREPARE FOR GREATER LEADERSHIP ROLES

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- ALL POST OFFICERS
- FUTURE LEADERS READY FOR GREATER RESPONSIBILITY
- ANY LEGIONNAIRE COMMITTED TO STRENGTHENING THEIR POST
- AUXILIARY AND SON MEMBERS (IF OPEN SEATS)

DAY ONE

This is the American Legion
Flow of Communication
Post Service Officer
Parliamentary Procedures
Elections and Constitution and By-laws
Saluting, Traditions and Ceremonies
Practice meeting

DAY TWO

What makes a Great Post
Servant Leadership
The Legion Family
Conflict Management
Risk Management
Organizational Life Cycle
Current Topics

DAY THREE

Public Speaking
Child and Youth Programs
Americanism
Understanding District and National
Consolidated Post Report
Legislative Issues



 207-873-3229

 jason@mainlegion.org

 www.mainelegion.org

THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY



CELEBRATE AMERICA'S BIRTHDAY! SATURDAY, JULY 4, 2026



JOIN THE CELEBRATION!

10:00 AM: Meet at the parade staging area at the town cemetery on Dwight Street.

11:00 AM: **Parade Kick-Off**

NOON: Head to **WILLIAMS-BRAZIER American Legion Post 37** (10 Wendell Street-Thomaston)

2:00 PM: Afterparty at **WINSLOW-HOLBROOK-MERRITT American Legion Post 1-Rockland** (335 Limerock)

**OPEN INVITE TO LEGIONNAIRES, AUXILIARY AND SONS
LET'S HONOR OUR NATION TOGETHER!**

FMI-email Jason@mainelegion.org





Event Press Release

Press release date: January 18, 2026

Event dates: February 1, 2026 – May 25, 2026

American Legion Post 93
P.O. Box 223
Bucksport, ME 04416

Physical location: 58 Elm Street, Bucksport, ME 04416
Commander: Vincent Christinziano
Email: amleg93post93@gmail.com
(207) 467-0143

Matching Gift Challenge for Bucksport area local Veterans

A private, anonymous, foundation will match every dollar donated to American Legion Post 93 in Bucksport, dollar for dollar, up to \$10,000, for donations received between February 1 and Memorial Day 2026. Proceeds benefit critically needed improvements to the Legion's building and continued efforts to support local veterans (membership not required).

When the \$10,000 match is used up, it's gone.

That's the whole story.

Be the one! Better together!



Veterans and Community Connection Expo
Augusta Armory, 179 Western Ave., Augusta, ME.

SAVE THE DATE

**SATURDAY,
APRIL 4th**

**10AM -
2PM**

