

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 165th 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

2026-27 Department Officers

Joseph Michaud, Madawaska Post 147Commander
Ryan Simpson, Etna-Carmel Post 107.... 1st Vice Commander
Thomas Kuespert, Newport Post 1052nd Vice Commander
Jason Hall, Gray Post 86Adjutant
Maureen Malley, Hallowell Post 6.....Americanism
Mary "Tally" Brown, Topsham Post 202Finance
Tommy Somerville, Gray Post 86.....Historian
Jeff Sukeforth, Camden Post 30Sergeant-At-Arms
David P. Cote, Van Buren Post 49Chaplain
Joyce A. Gaddis, Hampden Post 213Judge Advocate
Lloyd Woods, Madawaska Post 147.....NEC
Kirk Thurston, Rumford Post 24.....NECA

Congratulations
2026 Convention Sweepstakes Winners

Summer Sweepstakes Raffle Drawn at The Annual State Conference in Brewer, ME on June 13, 2026

Charles H Stewart, Millinocket Post 80.....	\$1,500
Paul D Roy, Mechanic Falls Post 150.....	500
Willard V Sleamaker, Headquarters Post 178.....	300
Robert L Smith, Eliot Post 188.....	200

Upcoming Holiday



The American Legion State Headquarters will be **closed on Friday, July 3** for observance of Independence Day. Please plan accordingly. Thank you!

107th National Convention

Louisville, Kentucky
August 28 – September 3, 2026

If you are thinking about going to National Convention, please let The American Legion, Department of Maine know by calling 207-873-3229 or email jason@mainelegion.org.

2026 National Convention Reservation/Registration/Banquet Form

Find a printable Registration Form on [Pages 13-14](#)

For more information, please visit www.legion.org/convention/resources or www.mainelegion.org under NEWS/EVENTS.

ALL INFORMATION & PAYMENTS MUST BE MADE BY JULY 17 DEADLINE

THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY

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

THOMASTON, MAINE
JULY 4TH PARADE

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



COMMANDER'S PROJECT 2026-27

*Department Commander
Joseph "Joe" Michaud asks that each
Post and Legionnaire support his goal!*



Special Olympics
Maine

CAMP TALL PINES

Department Commander Joseph Michaud asks for your help in fully supporting Special Olympics of Maine and Camp Tall Pines.

Special Olympics of Maine was deeded property on Lower Range Pond in 1993.

They created Camp Tall Pines, 5 ½ acres of beauty to offer year-round vacationing experiences to persons with intellectual disabilities.

It is a traditional summer camp complete with cabins and waterfront activities. In fact, one of the cabins was provided by the Legion Family.

The Commander's Project is focused on raising funds to maintain The American Legion Cabin at Camp Tall Pines, support a new generation of campers, and highlight the importance of supporting the athletes of Special Olympics of Maine.



Some of the programs for Special Olympics of Maine:

- 19 Olympic style individual and team sports
- Unified Sports
- Special Olympics College Club
- Young Athletes Program
- Law Enforcement Torch Run
- Lobster Dip
- Golf Competitions
- Camp Tall Pines

Your financial support will fund year-round sports training, health screening, and leadership programs for people with intellectual disabilities.

Contributions to the Commander's Project will cover vital expenses like equipment, transportation, uniforms, and ensure no one is left on the sidelines.

Contributions to Special Olympics of Maine will also help fund The American Legion cabin at Camp Tall Pines and ensure our name proudly continues to support Maine children and adults with intellectual disabilities.

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: Special Olympics of Maine or Commander's Project 2026-2027

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 and select "Commander's Project" from the dropdown.

[Click Here to View the Commander's Project Brochure](#)

ATTENTION POST ADJUTANTS & COMMANDERS



2027 Membership Cards that were not picked up at State Convention or Department HQ prior to June 23rd have been mailed to posts. Please call Dept. HQ at 207-873-3229 Ext. 2 if you have any questions.

District Meetings

Be Connected • Be Heard • Be Informed

JULY 2026

District 9 – Kennebec: July 8, Litchfield Post 181, 6PM Lunch
Post Cmdr. Debra Couture & Adj. Gregory Couture

2026 Annual Convention Yearbook Now Available!



The 2026 Annual Convention Yearbook is now available online. You may also purchase a copy at Department Headquarters, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow. Supplies are limited!

[Check it out today!](#)

Legion Baseball



**Full Registration is Open for the
2026 American Legion Baseball
Season**

For more information please visit:

baseballmaine.com

Register online at: [legion.org/
baseball](http://legion.org/baseball)

AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MAINE 2026 JUNIOR & SENIOR TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

2026 Senior Legion State Championship: July 24-30, Mansfield Stadium, Bangor

2026 Junior Legion State Championship: July 30/Aug 1 - Aug. 4/5, Mansfield Stadium, Bangor

Northeast Regional Senior Tournament: Worcester, MA, Aug. 5-9

Northeast Regional Junior Tournament: Aug. 7-10 (Approx), Manchester, NH, Gill Stadium

World Series Tournament: Aug. 13-18, Shelby, North Carolina

For more information, please contact:



Scott Bishop, Chairman

Phone: 207-745-0555



Email: chairman@mainelegionbaseball.org

★ ★ DONATIONS ★ ★

The American Legion Department of Maine

Maine Legion Baseball

Bangor Lodge of Elks #244.....	\$2,000
Robert Strickland, William Strickland & Doreen Dufour <i>In Memory of Brian Strickland</i>	\$500
Katahdin Trust Company.....	\$100

Dirigo State T-Shirt Donations

Greg & Deb Couture.....	\$900
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Maine Blind Camp

Berwick Post 79.....	\$500
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VA&R

James Nelson.....	\$50
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Camp Tall Pines

Various People @ Convention.....	\$240
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Thank You!



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)



Attention Post Commanders: Surplus Property Available!

The Department of Maine has an abundance of equipment and supplies available that may be of use to your local post!



ALL ITEMS MUST GO IMMEDIATELY! BRING YOUR OWN TRUCK & VOLUNTEERS

Available Items: tables, chairs, storage & filing cabinets, kitchen appliances, refrigerator, freezer, coolers, cookware, pool table, cash registers, janitorial/cleaning supplies, and much more.

For a more detailed list of available items, [Click Here](#).

Posts are responsible for all loading, lifting, and transport vehicles. To coordinate and schedule your specific pickup time, contact the Department Adjutant: jason@mainelegion.org

Received Your 2026 Labels and Would Like to Make a Donation?

Label donations can be made online by [Clicking Here](#), scanning the QR code with your phone, or by visiting www.mainelegion.org and clicking on the "Donate" button. **Please be sure to notate "Labels" in the notes so we can identify your donation.**



To pay by check, mail to: The American Legion, Department of Maine, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, ME 04901-0727

Label Donations over \$50 receive special donor gift(s) as our thanks to you:

Donate \$50-99 and receive a 2026 Distinguished Donor Lapel Pin

Donate \$100-149 and receive a 2026 Distinguished Donor Lapel Pin and Lobster Lapel Pin.

Donate \$150 or more and receive a 2026 Distinguished Donor Lapel Pin, a Lobster Lapel Pin, and the NEW American Legion 250th Anniversary Challenge Coin.

Distinguished Donor Pins for 2022, 23, 24, & 25 are also available upon request at \$50 each or 3 for \$100.

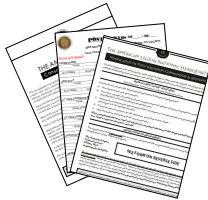
Limited Supply Available!



Attention Adjutants & Commanders:

If your Post has not done so already, **please fill out the Annual Post Data Report form and mail it back to Dept. HQ ASAP**, 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 return these completed documents to Dept. HQ before the deadline indicated. For more information, please call Department HQ at 207-873-3229. Thank you for your prompt reply!



[Click Here](#) to View the Status of Your Post/District Report and Form Submissions

PAST COMMANDERS CLUB

Please note that the annual dues for Past Commanders Club are \$5.00 per member.



**PAST
COMMANDERS
CLUB**

[Click Here](#) or visit www.mainelegion.org under Forms/Application to download an application. **If you haven't paid your Past Commanders Club dues yet, please do so today!**

[See Page 11 for PCC Form](#)

For Sale Exclusively to American Legion Posts in Maine:

A 12 ft Shuffle Board by Champion, Richland Hills, Texas. Top of the line, used very little, comes with bowling game set up. Retail for over \$4,500. **Selling to any post at \$2,500.**

Your pick up in Scarborough. Contact John T. (Jake) Carr, Historian, Scarborough Post 76 at 207-233-1676 or email lumberjake2@msn.com



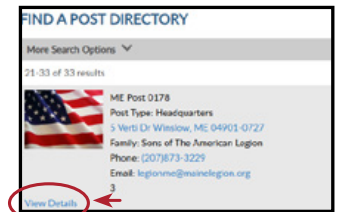
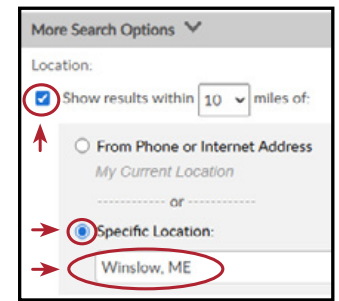
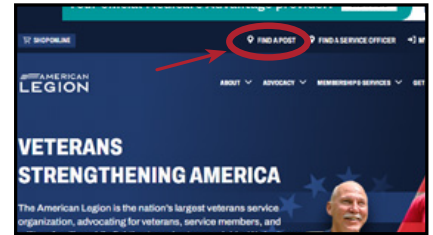
No Veteran should go through a crisis alone. Save the new Veterans Crisis Line

number—Dial 988 then Press 1—in your phone in case you or a Veteran loved one needs support.

How To Locate a Legion Post's Contact Information

Post addresses can be found by visiting www.legion.org and clicking on FIND A POST.

1. Visit www.legion.org
2. Select FIND A POST located at the top of the website to the left of the JOIN, RENEW, and DONATE buttons.
3. Check off Show results under More Search Options
4. Click on Specific Location and type the city, state, or zip code.
5. Scroll down and hit GO
6. Select View Details to obtain information about the Post, including contact information, post meeting information, dues amount, etc.



Direct Link: <https://mylegion.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Find-a-Post>

FIND A POST can also be obtained by visiting www.mainelegion.org and selecting the POST LOCATOR button.

Enter Now for a Chance to Win a Weekend to Remember

- Two premium tickets to the game, Dec. 12 just outside New York City.
- Roundtrip airfare for two, ground transportation and a three-night hotel stay
- \$500 in custom game merch, plus \$500 spending money.



Enter to win at: www.armynavy.usaaevents.com

Q: From when & where did the naval rank of "Petty Officer" originate?

~ Submitted by Dwayne Hatfield, Mars Hill Post 118

**MILITARY
TRIVIA**

How to Assign Group Permissions MyLegion.org Training

ASSIGN GROUP PERMISSION

Home > My Views>Assign Group Permissions

Adjutants and Commanders are the only administrators who can assign permissions.

1. Log into [MyLegion](#) and go to My Account.
2. Select group from MyGroups menu to access Group Profile
3. Go to "View Members"
4. Search the member to assign permission and click on their name to open member profile.
5. From the member's profile, select "Assign Group Permissions" from left MY VIEWS panel.
6. Select "Edit" in Management Settings
7. Check permissions to grant and "Save"

- **Online Group Manager.** This is the minimum permission requirement. It provides access view members and a quick link to member email addresses. Selecting this option only results in view only access and records cannot be updated. It also provides access to online membership tools in View Members – Global Member Search – Group Attributes – Reports/Labels – and Officer Materials.
- **Edit Individual Profile.** Check Edit Individual Profile to grant authority edit member information.
- **Edit Group Profile.** Adds the My View menu while in Group Profile.
- **Register or order for a group.** Allows member to process online membership. Add, transfer, and add new members.
- **Identify Group Manager.** ADJUTANTS AND COMMANDERS ONLY

NOTE: Adjutant and Commander access to membership data is based on officer reporting and ends accordingly. Assigning permissions through MyLegion to another does not create an end date and will continue to have access to membership data until removed. It is recommended that you contact your department or national headquarters to add an end date to allow for yearly review of permissions a member holds. To view members with access to membership data view "MyLegion Access" report located in My Groups > Reports and Labels.

For more MyLegion.org training, visit:

<https://mylegion.org/personifybusiness/Resources/Help>

Legion FAQs

Q: When does my membership expire?

A: Your membership expires on Dec. 31 of the paid year shown on your card. It can be confusing because your annual dues are supposed to be paid by Jan. 1 each year, so National Headquarters starts accepting dues for the upcoming year on July 1. The goal is to have everyone renewed for the new year by Jan. 1. If dues are not paid by Jan. 1, the member becomes delinquent. On Feb. 1, the member is suspended, and on June 30, the member is dropped from the membership rolls.

MyLegion.org Step-by-Step Instructions for:

[Account Registration, Membership
Processing, Group Permissions & More](#)

.....
[MyLegion Video Training Series](#)

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](#)

**** Attention District Commanders
and Post Commanders & Adjutants****

[MyLegion.org](#) training lessons
are available at State Headquarters.

If you are interested in learning how to use the site, please call The American Legion, Department of Maine Headquarters at 207-873-3229 Ext. 2 or email rachael@mainelegion.org to set up an appointment. Training lessons last between 1-2 hours.

New Resource: Women Veterans Luncheon Checklist Guidelines

[Click Here](#) or visit: www.mainelegion.org
under [Forms/Application](#)

Is Your Post Utilizing Its' Sales Tax Exemption?

All Legion Posts in the state of Maine qualify for Sales Tax Exemption. If your Post currently does not have a Certificate for Sales Tax Exemption, please call Dept. Headquarters for assistance at 207-873-3229 so we can send you a packet containing detailed instructions on how to obtain this status.





Help Protect Your Pet. Use Your Benefit.

As an American Legion member, your pets can get the protection they deserve. Spot Pet Insurance plans can help cover unexpected vet bills from accidents, illnesses, dental disease, and more, so you can focus more on your pet's care and less about the cost.

Your special member discount gets you up to 20%* off. Get a free quote in 30 seconds at spotpet.com/employer/american-legion, or call 888-343-2340 and use code EB_AMLEGION.

[Learn More](#)

Enter the Pet Paw-Parazzi Contest!

Want a chance to win a Spot Swag box and a \$25 Gift Card? Show us your best shot. Here's how to enter:

1. Snap a photo of your pet and include your name, your pet's name, and "American Legion"
2. Email your photo to petspress@spotpet.com by June 30th
3. One lucky winner takes home a Spot Swag box and a \$25 Gift Card!

The Maine Legionnaire

[Click Here](#)

to read the May issue

Upcoming Submission Deadline - August Issue: **July 17**



MILITARY TRIVIA

A: Originally the term "petty" came from the French meaning "little", however, not until 1808 did the British Navy make the rank official. On the early ships, the Captains often picked who would be the "petty officers" under his command, but without uniforms & at the end of the voyage, they were all released.



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.

Legionnaire Insurance Trust (LIT) No Cost LegionCare



Important Notice:

Maintain Your Membership or Lose Coverage!

If you previously enrolled in the \$5,000 Legionnaire Insurance Trust (LIT) No-Cost-To-You Accident Insurance Protection and missed paying your membership dues at any time, you will need to re-enroll! It is essential to maintain your membership to continue receiving the \$5,000 No-Cost-To-You insurance. Don't risk losing your coverage!

Great news! Members can now take advantage of a \$3,000 No-Cost Accident Insurance Protection offer. This offer is available by mail only and must be renewed annually.

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

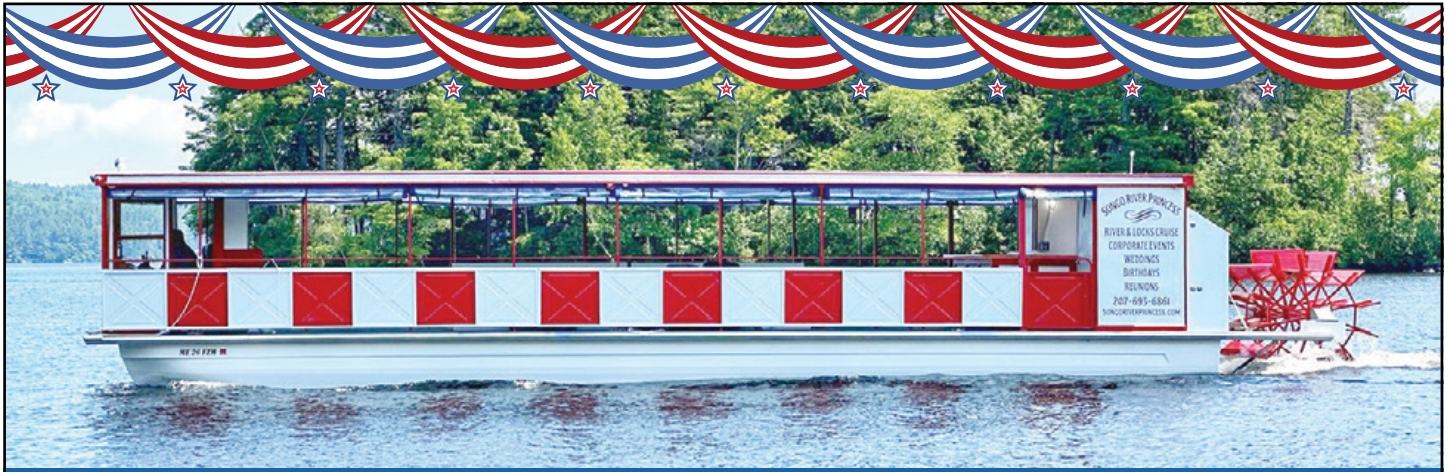


Did you know Wellcare Medicare Advantage plans provide more coverage for the health needs that matter most to veterans? Visit www.thelit.com to learn more.

Learn more about the Medicare Advantage plan benefits available to you.



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.



We welcome your social group to explore the grand beauty OF LONG LAKE & SONGO RIVER

aboard the Songo River Princess!

Enjoy a 2-hour cruise with panoramic window views for up to 45 people and round-trip transportation within one hour of Naples, ME on our party bus.

Light Refreshments & Cash Bar

All inclusive for only \$1,600

“We booked the Songo River Princess and had an amazing time! The bus was on time, the crew was great, and we loved the upfront cost with no surprises. We can’t wait to do it again!!”

*~ Barbara Rapoza, American Legion
Auxiliary - Conway, NH*

***Experience a fun trip with
no stress & lasting memories!***

**For questions or to reserve your date,
call 207-693-6861**



FMI Scan here



The background of the poster features a stylized American flag with red and white horizontal stripes and a blue field with white stars. The flag is partially obscured by the text and other graphics.

OUR
NATION'S
250TH
ANNIVERSARY
COMMEMORATIVE CONCERT

Featuring The Volunteers Jazz Band!

July 3rd - 7:00 PM

The Franco Center, Lewiston
Free Admission

Honoring 250 years of American
history, music, and community spirit!



WOMEN VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mission: To ensure women veterans are providing the Department of Maine with their concerns, recommendations, and are being properly considered as equal veterans. To mentor women veterans seeking camaraderie and resources.



Calling all Posts, Auxiliary Units and Sons Squadrons, we need your help. Please scan the QR Code to contact the WVAC Committee on Facebook or send an email to wvacmaine@gmail.com for information and guidance on planning a gathering for women veterans.



**Women Veteran's Advisory Committee
Dept. Of Maine American Legion
Facebook Group Link:**



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/8292938890734210>



**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. _____
- 2. _____
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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**



The Camden Yacht Club would like to honor our Veterans by hosting a day sail on Penobscot Bay.

Date: Thursday, July 9, 2026

Time: Meet at 10:30

Location: Camden Yacht Club

(68 Bay View St, Camden)

If you are interested, please email camdenyachtclub@outlook.com,
by July 1st.



2026
107th NATIONAL CONVENTION
Louisville, KY
August 28 – September 3, 2026

HOUSING: The Department of Maine's hotel will be the **The Brown Hotel**, 335 West Broadway St., Louisville, KY 40202.

RATE SCHEDULE: King Rate (one bed) - \$140.00 or Two-Bedded Rate – 140.00; Tax Rate – 17.66% per room/night (subject to change); Additional Occupant in Room per Day – \$20.00/person; Rollaway Rate per Day – \$25.00; Parking Rate per Day – Self-Parking – \$32.00 or Valet-Parking \$39.00

107th National Convention Location: Louisville, KY
Find it on the map by visiting <https://www.legion.org/convention/resources>

FLIGHTS: Everyone is responsible for their flight reservations.

REGISTRATION: See Jason

DEPARTMENT CAUCUS INFORMATION: Sunday, Aug. 30, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m., Location TBD.

CONVENTION INFORMATION: For Convention resources and information, please visit www.legion.org/convention/resources

Download the National Convention Mobile App with the most up-to-date schedule, floor agenda, and more: www.legion.org/mobileapps

2026 National Convention Reservation/Registration/Banquet Form

Louisville, KY – August 28 – September 3, 2026

The Brown Hotel

335 West Broadway St., Louisville, KY 40202

The American Legion, Department of Maine

5 Verti Drive, Winslow, ME 04901-0727

I will arrive on _____ and depart on _____

I will require a room for _____ people – 1 King _____ or 2 Bed _____ \$140.00 plus tax rate of 17.66% + (subject to change); Additional Occupant in Room per Day – \$20.00/person; Rollaway Rate per Day – \$25.00; Parking Rate per Day – Self-Parking – \$32.00 or Valet-Parking \$39.00

Names: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Credit card Number for one night’s room deposit _____

Type: _____ Exp. date: _____

Enclosed please find the following registration fee(s) payable to The American Legion:

American Legion Delegates, Alternates, or guests (\$35 each): \$ _____

I would like to reserve _____ tickets to the National Commander’s Dinner at \$75 each, Check enclosed in the amount of \$ _____, made **payable to The American Legion, Department of Maine.**

ALL INFORMATION & PAYMENTS MUST BE MADE BY JULY 17 DEADLINE

Name

Address