

THE LEADERSHIP LEDGER

Vol. 7 Issue 14
Aug. 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 168th 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

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.

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.

1. Visit www.legion.org

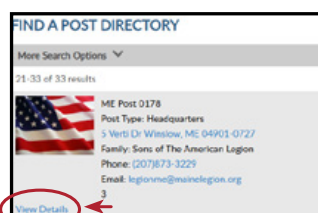
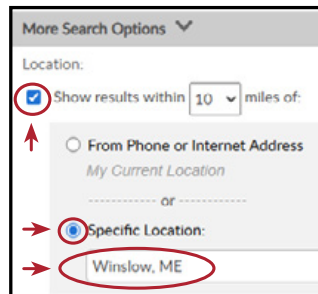
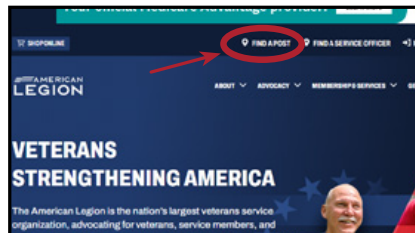
2. Select FIND A POST located at the top of the website to the left of the JOIN, RENEW, and DONATE buttons.

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.



2026 AMERICAN LEGION FALL CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2026

	POST 20 BRUNSWICK LEGIONNAIRES	9:15 START
	POST 21 BATH AUXILIARY	9:00 START
	POST 202 TOPSHAM SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION	9:00 START

There will be coffee, donuts, fruit available at each location.

There will be an optional bag lunch prepared to be delivered to each location. **\$10 BAG LUNCH**

ACCOMMODATION

	Rodeway Inn 287 Bath Road Brunswick, ME 04011 207-261-1223	2 Full Beds kitchenette \$150.00 plus tax 2 Queen Beds with kitchen \$199.00 plus tax - Breakfast included
	Wiscasset Woods Lodge 596 Bath Road Route 1 Wiscasset 207-882-7137	- Cottage \$245.00 plus tax - Room \$195.00 Plus tax - Both have microwave, Mini fridge - Breakfast not included
	Best Western Plus 71 Gurnet Road Brunswick, ME 04011 207-725-5251	- Room \$134.00 plus tax - Breakfast included

★ These are all under The American Legion as a group rate. THERE IS LIMITED AVAILABILITY AT EACH LOCATION. ★

Legion, Auxiliary, and Sons members are invited to the following events:

Meet & Greet | Friday Sept. 25: Bath Post 21, 200 Congress Ave, Bath. Doors open at 3:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

Dinner & Karaoke | Saturday Sept. 26: Bath Post 21, 200 Congress Ave, Bath. Dinner runs 4:30 - 6:00 p.m., karaoke to follow.

[Click Here to View Fall Conference Tentative Agenda](#)

2027 Membership Now Open!

QUICKLY & EASILY RENEW ONLINE TODAY!

Simply Scan the QR Code with the camera on your phone or visit:

www.legion.org/renew



Note: If you have not paid your 2026 dues yet, please do so today to avoid a gap in your continuous years.



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.

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



District Meetings

Be Connected • Be Heard • Be Informed

SEPTEMBER 2026

District 3 – Androscoggin: Sept. 21, Livermore Falls Post 10, 6:30 p.m.

District 9 – Kennebec: Sept. 16, Oakland Post 51, 6:00 p.m., Cmdr. Jeffrey Flye and Adj, Tina Zabierek

District 13 – Penobscot: Sept. 13, Brewer Post 98, 2:00 p.m.

District 14 – Piscataquis: Sept. 19, Livermore Falls Post 10, 6:30 p.m.

District 17 – Aroostook: Sept. 20, Stockholm Post 136, 12:00 p.m., Meal with Meeting at 1:00 p.m.

High School Oratorical Scholarship Program



Thomas College, 180 West River Rd.
Waterville, ME 04901

February 13, 2027, at 9:00 a.m.

****All contestants should plan to arrive between 8 and 8:30 a.m.****

Snow Date: February 20, 2027

Applications must be received by your local American Legion
Post by Dec. 5, 2027.

Attention District Officer(s): Please submit a copy of the
Oratorical Scholarship Application of the "Winner Only"
representing your District to Department HQ by Jan. 25, 2027.

**Department of Maine HS Oratorical Scholarship
Application**

Department of Maine Oratorical Brochure

2027 Oratorical Official Rules

One Sheet Oratorical Program Flyer

Oratorical Promotional Brochure - National

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Volunteers are needed to help
with the program (judges, tabulators, room monitors, etc.).

If interested, please call Dept. HQ at 207-873-3229

Help Support The Maine American Legion Oratorical Scholarship Program by Donating Today!

To Donate with Debit or Credit Card visit
www.mainelegion.org and click on the DONATE
button, or scan the QR Code with your phone.
Select the Oratorical Contest listed under the
"Use this donation for" dropdown menu and
select Donate with Debit or Credit Card.



Donations may also be made by check payable to The American
Legion, Department of Maine, earmarked "Oratorical Program."
Mail to The American Legion, Department of Maine, 5 Verti Drive,
Winslow, ME 04901-0727.

★ ★ DONATIONS ★ ★

The American Legion Department of Maine

Commander's Project:
Special Olympics/Camp Tall Pines

William Peterson.....\$25

VA&R

James Nelson.....\$50

Thank You!

Support Maine Veterans With a Coin and/or Pin Purchase

While Supplies Last!



250th Anniversary Challenge Coins:

\$20

Maine Be The One Challenge Coins:

\$10

Lobster Lapel Pins:

\$10



Coin and pins can be purchased online by visiting www.mainelegion.org, by scanning the QR code with your phone, or by check/money order. Make check payable to The American Legion, Department of Maine and mail to 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, ME 04901-0727.



Please include \$7 shipping and handling. Coins and pins are also available for free pickup.

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

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



No Veteran should go through a crisis alone. Dial 988 then Press 1—in your phone in case you or a Veteran loved one needs support.

Fall Sweepstakes Coming Soon!

Win Up to \$1,500!



Donate **\$5** for one ticket, **\$10** for three tickets, **\$15** for six tickets, or **\$25** for all 12 tickets. **Want even MORE chances to win?** Donate **\$40**, and we'll double your entries with an **additional 12 tickets!** **DONATE \$75 or more**, and we'll **QUADRUPLE your entries** for a total of **48 tickets!** We will fill them in for you here at Department HQ.

The first prize is \$1,500, the second prize is \$500, the third prize is \$300, and the fourth prize is \$200. The drawing will take place at Fall Conference on Sept. 26.

For more information, please call Department HQ at 207-873-3229.

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!

**New VA
Program to
Help Homeless
Veterans with
Emergency
Supplies,
Transportation**

[Learn More](#)



National Call Center
for Homeless Veterans
877-424-3838
va.gov/homeless

2026-2027 National Membership Target Dates

Early Bird/NEF Kickoff	September 10, 2026	50%
Fall Meetings	October 14, 2026	55%
Veterans Day	November 12, 2026	65%
Pearl Harbor Day	December 9, 2026	75%
Mid-Winter	January 13, 2027	80%
Presidents Day	February 10, 2027	85%
Legion Birthday	March 10, 2027	90%
Children & Youth	April 14, 2027	95%
Armed Forces Day	May 12, 2027	100%
Delegate Strength	30 Days Prior to National Convention	

2027 Membership Renewal Schedule

Cutoff Dates	Renewal Mail Dates
May 13, 2026	July 1-8, 2026
September 9, 2026	October 3-9, 2026
October 14, 2026	November 7-13, 2026
December 9, 2026	January 2-8, 2027
February 10, 2026	March 2-9, 2027
April 14, 2027	May 1-7, 2027

Transmittals not received by the cutoff date may not prevent a subsequent renewal notice from being delivered at or around the renewal date. Please note, renewals transmitted and received by the cutoff (which is also a National Target Date) will be updated prior to printing renewal notices, assuming they can be successfully scanned. Membership that must be hand-keyed (new members and renewals that can't be scanned) will take longer to process. Please transmit as early and as often as possible in advance of the Target Dates to help avoid delays in processing.

Membership **IMPACT** Reports

The American Legion's success depends entirely on active membership, participation and volunteerism. The following monthly reports located on: www.legion.org/about/reports/membership-impact provide a summary of membership, participation and volunteerism making an impact in the lives of veterans, families and communities. American Legion Posts can share the many ways Legionnaires are making a difference in their communities by [submitting consolidated post reports online](http://www.legion.org/about/reports/membership-impact). To visit the impact American Legion posts made throughout the year, visit: www.legion.org/about/reports/membership-impact or www.legion.org/about/reports/membership-impact

★ Attention: District Commanders & Adjutants

District Meeting Calendar Forms Available Online!

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

Warrant Templates All Post/District Officer Positions

Available online at www.mainelegion.org/pages/formsapplications.php
It's fast and easy!

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

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

~ Submitted by Dwayne Hatfield, Mars Hill Post 118

MILITARY TRIVIA



SONS OF THE
AMERICAN
LEGION

**Squadron Forms/
Applications**

[Print a SAL Membership Application](#)

[Squadron Officers Form](#)

[Consolidated Squadron Report - fillable](#)

[Annual Squadron Data Report - fillable](#)

[Click Here for the Latest Membership Report](#)



MEMBER INFO & MANAGEMENT

MyLegion.org Training

Member management in a group is available to posts, squadrons, departments and detachments. District and County access does not include edit and cannot manage membership information. To request edit for a district or county, contact your department headquarters.

Phone Number - Add

Home > My Views > Group Profile > Members > Member Profile
> Contact Information

1. From your My Account page, enter My Groups to access Group Profile
2. Click "View Members" from left menu "View Members"
3. Search the member and click on their name from the list to view Member Profile
4. Click "Contact Information"
5. "Add New Phone Number"
6. Enter phone type, location, number, and optional preferences boxes.
 - Set as Main Phone Number
 - Do Not Call
 - Include in Print Directory
 - Include in Web/Mobile Directory
7. "Save"

PRINT A MEMBERSHIP CARD

Post and squadron group leadership can print a current membership card for Legion and Sons of the American Legion members. *This feature requires edit permission.

Home > My Views > Group Profile > Members > Member Profile
>Member Profile – Member Cards

1. On your My Account page, enter My Groups to access Group Profile.
2. Click "View Members" from left menu "View Members"
3. Search the member and click on their name from the list to view Member Profile
4. Click "Membership Cards" and click on the link to view and print card image.

For more MyLegion.org training, visit:

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

Legion FAQs

Q: I served my entire military career in the National Guard/Reserves and only have a DD214 from my Active Duty for Training during one of the qualifying dates. Am I eligible?

A: Yes, you are a veteran. Since the mid-60s, all basic training and occupational training schools were considered federal active duty service.

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](#)

The American Legion offers a variety of training programs, events designed to educate and prepare members and leaders throughout the organization.

[Check out training opportunities here.](#)

****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.

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.



The Old American Legion Post

By Eliot Post 188 Historian (and Past Post Commander & Historian of York Post 56) Donald G. Hands

Part Two: Uniforms and Parades (Cont.)

“Cowell Alderman—his last name is a lot like mine.”

“They were two different persons. One died in the World War One and the other in World War Two. Alderman was Robert J. Alderman, a lieutenant in the U. S. Army and your ancestor. He was your uncle.”

“But his name is different.”

“Well, sometimes names change over time—ask your parents.”

“Here, here’s something you may want to see. You told me your grandfather and great grandfather were wearing a uniform.”

He opened a closet door and there was a rack of blue uniforms with gold trim on the sleeves and a gold stripe on the pants. He picked one out.

“This is The American Legion uniform. They don’t wear them anymore, or I don’t think they have to. You can see here The American Legion emblem and post number on the collars.” Also, he pointed out, “The state of Maine emblem was on one shoulder. Some servicemen put their unit patch on the other shoulder.”

“What’s a unit patch?”

“That is a patch that identified what service they were in and where they were stationed.” He brought out a few more uniforms and me unit patches. Some were from the Army and some were from the Navy. Some had boats on them and others just numbers or letters and fancy symbols.

“Here is a uniform with a World War One discharge pin on it. You see how it is similar to The American Legion emblem.”

“Yes.”

“By the way, during World War One, it wasn’t called World War One. Nobody knew there was going to be another war. In fact, they called it the ‘War to end all wars’ or the ‘Great War.’”

“What was so great about it?”

“I guess the great sacrifices the people made and the great causes they were fighting for.”

“Oh.”

He pulled out another uniform. “This one has a ruptured

duck.”

“A ruptured duck?”

“Well, that’s what the servicemen used to call it. It is actually the World War Two discharge pin.”

I looked at it. It was a bird with wings spread on a circle.

“So, the Legion people were in the Military.”

“Well, yes and no. They were veterans—that means that they were in the military, and got out, or as we say, were discharged.”

“If they weren’t in military anymore, then why did they have uniforms?”

“I guess to show they shared the bond of The American Legion. To show that they were proud of their service. You know, to be uniform, or as one.”

I walked around and looked at some of the pictures on the walls. There were some group pictures, individual pictures, and then I noticed some parade pictures. The parade pictures had people in uniform playing horns and drums like the high school band.

“I see parades.”

“Yes, The American Legion had many parades. Usually Memorial Day and Veterans Day. During wartime they had a lot of parades.” He went back to the closet and brought out a small suitcase. He opened it and pulled out a horn. On the bell of the horn was The American Legion symbol.

He continued, “Many legionnaires were in the Drum and Bugle Corps parade group. Some had different, fancier uniforms and vied for medals and ribbons in competitions.”

“Do they do that anymore?”

“Maybe in the big cities, but not around here. In fact, this post has been closed since the late 1980s or early 1990s.”

“So, The American Legion was all about the parades and the uniforms?”

“No,” he answered, “not at all. It is about four pillars of the Legion.”

I thought for a moment, “What are the four pillars?”

Continue Reading Part Three in the next Leadership Ledger

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 14 for PCC Form](#)

A Free Guide and Money-Saving Discounts

Most people don’t realize how expensive Long-Term Care can be. Contrary to what many people believe, the majority of care is not covered by most private health insurance plans or by Medicare.



It’s never too soon to start planning, so we have partnered with American Senior Benefits to help you explore your options without obligation.

[Click here](#) to request free information on Long-Term Care Plans and protect your retirement savings.



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.

The Maine Legionnaire

[Click Here](#)
to read the May issue

Upcoming Submission Deadline -
November Issue: **Oct. 16**



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](#)

2026 Honor Flight Maine Dates:

Flights are all charter flights on Allegiant:

- **Sept 18-20**
Portland Jetport
- **Oct 16-18**
Bangor International Airport



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 and at the end of the voyage, they were all released.

Helpful Resource: Women Veterans Luncheon Checklist Guidelines

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

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

AMERICAN LEGION | **wellcare**

THE OFFICIAL MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PROVIDER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Endorsed by your American Legion Department

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.

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.



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

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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**

WE WILL NEVER FORGET 9-11 REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

HONORING THOSE WE LOST | SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

9-11 Ceremony

HOSTED BY: WAR MEMORIAL POST 30 - AMERICAN LEGION



SEPTEMBER 11th, 2026 (Friday)

2:00 PM

LOCATION: War Memorial Post 30 | 91 Pearl Street

THE PENTAGON



SHANKSVILLE, PA



NEW YORK CITY



SPEAKERS FROM:
Camden Fire Dept.
Camden Police Dept.
American Legion

PUBLIC INVITED TO JOIN IN
THE REMEMBRANCE EVENT

FOR MORE
INFORMATION
CALL JEFF: 691-2270



Lest We Forget

