



Department of Maine Veterans of Foreign Wars

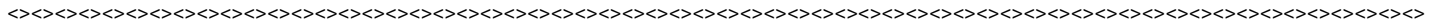


"Communication ~ Dedication ~ Service"

December 2020

GENERAL ORDERS

No. 6



SPECIAL NOTICES <> SPECIAL NOTICES

"Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to One and All"

MOLD 2020: This year's MOLD will take place virtually via ZOOM on 10 January 2021. MOLD is primarily designed for District/Post Commanders, Quartermasters, Adjutant, Inspectors Chaplains and Trustees. However, any one is welcomed and are encouraged to participate. Valuable information is available to anyone wishing to attend. The class is scheduled to start at 1:00 p.m. and should last until approximately 3:00 p.m. We request that the following information be provided to me at *bampa_5@yahoo.com* **NLT 5 January, 2021.** (See *application as included in this GOs.*)



1. Dates for Council of Administration Meeting and Testimonials: The following dates have been established for the year 2020-21.

- >16 January 2021 > CoA Meeting (*Will be conducted as Zoom meeting*)
- >24 April 2021 > CoA Meeting/State Commander Testimonial, Lewiston, ME
- >11-12 June 2021 > State Convention, Bangor, ME
- >13 June 2021 > CoA Meeting, Bangor, ME

2. Council of Administration: The CoA meeting to include and Audit & Finance and Service Office meetings will be held on 24 October via the zoom program. Please note the times for the following meetings:

- >**Finance and Audit** > 8:30 am (Zoom meeting - Cmtee members)
- >**VSO** > 9:30 am (Zoom meeting - Cmtee Members)
- >**CoA** > 11 am (Zoom meeting > Council members, Chairmen and members wishing to attend)

3. Post and District Meetings: As we are all will aware, restrictions have been established by both the Maine CDC and Maine Governor Mills. It is recommended that meeting should be held as zoom meetings as w do not want large number of people in meeting halls and having someone catch the virus. Please make sure that you follow guidelines as prescribed by both Governor Mills and the Maine CDC.

4. Community Activities Reporting: As you are all well aware; you can send your reports via the Maine VFW website and/or mail them to the respective chairman to include our State Community Activities Chairman Christopher Robison. Addresses are in the directory. Keep on reporting on everything that you are all doing.

5. Program Reporting by Adjutants: As per VFW National Headquarters, all reporting will be done electronically to National on the "All American Dashboard" by the Adjutant. Adjutants are the official corresponding officer for the Post/District/Department and shall attest to all official communications and

reports with their signature. Adjutant were granted permissions August 1 based on election reports to access the reporting functions.

6. State Convention Book Advertising: Consult Tele-Communications from Londonberry, NH is soliciting ads for our State Convention book throughout the State of Maine. Any business calling your Post respectively inquiring about the as solicitation, please inform them that they are the sole company that sells ads for the Department of Maine.

7. Message from David E. Prohaska, VFW Director Member Services: All Departments. Please be advised that the Online Membership System (OMS) will be shutting down at 4:00 p.m. CST on Thursday, Dec. 31, 2020. Any transactions that are submitted through OMS on Dec. 31, up to the closing time, will be posted to Memstats and Post Query later that evening and available for viewing the morning of Jan. 4, 2021.

Mail received at the National Headquarters prior to Dec. 30, 2020, will be processed and counted in the December total. Mail received after that date, regardless of the postmark date, will not be counted in the December total. We suggest you have your Posts mail in their membership as early as possible or take advantage of the Online Membership System tools. Please note that email sent to the Member Service Center or its advisors are not guaranteed to be processed due to the closure of VFW National HQ beginning December 24, 2020.

The OMS system will be back online for the submittal of transactions by noon CST, Monday, Jan. 4, 2021; however, membership transactions that are processed will not be posted to Memstats until Jan. 8, 2021.

8. Chain of Command: Whenever a Post has an issue, start with the Post to correct the problem, then if you must then go to the District Commander and then the Department Commander. 90% of the times, the problem can be corrected at the Post level.

9. Post Insurance: The Posts are **required** to have insurance with Department and National as additional insured on it. No matter if the Post does not have a Post Home or not. If the Post is even marching in a parade and something happens that causes someone to be injured, this insurance protects the Post and all of its membership. Posts are self-insured thru a private insurance company are to forward to Department Quartermaster Williams a copy of the insurance policy for file.

10. State Commanders Visit: Any Post wishing to have the State Commander visit your Post for a function are to notify the State Adjutant and State Commander so that it can be put on the schedule. The Commander's will make every attempt to attend your function.

11. Dates to Remember:

- 7 December > Pearl Harbor Day
- 25 December > Christmas Day
- 1 January 2021 > New Years' Day
- 20 January 2021 > Inauguration Day

12. Candidates for Department High Office 2021-2022:

- Department Commander > Herman L. Littlefield Jr. > Post 6131
- Department Sr. Vice Commander > Jennifer L. Lane > Post 1603
- Department Jr. Vice Commander > John J. Bouchard > Post 9389
- Department Quartermaster > David D. Williams > Post 1641
- Department Chaplain > Kevin G. Woodward > Post 11553
- Department Judge Advocate > Anthony R. Kimble > Post 3108
- Department Surgeon > Danford G. Saucier > Post 9389
- Department Surgeon > Teresa S. Drag > Post 9787
- Department Surgeon > Randolph S. Michaud > Post 2599

Department Surgeon > Carl S. Lambert > Post 887
Department Surgeon > Amy Hope Meuchel > Post 6859

13. Candidates for National Council Member, Maine 2021-2024:

Steven J. SanPedro > Post 6859
Andre L. Dumas > Post 9389
Kevin G. Woodward > Post 11553

14. District Meeting Dates:

D-10 > 6 Dec @ 1 pm > Fryeburg-Lovell Post 6783 > Cmdr Davis
D-7 > 10 Jan @ 2 pm > Bath Post 7738 @ Phippsburg Sportsman's Association > Cmdr Davis
D-8 > 17 Jan @ 12 noon > Waterville Post 1285 > SVC Littlefield
D-4 > 23 Jan @ 2 pm > Bangor Post 1761 > Cmdr Davis
D-9 > 24 Jan @ 1 pm > Lunch 12 noon > Auburn Post 1603 (VoD, PP, ToY Banquet) > QM Williams
D-6 > 7 Feb @ 2 pm > Belfast Post 3108 > SG Kimble
D-10 > 7 Feb # 1 pm > Windham Post 10643 > JVC Lane
D-3 > 14 Feb @ 2 pm > Calais Post 9779 > JA Bouchard

15. Directory Changes:

Pg 8 > New National Home Chmn > Teresa J.S. Drag, 512 Paris Hill Rd., PO Box 140, Paris, ME 04271-0140 > Tel # 739-2217 > E-mail: Teresapost9787@outlook.com
Pg 15 > Chg SVP > Patricia Littlefield, 1360 Atlantic Hwy, Northport, ME 04849 > Tel 338-5052, C - 322-2118 > Email patsylittlefield@yahoo.com
Pg 15 > Chg JVP Lisa Michaud, 1086 Mapleton Rd., Mapleton, ME 04757 > Tel # 227-8844 > e-mail lmichaud41@roadrunner.com
Pg 15 > Chg Chaplain Beth Jacques, PO Box 4006, 432 Fort Rd., Presque Isle, ME 04769 > Tel # 768-0587 > E-mail greatnanna02@gmail.com

BY COMMAND OF:

Michael "Keith" Davis

Michael "Keith" Davis
Commander

OFFICIAL:

Andre L. Dumas

Andre L. Dumas
Adjutant



State Commander
Michael "Keith" Davis



Greetings: Thanksgiving is behind us and Christmas is right around the corner. I wish COVID-19 was behind us but unfortunately; we are still right in the middle of it. During the past month, I have been on a couple of national Commander calls. A reoccurring discussion is how Posts are handling COVID-19 and suicides. One state lost 7 Veterans in a short period of time and one of those was on the help hotline at the time of his suicide.

The holidays are not always a happy time for our Veterans. It sometimes can be very lonely. I mentioned it last month and will again this month, do not forget buddy checks. Reach out to those friends and family that you have not seen or heard from and find out how they are doing.

Commander Hal Roesch has requested that we reach out to our members. Commanders, set up a team to call all your Post members. Let them know you and the Post are there for them if they need it.

Some Posts are not doing a good job with social distancing and following State guidelines for COVID. Members are coming into the Post and acting like the Post is a COVID free zone. It is far from it. Buckle down and follow the state mandates. It is for your health and the health of the members of your post. If you have someone infected with COVID in your Post, please notify myself and Andre. We are required by National to keep them informed of any Posts affected by COVID.

I recommend that Districts look at holding your District meetings via ZOOM. This is the safest way to conduct the meeting and you can accomplish the same thing as an in-person meeting. This will help cut down on travel and does not put you or your members in harm way. If you do not have a license for ZOOM, reach out to our Telecommunications Officer Chris Robinson and he will set up a Zoom meeting for you. At this time we only have one license so only one District can use it at a time. If you wish to use ZOOM and the license is already being used then you may want to look into rescheduling your District meeting.

VOD/Patriots pen entries should be at the Department level. If you were unable to meet the deadlines, get a hold of the Department VOD/Patriots Pen chairman Anthony Kimball.

A question that just came up was "where are the forms for reporting VOD/Patriots pen at the district level." The only forms are the VOD/Patriot pen entry forms. The judging criteria are on the forms. Reporting is done via the "All American Dashboard on OMS." At this point, the Posts Adjutants should have already reported their entries and monies expended via the dashboard.

The District Adjutants will report the entries turned in to them and the Department will report on the 11 entries turned in to them. Once the Posts, Districts and Department reports via the Dashboard, we will be able to run a report that will show the complete participation in the program. The report will look similar to the reporting forms you are used to seeing in the past. There is a great tutorial in OMS on how to report via the dashboard. I recommend all adjutants review this video. It helped me a lot.

A Zoom MOLD school has been set up for January 10th at 1 pm. Training should last approximately 2 hours. One of the topics definitely will be reporting via the "All American Dashboard." The Department Adjutant will put out more information soon along with the link to the meeting. All those interested in attending are to send their requests to Andre so he can get the information out to you and so we will know how many are attending.

If you would like me to attend an event at your post or in your community, please notify the State Adjutant Andre Dumas as soon as possible. My schedule is starting to fill up for the year and I want to be at as many functions around the state as possible!

“Communication, Dedication, Service”. Communication - Keeping the lines of communication open to our Veterans to keep them informed and keeping the lines of Communication open from our Veterans to get them what they need. Dedication and Service - Working tirelessly to get Veterans the help and services they need and deserve.

Michael “Keith” Davis

Michael "Keith" Davis
Commander

“Communication - Dedication - Service”

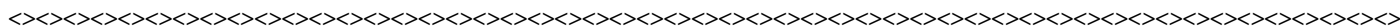


Deceased Roll Call



Department of Maine, VFW
Kevin G. Woodward, Chaplain
25 October ~ 24 November 2020

“May our Comrades Rest in Eternal Peace in Post Eternity?”



District 1

9389 > CHATMAN, Donald O. Jr.
SODERBERG, Iver W.

District 11

5744 > NEAL, Charles

District 4

3381 > STORMANN, Lawrence W.

4633 > PREBLE, Kenneth W.

District 6

6131 > SPRAGUE, Roger A.

District 7

4525 > NEWELL, William

DISTRICT 8

8835 > TYLER, Ervin H.

DISTRICT 9

3335 > Du FOUR, Willie J.

9787 > EKLUND, John E.

District 10

6859 > CARON, Phyllis P.
FARR, Marcia T.
Mc LEOD, Norman T.

10529 > BURBANK, Peter D.

10879 > La CHANCE, Raoul
ROGERS, Byron E. Jr.



**SENIOR VICE COMMANDER
 COMMANDER'S SPECIAL PROJECT (CSP)
 MEMBERSHIP RECRUITER - CENTRAL
 Herman L. Littlefield Jr.**



Greetings, Comrades!

Now we are well into the month of December! I hope you and your families had a happy, healthy and safe Thanksgiving holiday. I hope you all take the necessary precautions if you must travel out and about. Please be sure to wear your mask when leaving your home.

CSP: The donations are coming in at a slow pace. I have received donations from 19 Posts to benefit this very worthy project. I look forward to hearing from the remaining 32 posts in the near future. Remember, this project is designed to assist our fellow comrades in their time of need during this pandemic.

Recruitment - Central:

RECRUIT - Actively seek out new members.

REINSTATE - Reach out to former members to rejoin our group to support our veterans.

RETAIN - Keep your current membership by getting them involved in post activities.

Share the reason why we do what we do!!

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Stay safe and healthy. Loyally,
 1360 Atlantic Highway, Northport, ME 04849; Tel 338-5052 or 322-1548; herman.littlefield@yahoo.com

**JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER
 VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE ~ TOGUS BEALS HOUSE
 PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER**

Greetings Comrades! As the year winds down, I want to send my sincere "Thank you" to all that have supported me, my mission and the VFW membership in 2020.

We have done a fantastic job adapting and overcoming the limitations that we have found ourselves in. Although great things have come out of 2020, I look forward to 2021 and the things that we are going to accomplish in the future. I am extremely proud to be a member of this organization and proud of the profound comradeship that all of you have established in the great Dept of Maine! Keep up the great work!

BEALS HOUSE: The Beals Hospitality House is still up and running and hosting guests.

PRO: The Public Affairs Program is doing well, but we could always improve our use of our media outlets.

VSO: The Veterans Service Office is busy, busy, busy....

Please take care of yourself and others that come across your paths. You never know what someone might need and that is to include just a friendly hello. Go get 'em folks!

**QUARTERMASTER
 NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBER, MAINE (NCM,M)
 BUDDY POPPY ~ INSURANCE & BONDS
 David D. Williams, PSC, QM**

QM: I hope everyone is doing good and had a wonderful **Thanksgiving**.

There really isn't much to report about that I haven't reported every month it seems.

Reports continue to tickle in slow some posts are up to date some posts are lagging one or 2 reports Then the rest just hasn't turned in anything not going to list posts in my reports because they are on the print outs in the back of the GO's. Poppy orders are slowly getting back to normal. All orders sent to me have been submitted to National.

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

NCM,M: I do not have much to report at this time. There is plenty going on though. The Burger King and Sport Clip are still collecting funds until the end of the year . The money is used for Veterans and has served many to date. Next month I hope to have some updates as to what is going on and when. Happy Holidays.

NCM,M: Memo from VFW National Headquarters: We're now in the final stretch of the VFW Sport Clips Help A Hero Virtual Walk, and we need your help to reach our \$1 million goal for America's student veterans!

The annual Sport Clips in-store fundraiser for our important scholarship program has been impacted by the pandemic, so we've amplified our efforts this year by offering supporters a fun way to engage with the fundraiser through a virtual walk. Supporters can also donate by texting "Hero" to 71777.

As an added incentive, any participant who raises \$100 through the virtual walk will receive a special VFW's Sport Clips Help A Hero Challenge Coin (pictured here).

Please register for the event today if you have not already and help share this information far and wide!

**JUDGE ADVOCATE
INSPECTIONS ~ POW/MIA
John J. Bouchard**

Inspections: Merry Christmas and a safe New Year. Hope everybody is in good health. The inspections are coming in slow. I know it is haRd to do with this Covid-19; but do the best you can. Please remember that the District Inspector cannot inspect his/her own Post. The District Commander must appoint another inspector to inspect it.

By-Laws: Section 106 – Former Members: The annual dues of a former member must be accepted without reapplication to membership if tendered to their post one year of the date on which they became unpaid. A member whose dues remain unpaid for a period of more than one year may be required to reapply for membership in their former Post as prescribed in Section 102 of the National By-Laws. A former member may apply for membership in any other Post by payment of the current year's dues and as prescribed in Section 107 of the National-By-Laws.

POW/MIA: Don't forget to send your reports on POW/MIA to get your Post credited. Credited is the POW/MIA chair, flying the POW/MIA flag, any functions dealing with POW/MIA. Returning home with full honors are:

- | | |
|---|---|
| >Army Cpl. Paul W. Williams | >Navy Coxswain Paul L. Boemer |
| >Navy Fire Controlman 2 nd Class Harold F. Trapp | >Navy Electrician's Mate 3 rd Class William H. Trapp |
| >US Navy Chief Carpenter's Mate Tedd M. Furr | >US Navy Bandmaster James B. Booe |
| >US Navy Seaman 1 st Class Carl S. Johnson | >US Army Staff Sgt Louis D. Doddo |

**SURGEON
VOICE OF DEMOCRACY ~ PATRIOT'S PEN ~ TEACHER OF THE YEAR
WAYS & MEANS
Anthony R. Kimble**

Good Day Comrades. Hope everyone enjoyed Thanksgiving as best as anyone can during the pandemic. Please continue to follow all social distancing, wearing your mask and washing your hands. Winter is coming and the 2020 is coming to an end (Thank Goodness). Winter can be a very difficult time and Cabin Fever and lack of vitamin D are real issues we need to prepare for. Find an outside activity that allows you to get outside for a little bit and help pass the time. Facetime family and friends, I have begun a routine to Facetime my parents for game night as we both pull out the same game and play it together. Surprisingly, it is more fun than you would think and it means a lot more when we cannot play the games in person. Please continue to check on your members to ensure they are doing well, we will all be back together laughing and celebrating our Maine veterans soon.

Have a Merry Christmas and I hope everyone stays safe and healthy.

Blood Bank: DONATE, DONATE, DONATE. Blood is always in need at the hospitals. The Red Cross are always having blood drives, so if you all can donate some Blood, that will make a lot of people happy.

COVID 19 Updates: Cases are starting to rise again throughout Maine, if you're looking for general information about COVID-19, call 211, text your zip code to 898-211, or email info@211maine.org. For the latest number of COVID-19 cases in Maine, public health guidance and resources, please visit our [Maine CDC COVID-19 page](#).

Take simple steps to reduce the spread of COVID-19, such as:

- >Wear cloth face coverings when in public, when around people who don't live in your household, and when you can't stay 6 feet away from others, including when you are outside.
- >Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- >Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- >Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- >Stay home as much as possible

Safety: It is the time of the year when the roads get icy, keep your eyes on the road for traffic coming out of driveways due to high piles of snow there. When you see a car or truck of the side of the road, move over to the left lane if you can. In bad weather, rain or snow, you should have your lights on your car or truck. State law requires that when you have to use your wipers, your lights should be on. Also, please when cleaning your cars of snow, please remove the snow from your roof, there has been instances when snow had fallen off and the car behind you could get hit with it. When you see a school bus, be extra careful for the kids who will be getting on and/or off the bus, make sure when you see the yellow light, be careful because it turns red quickly, you have to stop. **ALWAYS BE ALERT!!!!**

Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen:

I am going to keep this information each month, as we begin to get close to our December deadlines. Good luck and happy judging.

Important Deadlines:

Voice of Democracy/Patriot's Pen/Teacher of the Year

1 December > All 1st Place District Winners due to Department for Final Judging

30 December > Completion of Department Judging

15 January> Department Winners to National (Complete Package)

Ways and Means: The tickets will be mailed shortly please keep an eye out for them. We are going to be going with the same prizes as last year, 1st Prize \$500, 2nd Prize \$250, 3rd Prize \$100.

CHAPLAIN
MAINE OFFICERS LEADERSHIP DEVELOPOMENT (MOLD)
WREATH ACROSS AMERICA (WAA)
Kevin G. Woodward, PSC

From my family to yours, Kathy and I would like to wish everyone a very happy Holiday season.

"Almighty and Everlasting God, as we celebrate the birth of Your Son in this world and experience the peace He has to offer us today, we remember our troops at home and abroad who dedicate their lives to protecting our people on this planet.

We are sorry that war is still a part of our lives and that we call upon our young people to risk their lives for us, putting themselves in harm's way for our freedom. We pray that You will enable us one day to put an end to war and truly experience peace on Earth, so that our Christmas celebrations will be full of joy.

We pray for our troops stationed both here and abroad. We ask that You bless, protect and preserve them wherever they are located. Help us to let them know how much we truly appreciate their service and give us opportunities to care for, encourage, and embrace them.

We pray for their families this Christmas who suffer from separation and distance at this time of year. Surround them with good friends and strong families. Be near to the wives, daughters and mothers, husbands, sons, and fathers who miss their loved ones.

We also remember those who have been wounded in action, who are recovering at home or in Veterans' hospitals. We pray for their healing, recovery, and tender care. We especially remember those who are permanently injured whether emotionally, mentally, physically, or neurologically. May they be deeply cared for and honorably respected.

We pray for our military leaders and Commander in Chief who need to make tough and unenviable decisions. We pray that You will grant them guidance and discernment to act upon the fresh challenges to peace that occur around the world.

Finally, we pray for those service families who have an empty chair at their Christmas tables that will never be filled. In the midst of their loss, surround them with caring friends and loving people. Let the real sacrifices that they have made, and still sadly experience, be humbly honored and deeply respected by all of us. May we cherish the freedom that our troops have accomplished through the giving of their lives.

Hear us now as we silently pray for those who serve our nation today and as we quietly remember those who have actively served and sacrificed in the past.

Silence – lighting of red, white & blue candle.

In the Name of the Holy One Who made the Supreme Sacrifice for the world – Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.”

WAA: Join us if not in person virtually or in spirit on National Wreaths Across American Day December 19, 2020. The mission to **Remember, Honor and Teach** is still being carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery as well as over 2100 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad. This is not going to be as it has been in the past due to the pandemic but, it is still happening in a much abbreviated format.

MOLD: We have not forgotten about MOLD, the staff is still in discussion about how to best get the important information to you in order to assist you in getting the job done the best way possible in these trying times. Look for more information to follow.

**IMMEDIATE PAST STATE COMMANDER
COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES – STATE CONVENTION 2021
Christopher L. Robison, IPSC**

Thank you to all the Posts that have been reporting. Keep up the good work.
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to All.

**CHIEF OF STAFF
Arthur J. Roy, PSC**

MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEARS TO YOU AND YOURS
Call and wish your Comrades A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON.

Well we are Still CLIMBING in MAINE & EVERYWHERE with Covid-19 “but” there is hope coming very soon as **they now have 3 vaccines that will be coming in around a month or so that will get the USA back to normal and us all on our feet.**

Steve is working hard on Membership BUT he can use a lot of Help. Phone calls do help so please continue to reach out to as many as you can, OK?

Also, remember **TIME IS GETTING SHORT** so Check on Your **VOD/PP/and TEACHER OF THE YEAR** Chairmen to make sure all is moving forward. Hope this finds you all in the best of Health.

AMERICANISM/LOYALTY DAY
Michael A. McInnis, Chairman

I would like to start hoping that everyone had a Safe and Happy Thanksgiving. Hope you all have a safe and Happy Holiday season.

In the present environment that we live in, many of the Americanism/Loyalty Day programs we normally do have been affecting Coronavirus. Please report any/all programs completed either in person or on social media. Now that our posts are starting to open for outside service, please complete any reports that you may now will be able to, show the good things the Veterans of Foreign Wars does every day.

Hopefully, most of your Posts have reported in Americanism/Loyalty Day. If you fly an American flag at home or at your Post, Marched or participated in a Veterans Day Parade or Program for Veterans Day, Please report it. Don't forget that December 7th is Pearl Harbor Day, hope that many of us can do a program on that important day in our history. Please report any/all programs completed either in person or on social media.

All reports for Americanism/Loyalty Day can be mailed to me at 15 Vines Road, Saco, ME 04072-1733. They can also be faxed to me @ 207-283-9357. If you submit your Community Activity Reports on-line at the Department of Maine website, I should receive them. If you do not receive credit, please contact me @ 207-590-6058 or at my email: qmvfw7997@yahoo.com.

AUDIT & FINANCE
DEPARTMENT GRANTS
Alfred E. Michaud Sr., PSC

The Audit and Finance Committee will meet at the next COA or telecommunicate.

Grants: Homeless Veterans Grant through the Department of Labor submitted, awaiting results.

Our **State of Maine VSO Grant** funds are on hold till gaming picks up.

Our **VA Transportation Grant** the **\$40,000.00** is closed out for 2019-2020, new grant starts soon.

Our State Homeless Veterans Grant will be zero this year due to COVID19.

CREDENTIALS
Samuel C. Flint, Chairman

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all.

Hello everyone. I hope this finds you and your families all well and healthy. Please keep in touch with not only your family but also friends, Veterans and neighbors. As you have on TV in the last few days, Maine Covid-19 is rising every day in high double digits, so please be very careful wherever you go, wear your mask, 6" apart. Stay Safe.

Now that we are moving forward with the new year under different circumstances, let us hope that we somewhat are able to get back to how we did business and have a State Convention in Bangor in June 2021. As you have been informed in the past, you must make sure that you complete all of your required programs to be able to vote at the state convention. I will keep you informed as time goes on to make sure that you do not miss voting at the State Convention.

Take care of yourselves, your family members and please check on your neighbors and Veterans.

HOMELESS VETERANS
VETERANS CEMETERY SOUTH ~ ASSISTANT LEGISLATIVE (Augusta)
MEMBERSHIP RECRUITER (South)
James E.N. Bachelder, PSC

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Donations received this month: Gardiner Post 9 for \$50.00, Island Falls Post 7529 for \$25 and the Gorham Post 10879 for \$100.00. We thank you for all your support.

Homeless Veterans: Stand-Down: The first mobile mini-stand-Down went very well. There were 10 veterans contacted. Two (2) Veterans were with spouses. (Two) 2 of the Veterans were unsheltered. There were several non-profit organizations also providing information and services. Some of the Veterans were just looking for employment and received help from the Resource Center.

The next Stand-Down is in Lewiston at the Vet Center on December 1st from 10 am till 2 pm. After that the Portland Stand-down (still looking for a location) on December 8th at 10 am till 2 pm. The last Stand-Down planned at this time will be in Sanford on December 16th from 10 am till 2 pm.

On November 25, we heard that one of the Department of Labor grants was approved. That gives us some funding to work with. We still have funds available in the Maine VFW. We are planning on shopping for the next 3 days to catch-up on our needs for the Lewiston event.

Homeless Veterans Action Committee: Due to a mistake in the dial-in information, we were not able to attend this month's meeting. We have the Microsoft meeting invitation for the next meeting. The December meeting is canceled, so the next meeting will be in January.

Veterans' Cemetery South: At this time, all future association meetings are canceled. There will be a small Wreaths Across America program and it will be posted on the Internet for others to watch without having to many people at the event at the same time.

Members of the association have replaced and spread new red mulch over the WWI Memorial. The contractor will be back in spring and restore the plants they removed in error.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at james.bachelder@metrocast.net or call **432-7127** between 9 am to 9 pm.

Assistant Legislative (Augusta): We hope everyone had the time to vote. We are working with legislators from both sides of the isle to have support on future bill we hope to have in the next session.

HOSPITAL/VAVS
Michael W. Blair, Director

Total donations to Hospital / VAVS for the month of October 2020 was \$ 1,125.00.

All money is to be used by VAVS for Veterans care as needed.

I would like to thank Posts # 6924, Fairfield, #9394, Kittery, # 7529, Island Falls and #10529, Yarmouth. A reminder that your Post may earmark their donation to a CBOC, Clinic, on or off Campus and the Fisher House.

Any donations for the Beals House are to be sent to Jennifer L. Lane. You will find her address in the Directory.

Thank you, Hope you all have a safe and Happy Holiday Season.

MEMBERSHIP
LEGISLATIVE ~ MAINE VETERAN'S HOMES (MVH)
Steven J. SanPedro, PSC/Chairman

Once again, I hope this finds all of you in good health. I want to wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season! I know things will be different this year as we get through this COVID-19 virus. However, together we can navigate through this difficult time of change.

Legislation: The election is over! We now have to accept the results and move on! We will now set our sights on working with the newly elected Legislators. They are currently still trying to find out why the VA has decided to transfer over the Comp & Pen exams to the local doctors. They are not happy about this and have put out a few official statements in regards to this. Recently, there was a call to action by the VFW Action Corp to ask Congress to keep Senate Bill 1972 in the National Defense Authorization Act 2021. This would make bladder cancer, Hypothyroidism and Parkinsonism presumptive illness associated with Agent Orange. Our Vietnam Veterans should not have to wait anymore! I know many of you took part in this and I Thank you for that.

Membership: Due to the pandemic, we will have to work hard and think outside of the box to be creative on getting our Membership signed back up. The Department is currently sitting at 86.23% with 6546 Members which is an increase of 2.57% and 197 Members. We need 1029 Members to reach 100%. We have decreased our New Members by 31 and our Reinstated Members by 10 from this time last year. We are all recruiters and we must **Retain, Reinstate and Recruit** Members. We have 6 Posts that have completed a Recruiter Event and submitted the proper paperwork to me. Make sure you read and understand the 2020-2021 Membership Program. If you have any **questions on Membership please contact me at 207-894-5260 or email me at sanpedro105@roadrunner.com**

Maine Veterans Homes: The Homes continue to do a great job keeping the COVID-19 virus out. This is very hard to do with so many moving parts. The employees remain very disciplined in everything they do at work and off duty. This has changed everything they do when not working. They have to ensure they don't expose themselves when not working so they don't bring into the Home when they return. Please remember to think and pray for our Veterans in these homes during the Holiday Session! This will be a very difficult time for them because there will be less events and visits than in the past. I want to thank everyone at the homes as they are truly living up to their motto of "caring for those who served!"

"COMMUNICATE - DEDICATION - SERVICE"

NATIONAL HOME

Melvyn E. Bates, Chairman

Comrades. It's been an honor to serve as National Chairman for the state of Maine. However due to family issues, I'm not going to be continuing as national chairman.

I've previously advised the State Commander and advised him of the situation. I have told him I would continue through the end of this calendar year.

Recently, I have had the opportunity to speak to some of the District Commanders as well as Post officers. What we have been experiencing here at local Posts and Districts has had twice the impact in our National Home. As we have been reporting the National Home is set up like our Posts as far revenue, they are non-profit. Most of the outside funding they lost due to this world Virus unleashed by China...and have not been able to have their usual funding programs. I've asked both Districts and Posts to forgo their usual donations times and to get these donations into us to send to National.

Recently I've received District checks. From. Two districts, I've also received monies from several Posts. They are understanding the need and the reasons for it... for which I appreciate for the national home.

Until then try to enjoy the upcoming holidays of Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year.

Respectfully Mel Bates chairman national home Maine 🎄🍷🇺🇸

SCOUTING

Randolph S. Michaud, Chairman

The following Posts have done something with Scouting and have reported it to me. Posts 4633, 9394, 3381 and 2599.

It's great to see the reports starting to come in, please keep up the great work you all are doing with the scouting community, our youth are the lifeblood of this country. Remember anything you do for a scout or a scout troop can be reported, so please keep the reports coming in.

Have a wonderful and safe Thanksgiving and please remember to wear your masks and practice social distancing as much as you can.

VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

Cornelius J. Ware, SO

Phase II Service Office COVID-19 Procedures: As a friendly reminder, we continue to work through Phase II protocol at the R.O. We are still observing the following practices, to continue to maintain the health and safety of our staff and the veterans we serve. (1) We will be seeing Veterans by appointment only no walk-ins at this time. (2) Masks must be worn during your visit; we have hand sanitizer available. (3) No more than two (2) Veterans in the office at a time. (4) We sanitize our workstations and adjacent areas between visits and at the end of the workday. (5) If we get an urgent walk-in request we will try and accommodate with an appointment on that day if the schedule permits. To avoid conflicts and allow us to provide you with the best service possible, please call and make an appointment. You can reach us at the VFW Service Office phone number **207-623-5723**. Email us at vfw.vbatog@va.gov. Once again, we Thank you for your patience and understand as we continue to conduct business with the health and safety of our staff and Veterans as our primary concern during this COVID-19 pandemic.

Regional Office (R.O.) Phase II: As a friendly reminder during Phase II, the Veterans Service Center is seeing Veterans by appointment only. Togus public contact and VR&E can be reached at **207-621-6938** for appointments. VA 's **1-800-827-1000** number, E-Benefits and VA. Gov are still good sources for claims information. You are also encouraged to contact your local VSO's at Togus for assistance.

Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA) Hearings: The Appeals Management Team in Washington D.C. has scheduled BVA hearing for Togus in December for the following dates 12/03/20, 12/09/20 and 12/16/20. BVA's hearing goals for 2nd Quarter (Jan, Feb, Mar) hearings is 10,500 nationwide. Our office has 17 Veterans to tentatively scheduled for 2nd Quarter. These hearings will be held as Virtual and Video conferences based on Veteran technical abilities and availabilities. BVA/AMA continue to aggressively work through the Appeals backlog.

Virtual Veteran Town Hall: Come join VA Maine Healthcare System on December 3, 2020 @ 3:00 pm. – 4:00 pm to learn the latest about the COVID-19 vaccine and our VHA's planning efforts to administer the vaccine. If you join via adobe connect, you will have the ability to type in questions live during the town hall. If you join by phone, you will only be able to listen in by phone. If you plan to join by phone, please email your questions in advance to VAMEEngagements@va.gov. Join us using the web address below or call in by phone: Call-In Number: **1-800-767-1750, Code: 11234#**
<http://va-erc-ees.adobeconnect.com/rsle33crqqu/>

WEBSITE COORDINATOR

Thomas R. Lussier, PSC

The Department Website is in good working order. The VoD & PP themes for 2020-2021 are posted on the site to include all student entry forms and the Department 2020-2021 directory has been updated. I'm in the process of developing a new and exciting website in the near future.

Please ensure any directory changes are sent to the Department Adjutant. Also, if you have any photos of Department events, please forward to me. The website includes a Department photo gallery that I would like to keep updated and I always would like to see more guestbook entrees.

Comrades, the Department website contains an incredible amount of information designed to make everyone's job more helpful. Many years have been devoted to creating this site, so please utilize it! If anyone has any problems, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thank You!

DEPT @ 87.02% - Need 985 For 100% (25+)
Department Statistics

Maine as of Friday December 4, 2020

Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
2599	1	94	0	0	8	102	160	63.75%	-58	PRESQUE ISLE	0
6187	1	54	0	0	14	68	82	82.92%	-14	FORT FAIRFIELD	0
9389	1	357	3	0	37	397	481	82.53%	-84	CARIBOU	0
9699	1	63	0	0	8	71	79	89.87%	-8	ASHLAND	0
District Total	1	568	3	0	67	638	802	79.55%	-164		0
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
1605	2	119	1	0	2	122	132	92.42%	-10	BURLINGTON	1
7529	2	58	0	0	8	66	82	80.48%	-16	ISLAND FALLS	0
District Total	2	177	1	0	10	188	214	87.85%	-26		1
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
9779	3	103	0	0	17	120	136	88.23%	-16	CALAIS	0
11553	3	102	0	0	14	115	139	82.73%	-24	HARRINGTON	1
District Total	3	205	0	0	31	239	275	85.81%	-39		1
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
109	4	116	3	0	26	145	176	82.38%	-31	ELLSWORTH	0
1761	4	170	2	0	25	197	244	80.73%	-47	BANGOR	0
3381	4	157	0	1	18	176	209	84.21%	-33	OLD TOWN	0
4633	4	96	1	0	6	103	111	92.79%	-8	HAMPDEN	0
District Total	4	539	6	1	75	621	740	83.91%	-119		0
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
4298	5	51	0	0	12	63	74	85.13%	-11	DEXTER	0
5723	5	5	0	0	6	11	15	73.33%	-4	JACKMAN	0
6924	5	96	0	0	4	100	121	82.64%	-21	FAIRFIELD	2
7865	5	100	0	0	12	112	131	85.49%	-19	MADISON-ANSON	0
7866	5	8	0	0	0	8	13	61.53%	-5	NORRIDGEWOCK	0
10881	5	21	0	0	4	25	24	104.16%	1	FARMINGTON	1
11191	5	21	0	0	6	27	35	77.14%	-8	NEWPORT	0
District Total	5	302	0	0	44	346	413	83.77%	-67		3

Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
3095	6	12	0	0	3	15	19	78.94%	-4	FRIENDSHIP	0
3108	6	115	0	1	17	133	168	79.16%	-35	BELFAST	1
4169	6	9	0	0	1	10	14	71.42%	-4	VINALHAVEN	0
6131	6	48	0	2	17	67	76	88.15%	-9	NORTHPORT	0
9437	6	39	1	0	3	43	50	86.00%	-7	WASHINGTON	0
District Total	6	223	1	3	41	268	327	81.95%	-59		1
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
2197	7	55	1	0	14	70	79	88.60%	-9	TOPSHAM	0
4525	7	54	0	0	11	65	76	85.52%	-11	WALDOBORO	0
7738	7	56	1	2	10	69	70	98.57%	-1	BATH	0
District Total	7	165	2	2	35	204	225	90.66%	-21		0
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
9	8	38	0	0	10	48	59	81.35%	-11	GARDINER	0
887	8	192	0	0	32	224	264	84.84%	-40	AUGUSTA	0
1285	8	222	1	0	7	230	248	92.74%	-18	WATERVILLE	1
8835	8	236	2	0	14	252	272	92.64%	-20	WINSLOW	1
9526	8	33	0	0	6	39	43	90.69%	-4	WINTHROP	0
District Total	8	721	3	0	69	793	886	89.50%	-93		2
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
1603	9	283	0	21	31	335	359	93.31%	-24	LEWISTON-AUBURN	1
1641	9	61	0	10	15	86	144	59.72%	-58	RUMFORD	0
3335	9	210	0	0	23	233	254	91.73%	-21	JAY	0
9150	9	62	0	0	8	70	80	87.50%	-10	LEWISTON	0
9787	9	103	1	0	16	120	146	82.19%	-26	SOUTH PARIS	0
District Total	9	719	1	31	93	844	983	85.85%	-139		1
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
6783	10	35	0	0	3	38	45	84.44%	-7	LOVELL	0
6859	10	299	0	0	44	343	396	86.61%	-53	PORTLAND	0
9328	10	36	0	0	2	38	41	92.68%	-3	HARRISON	0
10529	10	75	0	0	1	76	78	97.43%	-2	YARMOUTH	0
10643	10	47	1	0	18	66	75	88.00%	-9	WINDHAM	0
10879	10	275	2	0	15	292	338	86.39%	-46	GORHAM	0
11362	10	30	0	0	2	32	35	91.42%	-3	NAPLES	0
District	10	797	3	0	85	885	1008	87.79%	-123		0

Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
5744	11	107	0	0	31	138	156	88.46%	-18	SOUTH BERWICK	0
6977	11	169	0	1	11	181	199	90.95%	-18	YORK BEACH	1
7997	11	163	3	0	44	210	234	89.74%	-24	OLD ORCHARD BEACH	0
9394	11	46	1	0	6	53	59	89.83%	-6	KITTERY	0
9935	11	161	5	7	133	306	294	104.08%	+12	SANFORD	1
District Total	11	646	9	8	225	888	942	94.26%	-54		2
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
15020	99	580	8	35	72	695	776	89.56%	-81	RUMFORD	2
District Total	99	580	8	35	72	695	776	89.56%	-81	QM'S HOUSE	2
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
State Total	0	5642	37	80	847	6606	7591	87.02%	-985		13



EVERYONE'S HELP IS NEEDED TO BRING THE DEPARTMENT TO 100%

THIS 2020 – 2021 YEAR - WILL YOU HELP?

“COMMUNICATE – DEDICATION - SERVICE ”

“RETAIN-REINSTATE-RECRUIT”

**"COMMUNICATION – DEDICATION - SERVICE"
MICHAEL "KEITH" DAVIS, STATE COMMANDER**

DIVISION LEADERS <<>> DECEMBER 4, 2020

>> LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE OUR DEPARTMENT GROW <<

DIV. I (10-50) TOP 3 POSTS IN DIV.		DIV. IV (201-300) TOP 3 POSTS IN DIV.	
1. 10881 FARMINGTON	104.16%	1. 9935 SANFORD	104.08%
2. 9328 HARRISON	92.68%	2. 1285 WATERVILLE	92.74%
3. 11362 NAPLES	91.42%	3. 8835 WINSLOW	92.64%
DIV. II (51-100) TOP 3 POSTS IN DIV.		DIV. V (301-400) TOP 3 POSTS IN DIV.	
1. 7738 BATH	98.57%	1. 1603 AUBURN	93.31%
2. 10529 YARMOUTH	97.43%	2. 6859 PORTLAND	86.61%
3. 9699 ASHLAND	89.87%	3. 10879 GORHAM	86.39%
DIV. III (101-200) TOP 3 POSTS IN DIV.		DIV. VI (401- HIGHER) TOP 3 POSTS IN DIV.	
1. 4633 HAMPDEN	92.79%	1. 9389 CARIBOU	82.53%
2. 1605 BURLINGTON	92.42%	2.	
3. 6977 YORK	90.95%	3.	
TEN HIGHEST POSTS BY %		TEN LARGEST POSTS	
1. 10881 FARMINGTON	104.16%	1. 9389 CARIBOU	397
2. 9935 SANFORD	104.08%	2. 6859 PORTLAND	343
3. 7738 BATH	98.57%	3. 1603 AUBURN	335
4. 10529 YARMOUTH	97.43%	4. 9935 SANFORD	306
5. 1603 AUBURN	93.31%	5. 10879 GORHAM	292
6. 4633 HAMPDEN	92.79%	6. 8835 WINSLOW	252
7. 1285 WATERVILLE	92.74%	7. 3335 JAY	233
8. 9328 HARRISON	92.68%	8. 1285 WATERVILLE	230
9. 8835 WINSLOW	92.64%	9. 887 AUGUSTA	224
10. 1605 BURLINGTON	92.42%	10. 7997 OLD ORCHARD BEACH	210
DISTRICT STANDINGS		MAGIC NUMBERS FOR 2020-2021	
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1. District 11 DAY	94.26%	WE HAVE = 6606 – WE NEED 985	
2. District 7 STEVENS	90.66%	ALL POSTS/DISTRICTS SHOULD BE AT 100%	
3. District 8 LAMBERT	89.50%		
4. District 2 EWING	87.85%	5 N/R MEMBERS & EARN A BLUE BALL CAP	
5. District 10 GOODMAN	87.79%	10 N/R MEMBERS & EARN A WHITE VFW SHIRT	
DEPARTMENT OF MAINE, VFW	87.02%	ALL DEPT OFFICERS ARE ASKED TO RECRUIT	
6. District 3 SIVRET	85.81%	LET'S ALL WORK AS A TEAM AND	
7. District 9 DRAG	85.85%	<b>RETAIN – RECRUIT &amp; REINSTATE 3 MEMBERS?</b>	
8. District 4 SULLIVAN	83.91%	NEED HELP or HAVE QUESTIONS	
9. District 5 TWEEDIE	83.77%	ASK ANYONE ON THE MEMBERSHIP TEAM OK?	
10. District 6 ARMSTRONG	81.95%		
11. District 1 SAUCIER	79.55%		



