



Department of Maine Veterans of Foreign Wars



"Serving the Present While Remembering and Honoring the Past"

September 2016

GENERAL ORDERS

No. 3

Happy 59th Birthday to the United States Air Force

SPECIAL NOTICES <> SPECIAL NOTICES

Donations to Department of Louisiana: Recently during major floods in Louisiana, the Department of Louisiana VFW Headquarters was completely damaged as were many Veterans residences. Any Posts wishing to make a donation to help them may do so by sending their donation to State Quartermaster David Williams, make your check payable to "**Department of Maine, VFW**" and earmark your check "**Louisiana Flood Assistance**". Quartermaster Williams will then mail the donations to them. Please mail your donations ASAP so that he can have a report for our COA meeting in October.

1. October Council of Administration: Will be held on 15 October 2016. The Headquarters Hotel will be the **Ramada Inn** (Headquarters): 215 High St., Ellsworth * Tel: 667-9341 * Rates: \$107 + tax for 2 Queen or 1 King bed.

Other Hotels in the area are as follows:

Eagle Lodge: 278 High St., Ellsworth * Tel: 667-3311 (If a VFW member, 15% discount). Rates: \$89 + tax for 2 full beds or 1 Queen ** \$99 + tax for 2 Queen beds.

Colonial Inn: 321 High St., Ellsworth * Tel: 667-5548. Rates: \$109 + tax for 1 double or 1 Queen (If have 10 rooms, reserved, rates will then be \$99.)

Hampton Inn: 6 Down East Hwy, Ellsworth * Tel: 667-2688. Rates: \$169 + tax for 2 Queen or 1 King bed.

The Comfort Inn: 130 High St., Ellsworth * Tel: 667-1345. Rates: \$169 + tax for 1 King or 2 Queen beds (If a VFW member, 10% discount).

NOTE: Be advised that this is a very busy time of the year and they sell out quickly, please make your reservations as soon as possible.

2. October Council of Administration Meetings: VFW Cmtee meetings will be held on Saturday @ Ramada Inn @ 215 High St., Ellsworth to commence at 8:30 am on 15 October to be as follows:

**Veterans Service Office Cmtee – 8:30 am

**Audit/Finance Cmtee – 9:00 am

**State Convention 2017 Cmtee - 10:00 am

**Eastern States Conference Cmtee – 11:00 am

>VFW CoA meeting will convene @ Ellsworth Memorial Post 109, 429 Main St, Ellsworth @ 1:00 pm sharp on Saturday, 15 October 2016.

- 3. State President Testimonial:** Will be held on Saturday, 15 October 2016 at the Franklin Veterans Club, 4 Cards Xing, Franklin. Social Hour 6-7 pm, Banquet 7 pm. Cost of banquet is \$25.00. *(See attached flyer in this GOs for more information, please note that there is a chg as to where you are to mail your check to.)*
- 4.** For purposes of clarification, we do not operate as a men's organization or a ladies organization, but as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and its Auxiliary.
- 5.** Every Post chartered by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States will be expected to participate in the following programs during the 2016-2017 year: Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teachers' Awards, "Buddy"® Poppy and National Military Services. Additionally, it is necessary that all Post and Department Commanders comply with all provisions of the National By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure and Ritual.
- 6.** Post Commanders and District Commanders are directed to forward all resolutions or communications relative to federal legislation or to the policy or procedure of the Department of Veterans Affairs, or any other governmental agency, to their respective Department Headquarters for consideration and referral to the Adjutant General. Department Commanders will not take direct action on any such resolutions or communications without first obtaining full knowledge of existing National Headquarters policies governing such legislation or agencies. Posts, County Councils, Districts and officers and members thereof shall not publicly communicate or promulgate any such resolutions until reviewed by the Commander-in-Chief.
- 7. POST RESERVE:** Attention is directed to section 218(a)(5)(f), Manual of Procedure which mandates Post Quartermasters to maintain a dues reserve fund as prescribed in sections 717 of the National By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure.
- 8.** Attention of commanders at all levels is directed to action of the National Council of Administration prohibiting the wearing of VFW sport caps and/or western style caps at VFW meetings in place of the regulation cap of the VFW official uniform as set forth in sections 803 of the National By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure. This prohibition is in accordance with previous directives of Commanders-in-Chief that it is held to be objectionable and contrary to accepted rules of order and proper decorum implicit in the ritual of the Veterans of Foreign Wars to permit the wearing of other than the official VFW cap at VFW meetings.
- 9.** Attention of commanders at all levels is directed to section 703 of the National By-Laws which requires that each accountable officer be bonded with an indemnity company in the sum at least equal to the amount of the liquid assets for which he may be accountable.
- 10.** Attention of Post Commanders is directed to section 218(a)(11)(b), Manual of Procedure, Trustees, which states that Post Trustees shall prepare and submit quarterly, through their Post Commander, a Post Trustees' Report of Audit (VFW Store product #4214) to the Department Quartermaster for referral to the Department Inspector. The first report is due at the close of September. Do not mail these reports to National Headquarters.
- 11.** Attention of Post Commanders is directed to section 1001(25) of the Manual of Procedure concerning alcoholic beverages in the Post meeting room during the Post meeting: "The presence, dispensation, and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages in VFW meeting rooms during VFW meetings is unacceptable and is prohibited."
- 12.** A thorough program of Post inspection is necessary to ensure compliance with National and Department By-Laws and directives. Department and District Inspectors shall make every effort to inspect every Post under their cognizance on an annual basis and correct such discrepancies as may be disclosed.

13. U.S. Army ARDEC has issued new guidance on the operation and maintenance of the M1 Garand. The new manual can be found in the VFW Training & Support section at www.vfw.org or you can visit the M1 Garand Associated Website: www.m1garandtraining.com.

14. The distribution of VFW “Buddy”® Poppies will be conducted according to the provisions set forth in sections 711 of the National By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure. Department, District, County Council and Post Commanders should arrange now for the distribution of “Buddy”® Poppies in their respective areas. All profits accruing from the distribution of “Buddy”® Poppies shall be used in accordance with section 704 of the National By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure.

15. Organizations exempt from income tax under section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code are generally required to file Form 990 by the 15th day of the fifth month following the close of their accounting fiscal year. For the current IRS requirements (beginning on or after January 1), if the organization’s annual gross receipts are normally more than \$50,000, the organization must file Form 990 or 990-EZ. Small tax-exempt organizations whose annual gross receipts are normally \$50,000 or less are required to electronically submit Form 990-N, also known as the e-Postcard. There is no penalty assessment for late filling the e-Postcard, but an organization that fails to file required information returns for three consecutive years will automatically lose its tax-exempt status. The revocation of the organization’s tax exempt status will not take place until the filing due date of the third year. Gross receipts are considered to be normally less than \$50,000 if the organization:

- 1.) Has been in existence for 1 year or less and received, or donors have pledged to give, \$75,000 or less during its first taxable year;
- 2.) Has been in existence between 1 and 3 years and averaged \$60,000 or less in gross receipts during each of its first two tax years; and
- 3.) Is at least 3 years old and averaged \$50,000 or less in gross receipts for the immediately preceding 3 tax years (including the year for which the calculations are being made).

If annual gross receipts are normally more than \$50,000, the organization must file Form 990 or 990-EZ. For the current IRS requirements, if an organization has gross receipts less than \$200,000 and total assets less than \$500,000, it may file form 990-EZ. However, if either gross receipts or total assets are above those limits, Form 990 must be filed. For purposes of filing requirements, gross receipts include: total contributions; gifts and grants; program service revenue; membership dues and assessments; gross investment income (including interest, dividends, gross rents, and other investment income); gross income from the sale of assets other than inventory; gross income from special fundraising events; gross sales net of return allowances; and any other revenue. IRS regulations require that all tax-exempt organizations make both their Application for Exemption and 990’s for the last three years available for public inspection at their principal office and provide copies in response to written requests, subject to the payment of reasonable fees. There are substantial penalties for violation of these regulations.

16. The National By-Laws provide for only one type of membership: active membership. There are no provisions in the National By-Laws, nor is there any authority or justification for issuance of Club Membership cards, Associate Member cards, Honorary Membership cards, Courtesy Membership cards or any other special type of cards. Any Post issuing such unauthorized cards, or conducting club operations open to the general public, endangers its standing with the Internal Revenue Service as a non-profit organization. Officers signing outlaw cards admitting non-members to VFW premises are subject to disciplinary action. National and Department officers cannot defend practices that conflict with VFW By-Laws or procedures.

17. The VFW Legacy Life membership card (bronze, silver, or gold) shall be accepted as suitable identification when verifying a member’s credentials.

18. VFW Posts should take the necessary steps to incorporate under the laws of the state in which the Post is located. Financial responsibility laws, as interpreted by the courts, may cause members of unincorporated

Posts to be at risk. Incorporating under the provisions of sections 708 of the National By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure and the laws of the state will provide protection for Post members. Posts are urged to contact their Department Adjutant to obtain the proper forms for incorporating. The Articles of Incorporation must be reviewed by the Commander-in-Chief prior to forwarding them to the proper state authorities. It shall be the responsibility of the Post Commander to ensure full compliance with both sections and to ensure that all state requirements for annual filing, fees, etc., are met in a timely manner.

19. The attention of Post Commanders and District Commanders and inspecting officers is directed to section 703 of the National By-Laws - Bonds. Each accountable officer of this organization shall be bonded with an indemnity company as surety in a sum at least equal to the amount of the liquid assets for which he may be accountable. Liquid assets are defined as cash on hand or in the bank and other negotiable instruments readily convertible into cash.

20. All officers should obtain current 2017 copies of the podium edition of the Congressional Charter, By-Laws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual. Copies of the revised edition of the Congressional Charter, By-Laws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual are available through the VFW Store at National Headquarters. The 2017 revised edition reflects the amendments adopted by the 117th National Convention, which became effective on August 26, 2016.

21. All Commanders are reminded that section 709, Manual of Procedure - Control of Units, requires that any activity, clubroom, holding company or unit sponsored, conducted or operated by, for or in behalf of a Post, County Council, District or Department shall be at all times under the direct control of such Post, County Council, District or Department and that all money, property or assets of any kind or nature, must be placed in the care and custody of the respective Quartermaster. All Commanders should ensure that all provisions of section 709 are enforced.

22. The attention of Department, District, County Council and Post Commanders is directed to section 103, Manual of Procedure, which prescribes the manner in which applications for membership will be handled. Applications for membership of new, reinstating or transfer members must be voted on by the members present at a regular Post meeting. No Post, County Council, District, Department or National officer, or any other member, has authority to reject the application card of a person who is eligible for membership.

23. The attention of Post Commanders and Quartermasters is directed to section 218 of the Manual of Procedure, Duties of Quartermaster, which provides for the Dues Reserve Fund. The Post Quartermaster is required to maintain a dues reserve fund to which shall be credited not less than fifty percent of the Post's part of the current year's dues paid by each member prior to July 1, including life membership dues payouts received from the National Organization as set forth in section 717 of the Manual of Procedure.

24. The attention of all units is called to section 1101 of the National By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure, which provides for the formation and jurisdiction of the Auxiliary. This section provides that each unit of the Auxiliary shall be under the jurisdiction of the corresponding unit of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, but shall be permitted to function in accordance with the National Ritual, By-Laws and Rules and Regulations of the Auxiliary. In addition to provisions of Auxiliary By-Laws, solicitation of funds or donations by Auxiliary units, including contracts with fund-raising organizations for greeting cards, calendars and/or label programs shall be subject to approval and ratification by the governing body of the corresponding unit of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

25. Actions taken by the delegates of the 117th National Convention included the discontinuance of the Men's Auxiliary. No new charters may be formed, and effective December 31, 2016, all issued charters shall be cancelled. Upon cancellation, disposition of Men's Auxiliary property shall be handled in accordance with

Section 1301(c) of the National Manual of Procedure. Men's Auxiliary members are encouraged to apply for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary.

26. Sections 219 and 704 of the Manual of Procedure outline the various things for which the Post Relief Fund can be used. A few years ago, the phrase, "To foster true patriotism through historical and educational programs," was added to this section. This allows the Post to use the relief funds for the Voice of Democracy program or other Americanism programs that are educational. This does not include Post building projects, hall remodeling, color guard uniforms or any other expenditure that does not follow these guidelines.

27. The National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, Missouri moved in May 2011 but they are still receiving mail at their old address which delays responses to the veterans. Please ensure that all requests are addressed to their new mailing address at: National Personnel Records Center, Military Records Center, 1 Archives Drive, St. Louis, MO 63138-1002. Please share this information to all your fellow veterans.

28. *Special Mailing:* A special mailing was mailed by the State Adjutant office to all Council members & Post Quartermasters which contains the following information: 2016-17 Directory, Membership and Community Activities program, Department By-Laws and many forms (i.e., Buddy Poppy, Bond, Graves Registration, etc.) that must be used for the year 2016-17. ***Post Quartermasters are requested to make sure that this information is passed on to their respective Commanders and Adjutants as soon as the package is received by you.*** They will also be required to reply by e-mail and/or USPS that the information has been received and passed out to their Commanders and Adjutants.

29. *State Commander Special Visit Request:* As was announced at the recent CoA meeting, any Posts wishing to have the State Commander attend Post functions (This includes any type of functions, i.e., cook outs, awards presentations, etc.) to contact the State Adjutant Office at least 4 weeks in advance to give him time to schedule it.

30. *Patriot Day, September 11:* Per Presidential Proclamation, September 11 is designated as "Patriot Day." The President requests the flag of the United States be flown at half-staff (sunrise to sunset) and a moment of silence observed in honor of the individuals who lost their lives on that day due to terrorist attacks on the United States.

31. *National POW/MIA Recognition Day, September 18:* Posts should conduct an appropriate ceremony. Information on conducting a ceremony can be found in the current VFW Manual of Procedure.

32. *Dates to Remember:*

- 5 Sept * Labor Day
- 11 Sept * Patriot Day
- 16 Sept * POW/MIA Recognition Day
- 18 Sept * U.S. Air Force Birthday
- 25 Sept * Gold Star Mother's Day
- 13 Oct * US Navy Established
- 15 Oct * Council of Administration, State President Testimonial
- 27 Oct * Navy Day

33. *Candidates for Department High Office 2016 - 2017:*

- Department Commander * Richard A. Farris * Post 6131
- Department Senior Vice Commander * Darald M. Mitchell * Post 9779
- Department Junior Vice Commander * Christopher L. Armstrong * Post 9437
- Department Quartermaster * David D. Williams * Post 1641
- Department Judge Advocate * William B. Bradbury * Post 1605

Department Surgeon * Christopher L. Robison * Post 4527
Department Chaplain * David O. Sivret * Post 9779

34. Candidates for National Council Member, Maine, 2017-2021:

Thomas R. Lussier * Post 6859
David D. Williams * Post 1641
Kevin G. Woodward * Post 11553
Ronald F. Smith * Post 1761
Raymond R. Lupo * Post 4633
Andre L. Dumas * Post 9389
Steven J. SanPedro * Post 6859
Arthur J. Roy * Post 1603

35. District Meetings Dates:

11 Sep * D-11 * Old Orchard Beach Post 7997 @ 2 pm * QM Williams
17 Sep * D-1 * Ashland Post 9699 @ 1 pm * Adj Dumas (Lunch at noon)
18 Sep * D-4 * Old Town Post 3381 @ 2 pm * Cmdr SanPedro
23 Oct * D-1 * Caribou Post 9389 @ 1 pm * JVC Mitchell (Lunch @ noon)
23 Oct * D-5 * Newport Post 11191 @ 1 pm * Cmdr SanPedro
23 Oct * D-9 * South Paris Post 9787 @ 1 pm * JA Armstrong
30 Oct * D-6 * Northport Post 6131 @ 1 pm * SVC Farris
30 Oct * D-7 * Waldoboro Post 4525 @ 2 pm * ????
30 Oct * D-8 * Winslow Post 8835 @ 10 am * Cmdr SanPedro

36. Directory Changes: (More changes to come in the October GOs.)

Pg 15 * Chg Secretary to: Liz Inzerma, 571 West Broadway, Lincoln, ME 04457, Tel: 403-1400; E-mail: lizinzerma@gmail.com

Pg 21 * D-2 * Chg Cmdr to: James A. Ewing, 2368 Lee Rd, Lee, ME 04455, Tel: 738-2197, E-mail: Ewing2004@hotmail.Com

Pg 21 * D-2 * Chg Adj to: William B. Bradbury, 895 W. Broadway, Lincoln, ME 04457, tel: 730-9191, E-mail: mainiacvetcamper@gmail.com

Pg 37 * Post 3108 * Chg Cmdr to: James L. Wood Sr., 195 Moosehead Trail, Waldo, ME 04915, tel: 508-264-2825, E-mail: N/A

Pg 37 * Post 3108 * Chg SO to: James L. Wood Sr., 195 Moosehead Trl., Waldo, ME 04915; tel: 508-264-2825, E-mail: N/A

OFFICIAL

BY ORDER OF:

Andre L. Dumas

Steven J. SanPedro

Andre L. Dumas
Adjutant

Steven J. SanPedro
Commander



State Commander
Steven J. San Pedro



Dear Comrades

I hope everyone has enjoyed the really great weather we have had this summer. As it comes to an end, please utilize as much good weather as you can to conduct your Post events. Before you know it, we will be looking at that white stuff.

On August 2, I attended Governor Lepage's Commanders Call with my counterparts from the other Veterans Organization. There was a lot of discussion about current and future Veterans Issues. I sent out notes from that meeting to the District Commanders.

The Besty Ann Ross House of Hope is a home being built in Augusta for Homeless Woman Veterans and their children. On August 3, Jim Bachelder, Charles McGillicuddy, Adrian Cole and I attended a board of appeals meeting in support of this Home. I also submitted a letter to the board showing our support. The building was being coded the wrong way and it was preventing this project from moving forward. After hearing both sides, the board voted unanimously to overturn the decision. I can't say that we sitting there made them make up their mind; but I can tell you that they knew for sure we were there in support of it! This is what we are here for Comrades, we must stand up for what is right and support them!!

The Membership is coming in kind of slow and our Life Member numbers haven't dropped in yet. They will come in sometime in September and then we will have a good read on where we stand. I ask that all Posts be proactive and creative on ways to bring in New Members and bring back those Members that left us. We are all recruiters and we must **recruit, reinstate and retain Members**. We can do this if we work as a team! We are still waiting to see who is going to be the first Post to reach 100%?

We conducted MOLD school in Bangor on 20 August and Portland on 21 August. We had a good turnout, training over 50 Leaders combined. This was the first time since 2012 we were able to have enough participation to conduct the classes. The days were long but because we had a lot of participation and some healthy debate they made them enjoyable. We as a Department took notes on some changes we need to make and we will work on them. Overall, the feedback was positive and most said they enjoyed and learned a lot. "Thank you" to all that attended the course! Also, thank you Chairman Kevin Woodward for organizing all of it and to all of the instructors for you time and effort.

On 27 August, I attended a ceremony for the York County Habitat for Humanity Veteran Build Project. Waylon Holbrook, his wife Nicole and their two boys were presented the keys to their new home. They put in over 400 hours of their time to help build this home. I want to thank Mike McInnis and Jim Bachelder for working so hard on this as Chairman and Secretary of the Veterans Steering Committee for this project. They also represented the VFW in a very professional way!

The Department Facebook page seems to be doing really well. There is so much information being put out on the page. If you haven't checked it out yet please do. While you are there, like it or comment on some of the great things our Posts are doing.

Continue to do the great things that you're doing for our Posts and our communities as we **"Serving the Present while Remembering and Honoring the Past"**

"Serving the Present While Remembering and Honoring the Past"

In Comradeship

Steven J. San Pedro

Steven J. San Pedro
Commander



Deceased Roll Call



Department of Maine, VFW
David O. Sivret, Chaplain
26 July * 25 August 2016

"May our Comrades Rest in Eternal Peace in Post Eternity?"



District 1

9389 * **GUERRETTE**, Lawrence R.
KIMBALL, George L.
MARTIN, Clifford L. * WW II

9609 * **LEVESQUE**, Leo P.

9699 * **CAMERON**, Dana W.
CYR, Gilbert
LYONS, Sheldon R.
MacDONALD, Harold A.
PORTER, Ivan R.
THERIAULT, Joseph M.
WRIGHT, Morrison
YELLE, Albert M.

District 2

1605 * **BRODERICK**, Richard H.

4154 * **PELKEY**, Lewis D. * Vietnam

District 5

6924 * **GULLIFER**, Donald D.

District 6

3108 * **ROBET**, Robert A. II * Korea

District 8

887 * **Mc DONALD**, Delbert I.

8835 * **GURNEY**, Robert Arthur * WW II

District 9

1641 * **MOWATT**, Henry H.
SYLVESTER, Henry E.
THERIAULT, Elbert R.

3335 * **ALLEN**, Stephen E. * Vietnam
JOHNSEN, James H. Sr.

District (Cont)

9787 * **HOWE**, Paul W.
PAUL, Maurice O.

District 10

6783 * **GRANFORS**, Arthur L.

6859 * **BONNEVIE**, George L.
CAMPBELL, Andrew E. * OIF
CROTEAU, Francis L.
DOUGHTY, Charles E.
GALLANT, Gilbert G. III
JODRIE, Willis L.
MERRILL, George A.
POULOS, Nick E.
STEARNS, Randall F.

10529 * **DONALD**, Whitney W.
WHITNEY, Donald W.

District 11

6977 * **MARIANI**, Joseph W.

9394 * **SPINNEY**, Delbert H. * Korea

9935 * **ROY**, Emile J.

Members-at-Large

15020 * **MOSHER**, Edward H.
ZIMMERMAN, John H.



**SENIOR VICE COMMANDER
INSPECTOR
Richard A. Farris**



Hello comrades:

This is a start of a new year so keep up the good work and move forward.

Just a note to remind you that again, ***It is INSPECTION time! Please get YOUR reports in ASAP.*** All District Commanders have their inspection Reports. **WHERE ARE THE DICTRICTS STANDING WITH INSPECTING THE POST, HAVE WE STARTED?**

Please sent your reports to: Richard A. Farris, 160 Belmont Ave., Belfast Maine 04915

**JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER
COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES
AMERICANISM/LOYALTY DAY
Darald M. Mitchell**

Just got home from K.C. where I had Junior Vice Commanders training. I never knew that there was so much to learn in the VFW. Anyway, On Community Activities; were not doing too bad so far this year. Reports are coming in slow but coming in. Just keep up the good work. I know that a lot the Post out there are doing some good things. So why not report it and get credit for the hard work you all are doing.

Till Next month Semper Fi

Report !! Report !! Report !! Report !!

**QUARTERMASTER
VAVS * BUDDY POPPY * CHRISTMAS CARDS & LABELS
INSURANCE & BOND * MEN'S AUXILIARY
David D. Williams, PSC**

Fall is here, were did summer go? I understand that there was a good turnout for MOLD school; I hope that there was a bunch of Post Quartermasters in the groups. That way if I have any questions, I can call you. With that said, I would like to thank Alfred Michaud, PSC Past Department QM for teaching the class for me while I was away for training myself along with the Junior Vice Commander.

Bonds: I have been receiving many Bond applications; there is only 1 problem though. There is a 2nd page to the Application now which was not there before: I apologize for not having it admitted my error. The Bonding Company wants to know ***"The gross Receipts for the year and also there is a question on rather or not your Post has put in any claims against the bond in the last 3 years."*** I have not heard of any claims and this is my 3rd year as Quartermaster, so everyone should be answering that question with a NO. ***Also, it asks for the Commanders address.*** I mailed a copy out to every Post that sent me in a Bond application. A couple of Posts returned them unsigned noting they had already paid. Not asking for another check; please just fill in information and return to my office. To the QM's that had already done so, "Thanks." There is a copy of the Form in the back of these GO's.

Men's Auxiliary: As of Dec 31, 2016; there will be No more Men's Auxiliary. They will cease to exist. The men will need to fill out an application to join the Auxiliary. There is no transferring or merging, you have to join as a new member with proof of eligibility. Also, notice all Funds ***must be donated*** to a needy organization or whatever or turned over to their respective Post. Then it will be up to each Post to decide as to what they want to do with the funds. They can in turn give the moneys to the Auxiliary's if the Post has one. Any questions on this, call me.

Poppies: To date I have not received too many orders but please remember to send your order in time to hold your poppy drives.

All post by now should have turned in their Quarterly reports, if not then they are **LATE**.

**JUDGE ADVOCATE
HOSPITAL/VAVS, MAINE VETERANS HOMES' AUGUSTA
NATIONAL VETERANS & MILITARY SUPPORT (NVMS)
VETERANS CEMETERY, CENTRAL
Christopher L. Armstrong**

Hello Comrades. I hope all is well with you! I have been very busy this summer with this great weather that we have had! The donations have been coming in very fast and it is great to hear from all of you. I still am getting some checks addressed wrong, so again please make the checks from National Veterans and Military Services out to the "**Department of Maine, VFW**" and put "**NVMS**" in the memo line and then mail it to me so I can record it and mail it in.

On the VAVS side, please make check out to "**VAVS**" and mail them to me and I will record them properly.

All the checks for the Commanders Special Project that I am receiving should be mailed to Christopher Robinson to get credit for them; I will forward the ones I have to him. The donations have been great this year so keep up the great work!

**SURGEON
MEMBERSHIP * SAFETY & DRUG ABUSE * BLOOD
William B. Bradbury, Chairman**

Membership: Hello Comrades, I hope the people who came to Mold School learned at least one or two things. At this time, I have received 5 recruiting event forms: 1605 Burlington, 887 Augusta, 1603 Auburn, 9787 South Paris and 9935 Sanford! If you have completed a recruiters' event and have not sent me your report, make sure you do so your Post will receive credit for doing so. We have at this time two comrades who will receive the Commanders Membership Ball cap at the October CoA and one more who is very close. As I always say and will say, every member is a recruiter. Without your help, our great organization would be a dying organization. So everyone remember: **RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS - REINSTATE MEMBERS - RETAIN ALL MEMBERS**. If you have any questions or need any kind of help, don't hesitate to contact **mainiacvetcamper@gmail.com** or call me at 207-730-9191 or any one of Comrades in your area on the membership team. Anyone of us will be more than happy to help you at any time. "Thank you" for what you do for this great organization.

Safety & Drug Abuse & Blood: Safety and Blood reports are coming in, but coming in a little slow. Right now; the following Posts have reported

Blood: 2599 Presque Isle, 9779 Calais, 11553 Harrington, 887 Augusta, 1603 Auburn, 832 South Portland.

Safety: 2599 Presque Isle, 1605 Burlington, 11553 Harrington, 887 Augusta, 1285 Waterville and 6924 Fairfield.

Keep the reports coming; if you have done it more than once and haven't reported it for all the times you have done, report it and report it all.

Surgeon: For the Veterans who are on opioids, the VA system is changing the use and ease of handouts of pain killers with Veterans. They have started scheduling re-evaluations, blood and urine tests for Veterans who have been on these drugs. So don't be surprised when you get a letter or a call saying comes in for tests or an evaluation. If you have been on these drugs for a long time it will be a difficult journey getting them out of your system. Pay attention and follow the recommendations your Dr. tells you.

CHAPLAIN
David O. Sivret, Father

Comrades

Some of us just finished a weekend of MOLD Training. I had some goals and objectives for the weekend. One of my goals was to take away as much information as I could in the different positions. I think I'm safe in saying that many of us in the VFW wear many different hats in our organization, from the Post to the District and Department. We have to have a vision.

"Where there is no vision, the people perish." - **Proverbs 29:18 (KJV)**

The word "perish" can also be translated, "go unrestrained . . . each to his own way." What a tragic but fitting description of many organizations today! It can even be true of an entire nation.

If we are going to walk together, if we are going to work together in meaningful relationship with one another, we need to agree to work together. No one person can do it on his/her own. An essential ingredient in our working together with someone is agreed upon common goals and objectives.

Whatever the goal is you set, you will find that your relationship with one another will be enriched. The reason being is when we set goals together, we communicate with one another, and that is always good for our Department.

As you think about a process to set goals at your Post. You might use the same process to set your goals and objectives in your family lives.

Blessings, Fr. David O. Sivret + Pro Deo Et Patria

IMMEDIATE PAST STATE COMMANDER
GERALD L. FRANCIS

Dear Comrades: Your vacation is over and now it is time to buckle down and do what we have to do. September is here and schools starting, did you get with them for the VoD/PP/ToY? Did you make arrangements for the District Inspector to inspect your Post records? Did you report everything you did for Veterans to the Department and National? Remember, all Comrades are membership recruiters, please recruit every day. Take out the A—State Checklist and go right down the list. I believe that you all can meet and exceed your goals this year and **we will have more "All State and All American Commanders."**

I will remind all members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars that our mission is to:

Honor, Support, and Defend all Veterans.

We need to support our National Commander **Brain J. Duffy**, Our new Department Commander **Steven J. SanPedro**, our Posts and Districts to accomplish our mission.

Our Department Commander Stephen J. SanPedro Theme this year is:

Serving the Present While Remembering the Past

Our National Commander Brian J. Duffy theme this year is:

CLEAR THE WAY

"WE CAN DO IT THIS YEAR LETS GET IT DONE"

Remember: NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS

Any Problems or Questions please contact me at: Gerald L. Francis, 727 Greenwoods Rd., Peru, Maine 04290, Phone Home -562-4404, Post -369-0302, email: glfvw1641@live.com

CHIEF OF STAFF
WEBSITE COORDINATOR
Thomas R. Lussier, PSC/CoS

The Department Website is good working order. The 2016-2017 Directory has been updated. Any changes must be submitted to the Department Adjutant.

Would always like to see more guestbook entries!

Comrades the Department website contains an incredible amount of information designed to make everyone's job much easier. 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!

COMMANDERS SPECIAL PROJECT (CSP)
Christopher L. Robison, Chairman

Comrades, I have received donations from six Posts so far. Please keep them coming! The House in the Woods is an excellent resource available to Veterans in Maine. Our donations will enable them to continue to expand and provide benefits to even more of our Brothers and Sisters in arms. I encourage everyone to check out their website, www.houseinthewoods.org and like their Facebook page. Please send donations to me: Christopher Robison, 15 East Bucksport Rd., Orrington, ME 04474. Checks should be made out to: "Department of Maine, VFW" and put in the memo line: "House in the Woods."

NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBER, MAINE (NCMM)
VETERANS ADVISORY TO VA MAINE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM
Raymond R. Lupo, PSC/Advisor

NCMM: VJ Day, Visitors to Washington D.C. can join in a Victory over Japan Day observance at the Nation World War 11 Memorial on Sept 2 at 1100 hrs. The Memorial has very few disability parking spaces and street parking will be very limited since it's a work day and the tourist season. Taxi to the Memorial is plentiful and recommended. The closest Metro Station (Federal Triangle and Smithsonian) are both about a half mile away.

Mainehealth Care: VA News Release on Project ARCH ended in August and VA announced that Veterans enrolled in the program will be able to continue care close to home under the Choice program such as the unusual or excessive provision and providers agreements. Veterans receiving care under ARCH will continue care without interruption. A town hall meeting was held at Cary Medical Center with the Director of Togus along with VA Benefits Specialist available to answer all questions..

Togus 150 Years Old: Togus will be turning 150 years old and will have a celebration on September 17th between 9 am and 4 pm. It will be outdoors at the campus.

HISTORIAN
Robert H. Bernard, PSC

Another month has gone by and here we are closing in on September. There is one item I haven't received any of and that is newspaper articles. I am sure there are activities going on in your local community that have been written about in your local paper, so, please send the articles to our public relations chairman so that he can forward them to me for the commanders book. Thank you.

As always, I will be looking for information, pictures and other items that will be entered in his history book. I would like to thank all that have sent me pictures, newspaper articles, e-mails, and all other information for the Commander's history book. Thank You

Send information to the following: Robert Bernard, 78 Robie St., Gorham, ME 04038 or e-mail @ rbernard@maine.rr.com

HOMELESS VETERANS
VETERANS' CEMETERY SOUTH * LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT (AUGUSTA)
James E. N. Bachelder, PSC/Chairman

Homeless Veterans: Our next important event is the Debbie Myers and Friends Homeless Veterans Benefit Concert. This is on Sunday September 18th at the Augusta Civic Center at 12:00 noon. More information can be found on the [Maine Homeless Veterans Benefit Concert Facebook](#) page or at www.mhvbc.org. Please take a look and spread the word. This is an easy way to support our Homeless Veterans and enjoy a Great County concert.

When the VA finds a Veteran who is homeless, they ask for support to house the Veteran and the family for a couple nights while the system locates a more permanent solution. If your Post has funds, make a motion to set aside funds for up to a 3-day motel stay. Contact your local motels and see if you can get a cut rate for these situations. If an individual calls requesting housing, refer them to the VA for vetting. We know some individuals like abusing the system. The VA can insure this is not happening.

Keep your eyes out for tracks in the woods and individuals wandering the town! This is how we find our Homeless Veterans.

Roger Goodoak from Portland attended out last VAHVNG meeting. He has been very successful in locating Veteran encampments. He will be working with us. He will go anywhere in Maine to help Veterans. Let us know what you find and we can put the right people on the case.

The Betsy Ann Ross House of Hope is back on track. We supported this project during the appeal hearing. They won the appeal so the construction is continuing. They are now in need of volunteer assistance and funding. If you can help, contact www.betsyannrosshouseofhope.org or look for them on Facebook.

This month, we received \$25 from Post 1605 in Burlington, \$25 from Post 7529 in Island Falls and \$50 from Post 109 in Ellsworth. All donations are to be mailed to James Bachelder, 2973 Milton Mills Rd, Acton, ME 04001-5018. Make the check out to the "**Department of Maine, VFW**" with "**Stand-Down**" in the memo line. This will insure the funds will be spent as needed.

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.

Veterans' Cemetery South: We do not hold meetings this July and August.

The people in Acton have been doing a great job raising funds for the cemetery association. The count is well above the \$900 the committee removed from the donation. On Tuesday, September 6th at 5 pm, we will be presented the funds raised. We'll report next month on the results.

We meet on the second Thursday at 9:30 am at the Southern Maine Veterans Cemetery beginning in September.

Assistant Legislative Chairman (Augusta): We are assembling a coalition to support any new legislation in Augusta along the VFW National and Department directives. All questions on supporting legislation will be brought before the Council of Administration. We are reviewing the recent past for ideas.

LEGISLATIVE
AUDIT & FINANCE (A&F)
Peter F. Miesburger, PSC/Chairman

My Fellow Comrades: It's hard to believe that by the time you receive this month's General Orders, it will be less than sixty (60) days to the nationwide General Election. We will be "Voting" for the President of our Country as well as both members of Congress, the entire State of Maine Senate and House as well as Local, County and Municipal officials. I am asking all our District and Post Commanders to insure that all our Comrades are properly registered to "Vote". At the same time, to insure that the candidates that are seeking your support, understand the following items: Health Care and Homeless issues. Task the candidates to task and don't back down, remind them that we elect them and that we can send them home. Don't forget when

you meet the candidates, make sure that you wear your "VFW" cap to let not only the candidates but also the public in general that "Veterans" get out and "Vote".

Again Comrades, don't forget our Housebound and Nursing Home Comrades if they need your assistance in "Voting", such as to provide transportation to local "Voting" facilities.

Don't forget your family members; take them with you when you go to "Vote". **Remember every "Vote" counts.**

**MAINE OFFICERS LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (MOLD)
WREATH ACROSS AMERICA (WAA)
Kevin G. Woodward, Chairman**

Maine Officers Leadership Development (MOLD): The MOLD held on 20 August in Bangor and 21 August in Portland was a complete success. We had very good attendance at both locations. I wish to "Thank" all of the Comrades who attended and all of the staff who presented an excellent program. There was a great deal of information passed out and discussed. I hope that all in attendance was able to take away something that will assist them in performing the duties and functions of our great organization.

Thanks go out to Post 1761 and 6859 for their support and assistance for providing their facilities in order to make this a great success.

Please know that Commander San Pedro and his entire staff are available to assist you for the success of our great organization and the Department of Maine Veterans of Foreign Wars.

WAA: National Wreaths Across America Day December 17, 2016.

The mission to **Remember, Honor and Teach** is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery as well as over 1,100 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad. Please become a part of this mission to honor our fallen comrades and help the Department with your sponsorships. As we draw closer to the end of the summer, I am in hopes that everyone will take some time and obtain some sponsorship for this important program.

Thank you to those who have participated thus far. Remember that each \$15.00 sponsorship that you obtain provide a return of \$5.00 to the Department to assist in the continuing support of our various programs. Please send sponsorships to: Kevin G. Woodward, 9 Johnson Lane. Machiasport ME. 04655. **ME0016P** is the Department ID number and should be placed in the memo field of your check.

**NATIONAL HOME
Charles A. Warden, Chairman**

I want to "Thank" the VFW Comrades and VFW Auxiliaries for their support in the VFW National Home being able to acquire the seventh Van they needed. I know the Home "Thanks" the VFW Department of Maine and Auxiliaries very much.

I will list who the home helps. (1) Military Families. Families of active duty military during a deployment or unaccompanied tour! (2) Veteran Families. A Veteran and his or her family during difficult times! (3) VFW Descendants. Families of VFW or VFW Auxiliary descendants!

The above Comrades is why we support the VFW National Home for Children. Keep up the support with donations taken at District or Post meetings or even consider an automatic monthly gift. Thank you and God Bless.

POW/MIA
John J. Bouchard, Chairman

This year, POW/MIA Recognition Day will be on 16 September 2016. Every Post in the Department should hold a POW/MIA function in their respective communities as this is the time that we honor those POW/MIAs not only within our own communities, but the State of Maine and the entire Nation. Let us not forget them as they served their country as we did not forget their families who also suffered by having a loved one missing.

When you have completed your remembrance, please report it to me at: John J. Bouchard, 102 Highland Ave., Fort Kent, ME 04743-1467 or go to the Department of Maine, VFW website and report it on the form as provided on it.

The Department of Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced remains of the following U.S. servicemen have been identified and are being returned to their family for burial with full military honors:

- *Army PFC Sgt 1st Class Lawarance J. Smith of Crowley, LA
- *Army Cpl Fredrick G. Collins, 23
- *Army Cpl Larry M. Dunn
- *Army Air Force 2nd Lt Marvin R. Rotlman
- *Army PFC William R. Butz, 19 of Glendrive, MT, No Korea
- *Army Air Force 2nd Lt Robert W. Ward, Germany
- *Navy Ensign John C. England, 20, Alhambra, CA; Pearl Harbor
- *Navy Seamen 2nd Class Vernan W. Grow; Machinist Mate 1st Class arl L. Melton and Ensign Verdi Senderstrom, USS Oklahoma
- *Marine Corps 1st Lt Stanley Johnson, So. Vietnam
- *Marine PFC Charles E. Oetjen, 18 of Blue Hill IL
- *Marine PFC George H. Traver of Chatham, NY
- *Marine Pvt Dale R. Geddes, 21 of Grand Falls, NE
- *Navy Fireman 2nd Class James B. Boring, 21 of Vales Mills, OH
- *Army Cpl Charles A. White, 20 of New Lexington, OH
- *Army Master Sgt Ira U. Miss Jr., 23 of Buckeystow, MD
- *Arm Cpl Curtis J. Wells, 19 of Huron, MI
- *Army Air Force 1st Lt Robert L. McIntosh, 21 of Tipton, ID

Finally, once your program is completed, please post it with the Department of Maine Facebook and if you have picture, please share them with our Historian Robert Bernard.

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER
LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT (AUGUSTA)
Adrian S. Cole, Chairman

Thanks for another successful month of getting the word out about what we do as the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Several Posts have really stepped up their online activity and it has paid some dividends. The New York Times interviewed our State Commander last month and media outlets are now reaching out to us for input, all signs that our public relations campaign is working. When the media has questions about Veterans, they should be coming the VFW and not the VA or civilian agencies for answers. Campaigns like these do not bear fruit overnight, so stay the course. The recruits will follow when they see continued support for the issues that they see are important to them. They need to see consistent activity from month to month.

Our social media campaign is moving along. Many Posts are utilizing it, and others are coming online. I want to recognize Belfast, Hampden, and Bath for their work building a social media presence. If you want to see how to manage a Post level profile, check out these pages. While I have access to the Bath page, the men managing it are Ken Lambert, Al Sionni, and Bob Joyce, so pick their brains for ideas when you see them.

Do not forget to utilize the conventional media outlets. We need to be dynamic in our approach. Some of you have found getting our story printed in media difficult due to the policies of editors. For example, the Kennebec Journal will not publish stories about donations and “check passing” pictures. This only validates the need for an effective social media campaign. We need to get our message out the community and tell our story. This is not bragging. It is an effort to communicate the truth about our organization by breaking stereotypes. If we leave our story to be told by the editorial staff of certain media outlets, we are destined for failure. At this time, I am tracking media submissions from Bath 7738, Topsham 2197, Washington 9437, and Auburn 1603. I have found more articles and television coverage and posted it to Facebook, but these are who have submitted articles to me. We will likely move away from this system of media tracking and standard of success by the next CoA as it is proving to be outdated.

We conducted MOLD training last weekend and covered how to establish an effective social media campaign for your Post. Thank you to all who took time out of your busy schedules to come participate. Anyone who would like copies of the slides to help set up a Post social media campaign can email me at mevfwpr@gmail.com and I will send them to you.

The Maine Bureau of Veterans Services has a new website with plenty of resources available to you. One great tool is the consolidated calendar of Veteran events in Maine. This tool allows us to see what is going on around the State, and to add our events to the list of things happening. I encourage you to utilize it for planning to de-conflict events and to help get the word out so you can maximize participation. The calendar can be found at <http://www.maine.gov/veterans/events/index.html>. To add an event to the calendar, email Laura Allen at laura.e.allen@maine.gov.

Until next month, keep up the activity, take pictures and post them using #VFWPostPride at the end of your text. This will tie your images to our national media campaign and allow VFW National to download the images to their website automatically.

**VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE
TOGUS BEAL HOUSE
LOUIS A. PETERSON, Chairman**

VSO: The Togus VSO is as always right on top of helping the Veterans as well as spouses. This includes all Veterans no matter if they are not VFW members, so if you know of any Veterans that need assistance, have them get in touch with our office! James & Joan are more than willing to assist.

Just a few comments that I have received:

“My thanks to the VFW & James for their guidance! That helped me to get a disability. Thank You”

“I would like to thank you for all the help you gave me with your knowledge in VA affairs”

“Have sent several Vietnam Veterans to receive assistance on their claims! They were unaware of the office.”

“I was so thankful for the help, kindness & encouragement received after 45 years of suffering since my returning from the tour in Vietnam.”

Togus Beal House: Togus maintenance is going to remove the wallpaper in rooms that have paper due to the fact there is lead paint under it. We were read many “Thank you” notes from guests that stayed in our facility. There were glowing reports given to our House-mother CeCe. She is performing above and beyond the call of duty! Thank you CeCe!!!! As you read, you can see the Beal House is being run up and beyond our HIGH standards!

**VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE
Cornelius J. Ware, SO**

2016 Maine Hire-A-Vet Campaign Launches September 1: The 2016 Maine Hire-A-Vet Campaign will take place over 100 days, starting with its kick-off event on September 1 in Augusta. The goal of the statewide

campaign is to commit at least 100 employers to recruit Veterans and with the result of at least Veterans hired.

The campaign provides support for employers to expand the hiring of Veterans to include a network of State and federal agencies, resources and non-profits; education on military language and culture; assistance with recruiting, hiring, assimilation and retention; a Veteran Hiring Toolkit and recognition for the hiring and advancement of Veterans.

The Maine Hire-A-Vet Campaign kicks-off at 8:30 am on September 1 at the Augusta Armory, 179 Veteran Avenue. Opening remarks will include Governor Paul LePage; First Lady Ann LePage; Commissioner of Labor Jeanne Paquette; Adjutant General Douglas Farnham; State Human Resources Director Joyce Oreskovich and a video featuring 2015 Maine Hire-A-Vet employer Goodwill Industries of Northern New England and a Veteran Hire, Ryan Suga.

Following the opening remarks, up to 80 employers will be recruiting Veterans and non-Veterans at a hiring fair from 9 am to noon. The kick-off event is open to the public. Veterans' employment representatives are available throughout the State and can visit employers to assist them in finding qualified Veterans and provide information on the benefits of hiring Veterans. Employers or Veterans can contact campaign coordinator, Steven Roy @ 207-624-5156 for more information. Employers and Veterans can also contact their local Career Center, a list of Career Centers is available at <http://www.mainecareercenter.com/locations./index.shtml>.

Maine Career Centers are equal opportunity providers. Auxiliary aids and services are available to individuals with disabilities upon request.

Choice Champions: VA Maine has found Choice Champions serving our Veterans and Providers. These individuals are the very knowledgeable about the Choice program and are here to help Veterans experiencing Choice related issues. They are located in Bldg 206, room 218 at Togus. They can be reached at the following number and extensions. (Charity Heroux @ 623-8411, ext 6164); (Katie Caswell @ 623-8411, ext 4133); (Corey Vail @ 623-8411, ext 6669) and (Corey Wilson @ 623-9411, ext 6668)!

Pineland Farms VAST Women Veterans Archery & Multi Sports Camp: Please help spread the word about this event if you know of any women Veterans that may be interested. Pineland runs some good Veteran programs and this is a free fun adventure but sometimes even Veterans dealing with day to day need a welcome break.

**VOICE OF DEMOCRACY * PATRIOT'S PEN * TEACHER OF THE YEAR
CONVENTION 2017 * CONVENTION SITE SLECTION 2018
Ronald F. Smith, PSC**

Greetings Comrades! It is September already! Where has the summer gone?

The Theme's for this year are: Voice of Democracy "**My Responsibility to American**" and Patriot's Pen "**The America I Believe In**". Brochures are available online as well as from the VFW store.

If you haven't already, it's time to get into the schools, church groups, civic groups and everywhere else to the application and information out to the students. This is our biggest and best program for our next generation of leaders. A chance for them to showcase their talents and possibly win a scholarship! Let's not let them down.

Again, let me stress the point! Comrades; this is not a school program; it is however a Veterans of Foreign Wars Program. We need to get out into the community and increase our participation by including Church and Civic groups; Home Schooling and anyone else you can get interested in these programs.

Also, don't forget our Teachers! There are a lot of very qualified and deserving teachers we could and should recognize!

Again; "Thank You" all for you do for the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the VoD/PP/ToY programs. In Comradeship.

DEPARTMENT SCOUTING
Michael K. Davis, Chairman

September is upon us. There are still many activities going on. Please go to the Girl Scout and Boy Scout web pages listed.

Girl Scout Web Page: <http://gsusa.ebiz.uapps.net/vp/FamilyManagement/Activities.aspx?forward=1>

Boy Scouts Web Page: <http://www.pinetreebsa.org/>

I have received some Post reports. Please document your scouting activities. You may mail your scouting activity reports to me @ 135 Conant Ave., Auburn, ME 04210.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES
Michael A. McLinnis, Chairman

It is an important time for Youth Activities.

As all of our schools have opened, there are a lot of activities the Youth of our Communities are doing. Sports such as Girls and Boys Soccer; Girls Field Hockey; Football; Cheering; Cross Country and many others! Also many schools have Bands, Choirs and Drama classes. .

Also it is the Fall season and there are many Country Fairs going on, where many young people are out there supporting them doing things such as 4H Club.

Get your Posts active in supporting these young people and report your activities.



Testimonial



State President Kim Baldwin

Let's all get together to honor our Department of Maine President on this special occasion

- Location** *Franklin Veterans Club, 4 Cards Xing, Franklin, ME*
- Date & Time** *October 15, 2016
Social Hour – 5:00 to 6:00 pm * Banquet – 6:00 pm
Cost: \$25.00*
- Dinner Menu** *Assorted Hors d'Oeuvres ~ Chicken Cordon Blue ~
Beef Stuffed Peppers ~ Rice Pilaf ~ Artisan Mashed Potatoes ~
Vegetable Medley ~ Green Beans Almondine ~
Mixed Green Salad ~ Dinner Rolls ~ Assorted Desserts ~
Coffee * Hot Tea * Sweet Tea*
- Dress Code:** *Business Casual*

Hotel Information:

- Ramada Inn** (Hqds): 215 High St., Ellsworth * Tel: 667-9341 * Rates: \$107 + tax for 2 Queen or 1 King bed.
- Eagle Lodge:** 278 High St., Ellsworth * Tel: 667-3311 (If a VFW member, 15% discount). Rates: \$89 + tax for 2 full beds or 1 Queen ** \$99 + tax for 2 Queen beds.
- Colonial Inn:** 321 High St., Ellsworth * Tel: 667-5548. Rates: \$109 + tax for 1 double or 1 Queen (If have 10 rooms reserved, rates would be \$99)
- Hampton Inn:** 6 Down East Hwy, Ellsworth * Tel: 667-2688. Rates: \$169 + tax for 2 Queen or 1 King bed.
- The Comfort Inn:** 130 High St., Ellsworth * Tel: 667-1345. Rates: \$169 + tax for 1 King or 2 Queen beds (If a VFW member, 10% discount).

XX

Please Reserve the following

Meals: Total Tickets: _____ x \$ 25.00 = _____

Name _____ **Name** _____
Name _____ **Name** _____

Make Your Check payable to: VFW Auxiliary 109

Forward to: VFW Post 109
 PO Box 281
 Attn: Barbara Gardner, Treasurer VFW Aux 109
 Ellsworth, ME 04605
 Tel #: 207-565-3555

Ticket Deadline: 15 September 2016

*(No tickets will sold after the deadline – Tickets will not be held without a payment)
 (There will no refunds on banquet tickets)*

(Special needs for Banquet, please notify Barbara Gardner with your purchase of tickets request)



"The mission of the VFW Foundation is to support programs and services that secure, manage and distribute resources to improve the lives of veterans, military service personnel, their families and the communities where they live."

VFW FOUNDATION POST & COMMUNITY SUPPORT GRANT HIGHLIGHTS

- Posts & Auxiliaries can request up to \$1,000 each for activities related to community outreach or to renovate or repair their Post buildings.
- The grant application will be uploaded to our website, www.vfwfoundation.org before the end of August 2016.
- The application will include a cover sheet, guidelines, instructions, an easy-to-fill-out two page form and a frequently asked question section.
- We will accept requests beginning September 1, 2016.
- Posts/Auxiliaries will be notified of grant approval or denial within 30 calendar days of application submission.
- Both a Post and its Auxiliary can apply for grant funding for the same project.
- A Post and/or its Auxiliary can only apply for this grant once per fiscal year (September 1 to July 1).
- Requests are not required solely in support of military or veteran causes or projects.
- Typical grant awards will be for activities that include a direct Post outreach such as purchasing school supplies for underprivileged local youth or a grant can be a lateral donation to a local nonprofit such as a homeless shelter or Boy Scout Troop (within 25 miles of the Post).
- Ineligible requests include memorial construction or repair, activities that will benefit a particular religion or race or any cause that would seek to exclude or discriminate.
- Grants will not be awarded to Posts or Auxiliaries wishing to donate funds to government agencies with the exception of schools, law enforcement, firefighters or first responder units.
- Grant applications will be awarded on a first-to-apply basis with emphasis that all requests meet the designated application guidelines.
- Approximately \$300,000 will be awarded in fiscal year 2016-2017 or approximately 300 unique grants of \$1,000.
- Posts that are awarded grant funding must complete a final report by July 1, 2017, which details how funds were spent and the outcome of their project.
- For questions or additional information contact Jason Couch, VFW Foundation Grants Coordinator, at (816) 968-1174 or jcouch@vfw.org

Veterans of Foreign Wars Foundation • 406 West 34th Street • Kansas City, MO 64111
Tel: (816) 968-1128 • Fax (816) 968-2789 • E-mail: foundation@vfw.org • Website: www.vfwfoundation.org



Graves Registration Report

Department of Maine, VFW



Mail to: David O. Sivret, Chaplain
 Department of Maine, VFW
 PO Box 1121
 Calais, ME 04619-1121

Subject: Report of Deceased Comrade

Post # _____ District # _____ regrets to report the death of:

(Last Name) (Middle Initial) (First Name)

Whose Address was: _____

Who Served with: _____ During: _____
 (Branch of Service) (War Era: WW I, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, etc.)

Date of Death: _____ Place of Death: _____

Place of Burial/Cemetery: _____

Name & Address if Next of Kin: _____

(Street Address) (Town or City) (State) (Zip Code)

Relationship: _____ Obituary Enclosed: _____

Signed: _____ Name _____ Office: _____ Date: _____
 (Print Name)

Date Received & Recorded: _____

Date Receipt Returned to Post: _____

This receipt acknowledges that Post # _____ has reported the death of Comrade:
 _____ on _____

to the Department Chaplain. _____
 (Signature, Department Chaplain)

(All previous forms are obsolete. Updated 15 June 2015)



**Department of Maine
VFW Accountable Officers Bond**



This bond is written in consideration of the safeguards with Section 218, Manual of Procedure for the handling of funds. Section 218 provides that any negligence on the part of the Commander and Trustees shall make them individually and collectively liable with any others for any discrepancies. Every Unit should require that the Quartermaster deposit all moneys coming into their possession in the exact form in which they are received. **THE QUARTERMASTER SHOULD WELCOME A THOROUGH AUDIT FOR HIS/HER OWN PROTECTION.**

In connection with the quarterly audit performed by the Trustees, the following minimal procedures are recommended:

1. The Trustees should obtain the bank statement directly from the bank and reconcile the account themselves.
2. Amounts shown on the audit report should be obtained from, or agree to the financial records of the Quartermaster, by the Trustees.
3. Both the audit report and the financial records should be verified mathematically by the Trustees. The beginning balances shown on the current audit report should be agreed to, the ending balances as shown on the previous report. Deposits shown on the financial records should be compared and agreed to deposits shown on the bank statement. Checks returned by the banks should be compared, as to amount and payee, with financial reports during the process of bank reconciliation.

In the event of defalcation, the exact amount of the shortage must be proven. Your Department Quartermaster should be notified immediately and furnished with a certified copy of the audit showing in detail receipts, disbursements, and the amount of the shortage. The bonding Company requires that we handle our affairs in a business like way, and there is a time limit for both reporting a defalcation and for determining the extent thereof, after which time the liability of the Company ceases.

=====

COVERAGES OF THE POLICY REQUIRES THAT:

1. You agree to make/or cause to be made, at least annually, an audit of your books and accounts, including complete verification of all securities and bank balances pertaining to each "employee". If the above is not complied with, the Surety Company will refuse to honor claim of missing funds which cannot be proven by records. Monthly audits and reconciliation of bank statements may avoid this denial of claim.
2. The surety Company will not pay for loss resulting from any unauthorized advances made by an "employee" to any member for delinquent dues and assessments.
3. "Employee" means any duly elected position, as listed on policy schedule.

THIS BOND IS ONLY FOR YEAR SEPTEMBER 1, 2015 TO AUGUST 31, 2016

The funds of your Post are protected only for that year. Premium for the following year will be due September 1, 2015.

-----Cut-----

**RETURN THIS SECTION WITH YOUR CHECK TO THE
DEPARTMENT QUARTERMASTER
APPLICATION FOR VFW OFFICERS BOND Sept 1, 2015 to August 31, 2016**

(Give Name, Number and Location of Post)

TO: Department Quartermaster - David D. Williams
PO Box 56, Rumford, ME 04276

Date: _____

I hereby apply for bond in the principal sum of \$_____ for the Quartermaster of the above unit for the fiscal Year September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2016. Premium in the amount of \$_____ is herewith enclosed.

(Commander Signature)

(Address)

BOND RATES ARE \$ 4.25 up to 25.000 & \$ 3.25 over 25.000
\$ 3,000 Bond x \$ 4.25 = \$ 12.75 **\$ 5,000 Bond x \$ 4.25 = \$ 21.25**
\$ 10,000 Bond \$ 4.25 x 10 = \$ 42.50 **\$ 26,000 Bond \$ 3.25 x 26 = \$ 84.50**



DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States
 TRAVELERS CASUALTY & SURETY COMPANY OF AMERICA



Dear Comrade Commander:

Application for VFW Accountable Officers Crime Coverage

August 1, 2016

One of the most important communications you will receive during the year concerns the bond of your Unit Quartermaster. Section 703 of our National By-Laws requires that each accountable officer shall be bonded with an Indemnity Company as surety and the By-Laws places the responsibility for adequate bonding upon the Commander of the post. In any business it is customary to bond any officer handling funds. **THE BOOKS AND RECORDS OF THE ACCOUNTABLE OFFICER MUST BE AUDITED AT LEAST QUARTERLY BY THE TRUSTEES. THIS IS TO COMPLY WITH SECTION 218 OF THE NATIONAL MANUAL OF PROCEDURES.**

The Department Headquarters carries a schedule bond for the bonding of Department and Post Accountable Officers. This bond runs for a year – from September 1 to August 31 – and premium payments are made on that basis. All bonds expire on August 31 and the premium for the new year is due on September 1.

Any unit may decide whether it prefers to take out a bond with some other surety company or have its funds protected by the Department Headquarters schedule bond. But the matter should be given prompt attention because if your Accountable Officer had previously been bonded through the National Headquarters, a new premium payment is required on September 1, 2016.

To take advantage of Department coverage, all you have to do is determine what amount of bond is necessary, fill out and detach the application below and mail it with a check for the annual premium to your Department Quartermaster.

COVERAGES OF THE POLICY REQUIRE THAT:

1. You agree to make/or cause to be made, at least annually, an audit of your books and accounts, including complete verification of all securities and bank balances pertaining to each “employee”.
 If the above is not complied with, the Surety Company will refuse to honor claim of missing funds which cannot be proven by records. Monthly audits and reconciliation of bank statements may avoid this denial of claim.
2. The Surety Company will not pay for loss resulting from any unauthorized advances made by an “employee” to any member for delinquent dues and assessments.
3. “Employee” means any duly elected position, as listed in the policy schedule.
4. **POST MUST SUBMIT A PROOF OF LOSS FORM WITHIN 120 DAYS FROM THE FIRST DATE OF DISCOVERY OF THE LOSS. Proof of loss resulting from dishonest acts on the part of the bonded officer is required in settlement of claims.**

THIS BOND IS ONLY FOR THE YEAR SEPTEMBER 1, 2016 TO AUGUST 31, 2017

The funds of your Post are protected only for that year. Premium for the following year will be due September 1, 2017.

DETACH AND RETURN THIS SECTION WITH YOUR PREMIUM CHECK TO YOUR DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

_____.
 Give Name, Number, and Location of Post

I hereby apply for A1. Employee/Volunteer Theft (Surety Bond) in the amount of \$ _____. for the position
 of _____. For the fiscal year from September 1, 2016 through August 31, 2017.

Number of Persons Bonded: 1 Number of Locations: 1 **Post Annual Revenue:** \$ _____. Dated : _____.

Has the post had any bond losses over the past three years? _____.
 If Yes, provide a description with date and amount of loss on a separate sheet.

 Commander Signature

 Phone Number

 Street Address and City

