



Department of Maine Veterans of Foreign Wars



"Advancing the VFW Mission"

August 2021

GENERAL ORDERS

No.2



Happy 231st Birthday to the United States Coast Guard

SPECIAL NOTICES <> SPECIAL NOTICES

Congratulations to the following for Earning the title "All-American Commander!"

- Michael "Keith" Davis, Commander > Department of Maine
- Danford G. Saucier, Commander > District 1
- Teresa J.S. Drag, Commander > District 9
- William E. Day, Commander > District 11
- Jerard M. Lurz, Commander > Capt Frank W. Hulett Post 1603
- William E. Day, Commander > Old Orchard Beach Memorial Post 7997
- James E.N. Bachelder, Commander > Sanford-Springvale Memorial Post 9935
- Willie L. Goodman, Commander > Windham Post 10643

Absence of the Commander: During the period of 30 July – 5 August, Commander Herman L. Littlefield Jr. along with most Department Officers will be attending the National Convention in Kansas City, MD. During this period, anyone needing assistance are to contact PSC Christopher L. Robison @ clrobison1981@yahoo.com or call 825-3874.

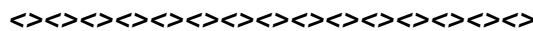
National General Orders No. 1, 2021-22 series: Will announce the consolidation of Capt. Frank W. Hulett Post No. 1603, Lewiston-Auburn, Maine and James Longley/Norman Dionne, Post No. 9150, Lewiston, Maine. The consolidated Post is to be known at Capt. Frank W. Hulett Post No. 1603, Lewiston-Auburn, Maine. Approved July 16, 2021. The senior muster date is February 18, 1921.

100th Anniversary of Department of Maine: Will be held on 16 October 2021 at the Ramada Inn, Lewiston, ME. Banquet ticket cost is \$ 40.00 and must be purchased form Joan Hebert with cut-off date of 8 October 2021. (***See attached Flyer***). Hotels are as follows:

Ramada Inn (Headquarters) * 490 Pleasant Rd., (Ext 90) Lewiston. Rates: \$125.00 + 9% tax (1-4 persons)
* Tel: 1-207-784-2331 (***All rooms are non smoking***)

Motel 6 * 516 Pleasant St, Lewiston, ME. Rates: 1 person/1 bed \$84.00 + 9% tax <> Double \$92.00 + 9% tax. (***Have Smoking & Non-Smoking rooms***)* Tel: 1-207-782-6558.

Super 8 * 1440 Liston St., Lewiston. Rates: 1 Person/1 bed \$?? + 9% tax <> 2 Persons/2 beds (\$?? + 9% tax). Each extra person \$?? * Tel # 1-207-784-8882. ***NOTE: Waiting for confirmation of price, will notify as soon as received***)



1. Dates for Council of Administration Meetings and Testimonials: Dates are as follows but locations could change as some hotels are still reluctant to do mass banquets.

>Oct 16 > Lewiston, ME > Council of Administration, 100th Anniversary Banquet

>Jan 15 > Waterville - Winslow, ME > Council of Administration, Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen & Teacher of the Year Banquet

>Apr 9 Ellsworth, ME > Council of Administration, State Commander/President Banquet

>Jun 10-12 > Lewiston, ME >State Convention, Council of Administration, Lewiston, ME

2. Council of Administration: Will be held on 16 October 2022 at the Ramada Inn, Lewiston, ME.

>Audit & Finance Cmtee Meeting : 8:30 am

>Service Office Cmtee Meeting > 9:30 am

>Council of Administration Meeting > 1 pm

3. Mailing of Annual Information to all Posts & Districts Commanders, Department Chairperson, Department Officers and PSCs: Information was mailed to all recently. It is asked because of much information is being provided in these packages that the Commander and Quartermaster make sure that the information is disseminated to their respective Officers and Chairmen.

4. Department Directory: Was mailed to all along respectively with the annual mailing of information. Please note that the information derived for the directory was obtained from the election reports as filed by all of the Posts and Districts in the Department. Upon receipt of the directories, please make sure that the information is correct, any errors, please email the correct information to the State Adjutant office.

5. Attention of all members is directed to Section 901 of the National Bylaws, "Discipline of Members." Members who have committed offenses recognized by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States may be subject to disciplinary action. Members are reminded that acts of Sexual Harassment, Racial or Sexual Discrimination, and all other conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline or conduct determined to be unbecoming of a member will not be condoned. In general, harassment and discrimination consists of any form of verbal, non-verbal, or physical conduct that is sufficiently severe and/or pervasive enough to have the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment or otherwise interfering with another's ability to participate in VFW events. All members will be treated with dignity and respect.

6. 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 VFW Auxiliary.

7. Attention of commanders at all levels: Is directed to Section 703 of the National Bylaws 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.

8. Attention of Post Commanders: Is directed to the requirement of timely filing of Internal Revenue Form 990 and 990/T, where applicable. Forms may be secured from your local Post Office or branch office of the Internal Revenue Service.

9. Posts Commanders: Are urged to start planning suitable programs now for the observance of Veterans Day (see Section 223 of the Manual of Procedure).

10. Change of Post and District Officers: All District and Post Commanders are reminded that whenever there is change of Officer(s) within the Post or District that they need to notify the State Adjutant Office asap so that the Department directory can be updated accordingly and the information disseminated to all in the General Orders.

11. Patriot Day, September 11: Per Presidential Proclamation, September 11, is designated as "Patriot Day." The President requests the flag of the United States to 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.

12. Change of Post and District Officers: All District and Post Commanders are reminded that whenever there is change of Officer(s) within the Post or District that they need to notify the State Adjutant Office ASAP so that the Department directory can be updated accordingly and the information disseminated to all in the General Orders.

13. District Meetings Date Changes: District Commanders are reminded to notify the State Adjutant office ASAP of any changes in District meeting dates so that the respective Department Representative can be notified in plenty of time.

14. Candidates for State Surgeon 2022-2023: Any member wishing to run for the high office of State Surgeon are to notify the State Adjutant office via e-mail of their intent for publishing in the GOs.

15. Chain of Command: Commander Davis has asked that you use your chain of command if there are issues at your Posts. It is asked that you start with the Post Commander, then the District Commander and finally the State Commander. Most situations/problems can be rectified/resolved at the Post level.

16. Eastern Conference: Will be held Oct 29-31, 2021 at the Princess Royale Ocean Front Hotel and Conference Center, 9100 Ocean Highway – Oceanfront, Ocean City, MD 28142. Room rates are: \$89+ tax for Ocean/Pool View, \$129.00+tax for Ocean front. Please make your reservations by calling directly to the hotel @ 1-800-4-Royale. The deadline for room reservations is 20 September 2021, after that deadline, all unreserved rooms will be released to the general public. If a handicap room is needed, please let the hotel know at the time of reservation.

17. Trustee's Report of Audit: Post/District are reminded to forward their Trustees' reports at the end of each quarter of current year: June 30, Sep 30; Dec 31 and Mar 31; send these reports as soon as possible after each quarter to the Department Quartermaster.

18. 2021 National By-Laws – Manual of Procedures Book: At the upcoming National Convention in Kansas City, many changes will be voted on and published in the 2021 book. All Posts are asked to order the book from the VFW store for their use. ***CoA members will receive their by-laws book from the Department.***

19. District/Post By-Laws: District and Posts are reminded to look at when you last updated your by-laws. If it has been more than 5 years, you need to look at them and update them. Please use the current template as provided by National Headquarters or contact the State Adjutant who will email you the current template. Once completed, please forward 3 original signed copies to State Headquarters for review and then forwarding to National for approval. Several Post and Districts have submitted them to date and approved by National.

20. Attention is directed to Section 213 of the National Bylaws concerning any Post in arrears for any financial obligations to County Council (if applicable), District, Department and National for fees, dues, poppy money, supply money, failing to have the office of Quartermaster properly bonded in accordance with Section 703, failing to ensure that the Post is properly insured in accordance with Section 709, failing to submit properly completed quarterly Post Trustees Report of Audit, Post Election Report for the ensuing year, or other obligations, shall be deprived of all representation in County Council and District meetings; County Council, District, Department and National Conventions. Such representation shall be restored promptly upon proper adjustment of such deficiencies.

21. Control of Units: Article VII – Section 709. All activities, unit or club sponsored, conducted, or operated by, for, or on the behalf of Post, District, or Department shall be at all times under the direct control of such Post, District, or Department and that all **money, properties or assets of any kind** must be placed in that care.

22. Dates to Remember:

31 July – 3 Aug > National Convention, Kansas City, MO
6 Sep > Labor Day
11 Sep > Patriot's Day
17 Sep > POW/MIA Day
16 Oct > Department 100th Anniversary Banquet, Council of Administration, Lewiston, ME

23. Candidates for Department High Office 2022 - 2023:

Department Commander > Jennifer L. Lane > Post 1603
Department Sr. Vice Commander > John J. Bouchard > Post 9389
Department Jr. Vice Commander > Anthony R. Kimble > Post 3108
Department Quartermaster > David D. Williams > Post 1641
Department Chaplain > Kevin G. Woodward > Post 11553
Department Judge Advocate > Amy H. Morse-Meuchel > Post 6859
Department Surgeon > Teresa J.S. Drag > Post 9787
Department Surgeon > William E. Day > Post 7997
Department Surgeon > Randolph S. Michaud > Post 2599

24. District Meeting Dates:

D-6 > 8 Aug @ 1 pm > Washington Post 9437 > Cmdr Littlefield
D-3 > 15 Aug @ 2 pm > Calais Post 9779 > Cmdr Littlefield
D-5 > 15 Aug @ 1 pm > Farmington Post 10881 (Farmington Fort on Rt 2) > JA Kimble
D-7 > 29 Aug @ 2 pm > Bath Post 7738 (Phippsburg Sportsmen's Club) > Cmdr Littlefield
D-1 > 12 Sep @ 1 pm > Ashland Post 6187 > Cmdr Littlefield
D-5 > 26 Sep @ 1 pm > Jackman Post 5723 (American Legion Post, 344 Main St) > QM Williams
D-10 > 26 Sep @ 1 pm > Portland Post 6859 > SG Meuchel
D-11 > 26 Sep @ 2 pm > Sanford Post 9935 > Cmdr Littlefield
D-6 > 10 Oct @ 1 pm > Northport Post 6131 > SVC Lane
D-4 > 23 Oct @ 2 pm > Hampden Post 4633 > Cmdr Littlefield
D-8 > 24 Oct @ 12 noon > Winslow Post 8835 > JA Kimble
D-9 > 31 Oct @ 1 pm > Auburn Post 1603 > Cmdr Littlefield

25. Directory Changes: None

BY COMMAND OF:

Herman L. Littlefield, Jr.

Herman L. Littlefield Jr.
Commander

OFFICIAL:

Andre L. Dumas

Andre L. Dumas
Adjutant



*State Commander
Herman L. Littlefield Jr.*



Comrades:

I hope that the August General Orders find you all in good health. July is just rapidly passing us all by and it will soon be over. Some of the Department Officers will be leaving for the National Convention being held in Kansas City, MO at the end of July. A lot will happen in a short time. As we have not really met as a national unit in the past 2 years, many things in the By-Laws will have to be revisited and revised and new National Officers elected and installed. It will be a busy convention but it will be great to see and visit with members once again.

Upon returning from the National Convention, work will continue unto the October CoA and the 100th year celebration of the Department of Maine, VFW. Further information will be sent out to all very soon. Please plan to attend and celebrate this milestone in our VFW history.

Again, I would like to Thank everyone for your confidence in electing me as your Department Commander for the year 2021-2022. Let's make this a great year. Aim for 100% in membership again. This past year (2020-2021) Commander Davis attained 100.31% in membership and placed first in the Eastern Conference. How did we make that happen for him? ***We all worked together as a TEAM.*** Let's keep up that teamwork and once again show the nation how powerful we are here in our little State of Maine.

Have a safe and happy summer with all your outdoor activities at home, on the road, in the air or on the water. Safety must always be first and foremost.

The Commander's Special Project for this year is the House in the Woods located in Lee, Maine. The POC for this project is Sr. Vice Commander Jennifer Lane.

Loyally,

Herman L. Littlefield, Jr.

Herman L. Littlefield Jr.
Commander

"Advancing the VFW Mission"

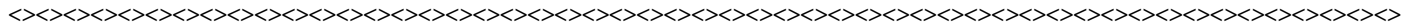


Deceased Roll Call



*Department of Maine, VFW
Kevin G. Woodward, Chaplain
25 July 2021 ~ 24 August 2021*

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



District 1

2599 > BELYEA, Robert A.

9389 > THOMPSON, Roland F.

District 3

9779 > BEZANSON, James H,
SULLIVAN, John E. III

District 4

4633 > GRANT, Harold D.

District 6

3108 > BUTER, Joseph M.

District 9

1603 > BERNARD, Fred R.

3335 > FULLER, Eric R.

Members-at-Large

15020 > CLARK, Earl R.
HGGINS, Harold K. Sr.



**SENIOR VICE COMMANDER
 VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE ~ TOGUS BEAL'S HOUSE
 PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER
 COMMANDERS SPECIAL PROJECT (CSP)
 Jenifer L. Lane**



Greetings and Salutations! I hope this edition of the Maine General Orders finds you well and motivated for another great year of helping Veterans.

The things I am doing this year: Beals Hospitality House Togus, Public Affairs, Veterans Service Office, and Commander's Special Project. Please keep all these programs in your thoughts and I welcome all donations sent to me at: 290 Old Greene Road, Lewiston, ME 04240.

Beals House: Can use single ply toilet paper, paper towels, coffee pods, and bottled water.

Public Relations: Please send your publications to our Historian for the Commander's book.

CSP: This year's Commander's Special Project is House in the Woods in Lee, ME. Please take the time to review their history and mission at www.houseinthewoods.org. They do great things for our Veteran community and they made the ultimate sacrifice that no family should ever endure.

As always, I Thank you for your continued support of my mission, your continued support of our veterans and go get 'em!

**JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER
 INSPECTIONS ~ POW/MIA
 John J. Bouchard**

Inspections: We are off to another year for inspection. If you do not feel safe to inspect a Post, wear a mask to protect yourself. Commanders, make sure you give the inspection forms to your Deputy Inspectors. Hope you all have a good year and be safe. All Posts and Districts need to be inspected. Make sure you call your Post or District about a week before to inspect their post or District. **You cannot inspect your own post or District. Deadline for completion of inspections is 28 February 2022.** You all be safe. (Smile, God Loves You All)

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 Sgt John E. Hulburt | >Army Pfc Philip T. Hoogacker |
| >Navy Seaman 1 st Class Donald A. Stott | >Navy Chief Machinist's Mate Ralph A. Derrington |
| >Army Sgt Bernard J. Sweeney Jr. | >Army Cpl. Charles E. Lee |
| >Navy Fireman 1 st Class Walter S. Belt | >Marine Corps Sgt Donald D. Stoddard |
| >Navy Electrician's Mate 3 rd Class Alphard S. Owsley | >Navy Electrician's Mate 3 rd Class George M. Gooch |
| >Navy Pharmacist's Mate 3 rd Class George L. Paradis | >Navy Corps Reserve Pfc. J.L. Hancock |
| >Army Cpl. Walter A. Smead | >Navy Fireman 2 nd Class Ralph C. Battles |
| >Army Pfc. Louis N. Crosby | >Marine Pfc. Henry E. Ellis |
| >Army Cpl. Pete Conley | >Marine Corps Pfc. Glenn F. White |
| >Army Pfc. Morris E. Swackhammer | >Navy Storekeeper 1 st Class Harry E. Walker |
| >Navy Seaman 2 nd Class Arthur R. Thinnes | >Army Pfc. Louis N. Crosby |
| >Army Pfc. Warren G.H. DeVault | >Navy Seaman 1 st Class Leonard F. Smith |

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

Past NCM,M: Hello Comrades, I hope that you are all having a great summer and doing many exciting things at this time. I would like to Thank all the people, Posts and Districts that made me Council member for the last 4 years. It truly has been an honor and privilege to have represented you along with the rest of the membership of the Maine, VFW. I have learned lots about the way the VFW run on a daily-basis at National Level. And Council members that have the final say with what the organization does. I know that I always had Andre check with the Maine membership before I voted either way on any particular issues. I was elected to represent all of Maine, Officers and Members and I voted as so. There may have been an instance or two were I felt different but I always voted for what the majority wanted.

Again, I would like to Congratulate Steven SanPedro and he will continue to do a great job just like all the State NCM,M that he is following.

I am not going away, I will continue to be the Quartermaster as long as the membership wants me too.

CoS: I would like to Thank Commander Littlefield for asking me to be his Chief of Staff. It is an honor and privilege to assist him in any way that I can.

I do not have much to report on this month but hopefully I will have information to put out next month after we get back from the National Convention.

Just a reminder that the new membership year has begun. Steve SanPedro puts out the membership twice a week so keep an eye out to compare how your Post is doing. Let's make Herman 100% Commander and keep our continues growth streak alive. At least for one more year.

Advancing the VFW Mission

QM: I hope by the time you read these GO's you have gotten a package in the mail From the State Adjutant with all the forms you will need for the upcoming year. I always get a call asking for this form or that form, they are all in the yellow envelope that was sent out to all Quartermasters. I would like to thank Andre for sending these out to each Post as it is time consuming but must be done each year.

Quarterly Reports: As of August 1st, you should have sent in your reports for period ending June 30th. Remember, they are due within 30 days of the close of the period. With that said, please do not save them all up and bring them to a CoA or the convention, they need to be sent within 30 days of the close of the period.

Bonding: There are 2 forms in your yellow package that is required to be filled out when submitting your bonds. 1 is for my records and the other is for the Bonding company. So please fill out both because if not, I will have to return it so that it can be filled out and signed, this has been going on for many years and still some only send me the 1 page.

Remember, ***I am not putting out a QM hit list this year***, if you don't know if you sent me in your reports, give me a call 207-357-6664 and I will let you know or drop me an email at ***davidpost1641@live.com*** .

Advancing the VFW Mission

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

Hope everyone is having a wonderful summer and enjoying some relaxing time with family and friends. This has to be one of the weirdest Summer we have had weather wise, one day I have to sit in front of the A/C and wish for snow and 4 days later, I am wrapped in a sweatshirt wondering if we will ever see the temperature over 65 degrees. Be well and stay safe and I look forward to see you all when we get together.

Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen:

2021-2022 **Voice of Democracy** theme will be: *America, where do we go from here?*

2021-2022 **Patriot's Pen** theme will be: *How can I be a good American?*

The new 2021-2022 Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pens entry forms are now available on the Maine VFW website.

Program brochures designed to be duplicated for distribution can be viewed at:

www.vfw.org/uploadFiles/VFW.org/Community/Teacher%20Award%20Brochure.PDF, or ordered through the VFW Store.

Important Dates to Remember:

Voice of Democracy/Patriot's Pen

1 November > All 1st Place School Winners due to the Post for Post Judging

15 November > All 1st Place Post Winners due to District for District Judging

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

District to Department - One entry per District - with student's head and shoulders photo, and all personal information filled out on entry form. This applies to all entries to Department. Including your Districts posts participation report, form will be provided to be filled out and returned with your first place entry.

30 December > Completion of Department Judging

15 January > Department Winners to National (Complete Package)

Teacher of the Year

1 November > Teacher Nominations Due to the Posts

15 November > Teacher package due to the District for Judging

1 December > Teacher Packages forwarded to Department for Final Judging

30 December > Completion of Department Judging

30 December > District Participation Reports due to Department Chairperson

NOTICE!!! Requirements for Teacher of the Year Entries

Completed Teacher VFW Entry Form

Nomination Letter (Up to 350 words)

Teacher Resume (1 page up to both sides)

Up to five (5) pages (both sides) of supporting documentation

A good quality head and shoulders Photo

Ways and Means: The tickets were mailed to all Post and District Commanders, 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. We will also be doing some one-off raffles throughout the year, so stay tuned to those when I have the information, I will send it out.

SURGEON

HISTORIAN ~ STUDENT VETERANS OF AMERICA (SVA)

Amy Morse-Meuchel

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 159.5 Million people have been vaccinated in the United States which is about 48% of the US Population. Now, let's talk about ticks. Adult ticks, which are approximately the size of sesame seeds. Reminder, ticks can transmit Lyme disease. Ticks can be active any time the temperature is above freezing. A smart way to prevent ticks is to take a lint roller and roll all over your clothes and body after being in an area that you may have been exposed to catch any unwanted hitchhikers. Do not forget. ***GIVE LIFE. DONATE BLOOD. HOLD BLOOD DRIVES.***

Historian: Please continue to send anything your Post has been doing. Pictures, articles, and flyers. Feel free to even send them via Facebook Messenger.

My information: Amy Hope Meuchel, 126 Gray Road 8B, Gorham, ME 04038. meuchelamyh@yahoo.com or 207-894-0281.

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

Quarterly Chaplain Reports are due NLT September. This is for District and Post Chaplains.....Please get these reports in to me. The Form is on our Department Website. Thank You! With us still dealing with all the pitfalls relating to the COVID-19, please try to maintain checks on your Post members. I realize that this can be difficult but, a phone call could make all the difference in the world to let Comrades know that they are thought of. If there is someone sick in your Post, please let me know so that I can send a card. Please remember to give me their Name and mailing address Plus Zip code. Please fill out as much information on the Graves Registration Form and submit them in a timely manner.

MOLD: As of this writing, I am waiting for some additional information for the pending MOLD. I am looking for it to be held in September. More information will be sent out as soon as possible. Commanders, Quartermasters, Adjutants, Trustees, Chaplains as well as any members would benefit and are encouraged to attend one of the sessions. As I stated last month, we have several new individuals that have been elected or appointed to positions at both Post and District levels. This training is designed to assist those individuals. The Department Officers are here to assist you in any way. Please take advantage of having them as a captive audience and pick their brains in order to help the Department of Maine thrive.

WAA: National Wreaths Across America Day December 18, 2021. The mission to **"Remember, Honor and Teach"** is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as over 1,500 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. Each \$ 15.00 sponsorship that you obtain provides 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. You can also do a sponsorship online

<https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/20060/Overview/?relatedId=14720&modSw=donate>

IMMEDIATE PAST STATE COMMANDER
SCOUTING
Michael K. Davis, IPSC

Congratulations to the Department of Maine, Districts 1 Danford Saucier, 9 Teresa Drag, 11 William Day, Posts 9935 Sanford James Bachelder, 1603 Jerard Lurz, 7997 Old Orchard Beach William Day and 10643 Windham Willie Goodman for attaining All American Commanders for 2020-2021.

Scouting: Good things are happening in Scouting this year. Currently, have two Scouts earning their Eagle Scout in August. Post and Scouts have worked on Memorial day events, laying flags, giving scouts a meeting hall for meetings.

The following Posts are reported in Scouting for 2021-2022: District 10 10643, 10879, District 11 9935, 9394

Scouts who are registered, active members of a Boy or Girl Scout Troop, Venturing Crew, or a Sea Scout who have received the Eagle Scout Award, Girl Scout Gold Award, Venture Summit Award or Sea Scout Quartermaster Award are eligible for the Scout of the year.

Scout of the Year dates: Deadline for entry to VFW post is March 1st

Deadline to Department April 1st (Posts should notify District of submissions)

Deadline to National Headquarters May 1st

My desire and goal is for all Posts and Districts to seek out applicants to work with and submit them to me for consideration. I should receive applicants from each District.

If you know of a scout that has completed his Eagle project and will be awarded Eagle rank, contact me. I have certificates that the Department can award to those Scouts.

Boy Scout Web Page

Pinetree Council > <https://www.pinetreebsa.org>

Katahdin Council > <https://www.katahdinareabsa.org>

Girl Scouts of Maine

<http://www.girlscoutsofmaine.org>

Scouting reports may be mailed to me at 135 Conant Ave., Auburn ME 04210. If you submit your community activities reports online at the Post website, I will receive them. If you do not see credit in the GO's' please contact me.

AMERICANISM/LOYALTY DAY

Michael A. McInnis, Chairman

We are now entering the fourth month of the reporting year for Community Activities. So far, We have 1 District and 14 Posts that reported in Americanism/Loyalty Day Programs.

Americanism: All Posts should be reported in Americanism. If you fly an American flag at home or at your post, marched or participated in a Memorial Day Parade, Fourth of July Parade or Program and/or placed flags on graves for Memorial Day. Please report any/all programs completed either in person or on social media.

Loyalty Day: All Posts should be reported in Loyalty Day. All Posts & Districts have held meetings. A Loyalty speech for you to use was sent to all Posts by Department Adjutant Andre Dumas. Many of you may not have held meetings, you can report if you participated by placing the Loyalty Day Speech on your social media. Please report any/all programs completed either in person or on social media.

AUDIT & FINANCE

DEPARTMENT GRANTS

Alfred E. Michaud Sr., PSC

The Audit and Finance Committee met at Waterville Post 1285 on 7-10-21 at 10:00 to do final audit of the books. The books were found to be in good working order for close out.

Grants: Homeless Veterans Grant through the Department of Labor \$10,000.00 **is in progress of being written waiting on documents from Homeless Chairman.**

Our **State of Maine VSO Grant** \$60,000.00 funds are starting to trickle in should receive a check for \$13,069.47 in next month or so.

Our **VA Transportation Grant** the **\$40,000.00** has been submitted awaiting final approval by government.

Our State Homeless Veterans Grant we have had no info passed on if we will receive any this year so far.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Christopher L. Robison, PSC

Comrades, this year's Community Activities Program has been disseminated to all Posts, Districts, Department Officers, and Past State Commanders. Please take the time to read the packet. There have been a couple of changes. I appreciate the reporting done thus far. Please continue the good work. If you have questions about the programs, reach out to the respective chairman.

Congratulations to the All-American and All-State Commanders and Quartermasters. Enjoy your summer!

Yours in Comradeship.

CREENTIALS
Arthur J. Roy, PSC

Hello one and all. I hope that this finds you and your families all well and healthy.

Now that we are moving forward and hope that we are going to have a full state convention in June 2021 in Lewiston, ME. IAW with **Department By-Laws, Department Convention, Article 5, Section 5(g)** > All monies owed to the Department, Trustee Reports, Post Inspection, Copy of Bonding must be in the hands of the Quartermaster prior to being eligible to vote. All Posts and Districts are also required to be incorporated.

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

Stand-Downs: We are working with the MBVS who are planning 3 Stand-Downs in October. First is Caribou on October 5th, then Bangor on October 12th and Lewiston on the 19th. The events will be at the VA CBOCs. The MBVS has a commitment from the VA to supply medical staff for health checkups for the Veterans. We are behind in the work needed for the grant because the VA waited before getting clearance from the Cary Medical Center because they share the parking lot. We are hoping the bureaucrat have a good heart and suspend the 90 days waiting period normally imposed.

The Maine Veterans in Need, Inc. (MVN) is working with Preble Street Resource Center with their 100 Veteran Challenge which starts on August 3rd till Veterans' Day on November 11th. If the goal is not met, it will not end the program. 100 Veterans is the goal. MVN is helping with the household furnishings. We have a network from the county to Westbrook that is ready to support the Veterans when they receive access to the home.

There is a gap that we need to fill, Welcome Home Baskets. The VA Wishlist should be in these GO's. Almost everything can be donated just the microware and coffee pot need to be purchased. To cover the 100 Veterans', we hope to house our Challenge for us is to make 20 Baskets. The other organizations being challenged are the Maine American Legion, Maine AMVETS, Maine DAV and the Maine Elks Association. With all 5 organizations making 20 baskets each, we have the Homeless Veterans with a comfortable home.

During a MVN meeting the VA stated:

Data for homeless Veterans working with VA programs for fiscal year 2021:

Alcohol addiction: 36%

Drug addiction: 20%

Addiction to both drugs and alcohol: 13%

Mental Health disorder: 71%

Dual Mental Health and addiction: 36%

Does this mean that homelessness is a symptom of Mental Health disorders for almost three quarters of all the Homeless Veterans the VA is caring for?

According to the June By-Name-List from 3/31/2021 to 6/29/2021, there are 181 known Homeless Veterans. One hundred forty-two (142) Veterans are in emergency shelters (ES) or transitional housing (TH). Thirty (33) are unsheltered. We now have forty-five (45) chronically Homeless Veterans on the list. It took an average of 232 days for a Veteran to obtain permanent housing (PH). During this 90-day period, 41 Veterans received PH. During the same time period, 72 new Homeless Veterans were found.

The Maine Homeless Veterans Action Committee (MHVAC) had no updates this month.

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 are still waiting on white marble stone to complete the POW/MIA tablets and the memorial as a whole.

The pricing for the committal shelter upgrade will be updated, then we have the funds to cover the cost. The estimation is \$30,000. We have just over \$7,000 now.

The association met with the Director of the Bureau of Veterans Services to discuss where the maintenance is lacking. There were 19 agreed upon items. Eleven of the items are fixed or being worked on at this time. The difference is amazing. The section A looks so good that it makes the rest of the ground wanting. The problem is the section A work has better loam and it makes the rest of the grounds look in need of work. The grounds need to have the top 6 inches removed and have the same loam with irrigation and drainage and everything will look like section A.

We had a meeting this month on Thursday July 22 at the cemetery administration building. The Chairman had to reschedule the date because of his wife's cancer treatment.

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.

Legislative (Augusta): The Legislative session is over. They are on their Spring Break.

HOSPITAL/VAVS
Michael W. Blair, Director

Total donations for the month of July 2021 were \$ 975.00
\$ 700 is to be used by Hospital / VAVS as needed for Veterans' care.
\$ 25.00 will go to Homeless Veterans; \$ 250.00 will be used to buy Bingo/Coupon Books.
I would like to thank Posts, # 6859 Portland, # 5744 Berwick, # 6924 Fairfield, and #7738 Bath.

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

Comrades: Congratulation to our All-American District Commanders - District 1 - Danford G. Saucier, District 9 - Teresa J.S. Drag and District 11 - William E. Day Post Commander - Post 9935 Sanford - James E.N. Bachelder, Post 1603 Auburn - Jerard M. Lurz, Post 7997 Old Orchard Beach - William E. Day and Post 10643 Windham - Willie L. Goodman. This is a great accomplishment that all of you and your Post and District should be proud of!

National Council Member, Maine: By the time you read this, I will be off to the National Convention in Kansas City, MO. I will be installed while there and look forward to starting this new chapter in my VFW service. Once again, I want to Thank outgoing National Council Member David Williams for all of his help as he transitions out and I transition in. I have some big shoes to fill and look forward to the challenge.

Membership: Congressman Golden's Office reached out to me asking for pros and cons of a bill he will Co-sponsor. He will be the leading Democrat on this bill. It is called the **"Improving Veterans Access to Congressional Services Act of 2021"**. Which allows congressional office to be in the VA to offer direct service to the Veteran. This has been tested and showed great results. If funded separately, it could be great for Maine Veterans. If not, it will take away from other areas within the State. More to follow on this.

Membership: MemStats is up and running now. For some reason, it took way longer than usual. We can now see where we stand. If you are wondering why Life Members are not showing up, that is because they don't drop in until early September. Please just keep working your rosters and conducting those Recruiting Events. The Commander-in-Chief has changed the Membership program. If your District reaches 100% and completes the required programs, you will be an All-Americans District. Only the top 10 will receive their cover at the National Convention. District 11 and on will have to buy their cover. This is a good change that will help a lot of District earn the title of All-American. As always, our goal is to **Retain, Reinstate and Recruit Members**. Make sure you read and understand the 2021-2022 Department and National 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 are still battling the COVID-19 virus. This takes a total team effort that has one goal of keeping the virus out. As always, I would like to Thank the staff of the Homes for their continuous commitment during this pandemic. The Augusta Home is coming along and should be open in September. This home is going to impress all of you. It is the way of the future for the Homes. Many of the Homes are looking for volunteers to help screen visitors. If you want to help, reach out to your local Home and help them live up to their motto of **"caring for those who served!"**

"ADVANCING THE VFW MISSION"

NATIONAL HOME

Teresa Drag, Chairperson

Thank you to Post 6979 (York) and District 9 for their donations to the National Home.

Message from Mel: PLEASE do not send donations to him as it causes unnecessary delays. **If a Post or District does a donation sponsorship (such as a brick or a tree), please let me know so that we can track and say thank you!** Send donation checks to me at: Teresa Drag, PO Box 140, Paris ME 04271. Mark on the memo line that it is for the National Home (I'll know that, but it makes it easier if you've already written it in.)

VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

Cornelius J. Ware, SO

Service Office COVID-19 Procedures: As our office gets ready to transition into a modified Phase III, we are still doing appointments only, no walk-in traffic. This is still a temporary measure but necessary for R.O. protocol and the depleted office staffing level. We are awaiting VARO's plans and procedures for the full safe reopening of our offices. Until then, remember the VSO staff though limited is still here in the office and ready to assist you. We are still conducting business with the health and safety of the staff and the Veteran's we serve as our primary concern. Sorry for the temporary inconvenience. You can continue to reach us at the VFW Service Office phone number 207-623-5723. Email us at vfw.vbatog@va.gov or regular mail:

VFW Dept. Service Office, VA Regional Office, P.O. Box 3311, Augusta, ME 04330-3311.

Thank you for your understanding and support as we continue to work through this crisis together. In our absence, you can contact the Togus Benefits Office at 207-621-6938 for assistance. But for now, please stay healthy and stay safe.

NVS Proficiency Training: NVS Virtual Proficiency Training Conference for the fall are as follows. Basic Part 1 > September 19-24: Advanced course > September 19-23 and Intermediate course > November 14-19. The plan is to conduct all training sessions in-person at Annapolis for now. Subject to change due to COVID-19.

Veterans Plaza Dedication: The city of Brunswick will celebrate the dedication of the Veterans Plaza on the mall in downtown Brunswick. The event is scheduled for Saturday August 28th from 12 to 5 pm. Several Veteran organizations will have information booths and tables set-up. The Volunteer Jazz Band is on tap to provide musical entertainment. Come out and enjoy the festivities. For more information, please contact POC: David Watson 207-751-0945.

Gray Area Retirees Day: It's back Gray Area Retirees Day. The event will be held at the Maine Army National Guard Armory, 179 Western Ave Augusta, ME from 9 am to 2 pm. A wide variety of services and vendors with information will be available. Don't miss this opportunity to get legal service(wills/POA's) ID card renewals and more. You can contact SFC Paradis at 207-430-5920 for more information.

"VETERANS SERVING VETERANS"

WEBSITE COORDINATOR

Thomas R. Lussier, PSC

The Department Website is in good working order. The 2021-2022 VOD, PP themes and entry applications are available. The Department 2021-2022 directory has been updated.

Please ensure any directory changes that need to be made are sent to the Department Adjutant. Would always like to see more guestbook entrees and photos.

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 problem, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thank You!

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Michael A. Switzer, Chairman

GSME has listed the following events for September

Sunday, September 12, 2021

Maine State Parks welcomes Girl Scouts of Maine on this special day of nationwide celebration because: **Girl Scouts Love State Parks!** We thank you for giving service to Maine State Parks.

Please be sure to:

- >Wear your Girl Scout vest or sash so that you will be recognized as a Girl Scout during your visit.
- >Take photos of your visit to make sure others know how beautiful and important the Maine State Parks are.
- >Get all the details in communications from Girl Scouts of Maine.
- >Be prepared. Stay up to date with Parks Safety.
- >Learn the Seven Principles of Leave No Trace.

While you're visiting a Maine State Park consider:

>Picking up a Junior Ranger booklet to participate in the fun activities and programs that help you learn more about the parks and become a Jr. Ranger! Available at these 12 State Parks: Aroostook, Bradbury Mountain, Camden Hills, Cobscook Bay, Lake St. George, Lamoine, Lily Bay, Mount Blue, Peaks Kinney, Rangeley Lake, Sebago Lake, and Warren Island State Parks.

>Working on an Outdoors badge like the Trail Adventure badges, those focused on environmental stewardship (Eco Learner, Eco Friend, etc.), or others with an outdoor focus

Learn more about this event at:

https://www.maine.gov/dacf/parks/discover_history_explore_nature/nature_exploration/girl_scouts.shtml



Graves Registration Report
Department of Maine, VFW



Mail to: Kevin G. Woodward, Chaplain
Department of Maine, VFW
9 Johnson Lane
Machiasport, ME 04655-3048

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 7-10-19)



Department of Maine, VFW 100th Anniversary



Let's us all get together to Celebrate the Department of Maine, VFW 100th Anniversary

Location: Ramada Inn, Lewiston ME
Date & Time: October 16, 2021
Social Hour - 6:00 to 7:00 pm * Banquet - 7:00 pm

Banquet Ticket Cost: \$ 40.00

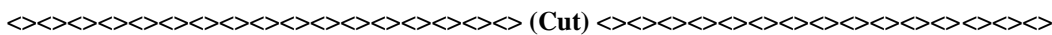
Dinner Menu: Buffet >
Roasted Fingerling Potatoes * Green Beans Almondine
Baked Haddock * Ham with Raisin Sauce
Black Angus
Garden Salad * Beverage and Dessert

Dress Code: Business Casual

Hotel Information: Ramada Inn (Headquarters) * 490 Pleasant Rd., (Ext 90) Lewiston,
\$ 125.00 + 9% tax (1-4 persons) * Tel: 1-207-784-2331
(All rooms are non smoking)

Motel 6 * 516 Pleasant St, Lewiston, ME
1 person/1 bed \$84.00 + 9% tax <> Double \$92.00 + 9% tax
(Have Smoking & Non-Smoking rooms)* Tel: 1-207-782-6558

Super 8 * 1440 Lisbon St, Lewiston
1 Person/1 bed \$?? + 9% tax <> 2 Persons/2 beds (\$?? + 9% tax)
Each extra person \$?? * Tel # 1-207-784-8882
NOTE: Waiting for confirmation of price, will notify as soon
as received)



Please Reserve the following

Meals: Total Tickets: _____ x \$ 40.00 = _____

Name _____ Name _____

Name _____ Name _____

Make Your Check payable to: Department of Maine, VFW

Forward to: Joan Hebert
41 Damy Dr., Apt 91, Auburn, ME 04210
Tel #: 782-2573 * E-mail: jocah66@yahoo.com

Ticket Deadline: 8 October 2021

(No tickets will be sold after the deadline - Tickets will not be held without a payment)
(There will be no refunds on banquet tickets)((Special needs for Banquet, please notify Joan Hebert)