



Department of Maine Veterans of Foreign Wars

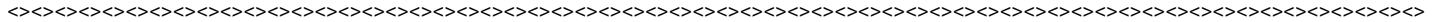


"Advancing the VFW Mission"

October 2021

GENERAL ORDERS

No. 4



"Happy Birthday to the United Navy for being 246 years old"

SPECIAL NOTICES <> SPECIAL NOTICES

Congratulations to the following Posts for having attained 100%+ in Membership for 2021-2022.

Pitman-Morrison Post 7738, Bath > Commander Frederick A. Libby Jr. > 106.84%

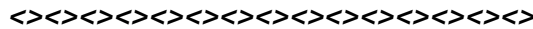
James A. Mc Kechnie Post 10881, Farmington > Commander Gordon L. Webber > 100.00%

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 from 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 2021 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. October CoA - 100th Anniversary: Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Timothy M. Borland will be the national representative for our October Council of Administration and the Department of Maine 100th Anniversary banquet. Plan to attend and let us have a great turnout of members.

4. January Council of Administration – Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen and Teacher of the Year Banquet: Will be held on 15 January 2022 in Waterville. Final plans are being established and will be published in the next General Orders and also email to all of the Posts in the Department.

5. District/Post Inspections: District Commanders are referred to Section 517 of the Manual of Procedure which states that each Post shall be inspected at least once during the year. Please make sure that all Posts in your District are inspected and report them in a timely manner rather than accumulating reports. Please send reports to John J. Bouchard, State Inspector, 102 Highland Ave, Fort Kent, ME 04743-1467. A reminder that IAW Department By-Laws, Inspectors cannot inspect their own Post, District Commander must appoint an inspector to complete that Post inspection.

6. Post/District Commanders and Inspecting Officers: Are directed to Section 703 of the National Bylaws – 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 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.

7. Post 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 of nature, must be placed in the care of the respective Quartermaster. All Commanders should ensure that all provisions of Section 709 are enforced.

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

9. Post Commanders: The attention of all units is called to Section 1101 of the National Bylaws 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, Bylaws and Rules and Regulations of the Auxiliary. In addition to provisions of Auxiliary Bylaws, 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.

10. Post Commanders: Sections 219 and 704 of the Manual of Procedure outline the various things for which the Post Relief Fund can be used. Several years ago, the phrase “To foster true patriotism through historical and education 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.

11. Incorporation of Posts: 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 incorporated Posts to be at risk. Incorporating under the provisions of Sections 708 of the National Bylaws 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.

12. 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.

13. 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.

14. Dates to Remember:

16 Oct > Department 100th Anniversary Banquet, Council of Administration, Lewiston, ME
29-31 Oct > Eastern Conference, Ocean City, MD
2 Nov > Election Day
11 Nov > Veterans Day
25 Nov > Thanksgiving Day

15. 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

16. District Meeting Dates:

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
D-2 > 6 Nov @ 1 pm > Burlington Post 1605 > Cmdr Littlefield
D-1 > 7 Nov @ 1 pm > Fort Fairfield Post 6187 > SVC Lane
D-11 > 14 Nov @ 2 pm > York Post 6977 > SG Meuchel
D-3 > 21 Nov @ 2 pm > Harrington Post 11553 > JVC Bouchard

17. 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.*



Greetings Comrades!

Well, we have seen the last day of summer and the arrival of the first day of the fall season. The leaf peepers are here in full force, so please be careful when traveling around. At least it is getting cooler, but all too soon it will be starting to get COLD and then dusting our ground with that lovely white stuff.

September has been a good month. I have been working hard at getting out to the Posts and District meetings. I have been up north and to the middle of the state for groundbreaking ceremonies for new CBOC facilities which will greatly benefit our Veterans. I believe both the Presque Isle and Rumford CBOCs are planning to be opened and functional before the end of 2022. What a boost this will be for the healthcare of our Veterans!

On September 17th, I attended a very moving POW/MIA ceremony at the Burlington Post #1605. This was a very respectful remembrance ceremony. I hope each Post held a remembrance ceremony, no matter how large or small.

In October, we will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Department of Maine VFW. We will celebrate this anniversary at the banquet following the next CoA which will be held in Lewiston at the Ramada Inn on October 16th. I hope to see most of you there to mark this momentous occasion.

The Commander's Special Project for this VFW year is the "**House in the Woods**" located in Lee, ME. Please contribute so we can help fund some of their wonderful programs for our Veterans.

Be aware of your surroundings when out and about. Remember that the coronavirus is still very much present in all our lives; so still practice social distancing, wash your hands often and wear a mask. Stay safe and healthy.

Hope to see you all at the October 16th CoA.

Congratulations to the following Posts who have attained 100+ in membership:

James A. Mc Kechnie Post 10881, Farmington > Commander Gordon L. Webber > 100.00%
Pitman-Morrison Post 7738, Gardiner > Commander Frederick A. Libby Jr. > 106.84%

Loyally,

Herman L. Littlefield, Jr.

Herman L. Littlefield Jr.
Commander

"Advancing the VFW Mission"



Deceased Roll Call

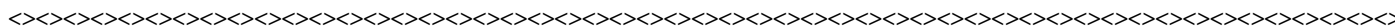


Department of Maine, VFW

Kevin G. Woodward, Chaplain

25 August 2021 ~ 24 September 2021

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



District 1

9389 > TAUER, Richard E.

District 3

9779 > HOICHE, George E.

11553 > LAWSON, Herschel R.

District 4

3381 > WILSON, Jessie R.

4633 > RINKS, Gordon C.

District 5

6924 > EMERY, Richard C.

District 8

887 > LAWYERSON, Gary L.

1285 > BOULLETTE, James E.

9935 > POIRIER, Richard J.

District 9

1641 > LEARNED, Phil T.

3335 > SIMONEAU, Paul L.

District 10

6859 > AMERO, Stephen W.
LANCIA, Orlando D.

District 10 (Cont.)

10529 > BONVILLE, Ralph T.
BROWN, William O.
GORHAM, John J.

10879 > GOGGIN, William G.

District 11

7997 > CLARK, Richard E.
INMAN, David O.
LITWIN, Richard



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



Greetings Comrades! Another busy month of helping veterans and their families. I hope all is well and everyone is staying safe and hydrated.

Beals Hospitality House Togus: Is still up and running and on behalf of the Board of Directors, I thank everyone for the donations. The things that we always can use is one-ply toilet paper, paper towels, water, and coffee pods. Please make sure you pass the word on our facility and that we are available for our Veterans and their families. If anyone has any questions or if you need brochures, please reach out to me. Donations should be made out to Beals Hospitality House and mailed to me.

Public Relations: I have seen some great coverage of all your hard work and events that have been taken place in the Department. Keep up the great work and brag about yourself – you deserve it. Please make sure that you forward your efforts to our Historian and don't forget we do have a national publication to submit to.

Veteran Service Office Togus: Our office is still open to appointments due to restrictions of VA Maine and COVID. We are here for you and our families. Please take in consideration that we are down to one service officer until we can fill the position. I have spoken to a few candidates but nothing solid. If you or someone you know is interested in filling the position of Assistant VSO, please forward my information to them.

Commander's Special Project: House in the Woods is always active and is readying themselves for the bear hunting season. Please take the time to view their website and or Facebook page. Donations should be made out to Dept of Maine VFW with Commander's Special Project in the memo line and mailed to me.

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

Inspections: Another month is going by; it is time to get your inspection done, Before the white stuff gets on the ground . The more you get done the better for everybody. Inspections are coming in slow . Time is flying by let get together and get the job done.; Lets have Commander Littlefield at 100% inspected [Smile god loves you all] STAY SAFE.

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:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> >Navy Steward's Mate 2nd Class Jesus F. Garcia >Army air Forces 2nd Lt Ernest N. Vienneau >Navy Radioman 3rd Class Charles A. Montgomery >Army Pvt. Stephen C. Mason >Navy Seaman 1st Class Joseph C. Rouse >Navy Seaman 2nd Class Joh G. Bock Jr. >Navy Hospital Apprentice 1st Class Keefe R. Connolly >Navy Seaman 1st Class Wesley E. Graham >Army Pvt Donald A. Fabrize >Army Sgt Stanley L. DeWitt >Navy Fireman 2nd Class Benjiman C. Terhune | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> >Navy Fireman 1st Class Walter S. Belt Jr. >Navy Seaman 2nd Class Arthur R. Thinnes >Army Cpl. Charles E. Hiltibran >Army Sgt Bernard J. Sweeney Jr. >Army Air Force Sgt Francis W. Wiemerslage >Marine Corps Cpl. Andrew Pellerito >Navy Seaman 1st Class Joe E. Nightingale >Army 1st Lt James E. Wright >Army 1Lt Anthony R, Mazzulla >Navy Seaman 1st Class Buford H. Dyer |
|---|--|

**QUARTERMASTER
CHIEF OF STAFF
BUDDY POPPY ~ INSURANCE & BONDS
David D. Williams, PSC**

I hope these General Orders finds everyone healthy and doing good. Things are coming in at a pretty good pace to include Bonding, Poppy orders and Quarterly reports. With that said, September 30th is the close of another Quarter, so Audits need to be completed soon and if you haven't sent me the one for the end of June then your late and please get them in as soon as possible.

When making out checks for different projects, the checks are to be made out to the "**Dept. Of Maine, VFW**" not to me or the Chairperson. Also, when donating money for "VAVS", **the check should be made out to VAVS** and sent to Mike Blair so that you can get the proper credit. Checks that are sent to me will be deposited in the correct account but you may not get the proper credit from the Chairperson. Also, **all VOD and PP checks need to go to Anthony Kimble .**

Chief of Staff: This is just a reminder that the membership year is in full swing now, please get your dues paid and check in with your older members or members in nursing homes who could use a little assistance from the post if capable.

The Commander has been out and about, I know he has traveled to P.I. and Rumford for the new CBOC groundbreaking events held at each location. If you have something you would like him to attend, just reach out to him or the Adjutant, I'm sure he will make it if he can.

Have a great month

ADVANCING THE VFW MISSION

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

Happy October, this year is going by so fast and we will be watching the leaves fall from the trees before we know it. Hope everyone had a more enjoyable summer this year and found time to relax and recharge their life with their family and loved ones. I am looking forward to our Maine VFW 100 Year Birthday celebration later on this month and I cannot wait to see everyone in person. Please continue to be safe and stay healthy.

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 brochure's 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.

Post Adjutants and District Adjutants: Please ensure you are submitting your VoD and PP post and District participation on the VFW.ORG website under the All-American Dashboard.

When judging your entries, be sure to follow the example in Nationals Judging Criteria. For the Voice of Democracy, "**OCD**", or **Originality, Content, and Delivery**. For Patriot's Pen, look for **Theme Knowledge, Theme Development and Clarity of Ideas**.

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 have been mailed to all the Posts and District Commanders, please work on selling these tickets during any post events. We are going to be going with the same prizes as last year, 1st Prize \$500, 2nd Prize \$250, 3rd Prize \$100. Please mail your ticket stubs and monies collected to me: Anthony Kimble, 64 Bayview Dr, Northport, ME 04849. Make all checks out to "***Department of Maine, VFW***" and in the memo line put "***Ways and Means***".

***SURGEON
HISTORIAN ~ STUDENT VETERANS OF AMERICA (SVA)
Amy Morse-Meuchel***

Historian: In this month 100 years ago: The Governor of Maine was Percival P. Baxter, who donated land in Maine as we all know as Baxter State Park in Millinocket. Your income would be between \$1,000 to \$3,000 per year. The cost of bread was only 5 cents, a pound of steak cost 40 cents and the Ford Model T cost \$310. On October 24th, 1921, An American officer selects the body of the first "Unknown Soldier" to be honored among the approximately 77,000 United States servicemen killed on the Western Front during World War I, (History.com). Obviously, the Department of Maine VFW was established in 1921.

Surgeon: I have received 1 safety report and 2 blood drive reports since July. If you think this is a mistake, please email me a copy of the report you have submitted. October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Men & Women should do regular exams. Even though it is much more common in women, men can get it too. October is also Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Everyone needs to be proactive in this. Whether it is happening to you or someone you know, do not hesitate to reach out for support. According to the CDC website, 182.5 Million Americans have been fully vaccinated, which brings up the point of getting your flu shot. October is known for anything and everything pumpkin related, however many fruits and vegetables peak in the month as well. Brussels sprouts, Delicata squash, Grapes and Pears are just a few to enjoy why they are ripe.

Stay Safe. Stay Healthy.

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

We each have demands and stresses placed on us. We also have resources to help us to fulfill those demands and cope with those stresses. When these are in balance, we often feel effective and successful. Even so, we all go through those hard times when our resources seem inadequate or stretched thin. This is especially true when we face a challenge or unexpected event in any of the four big areas of life: the physical, social/relationships, mental, or spiritual. Our resilience is tested as we try to get back to a healthy balance. It is important to remember that when things seem out of balance, it may take time, work, and adjustments. Hang in there! You are not alone; we all struggle at times. Get help when you need to. Are you living a life that you find meaningful? Are you taking time to enjoy things like beauty, peace, and love? These can be a great resource to help you stay balanced and maintain your resilience.

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 3,000 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.wreathsacrossamerica.org/pages/20060/Overview/?relatedId=14720&modSw=donate>

IMMEDIATE PAST STATE COMMANDER
SCOUTING
Michael K. Davis, IPSC

Another good month for Scouting. Post 5744 awarded a Scout with their Eagle Scout certificate. Post 109 donated their hall to Cub Scout pack 86 for recruiting night and donated \$500 to the pack.

The following Posts are reported in Scouting for 2021-2022 - District 10 > 10643, 10879 > District 11, 9935, 9394 ,109, 5744

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>**

Kahtahdin 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.

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

Comrades: Congratulation to Post 7738 Bath and Post 10881 Farmington for reaching or exceeding their goal of 100% or higher. Great Job in attaining this milestone! Will your Post be the next Post to join them in the Commanders 100% Club!

National Council Member, Maine: I attended my first National Council of Administration from 12 September to 16 September in Kansas City, MO. It was a very eye-opening experience to say the least. My committee Appeals had one case and I was impressed on how professional everyone was. Then I sat through the whole Budget Committee meeting. They really got into the numbers. The staff explained or answered every question. Then there was a workshop where we went over everything and many questions were asked. This made the CoA very quick the next day. I really enjoyed myself and learned a lot. Some information from this CoA is that any state with a VFW VSO will receive a 10% increase in grants from National. National Membership will be conducting a scrub of Members under the age of 65. Any deceased members identified will be removed next year and the Post will be notified.

Legislation: By the time you read this, I will have met with all of Maine's Legislators via Zoom. The VFW Virtual Legislative Conference is 27-29, September. I will be discussing the following topics Toxic Exposure, Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) increase, Economic Opportunity, Concurrent Receipt for Chapter 61 Veterans and Health Care. I am sure they will listen to me but I will have to follow up to ensure they act on these issues.

Membership: Life Members have dropped in and everyone knows where they stand now. The Department is currently sitting at 78.83% with 6003 Members which is an increase of 75.99% and 5786 Members. We need 1612 Members to reach 100%. We have decreased our New Members by 2 and our Reinstated Members by 47 from this time last year. We are all recruiters and we must **Retain, Reinstate and Recruit** Members. We have 6 Posts that have completed a Recruiter Event and submitted the proper paperwork to me. Make sure you read and understand the 2021-2022 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: I am very proud of the effort all the Homes are putting into keeping COVID-19 virus out of the Homes. Even with their efforts, there have been some cases with the residents and the staff. The vaccination rate for the residents and the staff are some of the highest in the state. I am sad to inform you that the move in date for the new Augusta Home has been pushed back yet again. This is due to the contractors moving slow on fixing the final issue in the Home. It is hoped that they will still move in before the end. I want to Thank everyone at the Homes as they are truly living up to their motto of "caring for those who served!"

"ADVANCING THE VFW MISSION"

AMERICANISM/LOYALTY DAY
Michael A. McInnis, Chairman

We are now entering the fifth month of the reporting year for community activities. So far, We have **2 Districts** and **17 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 will meet at the next COA.

Grants: Homeless Veterans Grant through the Department of Labor \$10,000.00 approved funds release 1 October.

Our **State of Maine VSO Grant** \$60,000.00 funds are starting to trickle in.

Our **VA Transportation Grant** the **\$40,000.00 has been approved in process of closing previous grant.**
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**

Hello Comrades! Fall is now upon us and the weather is turning colder. Outside activities will be slow with the impending weather, but we must continue to show our communities the importance of our activities. I appreciate all the effort thus far. Keep up the good work!

Happy 100th Anniversary to the Department of Maine! I hope everyone enjoys celebrating the Department's success over the past century. Thanks again.

Yours in Comradeship,

**CREDENTIALS
Arthur J. Roy, PSC**

Voting at Department Convention: Department By-Laws, Article V, Section 5: **Section 5.** The following rules and regulations shall govern voting at Department Convention.

(a) The list of Post Delegates and Post Alternates (Consisting of 1 per 30 members) to be honored must bear signatures of both the Post Commander and Post Adjutant and be submitted to the Credentials Committee Chairman.

(b) At time of voting, the comrade casting the vote will have to announce his/her name for purpose of checking authenticity. This check shall be made by the Credentials Committee during roll-call vote.

(c) The Post Commander must be present and registered in order for his/her vote to be cast. In the absence of the Commander, the Senior Vice Commander may register in his/her place. In the absence of both the Commander and Senior Vice, the Junior Vice Commander may register.

(d) The Chief Teller will submit to the Department Adjutant one certified report, signed by the tellers, of the vote tallied following each rollcall taken and said tallies (report) will be retained as a part of the Convention Records.

(e) Registration of Post Delegates and Alternates will close at 10:00 am on the day of the election of Department Officers to allow the Credentials Committee time to make official tabulations.

(f) A rollcall of a Post vote as cast by authorized Post delegates may be challenged at the call of any three officers or delegates representing three different Posts or any one member of the Credentials Committee.

(g) All monies owed to the Department, Trustee Report, Post Inspections, Copy of Bonding must be in the hands of the State Quartermaster prior to being eligible to vote. All Posts and Districts are also required to be incorporated.

"All Reports must be completed on time and sent to State Quartermaster"

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

Homeless Veterans:

Stand-Downs: We have received the Department of Labor \$10,000 grant for the Stand-Downs. We are in Caribou on the 5th from 10 am until 2 pm at the Cary Medical Center. We will be at the Bangor CBOC on Tuesday Oct 12th from 10 am until 2 pm then to the Lewiston CBOC on Oct 18th. The Bureau of Veterans Services is pre-registering Veterans so they can get their sizes and make-up their clothing bag in advance.

Maine Veterans in Need: We are in need of Welcome kits. We are trying to house 100 Veterans in 100 days. We have furniture but need the other household goods; one needs to take care of their home. The list was in last months' GO's. Please look at the list and see what your Post can do to help our Veterans in need.

Homeless Veterans Action Committee: There wasn't a meeting this month. The number of Homeless Veterans in August was 199, sheltered was 162, unsheltered was 37, chronically homeless was 40 and the number of days from identification to move in is 233 days. There are very high numbers. The goal is to house a Veteran in 90 days.

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:

POW/MIA Memorial: Still waiting for the white marble that is placed on the top of the tablets.

Committal Shelter Retrofit: We are now raising funds for the 3/4 enclosure of the Committal Shelter to block the high winds. We expect this to cost around \$30,000.00.

Groundskeepers: The personal changes and the contractor working together is showing. When you come to the cemetery, you see the difference.

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

Assistant Legislative (Augusta): Nothing to report at this time.

**HOSPITAL/VAVS
Michael W. Blair, Director**

Total amount of donations for the month of September 2021 was \$1,050.00.

\$250.00 will be used to buy Bingo Coupon Books.

\$50.00 is going to the Fall Frolic.

The remainder of \$750.00 is to be used by Hospital / VAVS as needed for Veterans Care.

**NATIONAL HOME
Teresa Drag, Chairperson**

Happy Autumn! The VFW National Home has updated their website, and you can watch a "Virtual Tour".

THANK YOU to Post 11362 and Post 887 for their donations.

Please note, mailing address for donations is Teresa Drag, PO Box 140, Paris ME 04271. Checks should be made out to "**Dept of Maine, VFW**" or the "**VFW National Home for Children**". If check is made to Dept of Maine, please write in the notes line that it is for the "**National Home**". If checks come in made out to me, it adds additional delay.

If your Post wishes to make a larger donation, such as a memorial brick, or to purchase a life membership – that is done via the National Home website. In those cases, just send an email to me:

Teresapost9787@outlook.com so that I can track those donations.

NATIONAL VETERANS SERVICE

Christopher L. Armstrong, PSC/Chairman

Hello Comrades: Hope this finds everyone doing well and getting ready for our next season which should be a little cooler.

Good news, we received a few more checks. I really wish they were coming in quicker.

So far, I have only received a few phone calls for Veterans needing help which by now, I have usually received more so not sure if this a good thing or not. Please make sure to let me know if you know of anyone in need of assistance, that is why we do what we do.

With Fall being here and winter will be here before we know it, please make sure you check in with our Veterans and our elderly, they may need us more now than ever the way things are going in the world at this time. Please stay safe and always remember we are here for each other.

VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

Cornelius J. Ware, SO

Service Office COVID-19 Procedures: As we are continuing to feel the impact of the Delta strain on our office. Our office is still doing appointments only no walk-in traffic for the time being. This is still a temporary measure but necessary for R.O. protocol and our depleted office staffing level. We hope that this surge will safely pass, and we look forward to the VARO's plans and procedures for the full safe reopening of our office. 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 office and the veteran's we serve is 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.

Presumptive claims for particulate matter exposure in Southwest Asia: The Department of Veterans Affairs will begin processing disability claims August 2 for asthma, rhinitis and sinusitis on a presumptive basis based on presumed particulate matter exposures during military service in Southwest Asia and certain other areas - if these conditions manifested within 10 years of a qualifying period of military service.

The VA concluded that particulate matter pollution is associated with chronic asthma, rhinitis and sinusitis for Veterans who served in the Southwest Asia theater of operations beginning Aug. 2, 1990 to the present or Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Syria or Djibouti beginning Sept. 19, 2001 to the present. VA's review also concluded that there was sufficient evidence to presume that these Veterans have been exposed to particulate matter. The Southwest Asia theater of operations refers to Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the neutral zone between Iraq and Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, the Gulf of Aden, the Gulf of Oman, the Persian Gulf, the Arabian Sea, the Red Sea and the airspace above these locations.

VA will conduct outreach to impacted Veterans and survivors to inform them about their eligibility and will provide information on how to apply. Veterans and survivors who believe they may be eligible for the newly established presumptive conditions are encouraged to apply. They should seek VSO or VA assistance to file a VA Form 21-526EZ if applying for the first time or a VA Form 20-0995 if they are reapplying for conditions

that were previously denied. For more information on the new presumptive conditions, veterans can visit VA's website at Airborne Hazards and Burn Pit Exposures - Public Health (va.gov).

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

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Michael A. Switzer, Chairman

I would like to give Special Recognition to Old Town Post#3381! They were able to provide toys and prizes for the youth during the Milford Days Celebration and also raised \$210 for the event.

GSME is holding a Virtual "Halloween at Pandora's Manor" that will take place on Oct. 15, 2021 from 6 pm to 7 pm. Participants will Solve puzzles and riddles as they work together as detectives in this highly interactive virtual mystery experience. Juniors will work on parts of the Detective Badge and Cadettes will work on parts of the Special Agent badge. Registration for this event ends Oct. 6, 2021. This event is \$18 and is available to Juniors and Cadettes. For More information, please go to:

<https://mygs.girlscouts.org/event-detail?id=110-10152021-kpw01>

Please remember that any Youth Activities your Post participates in, submit your Activities Reports. You may also contact me with any information of Programs and Events your Post has participated in and I will gladly make mention in the next edition of GOs.

DEPT @ 78.92% - Need 1605 For 100% (7+)
Department Statistics

Maine as of Monday September 27, 2021

Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
2599	1	95	0	0	4	99	169	58.57%	-70	PRESQUE ISLE	0
6187	1	52	0	0	4	56	83	67.46%	-27	FORT FAIRFIELD	0
9389	1	339	0	0	21	360	486	74.07%	-126	CARIBOU	0
9699	1	62	0	0	3	65	80	81.25%	-15	ASHLAND	0
District Total	1	548	0	0	32	580	818	70.90%	-238		0
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
1605	2	119	0	0	1	120	132	90.90%	-12	BURLINGTON	0
7529	2	54	0	0	3	57	83	68.67%	-26	ISLAND FALLS	0
District Total	2	173	0	0	4	177	215	82.32%	-38		0
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
9779	3	97	0	0	6	103	136	75.73%	-33	CALAIS	0
11553	3	100	0	0	11	111	139	79.85%	-28	HARRINGTON	0
District Total	3	197	0	0	17	214	275	77.81%	-61		0
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
109	4	117	0	0	13	130	170	76.47%	-40	ELLSWORTH	0
1761	4	168	2	0	11	181	244	74.18%	-63	BANGOR	1
3381	4	158	0	0	10	168	197	85.27%	-29	OLD TOWN	0
4633	4	102	1	0	5	108	111	97.29%	-3	HAMPDEN	2
District Total	4	545	3	0	39	587	722	81.30%	-135		3
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
4298	5	51	0	0	4	55	69	79.71%	-14	DEXTER	0
5723	5	3	0	0	2	5	15	33.33%	-10	JACKMAN	0
6924	5	94	1	0	3	98	119	82.35%	-21	FAIRFIELD	0
7865	5	110	0	0	8	118	131	90.07%	-13	MADISON-ANSON	1
7866	5	8	0	0	1	9	13	69.23%	-4	NORRIDGEWOCK	0
10881	5	23	0	0	2	25	25	100.00%	0	FARMINGTON	0
11191	5	21	0	0	4	25	35	71.42%	-10	NEWPORT	0
District Total	5	310	1	0	24	335	407	82.30%	-72		1

Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
3095	6	8	1	0	2	11	17	64.70%	-6	FRIENDSHIP	0
3108	6	115	0	0	11	126	171	73.68%	-45	BELFAST	0
4169	6	8	0	0	1	9	14	64.28%	-5	VINALHAVEN	0
6131	6	47	0	1	13	61	78	78.20%	-17	NORTHPORT	0
9437	6	38	0	0	1	39	45	86.66%	-6	WASHINGTON	0
District Total	6	216	1	1	28	246	325	75.69%	-79		0
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
2197	7	57	0	0	6	63	86	73.25%	-23	TOPSHAM	0
4525	7	52	0	0	3	55	69	79.71%	-14	WALDOBORO	0
7738	7	56	5	0	17	78	73	106.84%	+5	BATH	0
District Total	7	165	5	0	26	196	228	85.96%	-32		0
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
9	8	39	0	0	7	46	54	85.18%	-8	GARDINER	0
887	8	199	1	2	12	214	261	81.99%	-47	AUGUSTA	0
1285	8	214	0	0	0	214	235	91.06%	-21	WATERVILLE	0
8835	8	234	0	0	5	239	275	86.90%	-36	WINSLOW	0
9526	8	33	0	0	1	34	43	79.06%	-9	WINTHROP	0
District Total	8	719	1	2	25	747	868	86.05%	-121		0
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
1603	9	327	1	0	17	345	462	74.67%	-117	LEWISTON-AUBURN	0
1641	9	59	0	0	3	62	151	41.05%	-89	RUMFORD	0
3335	9	198	0	1	13	212	244	86.88%	-32	JAY	0
9787	9	104	0	0	8	112	143	78.32%	-31	SOUTH PARIS	1
District Total	9	688	1	1	41	731	1000	73.10%	-269		1
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
6783	10	35	0	0	0	35	42	83.33%	-7	LOVELL	0
6859	10	300	1	0	9	310	388	79.89%	-78	PORTLAND	1
9328	10	34	1	0	1	36	42	85.71%	-6	HARRISON	0
10529	10	72	0	0	0	72	78	92.30%	-6	YARMOUTH	0
10643	10	48	0	0	10	58	76	76.31%	-18	WINDHAM	0
10879	10	253	0	0	7	260	321	80.99%	-61	GORHAM	0
11362	10	28	0	0	2	30	35	85.71%	-5	NAPLES	0
District	10	770	2	0	29	801	982	81.56%	-181		1

Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
5744	11	107	0	0	13	120	145	82.75%	-25	SOUTH BERWICK	0
6977	11	174	0	0	3	177	193	91.70%	-16	YORK BEACH	0
7997	11	167	2	2	24	195	273	71.42%	-78	OLD ORCHARD BEACH	0
9394	11	44	0	0	4	48	53	90.56%	-5	KITTERY	1
9935	11	163	0	0	63	226	333	67.86%	-107	SANFORD	0
District Total	11	655	2	2	107	766	997	76.83%	-231		1
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
15020	99	586	5	3	36	630	778	80.97%	-148	RUMFORD	1
District Total	99	586	5	3	36	630	778	80.97%	-148	QM'S HOUSE	1
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
State Total	0	5572	21	9	408	6010	7615	78.92%	-1605		8



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

THIS 2021 – 2022 YEAR - WILL YOU HELP?

“ADVANCING THE VFW MISSION ”

“RETAIN-REINSTATE-RECRUIT”

**"ADVANCING THE VFW MISSION"
HERMAN LITTLEFIELD STATE COMMANDER**

**DIVISION LEADERS <<>> SEPTEMBER 27, 2021
>> LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE OUR DEPARTMENT GROW <<**

DIV. I (10-50) TOP 3 POSTS IN DIV.		DIV. IV (201-300) TOP 3 POSTS IN DIV.	
1. 10881 FARMINGTON	100.00%	1. 1285 WATERVILLE	91.06%
2. 9437 WASHINGTON	86.66%	2. 8835 WINSLOW	86.90%
3. 11362 NAPLES	85.71%	3. 3335 JAY	86.88%
DIV. II (51-100) TOP 3 POSTS IN DIV.		DIV. V (301-400) TOP 3 POSTS IN DIV.	
1. 7738 BATH	106.84%	1. 10879 GORHAM	80.68%
2. 10529 YARMOUTH	92.30%	2. 6859 PORTLAND	79.89%
3. 9394 KITTEERY	90.56%	3.	
DIV. III (101-200) TOP 3 POSTS IN DIV.		DIV. VI (401- HIGHER) TOP 3 POSTS IN DIV.	
1. 4633 HAMPDEN	97.29%	1. 1603 AUBURN	74.67%
2. 6977 YORK BEACH	91.70%	2. 9389 CARIBOU	74.07%
3. 1605 BURLINGTON	90.90%	3.	

TEN HIGHEST POSTS BY %		TEN LARGEST POSTS	
1. 7738 BATH	106.84%	1. 9389 CARIBOU	360
2. 10881 FARMINGTON	100.00%	2. 1603 AUBURN	345
3. 4633 HAMPDEN	97.29%	3. 6859 PORTLAND	310
4. 10529 YARMOUTH	92.30%	4. 10879 GORHAM	260
5. 6977 YORK BEACH	91.70%	5. 8835 WINSLOW	239
6. 1285 WATERVILLE	91.06%	6. 9935 SANFORD	226
7. 1605 BURLINGTON	90.90%	7. 1285 WATERVILLE	214
8. 9394 KITTEERY	90.56%	8. 887 AUGUSTA	214
9. 7865 MADISON	90.07%	9. 3335 JAY	212
10. 9437 WASHINGTON	86.66%	10. 7997 OLD ORCHARD BEACH	195

DISTRICT STANDINGS		MAGIC NUMBERS FOR 2020-2021	
1. District 8 LAMBERT	86.05%	WE HAVE = 6002 – WE NEED 1613	
2. District 7 STEVENS	85.96%	ALL POSTS/DISTRICTS SHOULD BE AT 100%	
3. District 2 EWING	82.32%		
4. District 5 TWEEDIE	82.30%	5 N/R MEMBERS & EARN A BLUE BALL CAP	
5. District 10 GOODMAN	81.56%	10 N/R MEMBERS & EARN A WHITE VFW SHIRT	
6. District 4 SULLIVAN	81.30%	ALL DEPT OFFICERS ARE ASKED TO RECRUIT	
DEPARTMENT OF MAINE, VFW	78.83%	LET'S ALL WORK AS A TEAM AND	
7. District 3 SIVRET	77.81%	RETAIN – RECRUIT & REINSTATE 3 MEMBERS?	
8. District 11 DAY	76.73%	NEED HELP or HAVE QUESTIONS	
9. District 6 ARMSTRONG	75.69%	ASK ANYONE ON THE MEMBERSHIP TEAM OK?	
10. District 9 DRAG	73.10%		
11. District 1 SAUCIER	70.90%		



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)

Decorative diamond separator line

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)

