

Department of Maine Veterans of Foreign Wars

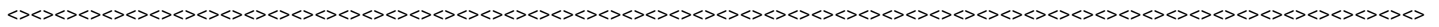


“Veterans First ~ United and Undivided”

August 2022

GENERAL ORDERS

No. 2



Happy 232nd Birthday to the United States Coast Guard – August 4, 2022

< **SPECIAL NOTICES >**

Maine Officers Leadership Development (MOLD):

>13 August - Portland VFW Post 6859, 687 Forest Ave., Portland

>20 August - Bangor VFW Post 1761, 1368 Hammond St. Ext., Bangor.

**** Applications and schedule are enclosed in this GO's. ****

Absence of the Commander: During the period of August 25-29, 2022, Commander Lane will be out of the State of Maine. During this period, SVC John J Bouchard will be interim Commander. Anyone, needing assistance, is to contact him at the following: Tel: 207-834-3606 or email to: jbrunt1@gmail.com.

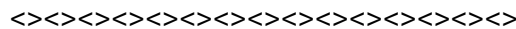
Patriot Day, September 11, 2022 – Refer to the President’s Proclamation for Flag etiquette.

POW/MIA Day, September 16, 2022

VFW Day, September 19, 2022

October CoA > Caribou Inn & Convention Center, 19 Main St., Caribou, ME > 1 pm

Testimonial – Lister-Knowlton VFW Post 9389 253 Van Buren Rd., Caribou, ME > 7 pm



1. Dates for Council of Administration Meetings and Testimonials:

>Oct 15 > Council of Administration, State President Testimonial, Caribou, ME

>Jan 21 > Council of Administration, Voice of Democracy, Patriot’s Pen, and Teacher of the Banquet, Augusta Civic Center, Augusta, ME

>Apr 22 > Council of Administration, State Commander Testimonial, Lewiston/Auburn Area

>Jun 9-11 > State Convention/CoA Meeting, Lewiston, ME

2. Council of Administration: Meeting will be held on 15 October at the Caribou In & Convention Center, Caribou, ME at 1 pm.

>Audit & Finance Committee Meeting > 8:30 am >Caribou Convention Center

>Service Office Committee Meeting > 9:30 am > Caribou Convention Center

3. Mailing of Annual Information to all Posts and District Commanders, Department Chairpersons, Council of Administration and PSCs:

>Packages will be mailed soon. It is asked that all Commanders once they receive the information that they disseminate the information to their respective Chairpersons.

>Department directory will also be mailed in the same package.

It is asked that all recipient of the directory please review the information for errors. Any changes should be emailed to the State Adjutant office for correction. **NOTE:** The information in the directory was derived from

the election reports as filed.

4. ALL Commanders: Several changes to the National By-laws were passed at the National convention. It is recommended that Post Commanders purchase a copy of the National By-laws book which is available from the VFW National Supply Catalog; item #4108, cost of the book is \$8.50. District Commanders will receive a copy at the Council of Administration.

5. District Commanders: Please refer to Dept By-laws, Article VII; Section 6 when any changes need to be made to scheduled District meetings. The requirements for emergency cancellations are included in this section.

6. Post Commanders: Please refer to the National Manual of Procedure Article II; Section 205 when any changes need to be made to Chartered or regular meetings.

7. Donations: Please refer to the Department directory listed on our Dept website and or listed in the July GO's when mailing and creating checks for donations to our programs. **VAMS** donations must be made online with a report sent to PSC Armstrong, Chairman.

8. Post Commanders: Each post shall see that suitable programs are made for observance of Veterans Day. (National Manual of Procedure Article II; Section 223).

9. Chain of Command: Commander Lane 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's staff, initially the Judge Advocate. Most situations/problems can be rectified/resolved at the Post level.

10. Officers Duties: Please familiarize yourself with the respective By-laws and Manual of Procedures for your duties and responsibilities; including attendance at District meetings. **THIS** is to include Trustee's Report of Audits, proof of eligibility, updating by-laws, bonds, insurance, requirements for meetings and control of units.

11. Candidates for Department High Office 2023-2024: : Any member wishing to run for any high office are to notify the State Adjutant office via e-mail of their intent.

Department Commander > John J. Bouchard > Post 9389

Department Sr. Vice Commander > Anthony R. Kimble > Post 3108

Department Jr. Vice Commander > Amy Hope Meuchel > Post 6859

Department Quartermaster > David D. Williams > Post 1641

Department Chaplain > Kevin G. Woodward > Post 11553

Department Judge Advocate > William E. Day > Post 7997

Department Surgeon > Roger A. Stevens > Post 2197

Department Surgeon > Teresa S. Drag > Post 9787

Department Surgeon > Randolph S. Michaud > Post 2599

12. District Meeting Dates:

D-6 > 7 Aug @ 1 pm > Washington Post 9437 Washington > Cmdr Lane

D-5 > 21 Aug @ 10 am > Farmington Post 10881 > QM Williams

D-7 > 28 Aug @ 2 pm > Bath Post 7738 (Phippsburg Sportsmen's Club), Bath > JA Meuchel

D-4 > 10 Sep @ 2 pm Bangor Post 1761 > Cmdr Lane

D-5 > 18 Sep @ 10 am > Jackman Post 5723 > Cmdr lane

D-10 > 18 Sep @ 1 pm > Portland > SVC Bouchard

D-11 > 18 Sep @ 2 pm > OOB Post 7997 > SG Day

D-3 > 18 Sep @ 2 pm > Calais Veterans Center > Adj Dumas

BY COMMAND OF:

Jennifer L. Lane

Jennifer L. Lane
Commander

OFFICIAL:

Andre L. Dumas

Andre L. Dumas
Adjutant



State Commander Jennifer L. Lane.



Greeting Comrades,

I hope that your summer season is treating you kindly and you are enjoying what life has to offer. Welcome to August. The beginning of the 2022-2023 is here and we are a month in. Please make sure you are up to speed with the Department of Maine membership program and all pertinent information in the National By-laws and Manual of Procedure. I am here to make this a successful and rewarding year for all. I do not want anyone to struggle navigating any of the programs or rules we are governed by. This is a year for growth, training, and advancement. We have it in all of us to strive to make us ALL a success. We are never alone in any of our endeavors, and we need to reach out to each other for assistance; businesswise or on a personal need.

The Department of Maine VFW is conducting an in-person MOLD training program for the first time in years. This year's training is geared to assist with the current updates and changes in the way we conduct business. I employ you all to take this training seriously and take it as an opportunity to bring back information to your districts, posts and to have a productive year. The organization matters because of you!

We have been lacking in communication and cross training in our Department for years and I want to change that; Everyone should be aware of the available resources to complete our mission. The staff and I are open to and willing to assist in any capacity that we can! Please reach out! There is never a dumb question.

Even though the year has just started, we have some unresolved issues that have been following us for years. Please review the by-laws and Manual of Procedure to educate yourself and others. I will not tolerate dissension among the troops! We are a team and we will carry on our tradition as such. That saying, if there is a need to reach out to the Staff leadership for clarification, it is your ownership to do so. "Petty jealousies and trivial personalities."

Please read the General Orders in its entirety; you need to be able to share your knowledge and be abreast of changes as published. In that theory, I will start including a special "code" word in the future GO's for you to email me with to be entered in to a Special Commander's drawing. Keep reading folks!

I look forward to a great year as we work together and remember – "Veterans First – United and Undivided."

Yours in Comradeship,

Jennifer L. Lane

Jennifer Lane
Department Commander

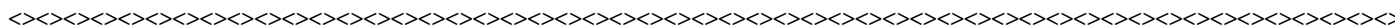


Deceased Roll Call



Department of Maine, VFW
Kevin G. Woodward, Chaplain
25 June 2022 ~ 24 July 2022

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



District 1

2599 > DAY, Andrew J.
NELSON, Roy M.

6187 > RAND, Donald C.

9389 > BOULEY, Gilman P.

District 2

7529 > TOWNSEND, Almon U.

District 3

9779 > GEORGE, William E.

District 4

1761 > HINCKS, Edward A.
Mac KAY, John F.
SMEN, Anthony Sr.

3381 > KNAPP, Arthur W.
SLAUENWHITE, Arthur W.

4633 > PROULX, Richard F.

District 6

3108 > GRUBBS, Dale A.

District 8

9 > DEARBORN, Roland W.

887 > POULIN, Ronald G.

1285 > RUSSELL, Fernand T.

District 8

8835 > LESSARD, Reginald A.
O'KEEFE, Reginald A.

District 9

1603 > JOYCE, Terry A.

1641 > CHARITY, Ronald H. Sr.

3335 > SMITH, Douglas L.

9787 > LAUZIÈRE, Paul A.

District 10

10879 > ASDOURIAN, Martin N.

District 11

5744 > NAU, Lewis W. Jr.

6997 > DERVISHIAN, Leo George Jr.

7997 > ZAAMBA, Phillip C.

9935 > EDGERLY, Norman L.

Members-at-Large

15020 > BROWN, Clyde H. L.
HOLMES, Frederick H. Sr.
LITTLE, Wayne E.
MELANSON, Richard
PIKE, Carl E.
PRENDERGAST, Thomas E.



**SENIOR VICE COMMANDER
INSPECTOR
POW/MIA
John J. Bouchard**



Inspections: Hi all, went to the national convention. All had a good time. Now we can come down to business and start your inspections. Let's get our Commander 100% inspected again this year. Also, remember you cannot inspect your own Post.

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 Pvt John P. Cooper | >Army Sgt Garland W. Collier |
| >Army Air Force Staff Sgt. Roy Carney | >Navy Shipfitter 3 rd Class Francis L. Hannon |
| >Navy Fire Controlman 3 rd Class Robert T. Stout | >Marine Corps Sgt Arthur B. Erwin |
| >Army Pfc Lowell D. Smith | >Army Pfc Edward J. Reiter |
| >Army Pfc Donald M. Born | >Army Air Forces Staff Sgt William O. Wood |
| >Army Pfc Robert L. Alexander | >Army Air Forces Stagg Sgt George B, Walker |
| >Army Pfc Worley D. Jacks | >Army Pfc Francis P. Martin |
| >Army Air Forces Tech. Sgt William F. Teaff | >Marine Reserve Cpl Jack S. Brown |
| >Navy Fireman 1 st Class Beoin H. Corzatt | >Army Air Forces Sgt Herald R. Boyd |
| >Marine Corps Reserve Cpl William R. Ragsdale | >Army Pfc Alevin A. Hathaway |
| >Army Air Forces Staff Sgt Moses F. Tate | >Army Air Forces 2 nd Lt Pharis E. Weekley |
| >Army Pvt Felix M. Yanez | >Army Pfc Melvin J. Little Bear |
| >Army Pfc John L. Ferguson | >Army Pfc John W. Gordon |
| >Army Air Forces Sgt Zelwood A. Garvlin | >Army Pfc Donald Hofman |
| >Navy Shipfitter 2 nd Class Clause R. Garcia | >Navy Machinist's 1 st Class Keith W. Tipsword |

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

Congratulation to Commander in Chief Tim Borland for being sworn in as our next National Commander. National convention went very well and the comradeship and fellowship were wonderful. It is great to be back in Maine and energized to have a great year under Commander Lane. I look forward to getting out and visiting some of the Posts to see how everyone is doing. I hope everyone is having a relaxing summer and finding new adventures to get into. I look forward to seeing many of you in the upcoming MOLD training. Please be safe and stay healthy and check in on one another to make sure everyone is doing well. Keep Up the Fire!!

Voice of Democracy/Patriots Pen/Teacher of the Year

Let's start getting excited about Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen and get the word out now! Here are this year's themes, I know we can make this year better than ever.

2022-2023 Themes

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY (9-12 Grade): *Why is the Veteran Important?*

PATRIOTS PEN (6-8 Grade): *My Pledge to Our Veterans*

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.

*****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

CSP: This year's Commander's Special Project is ***Veterans Family Camp-Bond Fires that Heal***". Please take a few moments to visit their webpage at www.veteransfamilycamp.com, read their mission and get to know more about their mission. Find YOUR Purpose.

Commander Lane and I want to thank you the posts that have sent in your support of her special project and I encourage other posts to please send any donations directly to me: Anthony Kimble, 64 Bayview Dr, Northport, Maine 04849. Make all checks out to ***Department of Maine, VFW*** and in the memo line put ***Commanders Special Project***. Thank you.

QUARTERMASTER

BUDDY POPPY ~ INSURANCE & BONDS

David D. Williams, PSC

As I start this month out, I hope that everyone is enjoying the nice hot weather. If you think it's hot here, you should have been at the National Convention where it was also very hot. Speaking of the Convention, Maine had an excellent turn out of members present. There may have been a few By-Law changes passed if so and the ones that were passed will be in the new By-Laws book that National puts out yearly.

Audit: The 1st Quarter of the year is over; your reports are due.

Poppies: Yes, I'm still having troubles with Poppies. I had to do a re-order from March so if your Post ordered some and you never got them, get a hold of me and we will try and find out what happened to them.

Next month, I will start posting the Hit List again.

For all you new QMs, don't forget about training this month in Portland and Bangor.

Until we meet again. Happy sailing.

**JUDGE ADVOCATE
HISTORIAN
WAYS & MEANS (W&M)
Amy Hope Meuchel**

JA: Get to know the Department By-Laws.

ARTICLE IX - RESOLUTIONS: All resolutions shall be typewritten and forwarded as to reach the Department Adjutant at least sixty (60) days prior to the convening date of the Department Convention for review by the Department By-Laws Committee and published in the General Orders for all Posts to review. Any resolution of any emergency nature may be presented from the floor of the Department Convention. If you have a question or a current issue that you would like to get resolved, please feel free to reach out to me. **meuchelamyh@yahoo.com** Hope your summer is going well.

HISTORIAN: Had a wonderful time at the VFW National Convention this past month. I have dozens of pictures to be posted. You can see them on the Department of Maine VFW Facebook page. If you do not have access, I am sure we can find a way for you to see them.

WAYS AND MEANS: Tickets will be sent out to all post for sale. At the national convention Maine had the best hospitality room. These ticket sales go towards our hospitality rooms food, drinks and decorations.

**SURGEON
Safety & Drug Abuse
William Day**

I am very grateful for being elected Surgeon for Department of Maine. I look forward to the challenges and opportunities while working with our great Department team!

Be SAFE while enjoying our Summer and Vacation. Keep a First Aid kit with you when travelling, camping, etc. Always keep hydrated. VERY important! Remember that our COVID "friend" is still with us. Keep your guard up if around crowds.

Stay "COVID AWARE". There is spike in many parts of the country even in people fully vaccinated! There is no shame in wearing a mask if you want to!

Stay hydrated. All this heat takes it out of you faster. Water, water, water! Remember that ice cold water on an extreme heat day can put your body into shock. Be cautious.

Ticks are very active this year. Remember ticks can transmit Lyme disease. The smart way to prevent ticks is to take a lint roller and roll all over your cloths and body after being in an area where you might have been exposed.

Much more Blood is used in the summer months so give Blood when you can.

Hold Blood Drives often and Report!

Summertime uses a lot of blood, so, if you haven't donated for a while, please consider it now! It's ALWAYS needed. When you do so remember to report it.

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

What it means to be a VFW Chaplain

There is more to being a VFW Chaplain than wearing the "badge" and offering a few prayers at our meetings. Ultimately, being a VFW Chaplain is about ministering and serving those who served. Specifically, we nurture the living, we care for the dying, and we honor the dead.

As we work with Comrades and their families, we help them deal with difficult and complex life

situations. In time, we all have personal issues, family issues, work issues, post issues, etc. Sometimes we need someone to come along side us. Just knowing someone is there who cares really helps. At other times, we need a sounding board to help us think through and clarify issues so we are able to make good and wise decisions. This is what Chaplains do. And most of our work is not seen by others – it takes place in private.

MOLD: This year's Maine Officer Leadership Development (MOLD) for this training to take place on August 13th at VFW Post 6859 in Portland and August 20th at VFW Post 1761 in Bangor. 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. I look forward to seeing many of you at one of the locations.

WAA: National Wreaths Across America Day December 17, 2022. 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.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/20060/Overview/?relatedId=14720&modSw=donate>

**NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBER, MAINE (NCM,M)
CHIEF OF STAFF (CoS)
MEMBERSHIP
LEGISLATIVE ~ MAINE VETERAN'S HOMES (MVH)
Steven J. SanPedro, PSC**

Comrades,

Many of us just returned from a very successful National Convention in Kansas City, MO. We had a lot of first timers on both the VFW and Auxiliary side. I believe they learned a lot and had a good time. It was nice to see new faces attending the convention. I also, caught up with some old friends and made a few new ones. The heat was unbelievable but we made it through it. It was nice to see our own Travis Mills receive an award from VFW National Headquarters.

Chief of Staff: Please make sure you use the proper Chain of Command when dealing with issues. Always try to resolve the issue at the lowest level. Make sure you have read all of the changes in the Membership Program. There are many changes and some of them effect your Post becoming an All-State Post.

National Council Member, Maine: I attend my first council meeting while in Kansas City. This one was just affirming the new CiC appointments and procedural stuff. I have my next one this month. That means I have to travel back to Kansas City for this meeting, Yay! Seriously, a lot of business will be conducted at this meeting. Once again, I am looking forward to continuing to represent our Department at the National level.

Legislation: As we start another year, there are many goals that we want to meet. We have added Comrade Jared Sawyer to the Legislative team to help work on our local issues and help us represent at Augusta. No news on the Sealed Tickets as of yet but they are moving forward with the changes we requested. I am starting to setup my visits in the DC Offices during the fall Legislative Conference in September. This one, I travel by myself and push the National Priority Goals. Due to a procedural error, the Honoring Our PACT Act was being held up. It should be fixed and passed during the next session. I will keep you posted.

Membership: Membership is up and running now. 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. Your goal may be lower due to National granting us amnesty for some of our deceased Members. This should make it easier for many Posts to reach 100% this year. We must make sure we **Retain, Reinstate and Recruit** Members. Make sure you read and understand the 2022-2023 Department and National Membership Program it has changed. 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 happy to say that as I write this, all of our residents in the homes are Covid free. This is very exciting news but very hard to maintain. The Leadership and the staff at all the homes should be commended for their efforts. The virus is still around and every effort to keep it out of the homes will be made. The Homes are opening up more stuff and are looking for volunteers to help screen visitors and help with the residents. 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!"

"VETERANS FIRST - UNITED AND UNDIVIDED"

AMERICANISM/LOYALTY DAY
Michael A. McLinnis, Chairman

Once again, I would also like to thank all the Posts in the Department of Maine that have already reported in Americanism/Loyalty Day Programs so far this year for the 2022-2023 reporting cycle.

Ensure that you have reported for Americanism/Loyalty Day Programs: Memorial Day, Flag Day, July 4th and any Parades, observances related to them.

You should submit your Community Activity Reports on-line at the Department of Maine website, I will receive them. If you do not receive credit, please contact me @ 207-590-6058 or at my email: qmvfw7997@yahoo.com

All reports for Americanism/Loyalty Day also can be mailed to Mike McLinnis 15 Vines Road, Saco, ME 04072-1733. They can also be faxed to me @ 207-283-9357.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES
Christopher L. Robison, PSC

I hope everyone enjoyed their summer! The new VFW Year is in full swing, and I know everyone's Posts are active. Please continue to report your activities in the community.

The Community Activities packet will be out to Post Leadership soon. Please consult the packet for any questions. Please reach out to me if the packet does not answer your question. Keep up the good work!

CREDENTIALS
PUBLIC RELATIONS (PRO)
Jared M. Sawyer

Greeting Comrades,

Credentials: Post and District Quartermasters, Adjutants and Commanders, start chipping away now at the required items for voting at next year's Convention. Reach out to your District Inspectors to get your Posts inspected as soon as possible. Keep an eye out in the next few months GOs about how we will be registering delegates for next year's Convention.

Public Relations: Please consider sending out a press release to the media of what you are doing in your community, this costs nothing but a little time, with huge benefits if it is run! I would also like to challenge every Post to establish a presence on social media. Some Posts have Facebook pages that are private groups, this is good for communicating to Members, but doesn't work well for communicating what we are doing to the public. Social media can be controversial but is also great at getting information out to the public.

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

Homeless Veterans: Stand-Downs: Grant in process. We received \$100 from the Winslow Post 8835 for the Stand-down fund in July

Maine Veterans in Need (MVN): We ran into the perfect storm for funding on July 1st. All financial support that has funding for housing ran out. The funding that runs are replenished in October were also out of funding. The VA has been paying for hotel room and the costs are very high. It is necessary to have statewide contracts for reasonable rates for housing homeless Veterans.

We always need Welcome Kits: The kit list was in the September GO's. You can see it on the Department website. You can print pages 22 and 23 to a pdf file and print all the copies you need.

If there are any questions on any subjects in this report, contact me at james.bachelder@metrocast.net or 207-432-7127 from 9 am to 9 pm.

Veterans' Cemetery South: The POW/MIA Memorial will be dedicated on Saturday September 24th at 11:00 am. We are planning a somber service and a luncheon at the Sanford VFW directly after the ceremony.

There is a lot of volunteer work planting the leftover plants from Memorial Day. With the weather as it has been, there is a lot of water needed to keep the flowers in great condition.

Still fundraising for the Committal Shelter upgrade. If you can donate or have a fundraiser.

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

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

Total donations for the month of July 2022 were \$750.00.

\$500.00 was given to Hospital / VAVS to be used as needed.

\$250.00 is going to the Recreation Department.

My thanks to Post # 6859 Portland and Post # 6924 Fairfield.

Please make all checks out to VAVS, not the Department of the VFW.

Thank you.

My address is: Mike Blair, 748 Hinckley Rd., Clinton, ME 04927

**NATIONAL HOME
Joel D. Demers, Chairman**

Comrades,

Got the final state totals from last year. A pretty modest \$1,996. We can do better this year. I have an attainable goal in mind for each Post this year, \$0.50 per member. That gives a collective goal of \$3,250.

Please send checks to me at: **47 Brentwood Rd, Windham, ME 04062**

Made out to: **Department of Maine, VFW**

Thanks to Augusta and Auburn for their donations so far. If you made a purchase (membership, brick, etc.) or donation directly to the National Home, just send me an email or text to let me know so that I can give you the proper credit. adjutant6859@gmail.com or 207-650-1411

If you send a donation on behalf of a District, thanks. I will prorate the credit to the Posts in that District. Remember, this is our charity. We need to support it.

**NATIONAL VETERANS & MILITARY SUPPORT (NV&MS)
VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE (VSO)
Christopher L. Armstrong, PSC**

Hello Comrades.

Hope this finds everyone ready for our new year. There are some changes coming through this year which should make things easier for everyone. The biggest one is You can get on the computer **ALL AMERICAN DASHBOARD** on the VFW Web page to login to pay your donations for ALL AMERICAN. YOU DO NOT NEED TO MAIL THEM TO ME ANY LONGER, YOU PAY NATIONAL DIRECTLY ON WEB PAGE. and it will automatically be reported I will receive a report at the end of each month.

Convention was a good time, it was GREAT seeing everyone in person, they have made some changes to make life easier for all of us, But EVERYONE needs to pay attention to the ALL-AMERICAN DASHBOARD this will make it easier on all of us.

**SCOUTING
VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE
Michael K. Davis**

Posts are out to a great start for the 2022-2023 Scouting year. Posts have worked with Cadets, Sea Scouts, Boy Scout and Cub Scout anywhere from providing meeting places, assisting in training to flagging cemeteries. The below posts are reported in Scouting for 2022-2023

Dist. 4 109 > Dist. 8 9526 > Dist. 9 1603, 9787 > Dist. 10 10643, 10879 > Dist. 11 9394, 9935

Any activities that you do with Scouts/Scouting is reportable. Posts in the past have reported on using the Post for Scout meetings, Flagging Graves, Working with Scouts on their Eagle Projects, Getting Scouts involved in various community activities. Scouts have also helped with mowing the posts yard, Painting and various other events.

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 are 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>

Katahdin Area Council Boy Scouts of America, Northern Maine Boy Scouts

Based in Orono, supporting scouting in northern Maine. Includes information on Camp Roosevelt, calendar.

**VETERANS ADVISORY TO VA MAINE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM
ASSISTANT SERVICE OFFICER
JoAnn Bolduc, Chairperson**

"Summer breeze makes me feel fine blowin' through the jasmine in my mind..." Seals and Crofts

Our summer hasn't had much breezes but has been very hot Comrades. It is very important to keep hydrated and know the signs of heat exhaustion and heat stroke. **Heat exhaustion symptoms:** faint or dizzy, excessive

sweating, cool/pale/clammy skin, nausea/vomiting, rapid/weak pulse, muscle cramps. What to do-move to a cooler location, drink water, use cold compresses and or take a cool shower. **Heat stroke symptoms:** Throbbing headache, no sweating, body temp above 103, red/hot/dry skin, nausea/vomiting, rapid/strong pulse, may lose consciousness. What to do-**GET EMERGENCY HELP!!! Keep cool until help arrives.** Please watch out for each other.

New Veterans Crisis Line number is 988, then Press 1. Please save this number in your phones. You never know whose life you will save.

Women Veterans also have a Hotline Call Center 1(855) 829-6636.

Since August 7 is National Purple Heart Day, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to all of those who suffered that injury whatever it may be. You may still be experiencing the residuals of it. Please know that there is no shame in seeking help to bear that burden.

I end this month's report with an additional quote with a mental health twist. "There is hope, even when your brain tells you there isn't."-John Green

Be good to yourselves and be good to each other.

VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

Cornelius J. Ware, SO

Service Office COVID-19 procedures (Just a friendly reminder): As we continue to deal with the impact of COVID on the VAMC and the Regional office. Our office is still doing appointments only no walk-in traffic except on a base by case basis for urgent disability claims work only no social calls for now. This is still a temporary measure but necessary for complying with R.O. protocol. We will keep you updated on the VARO's plans and procedures for the full safe reopening of the office in the immediate future. I hope to return to the office a couple of days a week and work remotely from home, while I continue PT on my knee as it continues to heal. In the interim, JoAnn Bolduc has been filling the void as part time ASDO and running the office in my absence. She is still working on getting recredentialed so she can access Veteran files, but it is going to take a little time. So please be patient when you call her for information as she may not be able to access it. I will try to assist her remotely when possible. But for now; my focus is on healing and recovery. So as the SO staff adapts to the present situation remember we are here to assist, though limited. We are still conducting business with the health and safety of the office 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. Or send mail to:

VFW Dept, Service Office, VA Regional Office, PO Box 3311, Augusta, ME 04330-3311

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

Veterans Crisis Line Update: Congress passed legislation to create a three-digit national suicide hotline as an alternative to 911 for mental health emergencies. All telephone service providers must activate the code "988" for this service no later than July 16, 2022. As part of the new 988 rollout, the Department of Veterans Affairs released the attached memo with information regarding this new program.

Some Key Points:

Once a veteran's telephone service provider activates 988, they may use this option to access the Veterans Crisis Line by dialing "988" then pressing "1"

The current phone number, 800-273-TALK (8255) will remain active - there are no plans to discontinue this number. We will keep you informed with updates.

Request a Higher-Level Review for Your Appeal for VA Claim denial: Veterans can request a higher-level review (HLR) of benefits claim decision. As part of the HLR process, VA offers an optional one-time informal conference. This allows a Veteran or their representative to speak directly with a higher-level reviewer assigned to complete the decision review. This is done via an informal phone conference. The review only covers the

information on record in the veterans file as new information cannot be submitted through this process. Please contact your Veteran service representative for more information.

Desert Storm Memorial: The installation of a new monument in Washington, D.C., recognizing Gulf War veterans begins July 14 with the formal groundbreaking of the National Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial. Situated on the National Mall to the north of the Lincoln Memorial, the new park-like monument will honor Veterans who served on Active duty in support of the two operations. The memorial commemorates ***“the service and sacrifice”*** of the military personnel who from 1991 to 1992 “liberated Kuwait from Iraq and defended Saudi Arabia and the Arabian Peninsula from further invasion,”. The association intends to complete the memorial’s construction by Veterans Day of 2024.

“VETERANS SERVING VETERANS”

WEBSITE COORDINATOR

Thomas R. Lussier, PSC

The ***NEW*** Department Website is up and in excellent working order. It now contains the 2022 National Podium, By-Laws & Manual edition. As soon as National publishes the next edition I will add it to our website.

Please ensure any directory changes that need to be made are sent to the ***Department Adjutant***. The password for all forms is 1921. Also, if you have any photos of Department events, please forward to me.

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

DEPT @ 2.15% - Need 6360 For 100% (16+)
Department Statistics

Maine as of Monday August 1, 2022

Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
2599	1	0	0	0	1	1	100	1.00%	-99	PRESQUE ISLE	0
6187	1	0	0	0	1	1	55	1.81%	-54	FORT FAIRFIELD	0
9389	1	0	0	0	4	4	380	1.05%	-376	CARIBOU	0
9699	1	0	0	0	1	1	61	1.63%	-60	ASHLAND	0
District Total	1	0	0	0	7	7	596	1.17%	-589		0
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
1605	2	0	1	0	0	1	114	0.87%	-113	BURLINGTON	0
7529	2	0	0	0	0	0	61	0.00%	-61	ISLAND FALLS	0
District Total	2	0	0	0	0	1	175	0.57%	-174		0
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
9779	3	0	0	0	2	2	106	1.88%	-104	CALAIS	0
11553	3	0	0	0	1	1	111	0.90%	-110	HARRINGTON	0
District Total	3	0	0	0	3	3	217	1.38%	-214		0
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
109	4	0	0	0	4	4	145	2.75%	-141	ELLSWORTH	0
1761	4	0	0	0	0	0	197	0.00%	-197	BANGOR	0
3381	4	0	2	0	4	6	177	3.38%	-171	OLD TOWN	0
4633	4	0	0	0	2	2	109	1.83%	-107	HAMPDEN	0
District Total	4	0	2	0	10	12	628	1.91%	-616		0
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
4298	5	0	0	0	1	1	61	1.63%	-60	DEXTER	0
5723	5	0	0	0	0	0	12	0.00%	-12	JACKMAN	0
6924	5	0	0	0	0	0	109	0.00%	-109	FAIRFIELD	0
7865	5	0	1	0	1	2	136	1.47%	-134	MADISON-ANSON	0
10881	5	0	0	0	1	1	25	4.00%	-24	FARMINGTON	0
11191	5	0	0	0	3	3	29	10.34%	-26	NEWPORT	0
District Total	5	0	1	0	6	7	372	1.88%	-365		0

Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
3095	6	0	0	0	0	0	13	0.00%	-13	FRIENDSHIP	0
3108	6	0	2	0	3	5	138	3.62%	-133	BELFAST	0
4169	6	0	0	0	1	1	13	7.69%	-12	VINALHAVEN	0
6131	6	0	0	0	1	1	72	1.38%	-71	NORTHPORT	0
9437	6	0	0	0	0	0	32	0.00%	-32	WASHINGTON	0
District Total	6	0	2	0	5	7	268	2.61%	-261		0
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
2197	7	0	1	0	1	2	87	2.29%	-85	TOPSHAM	0
7738	7	0	0	0	1	1	75	1.33%	-74	BATH	0
District Total	7	0	1	0	2	3	162	1.85%	-159		0
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
9	8	0	0	0	1	1	46	2.17%	-45	GARDINER	0
887	8	0	0	0	3	3	234	1.28%	-231	AUGUSTA	0
1285	8	0	0	0	1	1	214	0.46%	-213	WATERVILLE	0
8835	8	0	0	0	2	2	244	0.81%	-242	WINSLOW	0
9526	8	0	0	0	3	3	40	7.50%	-37	WINTHROP	0
District Total	8	0	0	0	10	10	778	1.28%	-768		0
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
1603	9	0	0	0	5	5	370	1.35%	-365	LEWISTON-AUBURN	0
1641	9	0	0	0	1	1	122	0.81%	-121	RUMFORD	0
3335	9	0	0	0	5	5	198	2.52%	-193	JAY	0
9787	9	0	0	0	2	2	122	1.63%	-120	SOUTH PARIS	0
District Total	9	0	0	0	13	13	812	1.60%	-799		0
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
6783	10	0	0	0	0	0	39	0.00%	-39	LOVELL	0
6859	10	0	0	0	5	5	360	1.38%	-355	PORTLAND	0
9328	10	0	0	0	0	0	33	0.00%	-39	HARRISON	0
10529	10	0	0	0	0	0	66	0.00%	-66	YARMOUTH	0
10643	10	0	0	0	4	4	68	5.88%	-64	WINDHAM	0
10879	10	0	0	0	1	1	254	0.39%	-253	GORHAM	0
11362	10	0	0	0	1	1	30	3.33%	-29	NAPLES	0
District	10	0	0	0	11	11	850	1.29%	-839		0

Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
5744	11	0	0	0	6	6	144	4.16%	-138	SOUTH BERWICK	0
6977	11	0	0	0	0	0	183	0.00%	-183	YORK BEACH	0
7997	11	0	0	0	6	6	257	2.33%	-251	OLD ORCHARD BEACH	0
9394	11	0	0	0	0	0	54	0.00%	-54	KITTERY	0
9935	11	0	0	0	38	38	273	13.91%	-235	SANFORD	0
District Total	11	0	0	0	50	50	911	5.48%	-861		0
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
15020	99	0	1	1	14	16	731	2.18%	-715	RUMFORD	0
District Total	99	0	1	1	14	16	731	2.18%	-715	QM'S HOUSE	0
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/-	City	N/R LM
State Total	0	0	8	1	131	140	6500	2.15%	-6360		0



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

THIS 2022 – 2023 YEAR - WILL YOU HELP?

“VETERANS FIRST UNITED AND UNDIVIDED”

“RETAIN-REINSTATE-RECRUIT”

RECRUITING EVENTS

Post or District# _____

Location of Event _____ Date _____ Time _____

VFW Member & Title Present at Event

Description of Event: _____

Approximate # of People Talked With: _____

Of People Signed Up: New _____ Reinstated _____

Comments of Event: _____

Notify Membership Chairman Steven SanPedro of Event prior to Date of Event.

Submit a signed copy of this Report to the Membership Chairman

Steven SanPedro 251 Gray Rd., Windham, ME 04062

sanpedro105@roadrunner.com Please include photos or news articles to be used in the Commanders Membership Book

Date: _____

Signature of Post Commander or Department Officer

Department of Maine
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.

MAINE OFFICERS LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (MOLD)

TO BE HELD ON: 13 August 2022 – VFW Post 6859 Portland

20 August 2022 – VFW Post 1761 Bangor

This year's MOLD is primarily for District and Post level Commanders, Quartermasters, Adjutant, Inspectors, Chaplains, and Trustees. Any one is welcome and are encouraged to attend. Valuable information is available to anyone wishing to attend.

****Please refer to the current membership program for requirements of attendees for All-State Program****

Forward the completed form, along with a check and/or money order in the amount **as listed below** for the MOLD Class. Cost for the MOLD class is **\$15.00 per person.**

NOTE: The fee includes training materials, a lunch at noon time and donuts in the morning upon your arrival.

Checks and/or Money Orders are to be made payable to: **“Department of Maine, VFW.”**
Send both the form and check and/or money order NLT 15 July 2022:

Kevin G. Woodward, MOLD Chairman
9 Johnson Ln, Machiasport ME., 04655

*****CUT*****

Department of Maine
Maine Officers Leadership Development (MOLD)

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

VFW Post #: _____ Title: _____

Home Address: _____

Home Telephone #: _____

E-mail Address: _____

**NOTE: See General Orders for more information. (Make Copies as needed
for Other Comrades Who Wish to Attend the MOLD Training)**



Department of Maine Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States
Maine Officers Leadership Development (MOLD)
Saturday - 13 August 2022 Post 6859 Portland
Saturday - 20 August 2022 Post 1761 Bangor



<i>Time</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Instructor</i>
07:30-08:00	Registration	
08:00-08:15	Opening Ceremonies Salute to the Flag Opening Prayer Pledge of Allegiance Introduction of Staff Opening Remarks	CoS SanPedro Chap Woodward CoS SanPedro Chmn Woodward Cmdr Lane Chmn Woodward
08:15-08:45	Commanders Duties	Cmdr Lane
08:45-09:15	Adjutant Duties/Parliamentary Procedures	Adj Dumas
09:15-10:00	By-Laws	JA Meuchel
10:00-10:15	Break	
10:15-11:00	Quartermaster Duties/Trustees Reports	QM Williams
11:00 - 12:00	Dashboard	Cmdr Lane/Lynn Rolf II
1200-12:30	LUNCH	
12:30- 13:15	Membership Program	Chairman San Pedro
13:15-13:30	Veterans Military Service	Chairman Armstrong
13:30-14:00	VOD/PP/TOY/CMS	JVC Kimble
14:00 -14:15	Break	
14:15-14:45	Inspections	SVC Bouchard
14:45-15:15	Community Service	Chairman Robison
15:15 -15:30	Credentials	Chairman Sawyer
15:30 -15.45	Chaplains Duties	Chaplain Woodward
15:45	Open Forum Final Comments Salute to the Colors	Staff Available for questions CoS SanPedro