Commander’s Corner

Greetings, fellow Legionnaires. I hope you all enjoyed yourselves and spent some time with your loved ones over the holidays.

I want to commend the districts and posts on their hard work on their membership. So far, we have met all of Nationals percentages. Congratulations to all of the of the membership award winners thus far. We need to continue this effort through the second half of the year. Our quota is 32,723 members. If we continue to work hard we can do it. Please don’t quit.

A few districts have had, or are having revitalizations. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd districts had a very successful revitalization. Each post that received these new members should welcome these members, and get them involved in any post activity that may interest them.

These can be very successful if well prepared for. If you are hesitant in having a revitalization due to lack of knowledge, do not worry because we have a well-trained membership team here in Massachusetts. The national headquarters will send out lists and will also do advanced public notification which includes personal notifications in the form of post cards and PSA’s in our community and surrounding area. Pick a date (1 – 3 days) and at least a month in advance. It can be done and the success that we have experienced so far is very positive.

Department Sr. Vice Commander Diaz and I would like to see more

Continued on Page 5

Department Membership Standings (1/30/2020)

District 10: Ply/Barn/Dukes/ Nan 94.18%
District 2: Franklin/Hampshire 93.60%
District 1: Berkshire 90.85%
Email Scam

From National Adjutant Dan Wheeler

We don't know how many people will receive this email purporting to be from the National Commander. It is a scam; do not respond. Please alert your members.

On Thursday, January 30, 2020, 7:47 AM, James Oxford <members@sicances.com> wrote:

Hello Hans,

How Are You Today? I Need Your Assistance, Are You Available? I'm Out Of Town. Can You Please Handle This For Me On Behalf Of The Legion, American Legion Needs Gift Cards For Donation To Veterans Hospice Care Units Across The Community.

Kindly Confirm If You Can Help Out.

James W. Oxford
National Commander
American Legion

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Happy New Year American Legion Family! It’s hard to believe that it’s already been a year since the American Legion’s Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA) program provided more than $1 million in non-repayable grants to Coast Guard families affected by the longest government shutdown.

TFA grants, like the ones distributed to the Coast Guard families, are made possible through donations to The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation. Grants from the foundation not only provide vital support for military and veteran parents in unexpected financial crises, they also support American Legion service officers in their tireless efforts to obtain care and benefits for disabled veterans and families. These service officers provide free expert assistance to more than 700,000 veterans, widows and families as they navigate the complexities of VA benefits and services they have earned through their service.

The Veterans & Children Foundation improves lives for veterans, servicemembers and their families. It is essential that the foundation remain a resource for our comrades in need in communities throughout the nation. Whether funds are used to assist Coast Guardsmen who are missing paychecks, a veteran and their family who lost their home to a fire, or a military family struggling to make ends meet, the Veterans & Children Foundation needs your support.

For the remainder of my term as your national commander, I will be focusing on my fundraising goal of $25 million for the Veterans & Children Foundation. I am confident that with your kind contributions, we will indeed assist veterans, support military families and build a strong foundation for the future.

To donate to the foundation, please visit legion.org/donate. You also may download the Veterans & Children Foundation brochure at legion.org/publications.

Building a foundation for the future,

James W. “Bill” Oxford
National Commander
Hello Members!

Thank you for being a part of our wonderful Organizations --- American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, and/or Sons of the American Legion! As we enter the month of February, there are several activities members of the American Legion Family can continue to work together to serve veterans, as well as our communities.

Hospitalized veterans really appreciate receiving handmade Valentines from school children! I have seen members of the American Legion visit schools to share their thoughts and experiences. Places where American veterans have served can be identified on world maps and this can open up some excellent lessons for students at any grade level. At the conclusion of the presentation, students often thank the visitors with a handmade valentine. Auxiliary members can work collaboratively with schoolteachers to make valentines as an art activity. Send the completed cards in CARE packages to servicemen and women overseas or take them to a nearby VA facility or nursing home. For more information, Cindy Kelley, our ALA Department VA&R chairman will be happy to respond.

This is also the time of the year when SAL and ALA members can offer their services to assist the American Legion as oratorical contests are held in schools and districts. The National prizes are outstanding! And, Massachusetts has had winners in the past. Preparing for the Oratorical Contest is an extraordinary learning experience for students. They learn about the Constitution in a way no classroom can match. Being involved with the National contest is awesome. Although there is no reimbursement for volunteers who help, it is well worth the time and money involved. Contact the American Legion Department of MA for more information.

Deadlines for ALA Scholarship applications are quickly approaching. The deadline is March 15th to Units. There are also many Department of Massachusetts scholarships. In the past, some Districts have not even had one applicant. Let’s not have that take place this year. For more information contact, Jen Hamre, our Department Education chairman.

We’re still actively involved with membership! As of January 24th, the Department of MA ALA is fourteenth in the Nation and 3rd in the Division. Please contact those members who haven’t paid their dues yet. Also, look for new members in your communities. 100% membership can happen this year, with your help! Don’t hesitate to contact our Membership Team for help. Our members are Mary Ann Ventulett, Maureen MacDonald, and Ann Fournier.

Happy Valentine’s Day!

Coral May Grout, Department President.
“Open Houses” style revitalizations at the post level. Invite the veterans and their families to our local post home and show them what we are, what we do and what they are missing out on. Make it an American Legion Family affair. In other words, include the Auxiliary, Son’s, Riders and Juniors. What better way to let your community know what we are all about.

Our great organization cannot exist without membership. I am so proud of those that have accepted leadership rolls. Many have been in leadership roles for several years. Hopefully some of these members will become active members and be mentored to become future leaders of our organization.

Please continue to do the good things you are doing, membership is everyone’s responsibility. I am so appreciative of all of you.

Please plan to support local activities coming up such as Oratorical competitions, a local Four-Chaplin service. I attended district 10 Oratorical competition of which they had three very capable candidates that I’m sure will go far into the final rounds for this year.

Yours in comradeship,
Department Commander
Jodie Pajak

National Oratorical Contest Volunteers

The American Legion is looking for volunteers to help with the 2020 National High School Oratorical Contest Finals in Indianapolis, April 18-19.

The contest is held at the Wyndham Indianapolis West hotel, where more than 50 youth from across the country deliver a speech on the U.S. Constitution. The top three finalists will compete for $52,000 in scholarships.

Volunteers will be provided with specific contest details, a job responsibility and training. All expenses related to volunteering with the contest, such as travel, housing and food, are paid for by the volunteer.

New Massachusetts Director of Woman Veterans

We recently welcomed Susan McDonough (Army Veteran) as our Massachusetts Director of Women Veterans.

Susan McDonough is the The American Legion McDonough Post 368 Post Commander this year.

Please welcome her and contact information is below:

Susan.McDonough2@mass.gov 617-210-5930. Thank you Susan for your continued service.
Greetings from Senior Vice Commander Anthony Dias, the Department of Massachusetts Membership Chairman. Great job as of the last DEC meeting on 1/18/2020, that was held at the Clark Haddad Post 188 Sandwich MA. All Districts made the national quota of 85%, except one which was just shy of the 85%. This is a work in progress and we will make the percentage mandated by national, by the February 12th date!

To date we have transferred over 656 members from Post 462 into a post home. This is the goal to increase post membership by at least 1,500. It can be done. With the help of our District commanders and Post Commanders the future looks bright. It’s just going to take a little bit of hard work. I thank each and every one of them for just that. Working with post commanders and Senior Vice Commanders.

For the month of February we are concentrating on District 10 who has scheduled a revitalization throughout the District. (See information flyer elsewhere in this newsletter) DVC Steve Souza will be there to assist District 10.

As of now the department has a list of all the post that do want to have a members transferred from 462 into their post. And the ones that don’t. We’re going to do our very best to see if we can increase that number in each one of the posts that do by at least 10 to 15 new members.

I encourage any post or district commander that wants to revitalize a certain post or district to please contact me or the department of Massachusetts immediately it takes about six weeks to put everything in place.

National has given us the tools to build our membership it’s up to us to use them and if anyone has any ideas about starting a new post please contact me I’d be more than glad to help thanks see you at the next DEC meeting. Be safe everyone!
Many of our posts in District 10 are in need of additional members. The National Office has lists of people who are either past members or people who are members in a holding post. The National office will send out postcards notifying these candidates that we will be calling to see if they would like to be transferred to a local post. They will also provide us with the same list so we can make follow-up phone calls. We will assemble at the above address to make these follow-up phone calls. All we ask is that you bring a cell phone and its charger. Scripts and help sheets will be provided.

This process has been very successful in the western districts of the department. We hope to duplicate their number of volunteers’ and their performance and so like them we can bring in many new members.

We would like to see at least one representative from each post. You will be allowed to call your towns potential transfer’s first. Once you finish your town (assuming you want to stay) you can help with another town.

I’m not going to assign shifts nor do I expect many of you to be able to work all day. Please call so I can add you to the roster. Any day or any time you want is fine with me. Just remember the more calls we make the better chances we have of getting more members paying their dues to a local post.

**District 10 Revitalization Committee**
Richard Cameron          District 10 Commander
Joe Gracia               District 10 Adjutant
Bob Burke                Department Treasurer
The last meeting of the Community Service Committee was held on January 25, 2020 at Post 414 Sutton.

We would like to congratulate the following post for receiving the Al White Award –

September 2019 – Augustus P. Gardner Post 227 Middleton for their 10th annual Chelsea Soldiers Home residents day at their post home.

October 2019 – American Legion Post 1 New Bedford for their Veteran’s Expo

November 2019 – Leo C. Roth American Legion Post 315 for their military honor guard and participation in ceremony’s at the Pollard Memorial Library.

We would also like to mention Post 1274 Westfield for their submission for Thanksgiving baskets to the 104th at Barnes AFB.

The committee is still accepting submissions for December 2019 and January 2020. It is not too soon to start submitting nominations for the Conway Community Service Award, the Mulkern Educator of the year and the Pendill/Shriver awards. Submissions are now being accepted and need to be to me by April 4, 2020 to be considered for these awards.

**JOHN MULKERN EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Criteria: Candidates for the John Mulkern Education of the Year Award –

Must be endorsed by an American Legion Post.

Accomplishments of the individual must be over and above his/her usual vocation.

Consideration will be given to someone whose activities in the field of education is far in excess of what one would expect in that field.

Applicants may be male/female, veteran/non-veteran, Legionnaire/non-Legionnaire.

A majority vote of the Community Service Committee will be final.

The Post that is submitting a candidate must have a current CPR and Post Roster on File for their candidate to be considered for this award.

**THE JOSEPH J. CONWAY MEMORIAL AWARD**

Rules and Guidelines for: The Joseph J. Conway Memorial Award

The recipient would have made a continuing contribution to the betterment of his/her community or the people herein.

Youth: Work done with the community organizations. Examples hockey, baseball, scouts,
musical and marching units etc.
Elderly and Handicapped: Services to and fore: Examples having parties, at your post, parties at rest homes, sightseeing trips, movies, entertainment, etc.
Hospitalized Services: Voluntary services: Examples beano parties, dances, off station parties, entertainment and other services to Veteran Hospitals or to any type of hospital.
Any other possible community service activates.

Nominations for consideration of a Legionnaire, Auxiliary member, Sons of the Legion, or junior member for this award must be made by the Legion Post along with the Legion Family organization requesting submission of this award.
Submissions will include letter or resume of accomplishments
The submission will be signed by the Post Commander and Adjutant
The submission will also be signed by the Legion Family organization president/secretary or squadron commander/adjutant submitting the request.
Proof of accomplishments shall be made to the committee where possible.
No Legionnaire, Auxiliary member, Squadron member or Junior Auxiliary member may receive this award while serving on their respective Department Executive Committees.
No person serving on the Community Service Committee is eligible for consideration of this award. The Post that is submitting a candidate must have a current CPR and Post Roster on File for their candidate to be considered for this award.

The judging of the applications submitted will be by a panel of three (3) judges appointed by the Department Community Service Chairperson.

Submission due by: April 4, 2020
Chairman
Community Service Committee

MAIL ALL ENTRIES TO:
Sally Nay
Community service Committee
93 Grochmal Ave TR 30
Indian Orchard, MA 01151

Or

Via e-mail to: nay@spinesports.com
FEBRUARY IS AMERICANISM MONTH

The passage of Resolution No. 163 at the 1960 National Convention in Miami, Fla., established February as Americanism Month. During this annual observance, we should all reflect upon what it means to be an American and rededicate ourselves and our posts to taking action that will uphold the principle of “a 100 percent Americanism.” Americanism, one of the Legion’s four pillars, is the love of America, loyalty to its ideals and institutions, allegiance to its flag, willingness to defend it against all enemies, foreign and domestic, and a desire to advance the blessings of liberty to future generations.

During its national fall meetings in 2017, the National Executive Committee reaffirmed The American Legion’s unswerving support for the American way of life under the U.S. Constitution by resoundingly and unanimously passing Resolution No. 1 titled Reaffirmation For A Strong America. It is a resolution that was proudly introduced by the Americanism Commission. It urges Americans and freedom-loving peoples everywhere to stand united in their respect for each other and for military troops and law-enforcement officials, and calls for respect of the symbols and customs that serve as tangible images of the freedom and liberties of our nation. The American Legion is solid upon its foundation of the guiding principles upon which it was founded, remains bonded together regardless of race or creed or gender, and gives wholehearted support to patriotic endeavors that are for the good of our country.

I can think of no better way to observe Americanism Month than by once again reading, sharing, and most importantly, exemplifying a “100 percent Americanism” through the support of the ideals put forth in Resolution No. 1. The full text of the resolution is located on the following page.

The legacy of Americanism is a legacy worth preserving, not only to honor those men and women who have served and laid down their lives to secure our freedom, but to ensure that our freedoms and way of life are secure for generations to come. During Americanism Month, let us rededicate ourselves to a 100 percent Americanism for 100 percent of the year!
Resolution No. 1: Reaffirmation for a Strong America

Origin: Americanism Commission

Submitted By: Americanism Commission

WHEREAS, There are forces at work within our country which threaten to fray the social fabric of our great nation and our American ideals; and

WHEREAS, That we of The American Legion associate ourselves together to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to foster and perpetuate a 100 percent Americanism, and by this statement deplore any actions by groups, individuals, and organizations who oppose the American way of life; and

WHEREAS, Events have taken place in our nation aimed at destroying American lives, and which attack the very basic core values of freedom, democracy and respect for human life; and

WHEREAS, We disavow those dissenters in our society who use rioting, injury to others, destruction of property, disregard of the law, and blatant disrespect to America’s revered symbols of freedom and liberty as a means for expressing their views; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion remains solid upon its foundation of the four pillars and guiding principles upon which it was founded; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion remains bonded together regardless of race or creed or gender and gives whole-hearted support to patriotic endeavors that are for the good of our country; now, there fore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 11-12, 2017, That The American Legion re-affirms its unwavering support for the American way of life under the Constitution of the Unit-ed States of America; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That The American Legion pledges support to the leaders of our government, armed forces and law enforcement agencies who have the duty and responsibility of providing an orderly process to our way of life; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That The American Legion urges all Americans and freedom-loving peoples everywhere to stand united in their respect for officials at all levels of government; for military troops and law enforcement officers who place themselves in harm’s way to protect our nation’s citizenry, values and way of life; for those symbols and customs serving as tangible images of the freedom and liberties of these great United States of America; and for each other as fellow Americans; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That The American Legion use whatever means at its disposal to engage what-ever means possible to promote a united nation and a united American people.
From Your Service Officer– Healing PTSD

For those of us who still use “snail mail”, and need to purchase postage stamps, the United States Postal Service now offers a new first class stamp that will raise money to support veterans afflicted with post traumatic stress disorder.

Currently the price for the standard first class [forever] stamp is 55 cents, and in order to raise funds, this new PTSD stamp is priced at 65 cents, with the net proceeds[10 cents] to be distributed to the Department of Veterans Affairs which oversees the national center for PTSD.

The stamp features a photo illustration of a green plant sprouting from the ground amongst dead leaves, which is intended to symbolize the healing process.

Most of us have certainly become more aware of this mental disorder {PTSD} that is usually connected to a trauma event. Although most often associated with military veterans, there are others, such as first responders and health care providers, who may also become affected.

As all U.S. Post offices will be selling this stamp for the next two years, this is an easy way to support the cause of PTSD research and care.

Semper Fi

Mike Whalen

Scholarship

DEPTARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS

AMERICAN LEGION 2020 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Applications are available on our website www.masslegion.org

Application Deadline is 1 April 2020
Boy Scouts

Eagle scout of the Year application is available on our website
www.masslegion.org

On a daily basis our brave Coast Guard personnel carry out missions that are vital to our national security, yet they are the only military branch working without pay during a government shutdown. This is unacceptable. The repeated, and all too common, threat of government shutdowns bring severe hardship on our Coast Guard men, women, and their families. No member of our military service should ever live in fear of not being paid.

Last year, The American Legion distributed more than $1 million in grants to Coast Guard families through its Temporary Financial Assistance program. This attempt to ameliorate the financial hardship of our service members, while welcomed, was not enough to assist all those in need. We cannot let these brave service-members again go for weeks without pay.

With the looming threat of yet another government shutdown, we need your help. Please contact your Senators and ask them to encourage Senate leadership to bring the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2019 to the floor for a vote, and promise to support Section 221 the "Pay Our Coast Guard" provision within the authorization act. This provision will ensure our Coast Guard does not go without pay ever again.

Contact your Senator today and tell them to pay the Coast Guard
Boys State Committee
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Department of Massachusetts
617-727-2966

546-2 STATE HOUSE
BOSTON, MA 02133

To: All Post Commanders and/or Boys State Chairman:
From: Mark Avis, Chairman, Massachusetts Boys State

The 2020 Boys State Program will be held at Stonehill College, North Easton, from Saturday, June 13, 2020 to Friday, June 19, 2020. This year, the cost of sponsoring each boy will be $175.00 for the regular tuition, or $350.00 for those who pay for students by the “early bird” registration date of April 6, 2020 after the cost is $375.00. Please make your check payable to “The American Legion” and designate “Boys State” in the lower left corner of the check. Please use the tear-off sheet at the bottom of this notice indicating your Post Chairman, as all future correspondence will be mailed directly to them. All checks for the 2020 Boys State Session must be in the hands of chairman by May 20, 2020. The first 400 applications will be accepted. We encourage you to actively seek outside co-sponsors (e.g. politicians, businesses, or banks) to help pay for these boys to attend.

Boys chosen to attend Boys State must be interviewed by the Post Chairman, and his signature attesting to this must appear on Citizen Applications. Each Post Chairman should explain Boys State in detail to the boys and their parents so that they will know what is expected of them during their stay. The Boys State website (http://www.maboyssate.org) contains a wealth of information, including video, photographs, program books, and program descriptions. Students and parents should be directed to this resource for information and announcements.

Beginning in January 2020, we will have applications available via email or regular mail. Please select the email option on the tear-off sheet if that is how you would like to receive the paperwork. Once we have received payment for your 2020 Boys State, detailed instructions will be provided in the application packets that are sent to the Post.

Contact your District Chairman regarding transportation.

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>EMAIL ADDRESS</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
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<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Dale Aiden</td>
<td>PO Box 193 Asley Fields, MA 01222</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alicedale@hotmail.com">alicedale@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td>413-229-8163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>George Olsen</td>
<td>997 Foley Rd Sheffield, MA 01257</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gao1964@gmail.com">gao1964@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>413-229-6670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Leo Barber</td>
<td>53 Union St Apt 3 Athol, MA 01331</td>
<td><a href="mailto:debbie_barber2003@yahoo.com">debbie_barber2003@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>413-336-1273</td>
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<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Delto Barabani Jr</td>
<td>155 Langesv St Chicopee, MA 01020</td>
<td><a href="mailto:353vet111@gmail.com">353vet111@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>413-532-3135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>Lisa McPhee</td>
<td>157 Water St Clinton, MA 01510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Lenbox1964@aol.com">Lenbox1964@aol.com</a></td>
<td>781-230-6209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>Leslie J McKibbin Jr</td>
<td>70 Water St Woburn, MA 01801</td>
<td><a href="mailto:whitleymckibbin@gmail.com">whitleymckibbin@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>781-367-7986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>Robert Jordan</td>
<td>75 Craig St. Milton, MA 02186</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rjordan@gmail.com">rjordan@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>781-588-4608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>Wendy Eng (Consultant)</td>
<td>48 Payne St Quincy, MA 02169</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jonesk2014@yahoo.com">jonesk2014@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>617-854-0078</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07</td>
<td>Michael Davis</td>
<td>451 Union Ave Framingham, MA 01702</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chickenandesus@yahoo.com">chickenandesus@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>617-335-0241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08</td>
<td>Bruce Halsey</td>
<td>49 Pleasant St, Manchester, MA 01944</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bnhalsey@hotmail.com">bnhalsey@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td>978-526-4880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09</td>
<td>Robert Hicks</td>
<td>1 Daniel Dr N Easton, MA 02356</td>
<td><a href="mailto:RTHicks138@gmail.com">RTHicks138@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>508-235-4418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>David Stills</td>
<td>6 Crows Nest Dr, Buzzard Bay, MA 02532</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Sthyman502@comcast.net">Sthyman502@comcast.net</a></td>
<td>508-264-3545</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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TEAR OFF SHEET

POST

DISTRIBUTION #

NUMBER OF BOYS

CHECK AMOUNT

Sponsor(s) Name
(if applicable)

Chairman: Telephone

Address: City/Zip Code

High School

High School Contact (if known)

Please send the application via email to this address:

SEND TO: MARK A. AVIS, 14 SHAW STREET, PALMER MA 01069

1/22/2020
QUALIFICATIONS:
This program is open to high school students, 15 to 17 years old, in good academic standing. Applicants must be of good moral character and present a well-groomed appearance. Hair must be neatly trimmed (females-arranged) and males must be clean-shaven. This program consists of rigorous training and physical stress in a para-military-type academy setting. The Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Student Trooper Program is open to all, regardless of race, color, religion, gender or nationality.

PERSONAL DATA (Please type or print and sign):

NAME: ____________________________  ____________________________  ____________________________  
(First)  (Middle)  (Last)

ADDRESS: _____________________________________________________________  
(Street)  (City, State, Zip)

DATE OF BIRTH (mm/dd/yyyy): _____/_____/______  GENDER: ________________________

Primary Phone: (___)__________________

Email Address: __________________________

(Parent’s Or Guardian’s Name, Address and Phone Number)

(High School Attending)

(Applicant’s Signature)

T-SHIRT SIZE (please check appropriate size, adult size):

Small  Medium  Large  X-large

Have you ever attended a previous Student Trooper Program? Yes  No
If yes, what year?
If you have previously attended the Student Trooper Program, please do not apply again.
Students are not allowed to attend the program twice.

MEDICAL INFORMATION:
A physical examination is required. A medical form requiring a doctor’s signature will be required upon your acceptance to the program. Additional information will be provided at that time.
Name: _______________________________ 

Applicant must write a brief statement of why they would like to be accepted into the Student Trooper Program.

Any questions, contact Mrs. Shelley Pratt, at shelley.soltys@pol.state.ma.us

No refunds will be authorized for ”no shows” or for a student leaving the program prior to its conclusion.
RELEASE OF LIABILITY:
The applicant, being given the opportunity to use certain equipment and facilities of
the Massachusetts State Police Academy during the American Legion "Youth Cadet Law
Enforcement Student Trooper Training Program," assumes all risks and liability pertaining to any
activity pursuant to the program or that may arise during his/her participation in said program
and hereby releases from such liability, the American Legion, the Massachusetts State
Police, and the staff members performing the training. Persons attending this Program are
responsible for any medical bills, including transportation costs, associated with any injuries
or illnesses incurred while participating in the training program. In the event of disciplinary
action, parents or guardians will be notified and will be responsible for picking up their child, if
necessary.

(Signature of Applicant)  (Date)  (Signature of Parent or Guardian)  (Date)

SCHOOL OFFICIAL CERTIFICATION:
I hereby certify that the above named student is in good academic standing, does not have a
negative disciplinary record and will be between the ages of 15-17 during the Program. (See dates below)

(Signature of School Official)  (Date)

(Name of School)  (Phone Number)

American Legion Authorizing Post  District
To locate a post near you, go to: www.masslegion.org, then to POST LOCATOR link.

(Post Official's Authorizing Signature and Address)

(Name and Address of Provider of Sponsorship Fee)

Applications will not be accepted before January 6, 2020. This application, with the sponsoring
fee check in the amount of $400.00, must be received before April 10, 2020. Apply early, as
space is limited to 80 applicants per week. Candidates for the program will be selected prior to
May 1, 2020. Candidates that are accepted into the program will be provided information on the
required equipment and the required medical forms. Those candidates that are not accepted into
this year's program will be notified and the sponsoring fee check will be returned.

Make check payable to: American Legion, Department of Massachusetts and mark "Youth
Cadet" and student’s last name in the bottom left-hand corner.

Mail APPLICATIONS and CHECKS ONLY to: Mrs. Shelley Pratt, Massachusetts State Police
Academy, 340 West Brookfield Road, New Braintree MA 01531 Attn: Student Trooper Program. In
the event the applicant is not accepted, the sponsorship fee will be returned to the provider.

DATES: (Please state order of preference, 1 & 2, and type
numbers in designated boxes):

If only available for one week, indicate that week only.

July 13 - 17, 2020
July 20 - 24, 2020
American Legion Baseball Registration for 2020 Season

Registration for the 2020 season of American Legion Baseball is open, along with the purchase of insurance. There is an overall decrease of 14 percent in insurance premiums from last season.

Register online at baseball.legion.org.

The early deadline for registration is May 15. Teams registered after May 15 will be subject to a $200 late fee through the final deadline of June 1. Please note that each American Legion department may set an earlier deadline for registration.

Registration fees for senior teams is $50 for national registration, $35 for administrative fees and either $200 for season personal accident or $130 for year-round coverage. General liability costs is $104.

Fees for junior teams is $25 for national registration, $35 for administrative fees and either $160 for season personal accident or $110 for year-round coverage. General liability costs is $71.

State fees, if applicable, will vary by state.

To learn more about your specific department’s state fees and deadlines, contact your department chairmen.

American Legion Baseball Scholarship for 2020 Season

Any team manager or head coach of an American Legion (post-affiliated) team may nominate a player for consideration of this award. The scholarship application, letters of recommendation and certification form must be completed, postmarked and mailed to the department headquarters no later than July 15. Three letters of testimony must be attached to the nomination form. Attach a one-page letter of recommendation from your: (1) Legion coach or team manager (2) American Legion post commander or adjutant (3) Community leader, (i.e. teacher, minister, Scout leader, church leader, principal) Each Department Baseball Committee will select an American Legion player who best meets the qualifications as the American Legion Baseball Scholarship winner. Each department winner will receive a scholarship from The American Legion of $500 or more.
Hard to believe we are entering the year 2020. I find it incredible how fast time flies by. And here we are with another Presidential election year. And let us not forget that all of the US House of Representatives is up for re-election. This is along with some members of the US Senate.
State primary elections will soon be upon us. And the media ads will increase in volume. I always find it amazing on how many millions of dollars are spent on advertising. How much good it could do to spend some of that money in helping the many Americans who are truly in need of assistance. It will never happen but I guess I can dream!
Personally, I pay no attention to any of the media ads. At best, they are misleading. I do watch the debates on television. Again, I take a lot of those with a grain of salt. I do pay attention to local debates as well. Most of those running have been in office before or are currently in office. This is where I pay attention. What bills did they sponsor? What is their voting record? I say this, realizing that no one is going to vote 100% with how I think they should vote. But if I like how they vote most of the time in the direction I like, then I will probably vote for them.
As I noted back in November, one way to get through the smoke and mirrors is to do some fact checking. There are several sites on the internet to do this, including: www.ballotpedia.org, www.realclearpolitics.com, www.votesmart.org and www.politifact.com. And if you know of any others, please share them! It is important to vote but just as important to be an informed voter, not just following a particular party line.
As citizens, our job does not end with the election. We must continue to let our elected officials at all levels state, local and national, know our thoughts on issues. This can easily be done by emails and calls to the offices of our representatives.
May GOD bless our troops and their families. Bring them home safe.

John Lenotte, Past Commander American Legion Post 4 Haverhill MA, Past Commander District 8/Essex County, Past Commander, Department of MA. I may be reached by email at jplenotte@gmail.com
LEGION FAMILY BANQUET

The American Legion
Department of Massachusetts, Inc.
RM 546 – 2 State House
Boston, MA 02133-1044
(617) 727-2966
Email: deptadjutant@masslegion.org

Dear Legion, and Riders,

Our National Commander J W “Bill” Oxford, National President Nicole Clapp and
National Commander of the SAL Clint Bolt Banquet will be held on Saturday, April 4,
2020 at the Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel, 181 Boston Post Road West, Marlborough,
MA 01752.

A social will be held at 5:00 PM and dinner will be served at 6:00 PM.

Ticket donations are $40.00 per person and may be purchased from your District Ticket
Chairperson. Please make checks payable to “American Legion Department of MA” and
mark “Tickets Only”.

Tables will be set for 10.

All room reservations must be made directly through the:

- Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel at (508) 460-0700
- The room rate per night is $129.00 plus tax
- The American Legion code is American Legion
- The CUT OFF DATE for reservation is March 4, 2020

On behalf of the Committee, we thank you for your co-operation.

Yours in comradeship:

Co-Chairman: John P “Jake” Comer, PNC  Vice Chairman  James E Breho, NEC
            Paul A Morin, PNC  Michael Davis, ANEC

Ticket Chairman: Robert Burke, Treas.
Ad Book Chairman: Louis Brault, PDC
Members: Mark Avis, PNVC
10 District Ticket Chairman

MORE ON NEXT PAGE
District Ticket Chairmen

National Commander’s Banquet
NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT DOOR
All ticket request and checks go to the District Ticket Chairmen
Deadline for tickets March 20, 2020

District One
Dennis St Pierre
18 Orchard Street
Adams, MA 01220
413-743-1947

District Two
Ed Bezo Sr.
PO Box 54
Orange, MA 01364
413-325-7276

District Three
Sally Nay
93 Grochmal Ave Lot 30
Indian Orchard, MA 01151
413-785-1153

District Four
Scott Gauthier
441 Maple Street
Winchendon MA 01475
978-257-1203

District Five
James Blake
161 Hildreth St. #1
Lowell, MA 01851
978-710-5608

District Six
James Fratolillo
374 Manet Avenue
Quincy, MA 02169
617-471-0614

District Seven
Milton Lashus
RM 546-2 State House
Boston, MA 02133
617-727-2966

District Eight
Judith Garland
1 Oak Hill Ln Apt 105
Nashua, NH 03062
603-891-0468

District Nine
Pete Wilde
7 Ashland Ter #1
New Bedford, MA 02740
978-866-9499

District Ten
Robert Burke
2505 Fox Run
Middleboro, MA 02346
508-415-8501

MORE ON NEXT PAGE
Legion Family Banquet (Continued)

National Commander James W. “Bill” Oxford
National President Nicole Clapp
National Sons Commander Clint Bolt

Saturday April 4, 2020
The Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel
181 Boston Post Road West
Marlborough, MA 01752

Copy deadline for Ads & Boosters: March 20, 2020

Advertising rates                  Check Ad Desired
$60.00                           Full Page_______
$40.00                           Half Page_______
$25.00                           Quarter Page____

Post #______  Riders #________  District #______

All Ads need to be camera ready before sending to the Department
Pictures will be accepted for full page ads only
Sorry no same as last year Ads

Please email ads to deptsecretary@masslegion.org or mail to:

The American Legion
Rm 546-2 State House
Boston, MA 02133

Make checks Payable to:
“The American Legion Dept. of MA”

Check #___________  Amount $___________

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**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY: NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR MISS-SPELLINGS**

Send Checks to:
The American Legion
Rm 346-2 State House
Boston, MA 02135
Payable to: The American Legion Dept of MA

Send Booster Sheet to: deptsecretary@masslegion.org
Check #__________
Amount $___________
Let’s *Celebrate* our Eastern Division National Vice President

**Carolyn Baranowski**

Sunday, May 17, 2020 at Storrowton Carriage House, 1305 Memorial Drive (Eastern State Exposition grounds) West Springfield, MA. 01089. Cocktails will be at 12:00 noon and sit down dinner at 1:00 PM. The dinner choices will be chicken francaise or prime rib or baked scrod. Also included will be fruit cup with sherbet, Caesar salad, twice baked potatoes, honey glazed carrots and ice cream puff for desert! Coffee and tea and a cash bar.

Please join us to help celebrate and honor Carolyn as she continues to serve the American Legion Auxiliary.

Donations will be $50.00 per person. Please make checks payable to and mail to Donna Kmelius, 18 Smith Ave., Granby Ma 01033. Please make sure to indicate your dinner choice (include bottom of this notice with payment). Cutoff date is May 1, 2020.

Sincerely,

Chairmen,

Jenifer Hamre – 413-262-7324  jjildh@yahoo.com
Mary Magiera – 413-737-6510  stitcher604@comcast.net
Donna Kmelius – 413-262-1717  donnagk1946@comcast.net

**********************************************************************************************

EDNVP Carolyn Baranowski

Meal Choice:

Chicken Francaise _____ Prime Rib _______ Baked Scrod _______

$50.00 per person  Number of Persons_______  Total $ ________

Name: ____________________

Email address for confirmation: ____________________________
Four Chaplains Memorial

It was known as Torpedo Junction, the U-boat infested icy waters of the North Atlantic during World War II. On February 3, 1943, the USAT DORCHESTER, an old coastal steamer quickly pressed into military service, was slowly making her way through those waters bound for Greenland.

Most of the men were seasick, and green with nausea. Because they were in submarine waters, the captain directed the men to keep outer gear and life jackets on at all times. Moving among them were four Army Chaplains: George Fox (Methodist), Alexander Goode (Jewish), Clark Poling (Dutch Reformed), and John Washington (Roman Catholic). The Chaplains talked with and listened to the men - soothing apprehensions, offering encouragement, or sharing a joke. By their concern, their camaraderie with the men and one another, and their very presence, they brought solace.

An enemy submarine, stalking the ship undetected, fired a torpedo toward the ship's aging flank. The missile exploded in the boiler room, destroying the electric supply and releasing suffocating clouds of steam and ammonia gas. Many on board died instantly; some were trapped below deck. Others, jolted from their bunks, groped and stumbled their way to the decks of the stricken vessel. Taking on water rapidly, the ship began listing to starboard.

The Four Chaplains calmed frightened men, got them into the spare lifejackets, and urged them over the side. The supply of extra jackets ran out with men still waiting. Having decided to remain with the sinking ship, the Four Chaplains either gave to or forced upon frightened servicemen their own lifejackets. When last seen, they were standing together on the deck leading the men in prayer. With arms linked in friendship and heads bowed in prayer, they sank beneath the waves.

It is our charge to see that this brief, but significant, portion of American history is not lost, and that the lessons of cooperation and selfless service are proclaimed. I would like to encourage all reading this to consider getting involved in this ceremony. It’s not complicated and with minimal expense, this can be made a reality anywhere, your Post, Church, Community Center, Elks Lodge, etc., etc. It’s not difficult, first take the time to know the details; there is plenty of help at your fingertips that will spell out suggested steps to be taken found in the American Legion Chaplain’s “How to....Manual” that can be found on the American Legion website. For more information contact THE CHAPEL OF FOUR CHAPLAINS, 1201 Constitution Avenue, Philadelphia Naval Business Center, Building 649 Philadelphia, PA 19112, by phone (215) 218-1943, or their website www.fourchaplains.org, or by email: chapel@fourchaplains.org.

Jim Borgman, National Americanism Commission
Four Chaplains District 2

American Legion
Franklin-Hampshire District 2

FOUR CHAPLAINS DAY

On February 2, 1943, a ship carrying 902 US Service Members was hit by a torpedo fired by a German U-Boat. The Four Chaplains calmed the frightened, tended to the wounded and readily gave up their life jackets, so others could live. Since WWII, the Four Chaplains have been honored for their bravery annually on “Four Chaplains Day”. Please join the American Legion Franklin-Hampshire District 2 as we honor their supreme sacrifice by telling their story and celebrating their lives.

Sunday, February 2, 2020
2:00pm
VA Northampton Chapel
421 Main Street, Leeds, MA

Veteran Organizations are encouraged to bring their US & Organizational Flag and assemble at the VA Rec Center at 1:30pm. We will move to the VA Chapel at 1:45pm, for The Parade of Colors at 2pm. The public and those without Colors can go directly to the VA Chapel for the 2pm ceremony.
Four Chaplain Service
District 10
Unitarian Church Middleborough
25 So. Main Street
Middleborough 02346

Service 10:30 am on Sunday, February 2nd, 2020

Veterans please be there 10:00 a.m. to get lined up.

There is parking at the Middleborough Town Hall on Nickerson Ave. beside the church
District Five
Observance
Four Chaplains
Sunday
February 2, 2020
2PM
Bedford VA Chapel
Dear Post Commanders/Auxiliary Presidents:

A Testimonial Banquet will be held for District 2 Commander Leo Barber and District 2 Director Deb Barber on Saturday April 25th at 1 p.m. at the Orange American Legion Post 172, 40 Daniel Shays Hwy., Orange Ma. 01364.

The Testimonial is to honor Leo and Deb Barber for their many hours of Service they have rendered to the Members of District 2 for the 2019-2020 year.

The Committee hopes for a full house to help show the District’s gratitude for the Leadership these two have shown in promoting and executing all the Legion and Auxiliary Programs.

A Prime Rib dinner will be served at 1 p.m. {there will be no social hour}

Cost of the tickets are $35.00 per person. Enclosed are 2 tickets, if you need more please contact either Marion Roberts at {413} 467-3268 or Ed Bezio at {413} 325-7276

Please make all checks payable to and send to; Doris Hastings, 107 Lathrop St. South Hadley, Ma. 01075

Deadline for Tickets is April 16, 2020

No Tickets will be sold at the door!

DONATIONS for the COMMANDER should be sent to;

   Ed Bezio, P.O. Box 54, Orange, Ma. 01364

DONATIONS for the DIRECTOR should be sent to;

   Marion Roberts, 2 Circle Dr. Granby, Ma. 01033

COMMITTEE: American Legion—Ed Bezio, Walter White, & Ken Roberts

American Legion Auxiliary—Marion Roberts, Doris Hastings, Janice Bezio, & Marcha Duncan
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
HAMPDEN COUNTY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 3

Dear Legionnaires and Friends,

On Saturday evening, March 14, 2020, The American Legion, Hampden County Council District 3, will host a testimonial banquet to honor District Commander Brian Tidlund and the officers of District 3.

This gala event will be held at Charles C. Kennedy Post 275, 45 Robbins Road, Chicopee, MA.

We honor Brian on this night for his many years of outstanding dedicated service to our great organization. Brian has traveled many miles to help promote the American Legion Programs. Now it is time to show our appreciation for the services that he has rendered to the American Legion.

We ask all of the American Legion Family and Friends to participate in this gala event, to make this a night that Brian and his officers will remember.

A reception will be held at 5:00 PM. Dinner will be served promptly at 6:00 PM. Ticket donations are $35.00 per person, and may be purchased from the ticket sales representatives listed below. Make checks payable to Hampden County District 3. Mark it for banquet tickets. Tables will be set for 8.

The cutoff date for reservations is March 9, 2020.

On behalf of the committee, we thank you for your cooperation.

Ticket Sales Representatives

Cindy Lacoste  
32 Hillcrest Cir  
Westfield, MA 01085  
413-530-0120

Robert K. Mackay  
1130 Northampton St  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
413-210-9151
APPRECIATION DINNER

SALLY NAY

CANDIDATE FOR

DEPARTMENT Senior VICE COMMANDER

Sunday – March 22, 2020
American Legion Post 338
46 Powder Mill Road, Southwick, MA
Social hour noon -1 pm
Buffet style dinner at 1 pm
$30 per person
RSVP by March 14, 2020

Make checks payable to: Sally Nay
Mail to: 93 Grochmal Ave TR 30
Indian Orchard, MA 01151
Committee Members

Honorary Chairman
John P. "Jake" Corre PNC
Paul A. Morin PNC
Auxiliary Dist 3 Jenn Hamre
American Legion Riders 338

Mark Avis PNVC
American Legion Post 338
American Legion Post 224
SAL Detachment Commander Emie Laberge
SAL Detachment Vice Commander Gene Theroux

American Legion Post 130
Nelson Blake
James Blake
Tom Pilioniak
Auxiliary Unit 338
Appreciation Day

To Re-Elect

Sandra Kee

To the office of

Department

Vice Commander

Sunday March 29th
Gloucester Post 3
30 Middle St., Gloucester, MA 01930
Social Hour 1-2 PM
Meal Served 2 PM
$30.00 per person
50/50 Raffle~Prize Raffle
Cutoff date~March 24, 2019

Make checks payable to: Sandra Kee
Mail to: Sandra Kee, PO Box 95, Gloucester, MA 01931

***Questions? Contact Sandra Kee: skeesme@hotmail.com or 978-879-8682 ***
FOR GOD AND COUNTRY
THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS, INC.
2020 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION HOUSING FORM POST
HOTEL 1620 AT PLYMOUTH HARBOR
180 WATER ST
PLYMOUTH MA 02360

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY AND FILL OUT ALL SECTIONS OF THIS FORM

Post Number__________ Name:_____________________________________________________________________

Phone #: ___________________ E-mail Address___________________________________________________________

Sharing room with: ______________________________________________________________________________

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ALL ROOMS ARE NON-SMOKING ($250.00 CLEANING FEE WILL BE CHARGED)

Check in time is after 3:00 PM Check out time 11:00 AM

Three night minimum stay required. Room rate: $139.63 per night (tax included)

THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

June 4 June 5 June 6

Check off Room Type & Dates

1 King: __________________ 2 Double: ____________________ 3 HC King____________________

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No Show’s will be charged one night and remainder of reservation will be cancelled

CREDIT CARDS ONLY “NO CHECKS”

Credit Card Type__________________________________ Card #___________________________________

CC Expiration Date: ______________ E-mail Address: _____________________________________________

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MAIL TO: THE AMERICAN LEGION
RM 546-2 STATE HOUSE
BOSTON, MA 02133
ROOM RATES

HOTEL 1620 AT PLYMOUTH HARBOR
180 WATER ST
PLYMOUTH MA 02360

ROOM RATE: $139.63 PER NIGHT (TAX INCLUDED)

CREDIT CARD ONLY

3 NIGHTS - $418.89

RETURN ALL RESERVATIONS REQUESTS TO THE DEPARTMENT OFFICE

NO LATER THEN April 15, 2019

Make copies for each room needed

ALL ROOM RESERVATIONS NEED TO BE MADE THROUGH DEPARTMENT DO NOT CALL THE HOTEL

“Still Serving America”

YOURS IN COMRADESHIP,

MILTON K LASHUS, PDC
DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT
NATIONAL CONVENTION HOUSING
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY
AUG 28 – SEPT 3

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY AND FILL OUT ALL SECTIONS OF THIS FORM

Name: ________________________________________________________________________________________

Address: ____________________________________________________________ Phone #: _______________________

City / Town: ____________________________________________________________ Zip: _________________________

Check off Room Type: 1 King: __________________ or 2 Double: _______________________

Sharing room with: _______________________________________________________________________________

ARRIVAL
Date: ___________________ Time: ______________ AM or PM

DEPARTURE
Date: ___________________

Credit Card Type____________________________________ Card #_______________________________________

CC Expiration Date: _______________ E-mail Address: ______________________________________________

NUMBERS OF REGISTRATIONS___________________________________

REGISTRATION FEE IS $25.00 PER PERSON. CHECK ONLY MADE PAYABLE TO TAL DEPT OF MA

REGISTRATION FEE COVERS NATIONAL CONVENTION PACKET AND BADGE TO ENTER CONVENTION HALL. NO
REFUND OF REGISTRATION FEE AFTER JULY 15, 2020

NATIONAL COMMANDER'S BANQUET: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2020
CRAIG MORGAN, COUNTRY MUSIC ARTIST AND ARMY VETERAN, BANQUET ENTERTAINMENT

$51.00 PER TICKET - CHECK ONLY MADE PAYABLE TO TAL DEPT OF MA

NUMBER OF TICKETS: ___________ x $51.00 = $___________________________

NO REFUND OF BANQUET TICKETS AFTER JULY 15, 2020

ONLY 40 TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE - 10 TO A TABLE - FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE

ROOM RATES ON REVERSE SIDE
### ROOM RATES

**LOUISVILLE MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN**  
280 WEST JEFFERSON STREET  
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40202  
502-671-4266

**ROOM RATES - KING OR DOUBLE**

$133.00 PER NIGHT plus TAX 16.07% (subject to change) = ($22.22)  
$155.22 PER NIGHT

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**PLEASE NOTE:**

ADDITIONAL OCCUPANT IN ROOM – **NO CHARGE** (TRIPLE / QUARD)  
ROLLAWAY RATE PER DAY – **NO CHARGE**  
PARKING RATE PER DAY - SELF - $17.00 – VALET - $32.00

RETURN ALL RESERVATIONS REQUESTS TO THE DEPARTMENT OFFICE.

**THE AMERICAN LEGION**  
RM 546-2 STATE HOUSE  
BOSTON MA 02133  
BY MAIL OR EMAIL  
NO LATER THEN JULY 15, 2020

"Still Serving America"

YOURS IN COMRADESHIP,

MILTON K LASHUS, PDC  
DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT  
deptadjutant@masslegion.org  
617-727-2966
102nd National Convention
August 28 – September 3 Louisville, KY
Louisville Marriott Downtown
280 West Jefferson St
Louisville, KY 40202

Headquarters Hotel for the Legion, Auxiliary and SAL The Galt House

Friday, August 28, 2020 – Color Guard Competition at 4:00 PM in Hall
Saturday, August 29, 2020 – Competitive Concert Band Contest and Exhibition Concert Band performance in Hall. Contest will start at 1:00 PM
Sunday, August 30, 2020 – Patriotic Memorial Service Starting at 11:00 AM in Halls
Sunday, August 30, 2020 – National Convention Parade - Starting a Slugger Field Museum on Main Street and proceeding west to the end of the parade at 6th and Main Street.
Monday, August 31, 2020 Massachusetts get-together (dinner)
Tuesday, September 1, 2020 – National Commanders Banquet. Banquet Entertainment will be Craig Morgan, country music artist and Army Veteran. (Cost $51.00)
Wednesday, September 2, 2020 – National Presidents Banquet. (States Dinner)
Check the website often www.legion.org/convention.
RV Parks Near Louisville

Louisville North Campground
900 Marriott Drive
Clarksville, IN 47129
Phone: 812.282.4474
Email: louisvillenorthcamp@gmail.com
https://louisvillenorthcampground.com
60 Full Hookup Sites; 30/50 AMPS
Distance to Kentucky International Convention Center – 4 miles

KOA
2433 Highway 44E
Shepherdsville, KY 40165
Phone: 502.543.2041
Email: louisvillesouth@koa.net
https://koa.com/campgrounds/louisville-south/
40 Full Hookup Sites; 30/50 AMPS
Distance to Kentucky International Convention Center – 22 miles

*Full Hookup includes: Electric, Water and Sewer
LouLift is a complimentary service and travels downtown circulator routes covering Main & Market Streets, and Downtown to Churchill Downs. They arrive at stops frequently, and all rides are fare-complimentary. LouLift offers a comfortable ride with onboard WiFi and air conditioning for locals and tourists alike. Let LouLift be your safe way to travel, fare free and care free to the following:

**Museum Row**
Home to Louisville’s popular museums and family attractions, including the Muhammad Ali Center, Kentucky Science Center, Frazier History Museum, Kentucky Museum of Art & Craft, 21c Museum and Hotel, Louisville Slugger Museum and more.

**Downtown Business District**
The heart of downtown, where you'll find KFC YUM! Center, Actors Theatre of Louisville, The Kentucky Center and Fourth Street Live, to highlight a few.

**Historic Whiskey Row**
The place to go for bourbon connoisseurs. Attractions found in this neighborhood are the Old Forester Distillery, Against the Grain Brewery, Slugger Field, Angel’s Envy Distillery and more.

**NULU**
Home of some of the best restaurants, shops and galleries in town. Discover the Hyland Glass Studio/ Gallery, Thomas Edison House, Rabbit Hole Distillery and other unique attractions.

**Old Louisville**
The charming, quaint neighborhood with Victorian architecture and art fairs that boasts attractions like the Old Louisville Walking Tour, Louisville Public Library and The Speed Art Museum, among others.

**Churchill Downs**
Home of the world-famous Kentucky Derby. Be sure to grab a mint julep and stop by the Kentucky Derby Museum right next door.

Click on link below for additional information.

[https://www.ridetarc.org/services/loulift/](https://www.ridetarc.org/services/loulift/)
Scooter Rentals

Discount Medical Supply
502.713.2009
Scooter Availability Limited
Standard Scooters - $100/week
Heavy Duty Scooters - $150/week
Delivery fee is $50 roundtrip to/from hotel
Advance reservations are required

Gould’s Discount Medical
(502) 491-2000, ext. 34101/34226
Scooter Availability Limited
Standard/Heavy Duty Scooters - $212/week
Delivery fee is $50 roundtrip to/from hotel
Advance Reservations are required
TITO’S HANDMADE VODKA PRESENTS:

The Wayne Soares Veterans Appreciation Tour

It’s a great way to honor and pay tribute to our veterans! Tito’s Handmade Vodka provides complimentary, signature cocktails as well as great gifts (while they last) during a 2-hour reception with host, actor & comic Wayne Soares. Last year, Wayne performed for our U.S troops in Afghanistan and The Persian Gulf and many veterans events around the country. He currently writes a syndicated column titled Veterans Spotlight and will host a new television series (Veterans Spotlight, Special Moments) on a major network this spring. He co-stars with Alec Baldwin in his latest film, a mob comedy “The Curse of Don Scarducci.”

It’s a festive afternoon filled with fun, good cheer and patriotism as we pay tribute to our veterans especially, The Greatest Generation, our WWII Vets.

To book your event today, see the below info:

Email: waynesoares1@gmail.com
Cell: 508-246-4514

*We ask that the host venue provide lights snacks during the reception.
Department Commander Jodie Pajak, Judge Advocate Jim Fratolillo, and PNC Jake Comer doing Salvation Army duty at the Southshore Plaza

NVC Frank MacDonald, Department Commander Jodie Pajak and Department President Coral Mae Grout at the Brockton VAMC Christmas Gift Shop
Francis J. MacDonald Jr  National Vice Commander
The American Legion

Starting the month of December off on Friday December 6th and Saturday December 7th at the Massachusetts Auxiliary District Nine, Bristol County and Ten Plymouth, Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket Counties at the Christmas Gift shop at the Brockton VAMC. Then on Sunday December 8th joined the American Legion District Five at the Bedford VAMC for their annual Christmas visit.

NVC Frank, Department Commander Jodie Pajak, Department President Coral Mae Grout

The entire crew at the Brockton VAMC

With District 5 Commander Mike Deegan and some of the members visiting Bedford VAMC
At Department of Pennsylvania Department Executive Committee Meeting

Presenting Richard Linnon of the Department of Connecticut with a Commanders Pen & Pencil set for all he does for the Connecticut Legion

Me teaching myLegion at the Department of Connecticut Mid-Winter Conference
Department Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2/2/2020</td>
<td>2:00 PM</td>
<td>Four Chaplains</td>
<td>Leeds VAMC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/2/2020</td>
<td>2:00 PM</td>
<td>Four Chaplains</td>
<td>Hasting House Beverly Farms</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/26/2020</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>District 6 Meeting</td>
<td>Dedham Post 18</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/27/2020</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>District 9 Meeting</td>
<td>Seekonk Post 311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/14/2020</td>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>Membership Meeting</td>
<td>Charles C. Kennedy Post 275</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/14/2020</td>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>Department Executive Committee</td>
<td>Charles C. Kennedy Post 275</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/14/2020</td>
<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>District 3 Banquet</td>
<td>Charles C. Kennedy Post 275</td>
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<td>3/15/2020</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>District 10 Meeting</td>
<td>Whitman Post 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/15/2020</td>
<td>1:30 PM</td>
<td>District 3 Meeting</td>
<td>Westfield Post 124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/15/2020</td>
<td>2:00 PM</td>
<td>District 2 Memorial Service</td>
<td>Old Hadley Post 271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/15/2020</td>
<td>2:00 PM</td>
<td>District 8 Meeting</td>
<td>Rockport Post 68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/25/2020</td>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>District 7 Meeting</td>
<td>VAMC W Roxbury</td>
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2020 Membership Standing as of January 30, 2020

Target Date 2/12/2020 85%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>% of Goal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 BERKSHIRE</td>
<td>1323</td>
<td>1202</td>
<td>90.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 FRANKLIN /HAMPShIRE</td>
<td>1313</td>
<td>1229</td>
<td>93.60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 HAMPDEN</td>
<td>2798</td>
<td>2449</td>
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<td>4 WORCESTER</td>
<td>5016</td>
<td>4412</td>
<td>87.96%</td>
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<td>5 MIDDLESEX</td>
<td>4388</td>
<td>3914</td>
<td>89.20%</td>
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<td>6 NORFOLK</td>
<td>2705</td>
<td>2366</td>
<td>87.47%</td>
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<td>7 SUFFOLK</td>
<td>1290</td>
<td>1094</td>
<td>84.81%</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 ESSEX</td>
<td>2808</td>
<td>2546</td>
<td>90.67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 BRISTOL</td>
<td>2514</td>
<td>2254</td>
<td>90.06%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 PLY/BARN/NAN/DUKE</td>
<td>4000</td>
<td>3767</td>
<td>94.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>297 CAPITOL HILL</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>326</td>
<td>106.89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>462 HEADQUARTERS</td>
<td>4263</td>
<td>2200</td>
<td>51.61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Quota</td>
<td>32,723</td>
<td>27,769</td>
<td>84.86%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
POSTS

Post 1 New Bedford
Post 8 Andover
Post 10 Fitchburg
Post 11 Brookline
Post 17 John F. Kennedy
Post 20 Attleboro
Post 22 Whitman
Post 23 Salem
Post 26 J.W. Conway Bunker Hill
Post 36 Irving W. Adams
Post 47 Holliston
Post 50 Clinton
Post 52 Ludlow
Post 64 Middleboro
Post 71 Provincetown
Post 72 Wellesley
Post 75 Franklin
Post 79 Weymouth
Post 80 Ipswich
Post 91 East Bridgewater
Post 107 Natick
Post 108 Kingston
Post 131 Lynnfield
Post 140 Hull
Post 143 Pembroke
Post 144 Scituate
Post 148 Amherst
Post 149 Hanover
Post 151 Leominster
Post 165 Belmont
Post 173 Upton

Post 186 Edgartown
Post 198 Mansfield
Post 203 Bridgewater
Post 222 Norton
Post 223 Duxbury
Post 230 26th Yankee Division
Post 231 Essex
Post 239 Belchertown
Post 253 Chatham
Post 255 Topsfield
Post 260 South Hadley Falls
Post 266 Granby
Post 273 Burlington
Post 298 Housatonic
Post 302 Rehoboth
Post 309 Salisbury
Post 327 Mission Hill
Post 344 Hatfield
Post 350 New Marlboro
Post 366 East Chelmsford
Post 368 Martin F. McDonough
Post 386 East Brookfield
Post 387 Kingston
Post 391 Charlton
Post 398 Boylston
Post 399 LTJG W. M Penny
Post 411 Millville
Post 415 Petersville
Post 437 Nabnasset
Post 422 Marsh
THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY
10th ANNUAL
“PARTNERSHIP FOR KIDS”
BOWLING TOURNAMENT

UNION STREET LANES
215 UNION ST.
HOLBROOK, MA 02343

MARCH 21, 2020
11:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE
“PARTNERSHIP FOR KIDS”

BOSTON CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL
BAYSTATE CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL
UMASS MEMORIAL CHILDREN’S MEDICAL CENTER

LIMITED TO 32 TEAMS
FIRST COME FIRST SERVED ON TEAM SIGN UPS

FIVE PERSON TEAMS
$20.00 PER PERSON / $100.00 PER TEAM

50/50 RAFFLES DURING TOURNAMENT

FOOD PROVIDED DURING TOURNAMENT

$10.00 CHARGE FOR NON-BOWLERS

SEND PAYMENT & REGISTRATION FORMS TO:
CLIFFORD A. SMITH
53 MESSENGER ST., APT C
PLAINVILLE, MA 02762

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
THE DETACHMENT OF MASS S.A.L.

CONFIRMATION OF ENTRY FORMS
WILL BE SENT UPON RECEIPT OF COMPLETED REGISTRATION
MUST BE PAID IN FULL TO SECURE REGISTRATION

SPECIAL 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY AWARDS CEREMONY
WHITMAN POST 22 AFTER END OF TOURNAMENT
THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY
"PARTNERSHIP FOR KIDS"
10th ANNUAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT

UNION STREET LANES
215 UNION ST.
HOLBROOK, MA 02343

MARCH 21, 2020
11:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

REGISTRATION FORM
TOURNAMENT OPEN TO ALL
POSTS - UNITS - SQUADRONS - LEGION RIDERS

$20.00 PER PERSON / $100.00 PER TEAM

POST NO._____ UNIT NO._____ SQUADRON NO._____ RIDER CHAPTER NO.

BOWLER NO.1 ____________________________
BOWLER NO.2 ____________________________
BOWLER NO.3 ____________________________
BOWLER NO.4 ____________________________
BOWLER NO.5 ____________________________

SEND PAYMENT & REGISTRATION FORMS TO:
CLIFFORD A. SMITH
53 Messenger St., Apt C
PLAINVILLE, M 02762

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
THE DETACHMENT OF MASS S.A.L.

CONFIRMATION OF ENTRY FORMS
WILL BE SENT UPON RECEIPT OF COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM
MUST BE PAID IN FULL TO SECURE REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR ALL TEAMS MARCH 16, 2020

MORE ON NEXT PAGE
The American Legion Family
"Pin Points for Partnership"

Sponsor's Name: ____________________________________________

Sponsor's Address: __________________________________________

City: ____________________________ State: __________ Zip: ________ Phone: __________

AWARD PRESENTED FOR MOST PIN POINTS PLEDGED

**Partnership Pin Points Pledge Sheet**

Make Checks Payable To: Detachment of Massachusetts S.A.L
Please Return Pledge Sheet and Donations To: Clifford Smith, 53 Messenger St., Apt C, Plainville, MA 02762

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pledge's Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City, State, Zip</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Amount Pledged Per Point</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>
The National Commander of the Sons of The American Legion, Clint Bolt from Virginia, will be visiting us from April 3, 2020 to April 5, 2020. This is a very special weekend. Commanders Bolt's visit will coincide with a combined banquet of The American Legion National Commander J W. "Bill" Oxford and National President Nicole Clapp. This has never happened before here in Massachusetts and who can predict what a monumental event like this will happen again in the future.

What an experience is available to all the members of the Sons of The American Legion to meet all our National Leaders at one time. What a picture this would be of you for your Post with the Legion Commander, Sons of The American Legion Commander and the National President. This is truly a once in a lifetime possibility.

Attached to this message is the information on the dates and times of the banquet and information on securing a hotel room reservation if you wish to stay over after the banquet. I have been designated as the Ticket Chairman for the Sons of The American Legion so please contact me for any tickets you may want. We are hoping to see a strong presence of S.A.L. Members to show our support to The American Legion Family here in Massachusetts. This is good event to send your Squadron Commander or other Sadiron Officers to represent your respective Squadron.

If you are not able to attend we are encouraging every Squadron to take an AD out for the AD Books that are given out at the Banquet. All sizes of the Ads are very reasonably priced to show your support. Attached to this message is all the information on the Ads.

Also attached is a booster sheet. You can pass this around at your Squadron meeting or put it up on the Post bulletin board for other people to contribute. Just a note on the booster sheet. This is a filable form so I would suggest after everyone signs on the form you have someone type the names on a blank form. This will help with spelling of names and make it easier for the printer to read the names when producing the book.

Also attached is a picture of an award we gave out a few years ago for the Squadron who had the most people on their Booster Sheet. We called it the "Booster Seat Sheet" Award. We plan to do this again for the banquet in April. All your members may not be able to attend the banquet but I bet they can afford a dollar toward helping your Squadron possibly win the award and giving a small token of support to this great event.

COMMANDER BOLT’S WEEKEND ITINERARY
FRIDAY APRIL 3RD.
We are hoping the Commander can arrive early Friday morning so we can possibly do the following:

Arrange a tour of the Bedford V.A. Medical Center in the early afternoon. Afterwards we are looking into possibly visiting a few Posts so the Commander can meet some of you face to face and have him hear what you do throughout the year. We are not sure what places we may try to visit but I will be contacting certain places once we confirm the Commanders arrival time in Mass.

SATURDAY APRIL 4TH
We are going to have a Detachment Executive Committee Meeting right at the hotel stating at 10:00 AM. Everyone is invited to attend. This meeting is not just for those involved at the Detachment Level. After the meeting we hope to have a meet and greet about 1:00 PM at one of the local Posts. If you plan to attend the banquet this is a good event to come to so you can get up close and personal with the Commander.

As you can see we are working hard on making this a very special weekend for our National Commander. We are hoping many of you will attend the banquet and many will take out and ad and send in a booster sheet. Let’s show the Commander and The American Legion that the Sons of The American Legion here in Massachusetts are supporting our Veterans and the Children in our local communities.

Clifford A. Smith
Detachment Adjutant
Past National Commander
Hello Everyone

February is almost upon us and at this time most think of Valentine’s Day and spending the day with loved ones and family. We should also remember this is a great time to visit our veterans either at home or in a VA Facility. Many may not be able to be with their own families so as their extended American Legion Family we should all do what we can to support them. It only takes a little of our time to help these men and women smile by dropping them a card or just by wishing them well and being there for them on the holiday.

On behalf of the Detachment of Massachusetts Officers and the National Americanism Commission I’d like to wish you all a very happy Valentine’s Day and thank you for your continued support of our veterans and their families. I look forward to working with many of you throughout the year.

Working, together we can make a difference in the lives of our Veterans, Their Families and our Communities.

Ernie Laberge S.A.L. Americanism Chairman 2019-2020

Detachment of Massachusetts S.A.L. Commander
Candidate for Sons of The American Legion National Vice Commander (Eastern Region).

### 2020 Sons of the American Legion Membership Standings as of January 30, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>% of Goal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BERKSHIRE</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>87.96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRANKLIN /HAMPSHIRE</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>69.52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAMPDEN</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>67.87%</td>
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<tr>
<td>WORCESTER</td>
<td>978</td>
<td>619</td>
<td>63.29%</td>
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<tr>
<td>MIDDLESEX</td>
<td>1295</td>
<td>864</td>
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<td>NORFOLK</td>
<td>845</td>
<td>525</td>
<td>62.13%</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUFFOLK</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>57.85%</td>
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<td>ESSEX</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>289</td>
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<td>BRISTOL</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>74.40%</td>
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<td>PLY/BARN/NAN/DUKE</td>
<td>675</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>5545</td>
<td>3662</td>
<td>66.04%</td>
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</table>
AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS
CHAPTER 224, EASTHAMPTON, MA
2020 SPRING AHEAD BASH

PIG ROAST
SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2020
Social 4P.M. TO 5P.M.
DINNER, DJ, RAFFLES AND 50/50

Dalton Lavallee American Legion Post 224
190 Pleasant Street
Easthampton, MA 01027

ONLY 120 TICKETS WILL BE SOLD

Tickets are $20 each and can be purchased at the Post, from any American Legion Rider, or by calling Garry at 413-539-4127

“WE ARE ALIVE AND WELL AND GOING STRONG”
COME JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF FUN AND PRIZES
OPERATION TROOP SUPPORT
HELP US HELP THEM

ANNUAL RIDE FOR THE TROOPS
JUNE 7th, 2020

AMERICAN LEGION POST 4, 1314 MAIN ST. HAVERHILL, MA.

RAIN OR SHINE
$20.00 RIDERS, $10.00 PASSENGERS
$10.00 WALK-INS

FOOD, BAND, RAFFLES, 50/50
REGISTRATION: 9:30 AM
KICKSTANDS UP: 11:00 AM

*ALL PROCEEDS DONATED TO OPERATION TROOP SUPPORT*

*Weekly Care package shipping *Christmas Gifts for troops
*Non-profit since 2003, 501(c) (3)
*Has Shipped over 980,000 Care Packages *Shipping Costs

Operation Troops Support, 16 Trinity St. Danvers, MA  www.operationsupport.org
American Legion Post 184
9 Houghton St., Webster • 508-943-9039
corner of Houghton & School St. in Webster
Sunday-Thursday 12pm-9pm
Friday & Saturday 11am-1am
HALL RENTALS

ROAST BEEF DINNER
February 15th • 4-7pm

Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy,
Fresh Green Beans & Freshly Baked Popovers.

$15 per person
Advance tickets at the bar.

Open to the public.
SPAGHETTI DINNER

Wednesday, Feb 19th, 2019 5:30-7PM

Proceeds to benefit the Southwick Firefighters Assoc

SOUTHWICK AMERICAN LEGION

46 Powderrmill Rd, Southwick
Veterans & Children $5
Come on by and join us, bring your best chili to be tasted and judged!

Sunday, March 1st 1pm - 4 pm

20 Main Street (Rte. 130) Sandwich, MA
508-888-9832

American Legion Post 188
Chili Cook Off

$5.00 Donation to get in and taste many great Chilis!

$100.00 First Prize for the Best Chili
St. Patrick's Day
Corned Beef Dinner and Party

Live music!
at 8pm from

The Alley Kings
Purveyors of
Fine Outlaw
Music

$14
Saturday
March 14th

Dinner at 6pm Music and party starts at 8pm

3 Central St Baldwinsville MA 01436
Westover Air Reserve Base and the Galaxy Community Council

presents

Westover Air Reserve Base

JOB FAIR

GET HIRED! RIGHT HERE!!

Saturday, Feb. 8, 2020
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
LaQuinta Inn and Suites, 100 Congress St., Springfield, Mass.

Admission is Free!

Meet employers, learn about employment opportunities and discuss possible job placement!
This event is open to all Veterans, People with disabilities and those with military/govt status are highly encouraged to attend.

Employers participating:
Westover ARB
Air Force Reserve Recruiters
Employers from the local community!

For information on jobs available, go to:

Bring your resume and dress for success!
~ANNUAL~

POW-MIA REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2020
(Second Sunday in September)

ABOARD THE BATTLESHIP
USS MASSACHUSETTS
BATTLESHIP COVE
FALL RIVER, MASS.

BOARD THE SHIP
STARTING AT 12:00 NOON
PROGRAM STARTS AT 1:00 P.M.
Do you have an article or news announcement to share with the rest of the Department of Massachusetts? If so, please follow these basic guidelines for submissions.

- Submit your text in Microsoft Word format (.doc) or as a text file (.txt or .rtf). Save your file as the same name as the article, so we can easily keep track of it. Be sure to make it clear who the author is, whether it’s you or if you are just forwarding it to us. • **WE LOVE ARTICLES WITH PHOTOS**, or any other kind of images! Include photos and/or artwork for articles *separately* (NOT embedded in the article) as high resolution (300 dpi, or better) JPGs. Please name these files accordingly so we can track them along with your article. Let us know in your e-mail of any corresponding captions, and/or name of the photographer if necessary.

- Spell check everything! Especially people’s names, web addresses, etc. You can help us greatly here by simply running your spell check function in your word processing program.

- E-mail everything directly to us at fmacdonald53@comcast.net no later than the 25th of every month for it to appear in the very next issue. This way we have plenty of time to work with in case we need to clarify anything with you.

Want to Subscribe to Mass E-Legionnaire:

Send your email address to: deptsecretary@masslegion.org or to the Editor at fmacdonald53@comcast.net. Still receiving correspondence through the U.S. Postal Service? Send the Department office your Name & Address and you will get a hard copy mailed to you.

The American Legion, Dept. of Mass, Inc.
Room 546-2, State House
Boston, MA 02133

Massachusetts e-Legionnaire is a member of National American Legion Press Association NALPA.
Are you mentor worthy?

By Jay Bowen  
M&PA Committee chairman

Are you mentor worthy? Do you know what that means? I personally don’t like how the word “mentor” gets thrown around. It has become very popular in the business world for leadership to issue a mandate to first-line supervisors to mentor all new employees.

Webster’s Dictionary defines mentor as a verb and a noun. As a verb, it is someone who mentors another or trains someone. I have no real issue when it is used in this context. But as a noun, it is a “wise and trusted counselor or teacher.” I take issue when the word is thrown around as a noun.

There are a lot of people at every level of leadership that could never fit into that definition. So if we accept this as the meaning, you may agree it is a flagrant misuse of the word.

Have you ever been a mentor? Many people might say, “I don’t know,” or “No, I have never mentored anyone.” Since this is not necessarily, or even normally, a formal relationship or acknowledgement, we can’t always be certain.

I did a little experiment one time with my church group. We were discussing mentoring, and I asked everyone to tell me who had been a mentor in their life. I didn’t want names, just the relationship. The responses included boss, business associate, friend, neighbor, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, father (this is one of mine), pastor and mother. My next question to the group is the same one I’ll ask you—how many of these categories do you fit into?

My point is that everyone of us is either currently a mentor to someone, has been a mentor, or is being viewed as a potential mentor. Someone is watching everything we say and do. They watch how we react to decisions, what decisions we make, and how we respond in a crisis situation. Scary as it may seem, we are being judged on integrity, ethics and morality.

So, I’ll ask again. Are you mentor worthy? No one can answer that for you. When you look in the mirror, what is the face you see?

... continued on page 2.

About this newsletter

This periodic and Legionnaire-driven newsletter, produced by the Internal Affairs & Membership Division, is designed to address best practices, ideas and training that every Legionnaire needs to know to engage our membership through effective training now and into the future.

Highlighting new training ideas and resources becoming available in 2020 and beyond, it will also feature essays from successful leaders and training ideas of posts, districts, departments and individuals throughout The American Legion.

Are you a trainer? A writer? We need your submissions! Send your training ideas and articles to train@legion.org.
Are you mentor worthy? / Why take Basic Training?

...Continued from page 1.

Are you someone that leads by example? Do you practice what you preach? Are you reluctant (or just refuse) to take an unpopular stand on an issue? Are you someone you want for a mentor? If not, why?

You are what you want to be. If you don’t like who you are, change! Your attitudes, beliefs and values should be living examples of who you are. You should not have to define them to anyone. They should be pretty evident. Those attributes may not be what you think they are, but they are out there and they define you everywhere you go and every time you walk and talk with others.

We are all looking for support. We are all looking for mentors. We may not know it, but when we observe others and take on some of their actions and mannerisms and quote their mantra as our own, we are becoming something of a protégé to a mentor. I can tell you from experience that most of the time a mentor/protégé relationship is rarely formally acknowledged. It is a relationship that develops over time and through mutual respect.

I know I have been a mentor to at least two people in my lifetime. I know this because years after we parted company, I had the pleasure of seeing them again and they told me. At the time we were together, I never thought about it. I don’t know what I did or said that created the relationship. I didn’t choose them to mentor. And I’m certain they didn’t choose me initially. But there must have been something I did right that made them want to learn more. I pray that whatever it may have been, I never lose sight of those things. Now I try to stay aware that anything I say and do in both my professional and personal life is being watched by someone and that person may be looking at me for mentoring.

We should all strive to be mentors, whether we are chosen or not. We can only do what we feel is the right thing to do, always. We cannot compromise our integrity or ethics, ever! Remember, someone is always watching, waiting and hoping to find a mentor.

Why take Basic Training?

Legion Family members around the world, and staff members at The American Legion National Headquarters, often encourage completion of the American Legion Basic Training online course. But is it really that important?

Yes.

The American Legion was born of veterans who served this great nation. At some point in our young lives, whether conscripted or volunteered, we were yanked from the comfort of civilian mediocrity and thrown to the wolves in an unforgettable boot camp experience. For most of us, that shock and awe moment of arrival to a dark place with larger-than-life professional military practitioners yelling and screaming at us shaped who we are today.

This life-defining moment began the process of military socialization. Socialization is that method of bringing humans from every walk of life and getting them to behave in a way that is acceptable for military service.

...continued on page 3.

MISSING AN EDITION?

Go to www.legion.org/training/newsletters and read or download any past edition you are missing!

You can also subscribe to receive future editions.
Why take Basic Training?

You were inundated with history, customs, courtesies and traditions. You were taught to work, think and act as one purposeful team. In the end, you formed new habits that would endure the test of time and, most importantly, were united in the strategic mission of the United States Armed Forces: to fight and win.

How does this apply once we are removed from our days in uniform? If you look at the onboarding processes of many Fortune 500 companies, you will find that there is a great focus on socialization. We aren’t just talking about rules, expectations and where to find the employee lounge. We are talking about learning the proud history of the organization and the vision of where the organization is going. This practice aligns everyone to work toward the same objective, and in return, reduces employee attrition.

The more Legion Family members who are aware of The American Legion’s history and hard work we have done for our veterans, communities, state and nation for 100 years, the better at retention, recruiting and the more mission-focused we will be.

The experiences of Legionnaires vary by post and department. Many have great experiences, while others do not. The same holds true in the military with the various units, commands and missions. The advantage that the military has, irrespective of the experience a young soldier or sailor has at their first unit, is that they believe in the larger organization and mission. Otherwise, they wouldn’t be there.

It is vital that we educate all American Legion Family members about the strategic importance of this great organization they belong to and the best starting point is to send them to boot camp!

Basic Training is not aimed at old or young members. It is for everyone. This training is designed to educate about the extraordinary accomplishments of The American Legion over the past 100 years and its strategic mission.

Encourage your fellow Legion Family members to take the Basic Training course, and purchase the “Century of Service: An Illustrated History of The American Legion” bookazine available through Emblem Sales. You will see a renewed sense of purpose and pride in The American Legion.

Take the free Basic Training class at www.legion.org/alei

Is your post engaging in the community in which it serves?

Have you ever thought about why your post was chartered? How is your post highlighting that reason and the ways it serves the community, veterans and their families? Does your post have a vision or mission statement? If yes, is it displayed for everyone to see? And is it time to be updated?

We must not lose vision of what it is we are doing and why. We must foster relationships with our communities, share ideas and contacts, and be proud of the activities the post is involved in.

Please share ideas on how you let your community know The American Legion exists and how to get involved. Share ideas, or send thoughts or comments to train@legion.org.
District Training in a Box now available online

District Training in a Box is available on www.Legion.org. Below are screenshots on how to access the information. While the link moves to what is known as Dropbox, an account with Dropbox is not required to access the presentations.

Go to www.legion.org/training

How to sign up for the Training newsletter.

Arrow down to Tools and Resources and click on District Training In A Box.

... continued on next page.
District Training in a Box now available online

Once in Dropbox it will take you to a directory as shown below. Click on the boxes to take you to other directories and presentations.
Did you know the Preamble changed?

With the signing of the LEGION Act – Let Everyone Get Involved in Opportunities for National Service Act – into law last July 30 by President Trump, the U.S. government now acknowledges that the military has been involved in at least 12 additional military conflicts not previously recognized. As a result of this, The American Legion National Executive Committee adopted to amend the organization’s Preamble to the Constitution to recognize the millions of U.S. military veterans from all of these wars and conflicts that have occurred since World Wars I and II.

Resolution 1 was adopted by the NEC during last year’s Fall Meetings in Indianapolis to amend “the Great Wars” in the Preamble to “all wars.”

What does the Preamble to the Constitution mean?

The following information is taken from page 81 of the Officers Guide and Manual of Ceremonies.

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes ... The American Legion recognizes the influence of Almighty God in all worthwhile endeavors and declares the allegiance of Legionnaires to both God and nation.

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America ... The Constitution of the United States is the written bulwark of our free way of life and representative government. It is our guarantee of liberty, freedom, justice and democracy. Members of The American Legion bore arms and went to war to defend and uphold this document of freedom.

To maintain law and order ... Without law and order, liberty would become license. Law and order protect our pursuit of happiness, one of our God-given rights. Members of The American Legion served in wars to uphold law and order among nations. It is just as important to maintain the due processes of law in our domestic affairs. It binds Legionnaires to obey the laws of the land and to support the constituted authorities in enforcing those laws.

To foster and perpetuate a 100 percent Americanism ... Americanism is the American ideals of freedom, justice, individual rights and unlimited opportunities. It embraces all the freedoms we cherish and all the rights that are guaranteed to us. It is the very opposite of hatred, bigotry and intolerance. Americanism is the creed that has blazed the worldwide trail for justice, fair play, decency, belief in God, private enterprise, universal education, and progress in all human endeavors. It puts a premium on the virtues of loyalty, patriotism, hard work and thrift.

To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all wars ... Service in defense of America is the greatest experience in the lifetimes of all veterans. Recalling the highlights of that service means more than flashbacks to tense moments of excitement and danger in battle: the grime of muddy trenches, the perils of sub-infested oceans and the combat in the wild blue yonder. It also means the inerasable recollection of the comradeships, the bravery of pals, the teamwork, the sacrifices, and the miseries and hardships of military campaigns shared in common. It means the bond that binds all ex-servicemen and women together in mutual affection, respect and gratitude. It also means keeping green forever the memories of the supreme sacrifices of gallant American patriots, sacrifices necessary to the winnings of wars. It means faithful annual observance of Memorial Day and Veterans Day.

To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation ... Always interested in building a better nation, the founders of The American Legion believed that such building must start first with the individual in their own community.

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What does the Preamble mean?

So they made it one of the cardinal principles of The American Legion to inculcate that sense of personal obligation to the community, state and nation into the individual citizen. That means educating the citizen – young, old and future – in his and her responsibility to be active in making the hometown a better place in which to live, in discharging the duty of voting in elections, in paying taxes promptly, in contributing to community chest funds and to blood banks. The word “inculcate” means “to impress by frequent admonitions” and “to enforce by frequent repetitions.” Like the duties themselves, the reminders that they remain to be carried forward are never finished.

To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses ... This clause places the Legionnaire on the side of right in opposing autocracy by either class or mass when this threatens. In a democracy such as ours, composed as it is of all nationalities, races, creeds and economic groups, there are bound to be both classes and masses. Indeed, the masses are composed of classes – but all groups within the mass must feel assured that in this nation, reason and fairness will prevail in all human activities and relations.

To make right the master of might ... Many wars have been started by dictators who wanted their might to be the right. If human freedom is not to perish from the earth, right must always be master of might. The rights of small nations must be protected against the tyranny that powerful neighbors may seek to impose on them, just as the rights of minorities in our society must be protected and respected. Legionnaires are pledged by this clause always to stand with the right, protect the weak and preserve the liberties of the individual. This concept is the basis of The American Legion’s continued advocacy of a strong national preparedness so as to achieve the ideal situation that right will be backed by adequate might.

To promote peace and good will on earth ... Until the entire world becomes a good neighborhood,
American Legion Preamble

No one person wrote the Preamble to the Constitution. It was a subcommittee of three that hammered out the first rough draft in Paris. Hamilton Fish of New York, John C. Creenway of Arizona, and George N. Davis of Delaware, worked day and night polishing the Preamble during the St. Louis Caucus.

History of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

March 4, 1921

Congress, at the urging of The American Legion in support of U.S. Representative Hamilton Fish’s 1920 bill, approves the burial of an unidentified American soldier from World War I in the plaza of the new Memorial Amphitheater overlooking Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia.

March 26, 1926

Following vandalism at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and picnicking and other less-than-respectful activity there by random visitors, sunset-to-sunrise surveillance at the site by armed military personnel begins, at the urging of The American Legion.

July 2, 1937

The American Legion fights for, and gets approval for 24-hour guarding of the Tomb of the Unknown Solider at Arlington National Cemetery. The “sentinels” of the tomb are members of the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment, known as “The Old Guard” which originated in the Revolutionary War. From midnight July 2, 1937, through today, the tomb is continuously guarded, regardless of conditions.

National American Legion College (NALC)

Are you interested in attending the 2020 class of NALC? Please contact a previous graduate for questions and your department adjutant for specifics. Application coming soon!

Training Events Calendar

is active! Check out

http://www.legion.org/training/events

for training events in your area.
Are you a department or district trainer and want your event on this calendar?