



# MASSACHUSETTS E-LEGIONNAIRE

THE DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS

Volume 16 Issue 12

May 2026

## Commander's Corner



**Scott M. Conner**  
Department Commander

### We are #12 Nationally - #2 in the Northeast Region

Wow!! The Department Office and the Adjutant team are bringing us to seldom seen levels of membership. Thank you.

If you were unable to attend the Son's Bowling Tournament, you missed a great one. Incredible venue, the place was full and Legion Family members knocking the daylight out of the bowling pins. We had a special side event taking place during the afternoon, Past National Commander "Jake" held a book signing of his recently published "Listening, Learning & Leading". A great read.

**Did you BUDDY CHECK today!!**

Buddy Checks can come in all different ways, text someone, give them a call, knock on a door. Why not take some time and visit an extended care facility, bring a couple of Legion family members, I am sure a veteran would love some company. My Buddy Check of the month: Figuring it would be a great opportunity to bring PNC Jake out to lunch, I thought that a double Buddy Check would make for an even greater lunch. I reached out to PNEC/PDC, charter member of Comer's Clan, Jim Army of Sutton and invited him to lunch also. The ride to Quincy was a great opportunity to learn some "Old Legion" stuff, and getting these two titans of Legion leadership together for a Buddy Check not only made their day, I'll remember it for a long while.

Are you ready to **Be the One?** American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 138 Spencer, MA will be hosting a mental

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# BE THE ONE

health day at the Post on June 20th. A representative of the Columbia Protocol group will be an integral part of the event and training. Youth programs are on the horizon: Boys/Girls State, Youth Law Cadet, Scholarship Programs. Hope your Post is looking to invest in today's youth and you're willing to sponsor a high schooler in one of our programs. If you are looking to sponsor someone, but don't have a candidate, please reach out to the program managers.

Let us assist with your Pillar Programs ie: Americanism, Children and Youth, and Community Service. Each District has a chairperson, along with the Department Vice Commanders. Americanism - DVC Chris Manning, Children and Youth - DVC Drew Pajak, Community Service - DVC Ryan Howe. April wraps up as the 87th Children and Youth Month, If your Post did something to celebrate, consider sending a story to LegionTown and give your Post a National shout out.

**Caucus ~ Caucus ~ Caucus** Information on submitted resolutions and by-law changes has been distributed to the District's. Please make sure to hold/attend a District Caucus prior to Convention.

Get involved. Many District and Department committees have vacancies. Committees are currently looking to fill positions during the spring election cycle. Reach out to your District Commander and find out what's available. Did you know that any Legionnaire can attend a District Meeting, or a Department Meeting. Does everyone at your Post get E-Legionnaire? If not, sign them up, please.

**NEXT DEC - June 4th - Marlboro - See you at Convention**

**Get your Tickets for the pre-Convention Get Together. I feel a "Sweet Caroline" sing-a-long coming!!**

**Did you Grass Root today! Ask your Legislator to pay the Coast Guard!!**

Scott M. Conner  
Commander  
Department of Massachusetts  
774-239-6162  
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APRIL 2026

## AI + BRANDING: USE IT SMART, USE IT RIGHT

By Virna Luke

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly becoming part of everyday public relations work. From creating social media graphics to drafting content, AI offers speed and convenience. But with that comes a responsibility we cannot overlook, protecting the integrity of our brand. As members of the American Legion Auxiliary, we are entrusted with safeguarding the emblem and everything it represents. The emblem is not just a design element, it is a protected symbol tied to our Congressional Charter, our Veterans, and our mission. AI tools can sometimes generate logos, symbols, or graphics that appear similar to official emblems but are inaccurate or altered. Using these can unintentionally misrepresent the organization and weaken brand consistency.

To stay aligned:

- Always use official emblems from approved sources
- Review AI-generated content carefully before sharing
- Avoid recreating or modifying protected symbols
- Follow [national branding guidelines](#) in all materials

AI should support your work, not replace your judgment. It is a tool, not the voice of the organization.

Used correctly, AI can help expand your reach, improve efficiency, and enhance storytelling. But the standard remains the same: accuracy, consistency, and respect for the brand. Strong public relations is built on trust. Protecting the emblem protects that trust.

<p><b>BRANDMARK</b></p> <p><b>Marketing, recruiting, &amp; fundraising uses, such as:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advertising</li> <li>• Apparel &amp; merchandise</li> <li>• New building signage</li> <li>• Business cards</li> <li>• Event invitations (public-facing events)</li> <li>• Brochures or membership packets</li> <li>• Community partnership materials</li> <li>• Credentials (for external events or public access)</li> <li>• Digital applications (apps, website, social media, email newsletters, PowerPoint presentations)</li> <li>• Donor recognition displays (public-facing)</li> <li>• Email campaigns (for fundraising, outreach, or events)</li> <li>• Event signage and materials (signs, backdrops, tents, tablecloths, swag/giveaways, flags, banners)</li> <li>• Marketing and recruitment presentations</li> <li>• Media/press kits or press releases</li> <li>• Newsletters (external)</li> <li>• Promotional communications (flyers, handouts, etc.)</li> <li>• Promotional videos or PSAs</li> <li>• Public-facing annual reports</li> <li>• Social media profile imagery</li> <li>• Vehicle signage (wraps, decals or magnets)</li> <li>• Volunteer and donor recognition items</li> <li>• Website content and features</li> </ul>	      	<p><b>EMBLEM</b></p>  <p><b>Internal, official, legal, ceremonial uses:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certificates (official recognition, service, or retirement)</li> <li>• Ceremonial uniforms, pins, patches, insignia, or flags</li> <li>• Financial documents</li> <li>• History books or heritage publications</li> <li>• Internal-facing newsletters or bulletins</li> <li>• Legal affairs materials</li> <li>• Meeting agendas, minutes, and voting materials (official proceedings)</li> <li>• Memorial or tribute materials (e.g., ceremonies, remembrance programs)</li> <li>• Organizational charters or bylaws</li> <li>• Reports and resolutions (internal or formal governance-related)</li> <li>• Seals on plaques or certificates</li> <li>• Uniform caps</li> </ul>
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**BRANDMARK & EMBLEM BRANDING GUIDELINES**  
Updated September 10, 2025



### Poppy Days

Each year, as spring arrives and our communities begin to gather outdoors again, we are reminded of one of the most meaningful traditions of the American Legion Auxiliary—Poppy Days.

The small red poppy we wear holds a powerful message. It is a symbol of sacrifice, a tribute to the brave men and women who gave their lives in service to our country. It reminds us that freedom is never free and that behind every flag is a story of courage, commitment, and love of country.

Here in Massachusetts, Poppy Days are more than a tradition—they are a mission in action. When our members stand in their communities distributing poppies, we are not only honoring the fallen, we are also serving the living. Each poppy represents an opportunity to educate others, to spark meaningful conversations, and to invite support for our veterans, active-duty service members, and their families.

The poppies we distribute are made by veterans, many of whom find purpose and healing through this program. Every donation received goes directly back into programs that support those who have served—providing assistance, comfort, and hope when it is needed most.

I encourage each of you to take part in Poppy Days this year. Whether you are organizing a distribution, volunteering your time, or simply wearing your poppy with pride, your participation matters. You are helping to keep alive a legacy of remembrance and ensuring that future generations understand the true cost of freedom.

Let us also take a moment to share the meaning behind the poppy with our families, our neighbors, and especially our youth. By doing so, we continue our mission of service and strengthen the bond between our communities and those who have worn our nation's uniform.

As Department President, I am incredibly proud of the dedication and compassion shown by our members across Massachusetts. Your commitment to honoring our veterans and supporting their families is what makes the American Legion Auxiliary so impactful.

This Poppy Days, let us stand together in remembrance, in gratitude, and in service.

Sofia Elizabeth Blake  
Department President



**Call for the 105th Annual Convention  
Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel & Trade Center  
181 Boston Post Road W.  
Marlborough, Massachusetts 01752**

**June 5-7, 2026**

**American Legion Auxiliary,  
Department of Massachusetts Inc.**



Detachment  
Commander  
Jesse Limanek

Greetings Department of Massachusetts American Legion Family, For every Squadron within the Detachment, May is the most critical part of our membership year!

First, the date set by National to reach 100% in memberships is May 13<sup>th</sup>. Many of our Squadrons have met or exceeded 100% due to their focus on both retention and recruitment; but many more have not. Currently, Massachusetts ranks 31<sup>st</sup> out of 55 Detachments with 91.67% of memberships reported. To reach 100%, which we have not done in several years, we need 484 more memberships to be processed. While we have done well with recruitment with 657 new members joining our ranks, only 81.74% of last year's members have renewed. If you have collected dues from members of your Squadron,

please get them processed ASAP. If you have not yet collected dues from all members of your Squadron, please reach out to those members who have yet to pay and get them renewed. Any member whose membership has expired cannot participate in any Legion activity – including the voting in meeting, being a member of the Riders, or entering Posts not open to the public.

Second, it is time once again to submit Consolidated Squadron Reports. All activity from June 1<sup>st</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup> should be included on this form. It can be found both on Legion.org and within your Squadron's profile in MyLegion.org. Copies of this form should be transmitted to the Detachment ([adjutant@salmass.org](mailto:adjutant@salmass.org)) by May 15th to be eligible for Detachment awards and National ([CPRandCSRforms@legion.org](mailto:CPRandCSRforms@legion.org)) by July 1<sup>st</sup> to be eligible for National awards. As a reminder, National uses the data collected from all 55 Detachments in their reporting to Congress to help push for the benefits earned by every man and woman who serves. Last year, approximately 30% of our Squadrons submitted their CSRs, and Massachusetts ranked high in many reporting categories. I know we

could do even better if every active Squadron submitted this required form.

Third, the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention is nearly upon us. Once again, the Detachment will be gathering at the Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel in Marlborough, Massachusetts on June 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>. At this point in time, you should have received a Call to Convention. Every Squadron is encouraged to send delegates to attend and participate. Remember: it is your Detachment. Plus, we are looking for Sons or Dual-Members to serve at the Detachment level. There are several vice-commanderships, numerous committee chairmen, and other officer and assistant officer positions that will be open at Convention. If you or someone you know is considering running the chairs, name them as a delegate and have them attend.

As an added bonus, National Commander William "Bill" Clancy will be our special guest at the Convention this year. All attendees will have an opportunity to meet and thank Commander Clancy for his year-long service to our organization. Not only will it be wonderful for him to see a packed Convention hall, but the Detachment is traveling to Polar Park immedi-


ately upon conclusion of the Convention on Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup> for a WooSox game. This event is open to all members of the American Legion Family. Tickets are \$30. All members of the group may enter Polar Park at 2pm and will have opportunity to enjoy a special pregame an all-you-can-eat meal of hot dogs, burgers, and sides in WooSox Farms. See the attached flyer below for more information.

And finally, Memorial Day falls on Monday May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026. It is my hope that every member of the Detachment is participating in their community's remembrance ceremonies on some level. Whether it is placing flags at the graves of our veterans, marching in town parades, or gathering together as a Legion Family at your Post to honor past members who have been called to the Post Everlasting, Memorial Day is one of the most important days on our calendar. As stated within our Preamble, we as Sons are called upon "to preserve the memories of our former members and the associations of our members and our forefathers in all wars." This is our mission. I am hopeful that we have 100% participation on this solemn occasion.

May God bless all those who served, those who are currently serving both at home and abroad, and every member of the American Legion Family.

Jesse Limanek

Commander for the Detachment of Massachusetts





The **National Americanism Commission** of the **Sons of The American Legion (SAL)** has adopted ongoing support of the *Flying Flags for Heroes* program through SAL Resolution VI, approved during the Spring NEC 2022 meetings.

The purpose of the *Flying Flags for Heroes* program is to inspire genuine patriotism within our communities while promoting national pride in our country, its flag, our military, and our veterans throughout the entire American Legion Family.

Reporting the flag placements of your Post, Squadron, Unit, or Chapter prior to **August 8, 2026**, will assist the Commission in achieving its goals of 1,000,000 flag placements and 100% Detachment participation before the 54th SAL National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky.

For additional information, visit [FlyingFlagsForHeroes.org](https://FlyingFlagsForHeroes.org) or use the QR code to access the reporting section of the website directly.



## The American Legion Department Of Massachusetts

24 Beacon Street · State House Room 546-2 · Boston, MA 02133 · (617) 727-2966

April 30, 2026

Greetings Legionnaires;

I am surviving grand jury and thank you for being patient with the office.

Department Legion College is May 16th at Post 318. If you want to attend, make sure to contact the Office to sign up. We need a good count for course materials. I hope to see you all there. Don't forget Adjutant Corner every third Monday. I was happy to see so many of you at Mid-Winter Conference in March. I hope you received good new information.

Our Department Convention is June 5-7 (Family Get Together Thursday Night tickets available from District Chairmen or contacting the office). Come see all the awards (Law and Order, American & Foreign Born, VSO of the Year (new)) and of course to vote for our next Department Commander. Family Barbecue at Post 132 Marlborough Friday after the recess of convention. Hospitality rooms as well, free food. Saturday the trailing National Candidate will be here to have a townhall to discuss all things American Legion and Veterans.

I wanted to hand out kudos to all of you for the hard work that all you have been putting in towards membership. We as a Department, Districts, and Posts have made awesome strides in attaining new membership goals. Once again THANK YOU.

Keep all those forms coming in, great job in submitting them timely. Forms help with communications.

In Comradeship

*Lisa A. McPhee*

Lisa A. McPhee  
Department Adjutant

*Veterans Straightening America Since 1919 and into the Future*

*The American Legion was built on and committed to four key pillars that still stand today:  
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children and Youth*

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS  
★ CONVENTION STORE ★

**SHOP ONLINE:**  
**Mass107Convention.**  
**ItemOrder.com**



**Ordering deadline May 10, 2026**

# AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY TOWN HALL

with NATIONAL COMMANDER CANDIDATE

# MATTHEW SHUMAN

Join Trailing Candidate for  
National Commander (27-28)  
Matthew Shuman for an America  
Legion Family Town Hall! Come  
hear from the candidate, ask real  
questions, and make our Legion  
Family better.



**Dept. of Massachusetts**  
**Saturday, June 6th 2026**  
**1:30pm - 2:30pm**

## May: A Month of Remembrance and Renewal

As the Massachusetts landscape finally trades the last of the gray for the vibrant greens of spring, the month of May brings a profound sense of purpose to the American Legion Department of Massachusetts. This is more than just the start of "patio season" or the return of the Red Sox to Fenway; for us, May is the heart of our mission.

From the Berkshires to the Cape, our posts are gearing up for our most sacred duty: honoring those who gave everything. But as we look back in remembrance, we must also look forward to the strength of our ranks.

### The Mission: Why May Matters

May is anchored by Memorial Day, but the work starts long before the parades begin. This month, we focus on three pillars:

- **Honoring the Fallen:** Whether it's placing flags at local cemeteries or organizing town ceremonies, we ensure that no veteran's sacrifice is forgotten.
- **The Poppy Program:** A symbol of remembrance and a vital way to raise funds for veterans' rehabilitation and local youth programs.

- **The Buddy Check:** With the change of seasons, May is the perfect time to reach out to members we haven't seen in a while. A simple phone call can make all the difference.

### Membership: The Lifeblood of the Legion

Our influence on Beacon Hill and in Washington D.C. is directly tied to the size of our roster. When we advocate for better healthcare, housing, and benefits for Massachusetts veterans, our voice is only as loud as our membership count.

### Why Renew or Join Now?

1. **Closing the Gap:** As we approach the end of the 2025-2026 administrative year, every single membership counts toward our Department goals. Let's show the national headquarters that the "Spirit of Massachusetts" is alive and well.
2. **Legacy and Leadership:** May is often the time for Post elections. By being an active member, you have a direct say in the future leadership and direction of your local post.
3. **Community Presence:** When the public sees us in our caps during Memorial Day events, they see the face of the American Legion. Recruiting during these

events is the most natural way to grow—let people see the camaraderie they're missing.

### A Call to Action for Every Post

We challenge every member in the Department of Massachusetts to do one thing this month to strengthen our Legion: Bring a guest to a Post breakfast or social hour. Reach out to one veteran in your community who hasn't joined yet. Share your story. Tell a younger veteran why the Legion matters to you.

We are more than just a club; we are a family bound by service. Let's make May the month we reach our 100% membership goal and ensure the American Legion remains the premiere veterans' organization in the Commonwealth.

For God and Country,

The Membership Committee  
American Legion Department of Massachusetts

Upcoming Key Dates:

May 16: Armed Forces Day  
May 22: National Poppy Day  
May 25: Memorial Day (Observed)

Robert Jerdan  
Senior Vice Commander 25-26  
Department of Massachusetts  
Candidate for Department Commander 26-27

The American Legion in a sharpshot of May. Where did we start, what have we accomplished?

**1919 5/8** At its stateside St. Louis Caucus, The American Legion adopts its official name, and the preamble to the organization's constitution is drafted.

**1942 5/1** The American Legion Blood Donor Program is established.

**1946 5/29** The Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary present a small, struggling organization called the American Heart Association with a \$50,000 grant. The grant inaugurates a nationwide program for the study, prevention and treatment of rheumatic heart disease.

**1950 5/4** The Legion votes to contribute funds to the field of mental health, thereby playing a key role

in launching the National Association for Mental Health.

**1972 5/1** The Legion implements a Halloween safety program for children.

**May 2007** Operation Landstuhl is launched after National Commander Paul Morin finds broken televisions and inadequate comfort items for U.S. troops recovering from wounds at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany; the campaign raises \$257,000 in less than six weeks to purchase the items.

**2010 5/5** Shelby, N.C., is officially selected to be the long-term site of The American Legion Baseball World Series.

**2011 5/5** The American Legion National Executive Committee passes a resolution formally establishing the Junior Law Cadet Program un-

der the national Americanism Commission.

**2014 5/5** In the midst of a VA waiting-list scandal that reached up to the deaths of veterans waiting for care, The American Legion calls for the resignations of several top officials, including VA Secretary Eric Shinseki, who leaves office before the end of the month.

These are only a small percentage of what is in our history but shows what we have done and can do. The American Legion works tirelessly every day, month and year to support the four pillars of our organization, and more importantly the lives of veterans, their families and our communities. Remember every day is a chance to add to history!

A Legionnaire, or group of Legionnaires, can impact the priorities and positions of The American Legion through a resolution – a position-driven initiative written by members and put to a vote. A resolution booklet is available to assist in composing and writing resolutions.

Download the [Resolutions and Reports booklet](#) that explains how to write and format a resolution.

Visit the Legion's [Digital Archive](#), where resolutions dating back to 1919 are stored.

Hi American Legion Family,

Hope you're all enjoying the beautiful spring weather as everything comes to life, and that you're getting excited for the summer season just around the corner!

I've got some really fantastic news to share: our amazing Springfield Thunderbirds are still going strong in the playoffs! This is super exciting not just for the team, but for us too. It means our partnership and advertising, especially with our "Challenge Accepted" Veteran of the Game feature, gets even more time in the spotlight. It's a brilliant way to boost our visibility and make sure more people know about the incredible work we do.

And speaking of exciting opportunities, don't forget about our final big marketing fundraiser of the year: our annual convention sweepstakes! You should have already received your tickets via mail. This is your chance to snag some awesome cash prizes, and at the same time, every donation goes directly towards supporting our vital department programs. It's a true win-win for everyone involved!

We're always eager to hear new ideas, so if you have any creative marketing thoughts or suggestions, please feel free to bring them to the attention of our marketing committee. Your input is always valuable!

Warmly,

Michael Davis

 **Americanism—DVC Chris Manning**

We sprint into Spring readying ourselves for Department Convention and all the events we will participate in from American and Foreign Born Awards to First Responder Awards. We as the largest group of Veterans in the Country are always on the lookout for the many who do **"Great Things"**, for both our Veterans and Youth. We celebrate at each Department Conventions those Veterans that have participated at every level of our Department, the ones who step up each year to promote the many programs like Boys and Girls State, Student Trooper, Baseball and Scouting. It is these individu-

als that make us who we are. These are Veterans assisting Veterans and Youth to get them to the next level in their lives. Each Student gets to experience working with their peers by self-development and the development of others to reach the same goal as a group.

The American Legion and it's programs are paramount to the success of our Youth and the direction they will drive themselves that will make them successful in their lives. With Summer around the corner a little reminder that all these programs were established many years ago when Our

Legion Family had just begun and they continue to be proven programs for our Veterans and it's Youth. I would ask to simply support with your time and energy any program of the Legion, work with any of the Programs Chairman get **"On Board"** help out make that difference for all Veterans and it's Youth.



 AMERICAN  
LEGION**MASSACHUSETTS****Department****Legion College****Saturday****May 16<sup>th</sup>****9:30 AM****Quinsigamond Post 318****180 Greenwood St, Worcester****Topics include:**

- Leadership & Gaining Momentum
- Team Building & Mentorship
- Eliciting Change & Change Management
- Oddities of Post Operations  
(The stuff not in the book)

**Lunch & Coffee will be provided**

To register contact Department Office  
DeptAdjutant@masslegion.com or (617) 727-2966



THE COLUMBIA PROTOCOL:  
COLUMBIA SUICIDE SEVERITY  
RATING SCALE (C-SSRS)  
JUST ASK. YOU CAN SAVE A LIFE.



## Turning Conversations into Lifelines:

Identifying & Helping Veterans and Those in the Community Who Need  
Immediate Support



June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
American Legion Post 138  
175 Main St. Spencer, MA



**The Columbia Lighthouse Project's mission is to light the way to ending suicide. Their message, like the Columbia Protocol itself is simple,**

***“Just ask. You could save a life.”***

The American Legion Post 138, and family, have invited instructors from the Columbia University to come to Spencer to teach their 90 min Columbia Protocol-Suicide Severity Rating Scale (C-SSRS) to anyone interested in receiving the training. After training, participants will be able to:

- Use the Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale to determine at risk individuals.
- Identify risk factors and warning signs.
- Outline types of suicidal ideation & behaviors that indicate imminent risk.
- Communicate effectively with an individual who may be at risk.



## Open to the Public!

Coffee & Pastries - 9 A.M. to 10 A.M.  
Program - 10 A.M. to Noon  
Q&A and Networking to follow



For More Information:  
Call: 508 885-3132 Mariann LoSasso  
Email: [post138spencerma@gmail.com](mailto:post138spencerma@gmail.com)



## 21st Annual DEBORAH SAMPSON AWARD CEREMONY

**June 12, 2026**

**11:00am - 12:30pm**

Massachusetts State House  
Great Hall

**Register by June 5**

[bit.ly/4bMGFw9](https://bit.ly/4bMGFw9)

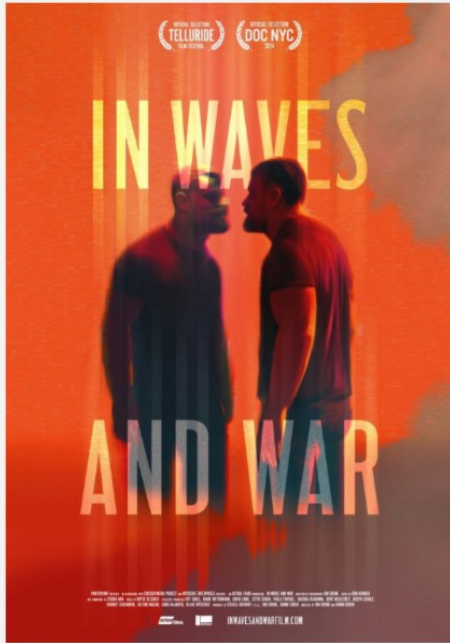


Witness the presentation of the Deborah Sampson Award, listen to captivating stories of bravery and sacrifice, and be part of commemorating the legacy of one of America's first female soldiers.

**For more information, visit  
[mass.gov/WVN](https://mass.gov/WVN)**

# IN WAVES AND WAR

## DOCUMENTARY SCREENING



**In Waves and War** documents the journeys of three U.S. Navy Seals and their experiences with PTSD, traumatic brain injuries, and severe depression in the aftermath of war.

After turning to groundbreaking psychedelic-assisted therapy, these servicemen found a new mission to bring this lifeline to fellow veterans fighting the same invisible battles.

All are welcome to join us on May 5<sup>th</sup> for lunch, a screening, and a discussion led by Dr. Elisabeth Parrott on the current state of psychedelic-assisted therapy for veterans in Massachusetts.



MAY	12PM – 1:00PM	Lunch & Conversation	<b>BEDFORD TOWN HALL REED ROOM 10 MUDGE WAY, BEDFORD, MA 01730</b>
5	1:00 – 3:00PM	Documentary Screening	
2026	3:00 – 4:00PM	Discussion led by Dr. Elisabeth Parrott	

★ **Let us know you are coming!** Contact Karen by email, phone, or sign-up form.

**Karen Tyler**  
Veteran Services Director  
ktyler@lexingtonma.gov  
781-953-3160



★ This event is sponsored by the towns of Bedford, Carlisle, and Lexington.





**HOW TO ACCESS**

**THE GRASSROOTS ACTION CENTER**

Send a message to your Congressional Representatives, expressing your support on multiple legislative initiatives.

- 1 Go to **legion.org**
- 2 Click on the **"ADVOCACY"** link at the top of the page
- 3 Select **"GRASSROOTS ACTION CENTER"** from the drop-down menu
- 4 Choose a bill to support (e.g., **MAJOR RICHARD STAR ACT**)
- 5 Send the pre-filled message to your Congressional leaders.

It's that easy. *Together*, we can send **25,000** messages in support of a bill!

**VETERANS STRENGTHENING AMERICA**

**SEND MESSAGES ALL YEAR LONG:  
DAILY, WEEKLY, EVERY WEEK, ALL YEAR!**



**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Sons of the American Revolution, and Daughters of the American Revolution**

Invite you to Participate in a

**Memorial Ceremony to Remember and Memorialize**

**Paul Joseph Revere and Edward H.R. Revere**

Grandsons of American Patriot Paul Revere who gave their lives during the American Civil War to preserve the Union and end slavery.



Paul J. Revere  
KIA Gettysburg 1863



Dr. Edward H. R. Revere  
KIA Antietam 1862



May 16, 2026, 11:00 a.m.

Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Walnut Avenue, Lot 286

580 Mount Auburn Street

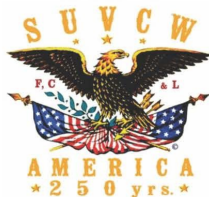
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138-5529

**Commemorating America's 250th Anniversary**

**1776–2026**

Founded in 1776 - Tested in 1861–1865

Preserved by the Union





Detachment of Massachusetts  
Sons of The American Legion  
Child Well-Being Foundation  
53 Messenger St., Apt C  
Plainville, MA 02762  
781-956-4374

To: All Squadrons  
From: Clifford Smith - C.W.F Chairmen  
Re: C.W.F. Fundraiser

In 1952, Dr. Garland D. Murphy Jr. gave to The American Legion a large contribution that would benefit children. The Legion and Murphy entered into a trust agreement that established the Child Well-Being Foundation. CWF accepts funding proposals from nonprofit organizations for projects that contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual welfare of children. The Sons of The American Legion continues to be a leader in donations to the Foundation. Last year we exceeded the \$10,000,000.00 plus mark in donations since we began raising funds for this vital program. The National goal of each Detachment is to raise at least \$1.00 per member. Many Squadrons donate to the foundation on their own, however in an effort to reach this goal the Detachment is once again sponsoring the Detachment Convention Child Well-Being Foundation Raffle.

**YOU COULD BE A MULTI- MILLIONAIRE**

**7 PRIZES TOTAL**

The prizes are as follows:

**6** – Android 15 expandable Tablets with Keyboard and Mouse Stylus

**10** - \$10.00 Scratch Tickets.

**Raffle to be drawn on June 6, 2026, at the 58th Detachment Convention in Marlboro**

Included with this letter is a sheet of 5 tickets. Raffle tickets are a \$5.00 donation per ticket. If every Squadron can sell two sheets of tickets, we will surpass our Detachment goal. If you need additional raffle tickets, simply copy the enclosed sheet. Additional copies can be given to your Squadron Members, family, friends, neighbors or co-workers etc.

When buying the raffle tickets please do not forget to return the stubs.

We will also be having a 50/50 drawing. Tickets will be available at the Detachment Convention only.

**Please send all checks and stubs to:**

**Clifford Smith, 53 Messenger St., Apt C, Plainville, MA 02762.**

**Make checks payable to: The Detachment of Mass. SAL. Put on memo line C.W.F Fundraiser.**

**Please do not send any tickets or checks to the State House in Boston. They will not be counted.**

If you have any questions, please call 781-956-4374 or e-mail. cliffpnc@gmail.com

This has been very successful over the years. Let's do it again this year.



**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION  
CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION  
7 PRIZES TOTAL**

Raffle to be held (06/06/26) Prizes include:  
6- Android 15 10-inch Tablets with Keyboard  
10 - \$10.00 Scratch Tickets

Winners need not be present to win.  
\$5.00 donation per ticket



**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION  
CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank You!



**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION  
CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION  
7 PRIZES TOTAL**

Raffle to be held (06/06/26) Prizes include:  
6- Android 15 10-inch Tablets with Keyboard  
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Winners need not be present to win.  
\$5.00 donation per ticket



**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION  
CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank



**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION  
CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION  
7 PRIZES TOTAL**

Raffle to be held (06/06/26) Prizes include:  
6- Android 15 10-inch Tablets with Keyboard  
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\$5.00 donation per ticket



**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION  
CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank You!



**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION  
CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION  
7 PRIZES TOTAL**

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**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION  
CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank You!



**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION  
CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION  
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**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION  
CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank You!

As we look to Summer and high school graduations, because of their age, males have become eligible to register with the Selective Service System.

The Selective Service System (SSS) is a federal agency that has been a distinguished part of America's history for over a century, spanning eras of conflict and peacetime. It is part of America's National Defense Strategy, fostering deterrence through innovation and supporting the Department of War's priority to maintain a formidable end-strength that provides America's all-volunteer force with the overmatch necessary to deter, compete and win in the future.

The agency's vision: To be a trusted, actively engaged national defense partner, and the sole source of conscripted talent for national security in the event of a national emergency.

And the Mission is: To register men and maintain a system that, when authorized by the President and Congress, rapidly provides manpower in a fair and just manner while managing an alternative service program for conscientious objectors.

Almost all male US citizens and male immigrants, who are 18 through 25, are required to register with Selective Service.

Registration is a way our government keeps a list of names of men from which to draw in case of a national emergency requiring rapid expansion of our Armed Forces. By registering all young men, Selective Service System ensures that a future draft will be fair and just.

**NOTE:** Registering with Selective Service System does not mean one is joining the military.

It's important to know that even though he is registered, a man will not automatically be inducted into the military. In a crisis requiring a draft, men would be called in a sequence determined by random lottery number and year of birth. Then, they would be examined for mental, physical, and moral fitness by the military before being deferred or exempted from military service or inducted into the Armed Forces.

A man who fails to register may be ineligible for opportunities important to his future. He must register to be eligible for state-funded student financial aid and employment in many states, most federal employment, job training under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and U.S. citizenship for immigrant men. If required to register, failure to register is a felony punishable by a fine of up to \$250,000 and/or 5 years imprisonment. Also, a person who knowingly counsels, aids, or abets another to fail to comply with the registration requirement is subject to the same penalties.

Men 18-25 can register online with a valid SSN, by using a printable registration form, or by completing a form (SSS Form 1) at the post office. Once a man turns 26, he is no longer able to register.

**Automatic Registration:** On December 18, 2025, the President signed the FY 2026 NDAA into law, mandating automatic Selective Service registration. The Agency engaged with Congress throughout the NDAA process regarding the automated legislative proposal. This statutory change transfers responsibility for registration from individual men to SSS through integration with federal data sources. SSS will implement the change by December 2026, resulting in a streamlined registration process and corresponding workforce realignment.

More information will be coming about how the registration process will work. In the time being, one should go ahead and register.

Remember: BE THE ONE. Saving lives. Changing lives. One at a time.

John Lenotte, National Executive Committeeman Department of MA; Member, American Institute of Parliamentarians. Local Board Member, Selective Service System. I may be reached at [jjlenotte@gmail.com](mailto:jjlenotte@gmail.com)



## Post 40 Honors Tradition with Flag Folding Ceremony at Hedge Elementary




The American Legion Post 40 continues its commitment to community engagement and patriotic education through its recent flag folding ceremony for 4th grade students at Hedge Elementary School.

Led by Bob Burke and supported by dedicated Post 40 Legionnaires and members of the Sons of the American Legion (SAL), the ceremony provided students with a meaningful and educational experience. Each fold of the American flag was carefully demonstrated and explained, highlighting the symbolism and respect behind this long standing military tradition.

The presentation offered students a deeper understanding of the flag's significance and the values it represents, leaving a lasting impression on the young audience. Post 40 is proud to play a role in educating the next generation and fostering appreciation for our nation's heritage.

## Post 40 Color Guard Leads with Pride at Scituate's Postponed St. Patrick's Day Parade



The Post 40 Color Guard proudly represented Plymouth at the postponed St. Patrick's Day Parade in Scituate! 

Marching alongside the Department Senior Vice Robert Jerdan and District 10 leaders Commander Paul Lemieux and Sr. Vice Jeff Montelo, showcased pride, precision, and the true spirit of service.

Despite the delay, the energy was incredible and the support from the community made it a day to remember.

Bravo Zulu to all who participated!



Start Date	Time	Event	Location
4/7/2026	7:00 PM	Americanism Committee	ZOOM
4/18/2026	12:00 PM	D3 Banquet	Chicopee Post 452
4/20/2026	7:00 PM	Adjutants Meeting	ZOOM
4/21/2026	7:30 PM	Children & Youth	ZOOM
4/22/2026	7:0 PM	D6 Meeting	Squantum Post 382
4/23/2026	7:00 PM	D9 Meeting	Berkley Post 121
5/24/2026	1:00 PM	Memorial Day Ceremony	Massachusetts National Cemetery
6/4/2026	2:00 PM	Department Executive Committee Meeting	Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel Marlboro, MA
6/4/2026	6:00 PM	Pre0Conventin Get-	Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel Marlboro,
6/5-6/7		Department Convention	Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel Marlboro, MA


**2026 Membership Standing** *as of March 27, 2026*

	District	Goal	Current	% of Goal
1	BERKSHIRE	1125	1056	93.18%
3	HAMPDEN/FRANKLIN/HAMPSHIRE	3169	2934	92.58%
4	WORCESTER	4303	3934	91.42%
5	MIDDLESEX	3347	3054	91.25%
6	NORFOLK	2206	2019	91.52%
7	SUFFOLK	1123	1038	92.43%
8	ESSEX	2313	2149	92.91%
9	BRISTOL	2260	1800	79.65%
10	PLY/BARN/NAN/DUKE	3404	3215	94.45%
297	CAPITOL HILL	405	1224	302.22%
462	HEADQUARTERS	848	502	59.20%
	National Quota	24,503	22,925	93.56%

**Next Target Date 5/13/2026 100%**



2026 Membership Standing *as of April 30, 2026*

	District	Goal	Current	% of Goal
1	BERKSHIRE	202	196	97.03%
3	HAMPDEN/ FRANKLIN HAMPSHIRE	637	583	91.52%
4	WORCESTER	1064	990	93.05%
5	MIDDLESEX	949	895	94.21%
6	NORFOLK	365	284	77.81%
7	SUFFOLK	95	85	89.47%
8	ESSEX	629	605	96.18%
9	BRISTOL	263	205	77.85%
10	PLY/BARN/ NAN/DUKE	754	676	89.66%
462	HEADQUARTERS	149	120	80.54%
	National Quota	5,107	4,639	90.84%

SONS OF THE  
AMERICAN  
LEGION

A newsletter of Sons of The American Legion

## THE MILLENNIUM


Sons of The American Legion | PO 1055 | Indianapolis, IN 46206 | www.legion.org/sons

Volume 3 | Issue 3 | Number 1 | March 2026

Subscribe at: [www.legion.org/information-center/in-the-media/e-newsletters](http://www.legion.org/information-center/in-the-media/e-newsletters)

**Inside YOUR SAL Newsletter this Month**

- Randy Timms (WI): Leadership Succession
- Washington Conference 2026
- New York: Squadron donates \$2K towards new van for vets
- South Dakota: Heroes of the Court
- Indiana: Squadron makes Donations to Community Organizations
- Pennsylvania: SAL Member raises fund and awareness for homeless
- SAL 100 Committee
- Wisconsin: Freezin' for a Reason



Special to *The Millennium*—Clive R.A. Seydell (MI), Detachment Commander

### Michigan Represented at the 92nd Annual National Pilgrimage

The 92nd Annual National Pilgrimage honoring President Abraham Lincoln began February 11, 2026 in Springfield, Illinois, with the American Legion Family Leadership Reception. National and Department leaders gathered in fellowship ahead of the annual observance, reinforcing the unity that defines The American Legion Family.


During the reception, National Commander Bill Clancy of the Sons of The American Legion addressed those assembled, emphasizing continued service and strengthening the bonds across the Legion Family. His remarks set the tone for the commemorative events that followed.

Hosted by Springfield Post No. 32, the Annual Pilgrimage to the Tomb of Abraham Lincoln has been held every year on February 12 since 1935, making it the longest-running commemoration of President Lincoln's birthday. What began as a tribute organized by World War I veterans has grown into a nationally recognized tradition honoring our 16th President and the enduring principles he defended.

On the morning of February 12 — President Lincoln's birthday — members of the Legion Family attended the American Legion Family Breakfast before assembling at the President Abraham Lincoln Springfield Hotel. Participants then proceeded in procession to Oak Ridge Cemetery for the solemn wreath-laying ceremony at Lincoln's Tomb.

Submitted Photos: Commander Clive Seydell at the Lincoln Pilgrimage, flanked by Commander's Lady Stephanie and National Commander Clancy

Continued on Page 2 >>>>



#### Top Ten Detachments 2026 Membership Percentage

1. Dist. Of Col. 115.73%
2. Utah 108.75%
3. Philippines 108.33%
4. South Carolina 93.79%
5. Wisconsin 93.13%
6. Florida 90.40%
7. Idaho 90.17%
8. Iowa 89.54%
9. North Carolina 89.43%
10. Latin America 88.13%

Statistics as of 05 March 2026

A National Newsletter of the Sons of The American Legion 1

Go to [Masslegion.org/newsletter](http://Masslegion.org/newsletter) for your copy

## 2026 S.A.L. Membership Standing as of March 27, 2026

	District	Goal	Current	%
1	BERKSHIRE	232	232	100.00%
3	HAMPDEN/FRANKLIN / HAMPSHIRE	674	604	89.61%
4	WORCESTER	998	964	96.59%
5	MIDDLESEX	1362	1160	85.17%
6	NORFOLK	836	913	109.21%
7	SUFFOLK	173	173	100.00%
8	ESSEX	443	469	105.87%
9	BRISTOL	286	218	76.22%
10	PLY/BARN/NAN/DUKE	780	650	83.33%
	National Goal	5783	5383	71.87%

Next Target Date: 5/13/2026 100%



★  ★

**Post 98**  
**Saturday morning**  
**Coffee break** 

 **Veterans, Aux, and Potential Members**

American Legion Hall  
 32 Beach st  
**8:00—10:30**  
**Come on down**

★

**HINGHAM FRIDAY VETERANS' COFFEE**  
 EVERY 3RD FRIDAY OF THE MONTH  
 9:00AM – 10:30AM  
 GRAND ARMY HALL 358 MAIN ST. HINGHAM  
 GUEST SPEAKERS FOR EACH EVENT  
 COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED  
 MEETING DATES:  
**MAY 16TH, JUNE 20TH, JULY 18TH, AUG. 15TH,**  
**SEPT 19TH, OCT. 17TH, NOV. 21ST, DEC. 19TH**  
 TEMPORARY CONTACT: DAVE IRWIN  
 781-910-2377  
 FIRST COFFEE IS FRIDAY MAY 16TH

*Coffee Hour*

*Last Friday of the Month*

*09:00 - 12:00*

 **Free**

*American Legion North Adams*

American Legion North Adams Post 125

**FUNday !!!**

**4th Sunday of the Month**

Lunch	Meat Tables Begins at 3PM	Queen Of Hearts
<p>We will service a simple lunch starting at 12:00pm until sold out or 3pm.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Purchase raffle tickets for a chance to win.</li> <li>2. Win various cuts of meat or other prizes.</li> <li>3. Tickets are randomly drawn, and winners receive their prizes.</li> </ol>	<p>The QOH with begin 15 minutes after the last Table is raffled.</p>





Veterans' Coffee Hour: Third Wednesday of each month  
Please come and enjoy coffee, fresh pastries, donuts and fellowship.

American Legion Post 0234  
402 West Main St Northborough Ma. 01532

Open to all local area Veterans.

**RIDE TO SUPPORT OUR TROOPS** ★  
AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS POST 113  
• HELL OR HIGH WATER CREW •  
Benefiting **OPERATION TROOP SUPPORT**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 29, 2026** ★

📍 American Legion Post 113  
14 Church Street  
Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA

🕒 Registration: 9:30 AM  
🕒 Kickstands Up: 11:00 AM

★ **EVENT HIGHLIGHTS** ★

- Scenic group motorcycle ride
- Food & refreshments
- Raffles / 50-50 drawing
- Music & camaraderie
- Rain or Shine • All bikes welcome!

★★ **COST** ★★

- Rider: \$25
- Passenger: \$10
- Walk-ins: \$10

**CONTACT: Sam Demao 1-978-808-9786**  
🇺🇸 Ride with Purpose. Ride with Pride. Ride for Our Troops. 🇺🇸

FOOD • MUSIC • RAFFLES • VENDORS

**HOLYOKE SOLDIERS' HOME**  
**MOTORCYCLE RUN**  
RIDE TO HONOR OUR HEROES

**MAY 16, 2026**

★ **Starts** ★  
Veteran Home  
In Holyoke  
Cherry St •  
Holyoke

★ **End** ★  
Chicopee Moose  
Club  
Fuller St •  
Chicopee

★ **KICKSTANDS UP: NOON** ★  
\$20 Per Person In Advance  
\$25 Per Person Day of Event

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY

AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MA

THROTTLE ROCKER NATION

★ **IN SUPPORT OF THE VETERANS HOME IN HOLYOKE** ★



# Post Events

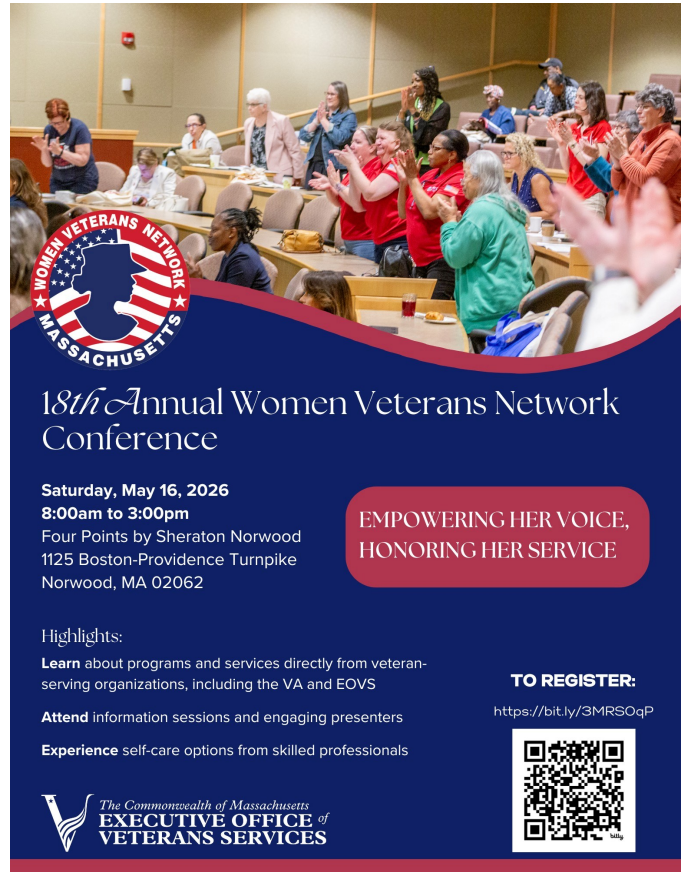


**AMERICAN LEGION POST 3  
GOLF TOURNAMENT**  
**JULY 6TH 2026**  
**10AM SHOTGUN START**  
**AT BEVERLY GOLF AND TENNIS**

**\$125 PER PERSON**  
**TEAMS OF 4**

RESERVE AND PAY ON [POST3.ORG](http://POST3.ORG)  
OR BRING A CHECK AND SIGN UP IN PERSON AT THE POST

**A CATERED LUNCH WILL BE SERVED AT POST 3 AFTER**




**18th Annual Women Veterans Network Conference**

**Saturday, May 16, 2026**  
**8:00am to 3:00pm**  
Four Points by Sheraton Norwood  
1125 Boston-Providence Turnpike  
Norwood, MA 02062

**EMPOWERING HER VOICE,  
HONORING HER SERVICE**

Highlights:  
Learn about programs and services directly from veteran-serving organizations, including the VA and EOVS  
Attend information sessions and engaging presenters  
Experience self-care options from skilled professionals

**TO REGISTER:**  
<https://bit.ly/3MRSOqP>



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
**EXECUTIVE OFFICE of VETERANS SERVICES**



**AMERICA'S  
250<sup>th</sup> CELEBRATION**

**AMERICAN LEGION**

**STARRING  
RICKY LEE**

American Legion Post 40  
PLYMOUTH MASSACHUSETTS  
**JUNE 14th (FLAG DAY)**  
**3PM**  
TICKET PRICE \$15

★ **FOOD, BEER** ★  
LIVE MUSIC AND GOOD TIME!



Veterans Association of Bristol County [theVABC.org](http://theVABC.org)

**OUTRAGEOUS GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2026**  
**SWANSEA COUNTRY CLUB**  
**299 MARKET ST SWANSEA, MA**  
**8:00 AM REGISTRATION**  
**9:00 AM SHOTGUN START**  
**2:00 PM LUNCH**

We have packages from individual golfers to corporate sponsors

**SPONSORS & GOLFERS SCAN HERE!**







# The Wall That Heals



## September 15-20, 2026 Yarmouth, MA



Ride Escort/Volunteers  
Sponsorships and Donation Needed



Open 24/7 Rain or Shine

\***Tuesday** Sept 15 Escort

\***Saturday** Tours -Sunset Taps

\***Wed** Sept 16 WALL Setup 8am -  
Volunteer Training Highly  
recommended 6 PM-1 Hour  
Echo Taps

\***Sunday** Sept 20, Wall closed  
1:45pm Closing Ceremony 2 pm  
dismantle "The Wall That Heals"

\***Thursday** Sept 17 Opening  
Ceremony Time TBD &  
Sunset Echo Taps

\***Friday** Sept 18 Echo Taps-  
Light the Night Ceremony  
Agent Orange Awareness



**For More Information Contact:**  
Debi Robinson Chairman (253) 226-1588  
Barbara-Anne Foley Co-Chair (508) 237-3349



Email: [info@TheWallThatHealsYarmouth-2026.org](mailto:info@TheWallThatHealsYarmouth-2026.org)

[www.TheWallThatHealsYarmouth-2026.org](http://www.TheWallThatHealsYarmouth-2026.org)



## Massachusetts E-Legionnaire

The Massachusetts E-Legionnaire is the official publication of the Department of Massachusetts American Legion and is published at least 12 times per year

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Room 546-2, State House  
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## ARTICLE SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Do you have an article or news announcement to share with the rest of the Department of Massachusetts? If so, please follow these basic guide-lines 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 embed-ded 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: [deptaddjutant@masslegion.org](mailto:deptaddjutant@masslegion.org) or to the Editor at [fmacdonald53@comcast.net](mailto: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.

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