



MASSACHUSETTS E-LEGIONNAIRE

THE DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS

Volume 16 Issue 13

June 2026

Commander's Corner



Scott M. Conner
Department Commander

Yes! I would do it all over again!!

My year as Department Commander comes to a close, it provides a great opportunity to reflect back to the beginning when I began my path through the "chairs". The journey has been incredible and fulfilling. The greatest satisfaction has and will continue to be helping the blue hat legionnaire navigate The American Legion and the incredible programs it provides. Assisting Posts and my District, to not only include the day to day, but suffering during and surviving the pandemic, and the emergence to restore some normalcy. The number one question/request asked to me, we need new, younger

members. Agreed. So let's keep our relevancy up, provide a welcoming environment, with no stone unturned.

Did you BUDDY CHECK today!! This is a program worth investing in. Buddy Check, 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. This will continue to be one of my main battle cries.

Are you ready to **Be the One?** American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 138 Spencer, MA will be hosting a mental health awareness 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. Hope your Post is looking to invest in today's youth and

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BE THE ONE

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. 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.

The month of May was very busy, as most months are while Commander. Spring meetings in Indianapolis. I purposely traced through the Americanism meetings, to also include Legion Baseball and Youth Law Enforcement. Next was the "Holyoke Ride" at the Holyoke Soldier's Home. Wow! 650 bikes+, many more participants, special kudos to: Lou Brault, Drew Pajak, Megan Chandler, and Bill Els for your tireless work to make this an event for the books. Then off to Department Legion College at the Quinsig Post, thank you to ANEC Sandra Davis and her staff for providing a top notch information and training program. I had the absolute honor of being selected as a recipient of Military Appreciation Day recognition by my State Representative Donald Berthiaume, as well as 20 or so other legionnaires in the house chambers at the State House. 137 veterans were recognized at this event. To name a few, Dana, Mike, Matt, Mary-Dith, Peter, Bill, Joe and many others. Congratulations on the recognition for the hard work you put forth supporting veterans. Ya, it was wet, but it's is such a small sacrifice to honor those that lost it all. The Memorial Day ceremony at the Bourne National Cemetery will inspire you right to your core. Please put this on your list for the future if haven't been to this event. I wrapped up the month with National Vice Commander LaRose at his testimonial in Vermont. It was a great day spent with Legionnaires from another Departments.

And lastly, a heartfelt thank you all the Department Officers that supported me, mentored me and kept me "focused". Your guidance is greatly appreciated, I will always remember my Year! Enjoy your time serving as you ascend the "chairs". And to my aide, Grace has been a rock, she kept me tempered and always thinking, Love ya honey!!

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!

Scott M. Conner
Commander
Department of Massachusetts
774-239-6162
Scottscpo@gmail.com

I've gone back and forth on how to begin today, because how do you truly put into words what this journey has meant? This role—serving as your Department President—has not just been a position. It has been a chapter of my life I will carry with me forever.

I think about the miles traveled, the meetings, the events, the conversations in hallways and over coffee... but more than anything, I think about the people. All of you. The friendships, the laughter, the moments of support when things felt heavy—those are what stay with me.

There's a quote from Dr. Seuss that feels especially right today: "Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory."

And now, as I stand here, I realize just how many of those moments we've shared together.

I've had the privilege of visiting units across our beautiful Commonwealth, and everywhere I went, I saw the same thing—heart.

I saw members who give their time, their energy, and their compassion so freely to support our veterans, our military, and their families.

You reminded me, again and again, why this organization matters.

There were also moments that challenged me—times when I had to grow, to listen more closely, to lead with patience and humility. And through those moments, you stood beside me. For that, I am deeply grateful.

There's a line from *Wicked* that I keep coming back to: "Because I knew you, I have been changed for good."

That is not just a lyric—it is the truth of my experience.

Because I have known you...

because I have worked alongside you...

because I have witnessed your dedication...

I have been changed—for good.

Each visit, each handshake, each story shared has shaped me in ways I never expected.

And if I'm being honest, it's a little hard to let this go.

But I'm reminded of another Dr. Seuss quote:

"Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened."

So today, I choose to smile.

I smile because of everything we've accomplished together.

I smile because of the lives we've touched.

And I smile because I know the work will continue.

To those stepping into leadership—trust yourselves. Lead with your heart. Listen. And never forget why we do what we do.

And to every member here: never underestimate the impact you have. Sometimes the smallest act of kindness means the most to someone who needs it.

In *Wicked*, there's a moment about stepping into what comes next—about finding the courage to move forward. And that's what we do now.

We turn the page.

Not to end the story—but to continue it.

Thank you for trusting me with this role.

Thank you for your kindness, your patience, and your belief in me.

And thank you for the honor of serving alongside you.

This isn't goodbye. It's just... "until we meet again."

God bless you, God bless our veterans and their families, and God bless the American Legion Family.

Thank you.

Sofia Elizabeth Blake

Department President 2025-2026

Detachment Commander



Detachment
Commander
Jesse Limanek

Greetings Department of Massachusetts American Legion Family,

I cannot believe it is already June. Where did this year go? It has been a tremendous honor serve as your Detachment Commander, side-by-side with Department Commander Scott Conner and Department President Sophia Blake, for the 2025-2026 Membership Year. And, I am looking forward to my second year with eager anticipation.

While we have enjoyed many successes across the state, there is still more work to be done. We need to continue our efforts of recruiting and retaining members at the Squadron level. We need experienced and skilled members to step up and assist at the Detachment level. We need to improve upon communication between the Detachment and all Squadrons, and vice versa. And, we need to do a better job in our support of the many programs of The American Legion.

I am prepared to roll up my sleeves and continue the work. All that I ask of you is to join with me and do the same.

To my departing colleagues Scott and Sophia, thank you for your friendship and support. I have enjoyed our time together and commend you both for all that you have done for our veterans and their families. As you will soon be adding “past” to your name tags, I wish you the best and cannot wait to see where your paths take you next.

God Bless,

Jesse Limanek

Commander for the Detachment of Massachusetts

SAL Eligible for NEF Grants

Members of the Sons of The American Legion are eligible to receive grants from The American Legion’s National Emergency Fund (NEF).

The NEF Trust Committee met May 4 during the Spring Meetings in Indianapolis to amend the trust to allow SAL members to apply for NEF grants.

While application forms and information on Legion.org are in the process of being updated to reflect the change, effective immediately, SAL members can apply for an NEF grant if they meet the necessary qualifications.

Similar to individual Legionnaires, SAL members may qualify for an NEF grant of up to \$3,000 if:

- They have been displaced from their primary residence due to damage sustained during a declared natural disaster.

- If emergency/disaster shelters are available, and the applicant chooses not to stay at a shelter, their reason must be included in the application.

- The SAL member must be active at the time of the disaster and at the time of application.

NEF grants are not meant to replace or repair items, only to meet the most immediate needs (i.e., temporary housing, food, water, clothing, diapers, etc.) during the period immediately following the disaster. They also do not cover insurance compensation or monetary losses from a business, structures on your property (barns, tool sheds, etc.) equipment or vehicles.

For more information, go to [Legion.org/Emergency](https://legion.org/Emergency).



The American Legion Department Of Massachusetts

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

February 23, 2026

Greetings Legionnaires,

Our Department Convention is in a few days, and I hope to see you all there. The Convention is the time to meet up with old friends, conduct business, and issue out awards to deserving individuals and posts. Thursday will be the Family Get Together for us to relax prior to the Convention and to catch up with one another and listen to Neil Diamond Tribute Band. Don't forget it is at Convention that Posts pick up their 2027 membership cards.

Several Legion programs will run in the month of June. Boy's State will run June 13-19, 2026, at Stonehill College. Scouting Camporee will run during Father's Day weekend at Camp Collier. Baseball and Softball programs will begin soon after. Come support the young players representing their posts.

Reminder, Consolidated Post Reports are due July 1. The report can be completed online and submitted. The year 2027 membership begins on July 1 and lets us continue the upward trend in our membership. Posts have made great progress in achieving outstanding membership goals and numbers. Thank you to all of you for your hard work.

National Convention is in Louisville this year August 28-September 3 and for those wanting to attend I need your registration forms by July 15 th . This year the National Convention Committee is phasing in an online registration program for the Departments to register their delegates, alternates, and guests. I understand that the registration form has the dates of August 22 to September 3 rd . Those are the dates the hotel block begins. Many of us go into Convention early to set up registration rooms, get packets, and handle whatever business needs to be conducted with the National Staff. Reminder for Legionnaires, delegates and alternates your registration fee and National Commander's Banquet tickets are paid for by the Department. Guest and spouse's tickets are not paid for by the Department. The Department purchased the max allowed by National 70 tickets. Those folks need to pay for their registration and banquet tickets. The Department will only pay for delegates and alternates if they stay at a National designated hotel. Again, I hope to see you all there.

Finally, thank you to everyone for all the hard work you did this year. I know the last few months have been challenging due to my civic duty of grand jury, but I honestly must say we are heading in the right direction for growth of the American Legion Department of Massachusetts.

Yours in Service

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*

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



Membership—DSVC Robert Jerdan

Final Note of Appreciation – 2025 -2026 Membership Year

To the Dedicated Leadership of the Department of Massachusetts,

As we bring this membership year to a close, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to the leadership at every level—Post, District, and Department.

Success in membership is never the result of a single person’s effort; it is the product of a collective commitment to the mission of The American Legion. This year, your hard work has ensured that our Department remains a strong, vital voice for veterans across the Commonwealth.

To our Post Commanders and Membership Teams

You are the "boots on the ground." Your tireless work in

your local communities—engaging with veterans, hosting events, and ensuring our posts remain welcoming homes—is the very foundation of our organization. Thank you to the membership teams for every phone call made, every door knocked on, and every renewal processed. Your personal touch is what keeps our ranks strong.

To our District Leadership

Your role as the bridge between the local posts and the Department has been invaluable. Your coordination, mentorship, and willingness to share best practices across your regions have kept our momentum moving forward.

To the Department Leadership

Thank you for the vision, resources, and steady guidance provided throughout the year. Your support has allowed us to tackle

challenges head-on and stay focused on our growth goals.

Membership is more than just a tally of numbers; it represents our strength in advocacy and our ability to serve those who served. Because of your dedication this year, the Department of Massachusetts is better positioned to support our veterans, their families, and our youth programs.

It has been an honor to serve alongside you this year. Let’s carry this energy forward as we continue our service to God and Country.

Robert Jerdan(Bobby)
Senior Vice Commander 25-26
Department Of Massachusetts
Candidate for Department
Commander 26-27



Marketing

Hello American Legion Family,

Exciting news from the Marketing Committee!

Our impactful "Veteran Of The Game" partnership with the Springfield Thunderbirds has been successfully extended, continuing to amplify our brand and connect us with the community at a great value. A sincere thank you to every volunteer who staffed our info tables – your dedication is invaluable.

Get ready for our Department Convention in early June! This event also wraps up our annual marketing fundraiser. Please return your sweepstakes tickets soon; your participation offers a chance to win up to \$3,000 and, critically, funds the vital programs our department champions for veterans and their families.

Got innovative marketing ideas? We want to hear them! Please share your insights with the Marketing Committee.

I eagerly anticipate seeing many of you at the convention.

Warmly,

Mike Davis

PNEC Marketing Chairman

Did you know all these facts about our history in the United States that began in June?

6/14/1775 The first U.S. Military service, the Continental Army consisting of six companies of riflemen, was established by the Second Continental Congress. The next day, [George Washington](#) was appointed by a unanimous vote to command the army.

6/14/1777 [John Adams](#) introduced a resolution before Congress mandating a United States flag, stating, "...that the flag of the thirteen United States shall be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white on a blue field, representing a new constellation." This anniversary is celebrated each year in the U.S. as Flag Day.

6/20/1782 The U.S. Congress officially adopted the Great Seal of the United States of America.

6/28/1914 Archduke Francis Ferdinand, Crown Prince of Austria and his wife were assassinated at Sarajevo, touching off a conflict between the Austro-Hungarian government and Serbia that escalated into [World War I](#).

6/28/1919 The signing of the Treaty of

Versailles formally ended World War I. According to the terms, Germany was assessed sole blame for the war, forced give up Alsace-Lorraine and overseas colonies, and pay reparations of \$15 Billion. The treaty also prohibited German rearmament.

6/20/1924 American military hero and actor Audie Murphy (1924-1971) was born in Kingston, Texas. He was the most decorated American soldier of World War II, awarded 37 medals and decorations, including the [Medal of Honor](#) for single-handedly turning back a German infantry company by climbing on a burning U.S. tank destroyer and firing its .50-cal. machine gun, killing 50 Germans. He later became an actor in western and war movies and made 45 films including; *The Red Badge of Courage (1951)*, *Destry (1954)*, and *To Hell and Back (1955)*, based on his autobiography. He died May 28, 1971, in a plane crash near Roanoke, Virginia.

6/6/1944 [D-Day](#), the largest amphibious landing in history, began in the early-morning hours as Allied forces landed in Normandy on the northern coast of France. Operation Overlord took months of planning and involved 1,527,000 soldiers in 47 Allied divisions along with 4,400 ships and landing craft, and 11,000

aircraft. The Germans had about 60 divisions spread along France and the Low Countries. American forces landed on two western beaches, Utah and Omaha, while British and Canadian troops landed farther east on Gold, Juno and Sword beaches. By the end of the day 150,000 Allied soldiers and their accompanying vehicles had landed with 15,000 killed and wounded.

6/26/1945 The United Nations Charter was signed in San Francisco by 50 nations. The Charter was ratified on October 24, 1945.

6/25/1950 - The Korean War began as North Korean troops, led by Russian-built tanks, crossed the 38th parallel and launched a full scale invasion of South Korea. Five days later, U.S. ground forces entered the conflict, which lasted until July 27, 1953, when an armistice was signed at Panmunjom, formally dividing the country at the 38th parallel into North and South Korea.

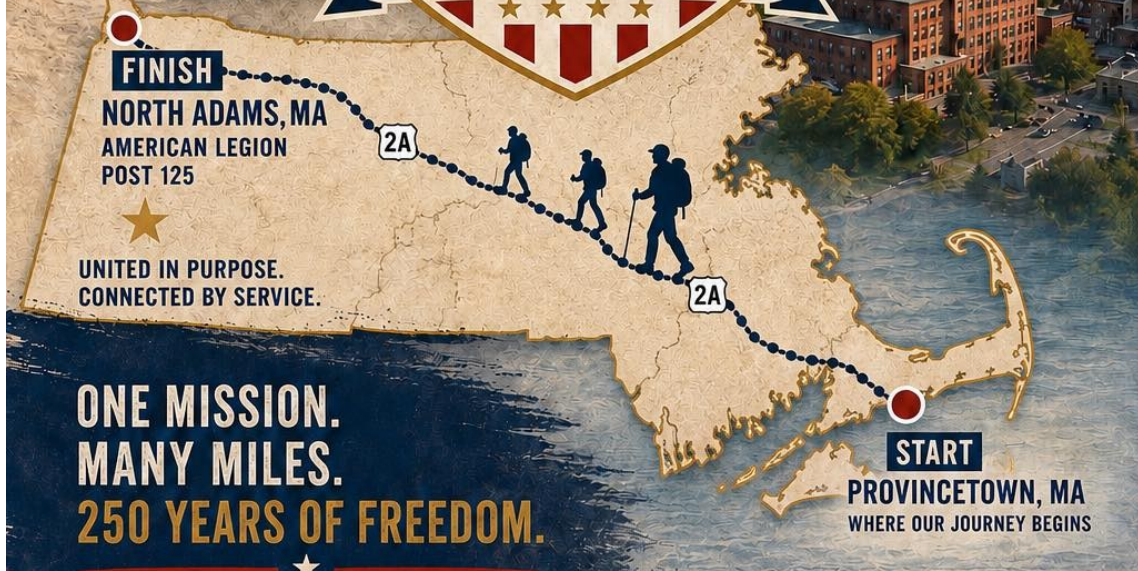
THANK YOU for giving me the opportunity to be your Historian this year. It was my pleasure to be a part of the history of The American Legion here and across our country. Best Regards to all, Cindy Lacoste



FROM COAST TO POST

AMERICAN LEGION POST 125

WALKS FROM PROVINCETOWN TO NORTH ADAMS, MA
FOLLOWING ROUTE 2A
FOR THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICA'S FOUNDING.



FINISH
NORTH ADAMS, MA
AMERICAN LEGION
POST 125

UNITED IN PURPOSE.
CONNECTED BY SERVICE.

**ONE MISSION.
MANY MILES.
250 YEARS OF FREEDOM.**

START
PROVINCETOWN, MA
WHERE OUR JOURNEY BEGINS

JOIN US FOR A FATHER'S DAY RECEPTION
★ AT POST 125 AT 1PM ★



HONOR
OUR PAST



WALK
WITH PURPOSE



SUPPORT
OUR COMMUNITIES



BUILD
OUR FUTURE

★ **CELEBRATING 250 YEARS OF SERVICE, SACRIFICE & FREEDOM** ★

AMERICAN LEGION POST 125 • NORTH ADAMS, MA • WWW.LEGION.ORG/USA250

Contact Mitch Keil at North Adams Post 125, for additional information!

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



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!

AMERICAN LEGION

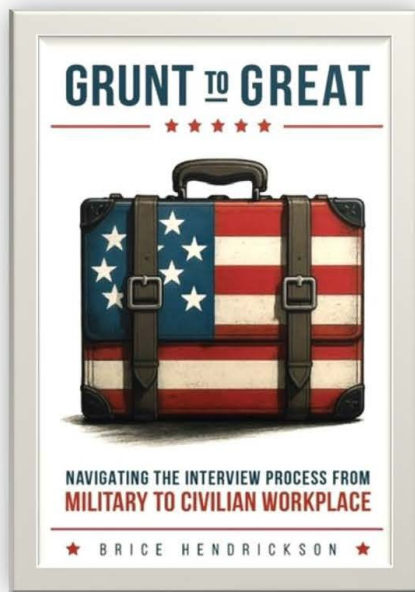
VETERANS STRENGTHENING AMERICA

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



Grunt to Great: Navigating the Interview Process from Military to Civilian Workplace

Lake Time Creative announces the release of a new book: *Grunt to Great: Navigating the Interview Process from Military to Civilian Workplace*, written by Brice Hendrickson, an Army veteran with over 30 years’ experience working in Fortune 100 companies where he led, coached, and interviewed hundreds of employees. *Grunt to Great* is currently available at Amazon.



Grunt to Great is an information-packed resource guide designed to help current service members and military veterans transition into the civilian workplace. Having been on both sides of the interview process, Hendrickson understands the military mindset as well as corporate expectations. He draws from his own real-life missteps and successes to offer practical, actionable advice readers can use to make the most of their job interviews.

Not only does this book equip veterans with the knowledge, tools, and confidence to succeed in civilian job interviews, it teaches them how to communicate their value in ways civilian employers can understand and appreciate. Hiring managers will also gain valuable insights to help them identify, access, and gauge the transferable skills military candidates possess.

Upon retiring from a successful career in the pharmaceutical and life science industries, Hendrickson founded Lake Time Creative LLC to develop creative methods to share, inform, inspire, and entertain others. A native of Rockford, Illinois, he and his family reside in Lake County, Illinois.

Visit our website at:

laketimecreative.com

Lake Time Creative LLC

Grunt to Great on Amazon:



LAKE TIME CREATIVE



Wrentham Post 225 extends its sincere gratitude to Nate Crisci for completing his Eagle Scout project: the construction of a new pavilion at the post field. This year-long endeavor saw over \$10,000 raised for the building of the pavilion. Numerous members of Troop 131, Legion members, and many local businesses generously contributed their time and resources to ensure the project's success. Under Nate Crisci's leadership, the structure was completed in under a month, thanks to the efforts of many individuals who volunteered their weekends to bring this project to fruition. With the completion of this project, Nate fulfilled a key requirement for his Eagle Scout rank and was awarded the distinction on October 23, 2025.

Driven by his ambition to complete this project, he sought to give back to both the members of the American Legion and his community. Congratulations on achieving your Eagle Scout, Nate. Well done.





Scituate Post 144 presented the winners of our Post level Oratory contest with their monetary awards and certificates at the May 4th Scituate School committee meeting. Presenting the awards were Cmdr. Badore, First Vice Walsh, and Adjutant Callahan. First place winner, Maeve Lynch received \$1,000, 2nd place winner, Michaela Whittaker received \$750, and third place winners Macy Muro received \$250.





Joe Darrigo and Normand Zarella



On Saturday, May 16th, dedicated volunteers from the post set out to place Memorial Day wreaths and flags at over 35 squares and memorials throughout Dracut.

Each year, the post collaborates with the Nam Knights Motorcycle Club's Merrimack Valley chapter to create a poignant Field of Flags display at the Captain John Ogonowski Memorial. Captain Ogonowski was a Vietnam veteran, a third-generation farmer, and an airline pilot. Tragically, he lost his life while piloting American Airlines Flight 11, the first plane to strike the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

The hundreds of flags erected for Memorial Day will stand throughout the holiday weekend as a powerful reminder of all those who were lost that day and in defense of our nation since September 11th.



Remembering Our Heroes: Memorial Day Wreaths and Flags in Dracut



District Five Commander Bob Derosiers, PDC Jim Blake, Mike Schiripo and John McDermott collected for veterans, Saturday May 16, 226



The American Legion Post 315 from Dracut honoring the Memorial Day of Remembrance with an Honor Guard and Firing Detail. Photo Credit: Jim Ogonowski

Around the Department—District



District 5 Commander Bob Desrosiers with Chief of Visitors Services, volunteering at Bedford VA 2026 Road Race in 85° sun



Start Date	Time	Event	Location
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-Together	Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel Marlboro, MA
6/5-6/7		Department Convention	Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel Marlboro, MA
6/13-6/19		Boy's State	Stonehill College, Easton, MA
6/15	7:00 PM	Adjutant Meeting	Zoom
6/19-6/21		American Legion Camporee	Camp Collier, Garder, MA
8/28-9/3		National Convention	Louisville


2026 Membership Standing *as of May 28, 2026*

	District	Goal	Current	% of Goal
1	BERKSHIRE	1125	1063	94.49%
3	HAMPDEN/FRANKLIN/HAMPSHIRE	3169	2962	93.47%
4	WORCESTER	4303	3981	93.08%
5	MIDDLESEX	3347	3079	91.99%
6	NORFOLK	2206	2046	92.75%
7	SUFFOLK	1123	1047	93.23%
8	ESSEX	2313	2189	94.64%
9	BRISTOL	2260	1810	80.09%
10	PLY/BARN/NAN/DUKE	3404	3263	95.86%
297	CAPITOL HILL	405	1128	284.92%
462	HEADQUARTERS	848	509	60.02%
	National Quota	24,477	23,177	94.59%

For nearly every man in World War I who endured the dangers and hardships of camp, shore and battle-front there was a woman serving at home to help make possible America's victory - his wife, mother, sister, daughter or granddaughter.

The war was born, and the men and women of the armed forces banded together in The American Legion to carry forward their services to the country in peacetime. It was only natural that the women of their families should desire to continue to serve them. The result was the American Legion Auxiliary, the largest and most influential woman's organization of its kind in the world today.

The establishment of an Auxiliary to The American Legion was provided for by the first National Convention of The American Legion in 1919. By the time of the 1920 National Convention, 1,342 local Units of the Auxiliary had been formed; intensive organizational efforts were authorized. The first National Convention of the Auxiliary was held in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1921. At the time the name "American Legion Auxiliary" was adopted and the first national officers elected.

The Auxiliary grew from a first year enrollment of 121,000 to approximately 500,000 at the beginning of World War II. After the women of World War II families became eligible, the enrollment rose rapidly to a record of 1,001,545 in 1955, and has since remained well above the 900,000 mark. The number of local Units of the Auxiliary, i.e. local, state and national, parallels that of The American Legion. Auxiliary National Headquarters is located in Indianapolis, Indiana.

	District	Goal	Current	% of Goal
1	BERKSHIRE	202	201	99.50%
3	HAMPDEN/FRANKLIN HAMPSHIRE	637	591	92.78%
4	WORCESTER	1064	1004	94.36%
5	MIDDLESEX	949	926	97.58%
6	NORFOLK	365	295	80.82%
7	SUFFOLK	95	87	91.58%
8	ESSEX	629	632	100.48%
9	BRISTOL	263	214	81.37%
10	PLY/BARN/NAN/DUKE	754	689	91.38%
462	HEADQUARTERS	149	122	81.88%
	National Quota	5,107	4,761	93.22%

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

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Subscribe at: www.legion.org/information-center/in-the-media/e-newsletters

Inside YOUR SAL Newsletter this Month

- 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 for your copy

2026 S.A.L. Membership Standing as of May 28, 2026

	District	Goal	Current	%
1	BERKSHIRE	232	232	100.00%
3	HAMPDEN/FRANKLIN / HAMPSHIRE	674	608	90.21%
4	WORCESTER	996	975	97.89%
5	MIDDLESEX	1362	1195	87.74%
6	NORFOLK	836	917	109.69%
7	SUFFOLK	173	181	104.62%
8	ESSEX	443	495	111.74%
9	BRISTOL	286	224	78.32%
10	PLY/BARN/NAN/DUKE	780	673	86.28%
	National Goal	5783	5500	95.00%

Next Target Date: 4/8/2026 90%




★ ★

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





Post Events



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. 🇺🇸

MILITARY APPRECIATION NIGHT

ROX

FRIDAY, JUNE 12th, 2026
7:00 PM
AT CAMPANELLI STADIUM

★

The Brockton Rox Proudly Honor and Thank
All Members of the U.S. Military.

MILITARY APPRECIATION NIGHT!

AS A SMALL TOKEN OF OUR GRATITUDE,
ALL ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY AND
VETERANS WILL RECEIVE A **FREE TICKET**
TO THE GAME BY SHOWING YOUR MILITARY
ID AT THE BOX OFFICE UPON ARRIVAL.

Family, Friends, and Supporters Are Welcome to
Attend and Help Us Thank Those Who Serve.

★

★ ★ ★ **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!** ★ ★ ★




**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
OR BRING A CHECK AND SIGN UP IN PERSON AT THE POST

A CATERED LUNCH WILL BE SERVED AT POST 3 AFTER



MARSHFIELD FAIR
158TH ANNUAL
VETERANS RESOURCE FAIR
AT MARSHFIELD FAIR

SUNDAY
AUGUST 30, 2026

FREE ADMISSION
FOR VETERANS,
ACTIVE DUTY &
GUARD/RESERVE

VETERANS RESOURCE FAIR
CONNECT WITH LOCAL
RESOURCES & SUPPORT

HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED.
BUILDING COMMUNITY. PROVIDING SUPPORT.

MARSHFIELD FAIRGROUNDS
140 MAIN STREET
MARSHFIELD, MA 02050

FAIR HOURS
12:00 PM - 4:00 PM
VETERANS RESOURCE FAIR
& EXHIBITS OPEN DURING THESE HOURS

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

RIDES • EXHIBITS • FOOD • LIVE ENTERTAINMENT • AND MORE

Thank you to our veterans and military families. FOR MORE INFORMATION
WE APPRECIATE YOU. 617-888-6636



AMERICA'S 250th 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!



ALA DISTRICT 5 FUNDRAISER
FOR 2026/2027 NATIONAL PRESIDENT
DR. CORAL GROUT
WIN A BOOK OF MASS LOTTERY
\$10 SCRATCH TICKETS (\$1000 VALUE)



\$20 A TICKET... ONLY 100 TICKETS WILL BE SOLD
DRAWING WILL BE HELD AS SOON AS ALL TICKETS ARE SOLD

CONTACT DISTRICT 5 DIRECTOR SANDY D @ 978-328-2487
OR ANY DISTRICT 5 OFFICER TO PURCHASE A TICKET



LET'S HELP CORAL ON HER JOURNEY



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

www.TheWallThatHealsYarmouth-2026.org



Massachusetts E-Legionnaire

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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 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.

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