

reminded of the provisions of Sections 216, 416, and 516 of the Manual of Procedure that officers, elected and appointed, shall not be installed, or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted to the respective Adjutant and properly reviewed.

4. Change of Post and District Officers: All District and Post Commanders are reminded that whenever there is change of Officer(s) within the Post or District that they need to FILE NEW ELECTION REPORT and notify the State Adjutant Office ASAP so that the Department directory can be updated accordingly, and the information disseminated to all in the General Orders.

5. Attention is directed to Section 213 of the National Bylaws concerning any Post in arrears for any financial obligations to District, Department and National for fees, dues, poppy money, supply money, failing to have the office of Quartermaster properly bonded in accordance with Section 703, failing to ensure that the Post is properly insured in accordance with Section 709, failing to submit properly completed quarterly Post Trustees Report of Audit, Post Election Report for the ensuing year, or other obligations, shall be deprived of all representation in District meetings; District, Department and National Conventions. Such representation shall be restored promptly upon proper adjustment of such deficiencies.

6. The attention of Department, District, County Council and Post Commanders is directed to Section 103 of the Manual of Procedure, which prescribes the way applications for membership will be handled. Applications for membership of new, reinstated or transfer members must be voted on by the members present at a regular Post meeting.

7. Attention of Post Commanders is directed to Section 222 of the National Bylaws and the Manual of Procedure: Provides that each Post will pay, in advance, a National Convention registration fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) which shall entitle the Post to a packet of convention information and materials, and one identified registered delegate for the National Convention. Each additional delegate attending the National Convention will pay a ten-dollar (\$10) delegate fee. Posts are encouraged to register their Post delegate online through the Online Membership System (OMS) or by submitting their National Convention Post and Delegate Registration form that was mailed to all Posts as part of the Election Report/Convention Registration mailing that went out in February. Advanced registration for the 124th National Convention should be mailed with each delegate's name and address to: Convention Registration, 406 W. 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111.

8. Section 220 of the National By-Laws, "Vacancies and Removal of Elected Officers or Committee Members" states: "Any elected Post Officer or committee member removed, by reason of failure to pay current dues or under the provisions of this section shall not be eligible to serve in any Post office or committee in the same administrative year in which the officer or committee member is removed."

9. Trustee's Report of Audit: Post/District are reminded to forward their Trustees' reports at the end of each quarter of current year: June 30, Sep 30; Dec 31 and Mar 31; send these reports as soon as possible after each quarter to the Department Quartermaster.

10. Checks Sent to Department of Maine: When forwarding checks to our State Quartermaster, please note that checks are to be made out to "Department of Maine, VFW" and in the memo line, note the name of the program it is for.

11. Candidates for High Office 2023-24: Any member wishing to run for any high office are to notify the State Adjutant office via e-mail of their intent for publishing in the GOs.

12. Convention Book Advertising: Consult Tele-Communications from Londonderry, NH is soliciting ads for our State Convention book throughout the State of Maine. Any business calling your Post respectively, inquiring about the solicitation, please inform them that they are the sole company that sells ads for the Department of Maine.

13. Officers Duties: Article II, Section 218 – Officers and Chairman, Duties and Obligations - (a) Officers – (1) Duties of Commander - item (k) – “Assure that the Commander or their representative attend all properly called District conventions or meetings.” Post Commander must attend District meetings. Failure without just cause to perform these duties may result in removal from the office. All Post Senior and Junior Vice Commanders are urged to attend all District meetings planned. The Post Commanders should employ all elected Post Officers and post members to attend District meetings.

14. Post Commanders: Sections 219 and 704 of the Manual of Procedure outline the various things for which the Post Relief Fund can be used. Several years ago, the phrase “To foster true patriotism through, historical and education programs,” was added to this section. This allows the Post to use the relief funds for the Voice of Democracy program or other Americanism programs that are educational. This does not include Post building projects, hall remodeling, color guard uniforms or any other expenditure that does not follow these guidelines.

15. Dates to remember

February 3rd> Four Chaplains Day

February 15th> Remember the Maine Day

March 3rd to 7th Legislative Conference Washinton DC.

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

Department Commander > Anthony R Kimble > Post 3108

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

Department Jr. Vice Commander > William E Day > Post 7997

Department Quartermaster > David D. Williams > Post 1641

Department Chaplain > Kevin G. Woodward > Post 11553

Department Judge Advocate > Roger A Stevens > Post 2197

Department Surgeon> James Ewing> Post 1605

Department Surgeon> Randolph Michaud> Post 2599

17. District Meeting Dates:

February 2024

D-1> 11 Feb @ 1pm> Presque Isle Post 2599> JVC Meuchel

D-3> 18 Feb @ 2pm> Calais Post 9779> JVC Meuchel

D-6> 4 Feb @ 1pm> Belfast Post 3108> SG Stevens

D-10> 11 Feb @ 1pm> Windham Post 10643> JA Day

March 2024

D-5>10 Mar @ 1pm>Dexter Post 4298> QM Williams

April 2024

D-1> 21Apr @ 1pm> Caribou Post 9389> SG Stevens

D-2> 6 Apr @ 1pm> Island Falls Post 7865> JVC Meuchel
D-4> 6 Apr @ 2pm > Ellsworth Post 109 > Cmdr Bouchard
D-5> 14 Apr @ > 1pm Fairfield Post 6924> Adj Lambert
D-7> 14 Apr @ 2pm > Mid Coast Veterans Center> SVC Kimble
D-8> 28 Apr @ 3pm> Winthrop Grange Hall> SG Stevens
D-9> 21 Apr @ 1pm> Auburn Post 1603> JVC Meuchel
D-11> 28 Apr @ 2pm> Sanford Post 9935> JVC Meuchel

BY COMMAND OF:

John Bouchard

John Bouchard
Commander

OFFICIAL:

Carl Lambert

Carl Lambert
Adjutant



State Commander John Bouchard

Comrades,

I would like to thank each one of you for your thoughts and prayers, the support has been overwhelming, Thank you all.

I am honored to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for your dedication, hard work, and unwavering commitment to our cause. Your tireless efforts have made a significant impact on the lives of our Veterans and their families, and I am proud of you all.

I would like to thank Post 8835 for hosting the VOD/ Patriot Pen/ TOY banquet. It was a great success. It was great to see the amazing amount of participation this year, let's keep it going. As we head into the new month let's keep the membership coming in, together we can Meet the Challenge. We are currently at 92.59%, I am very confident we can make it to 102%. Congratulations to Post 1641 for making 100%.

As of now, we are halfway to our goal of \$7000 to support Make a Wish foundation. Keep the donations coming in and let's help grant a wish for someone.

I'm looking forward to seeing some of you at the legislative conference in March and at the April COA.

“Honor Their Courage.”

Yours in Comradeship,

John Bouchard

John Bouchard
Commander



Deceased Roll Call



Department of Maine, VFW
Kevin G. Woodward, Chaplain

29 December 2023- 29 January 2024

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

District 1

9389> Michael P Ouellette
Herman R Jalbert
Alphy M St Peter
Clifford Roy

District 2

1605> John A Lagerquist
Robert M Thomas
7529> Loren H Ritchie

District 4

1761> Donald F Kerr

District 5

6924> Brian A Bread
Henry H Smith
7865> Aaron S Rollins
Kenneth N Franzose
Gilbert R Taylor

District 6

3108> David E Quimby
Lloyd K Daniels

District 7

2197> Robert E Buck
7738> Thomas W Lathan

District 8

887> Michael D Smith

District 9

1603> Rosaire Bouchard
Raymond E Ames
1641> Abraham Saphier
Mark R Antell
Fernand J Cayer

District 10

6859> Dominic M Distasio
9328> Richard F Cerone
Roderick E Hodge
10643> Ernest C Murphy
10879> Wade B Trudel

Members At Large

15020> Jeffrey A Mason
Craig G Tukey
Kenneth E Arnold



SENIOR VICE COMMANDER
Patriot Pen/ Voice of Democracy/ Teacher of the Year
Anthony Kimble



What a great turn out for the Voice of Democracy/Patriots Pen/Teacher of the Year banquet at the Winslow VFW Post 8835. Thank you again to everyone who helped pull off a wonderful celebration for the students, teachers, and their families. Please be safe and stay healthy and check in on one another to make sure everyone is doing well. Keep Up the Fire!!

Voice of Democracy/Patriots Pen/Teacher of the Year

The Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Teacher of the Year programs have been completed. Commander Bouchard and I would like to thank every district, post, and auxiliary member that has helped in making this another successful year. Here are the final three standings for Voice of Democracy, Patriot Pen and Teacher of the Year.

2023-2024 Voice of Democracy			
Final Standing	District	Contestant Name	Post # and Post Name
1	10	Anna Seavey	Post 10643 Windham, Windham
2	1	Coltin S. Hopkins	Post 9389 Lister-Knowlton, Caribou
3	7	Joshua L. Langworthy	Post 2197 Rev Joseph Lamarre Memorial, Topsham
No Particular Order	2	Kevin M DuBois	Post 1605 Labelle-Perkins, Burlington
	3	Mia F. Mills	Post 11553 Cpt John E. Williams Memorial, Harrington
	4	Jack A. Cambra	Post 1761 Bangor Memorial, Bangor
	5	Carroll J. Frigon	Post 5723 William B Doughty, Jackman
	6	Danielle E. Hicock	Post 3108 Randall & Collins Memorial, Belfast
	8	Drew E. Sheridan	Post 8835 Mac Crillis-Rousseau, Winslow
	9	Aisha Y.Ibrahim	Post 3335 Frank L. Mitchell, Jay
	11	Anorra S. Ferris	Post 9935 Sanford-Springvale Memorial, Sanford

2023-2024 Patriots Pen			
Final Standing	District	Contestant Name	Post # and Post Name
1	11	Patrick T. Fahey	Post 6977 Boardman-Ellis, York
2	10	Grace T. Tyll	Post 6859 Deering Memorial, Portland
3	3	Caroline G. Carver	Post 11553 Cpt John E. Williams Memorial, Harrington
No Particular Order	1	Owen J. Moutinho	Post 9389 Lister-Knowlton, Caribou
	2	Ayden C. Gordon	Post 7529 King-Mitchell, Island Falls
	4	Sophie E. Walsh	Post 4633 Whitcomb-Baker, Hampden
	5	Brooke Wilkins	Post 10881 James A. McKechnie, Farmington
	6	Morgan C. Shorey	Post 3108 Randall & Collins Memorial, Belfast
	8	Preston E. Hesketh	Post 9 Bagley-Gardiner-Foster, Gardiner
	9	Landyn Anthony	Post 3335 Frank L. Mitchell, Jay

2023-2024 Teachers of the Year			
Final Standing	District	Contestant Name	Post #
Department TOY Winner	9	Denise D. Acritelli	Post 3335 Frank L. Mitchell, Jay
Elementary School TOY	7	Abigail K. Svenson	Post 2197 Rev Joseph Lamarre Memorial, Topsham
Middle School TOY	9	Denise D. Acritelli	Post 3335 Frank L. Mitchell, Jay
High School TOY	7	Brian Stanton	Post 7738 Pittman-Morrison, Bath

We wish Anna Seavey the best of luck on her trip to Washington, DC as our department Voice of Democracy winner and hope she has a great time meeting her fellow winners. Good luck to Patrick Fahey in the Patriot Pen with his essay and all three teachers who were sent forward as teachers of the year nominees to National to compete for Teachers of the year.

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER
Historian/ Ways & Means
Student Veterans of America
Amy Hope Meuchel

Junior Vice Commander:

I look forward to attending District 1 and District 3 this month as long as the weather behaves.

Historian. I was able to present PSC Lane with her memories at the last CoA. Many of you have been texting, Facebook messaging, and mailing me great pictures and articles. Please keep them going.

Student Veterans of America; Nothing really going on right now with school on Winter Break.

Programs:

This year the VFW has introduced three new programs: VFW JROTC Cadet of the Year Award, VFW Employer of the Year Award, and VFW Member of the Year Award. All Nominations need to be submitted to the Department by February 29, 2024. Those submissions need to be mailed to me at 528 Ossipee Trail West, Standish, ME 04084. If you would like me to email you a copy of the Program Award, please send me an email at meuchelamyh@yahoo.com. I will be passing out the outline to your district commander during the January CoA meeting. The purpose of the awards is as follows: Employee of the Year Award; To confer recognition on one employer for outstanding records in the hiring and retention of veterans. Member of the Year; The award is to recognize a member of the VFW who has exemplified in their actions and accomplishments, the true spirit of our organization in serving the needs of their post and community and who has dedicated themselves in a professional manner to addressing the pillars of our organization. And JROTC Cadet of the Year; special recognition of outstanding achievement and exceptional leadership for Junior ROTC Cadets. This award seeks to recognize a remarkable cadet who will become a leader in their community and serve their country.

R/
Amy

QUARTERMASTER
BUDDY POPPY ~ INSURANCE & BONDS
David D. Williams, PSC

I hope my reports find you all well. I hope everyone is keeping warm this winter and enjoying the snow.

Bonding: It is now February reports are due for the period ending Dec 31st n2023 if you have them in Thanks if not, please submit as soon as possible Thanks. There are many posts who are lagging, you need to get caught up. On my check off list I have the posts that have purchased through the Maine VFW.

Poppy's: It's never too late to order poppies. Also, they have special anniversary ones that you can order right from The VFW Store, just contact them to find out what they have.

Audits are now due for the period ending Dec 30.

It was good seeing the people who showed up at the CofA in Waterville, also what a great time at the VOD PP Banquet.

Until next month enjoy, recruit, and get caught up on reporting.

**JUDGE ADVOCATE
POW/MIA
William E Day**

The Defense POW/MIA ACCOUNTING AGENCY REPORTS THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN RECOVERED AND ACCOUNTED FOR:

Army MSgt. Thomas Craton, 28, Austin Texas
Army SSgt. Leroy C Cloud, 24, Thrall Texas
Navy PhM2c Merle C. J. Hillman, 25, Holyoke Mass.
Army MSgt. Roy E. Barrow, 39, Valdosta Georgia
Army A.F. Major Theodore Willhite, 26, Muscatine Iowa
Army A.F. Tech4 Herbert F. March 24, Cook Washington

Last Callender Years Total Recovered was 143.

**SURGEON
Safety & Drug Abuse
Roger Stevens**

Holy crap, the first month of 2024 is behind us already. I know that having our web page down is hard, but I would really like to start recording what posts are doing regarding safety, drug abuse, & blood programs. If your post has done something in these areas, shoot me an E: mail with the details. rogerstevens120@gmail.com
Congratulations to Post 1641, Rumford for hitting 100% in membership. Finally, we are getting some cold weather, but it's been pretty spotty. If you are into ice fishing or snowmobiling on lakes, make sure the ice is safe. With all the temperature changes & rain, ice thickness is questionable. Take time to be sure! Enjoy our winter, but make sure you are still with us come spring.

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

Imagine — a sinking ship and not enough life jackets. Would you give up your life jacket to save another?

On a cold night in the North Atlantic on Feb. 3, 1943, not only did one man give up his life jacket, but three others joined him. This story may sound familiar to you: The Four Chaplains — Father John P. Washington, Rabbi Alexander D. Goode, the Rev. George L. Fox, and the Rev. Clark V. Poling — were on a sinking USAT Dorchester.

The Army transport was part of a convoy of three ships enroute to an American base in Greenland. Before the ships could reach their destination, an officer on a German submarine noticed the convoy. Orders were given to fire, and the Dorchester was hit by a torpedo.

After the hit, the four chaplains attempted to bring calm to the chaos. They began by handing out life jackets, only to realize there were not enough. The men each removed their jackets to save four others.

As the ship was sinking, the four chaplains were seen standing on the ship's stern, arms locked as they prayed and sang hymns. Not only was it a sign of bravery, but the chaplains put aside their different faiths and prayed as one.

On that night, only 230 of the 902 on board survived. The ship was carrying servicemen, merchant seamen, and civilian workers.

The four chaplains were awarded the Distinguished Service Cross and Purple Heart posthumously. They could not be awarded the Medal of Honor because they didn't meet the requirements. As a result, a posthumous special medal of heroism was awarded in 1961 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower. The Four Chaplains' Medal was given and will never be given again.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Family remembers these men and their sacrifices each February. Four Chaplains Day is Feb. 3. Please take a moment to remember.

Wreaths Across America

WAA: Wreaths Across America Day 2024 is December 14th This year's theme is "LIVE WITH PURPOSE"

**NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBER, MAINE (NCM, M)
MEMBERSHIP
LEGISLATIVE
Steven J. SanPedro, PSC**

Comrades,

I hope this finds all of you in good health. I ask that all of you please Commander Bouchard and his family in your thoughts and prayers as they deal with the loss of his wife.

National Council Member – Maine – I have a National Council of Administration meeting at the beginning of March in Washington DC. We will discuss the budget and many other things. I was the National Representative at the Vermont Council of Administration and their VOD/PP/TOY banquet. It is always nice to see how other Departments do things. I enjoyed meeting Comrades and seeing some old friends.

Legislation – I have set up appointments with all of Maine's Legislators for the upcoming National Legislative Conference in Washington DC in early March. Once I get National Legislative Priorities and Talking Points, I will submit them to their offices. I am looking to get a Bill in Maine that will be Maine's version of the GUARD Act. Many states are doing this since we can't get passed at the National level.

Membership – The Department is currently sitting at 92.57% with 6048 Members which is an increase of 1.32% and 86 Members. We need 485 Members to reach 100% and 616 Members to reach 102%. We have increased our New Members by 8 and our Reinstated Members by 41 from this time last year. We have 5 Posts that have completed a Recruiter Event and submitted the proper paperwork to me. We have 19 Post that need 10 or less Members 11 of them need 5 or less Members. Let's close the deal on these Posts and get them over 100%. We must make sure we Retain, Reinstate and Recruit Members. Please read to make sure you understand the 2023- 2024 Department and National Membership Program have changed. If you have any questions on Membership, please contact me at 207-894-5260 or email me at sanpedro105@roadrunner.com

"HONOR THEIR COURAGE"

**AMERICANISM/LOYALTY DAY
Michael A. McInnis, Chairman**

It was nice to see everyone at the VOD/PP/TOY banquet this past month.

There is still very little to report on for Americanism/Loyalty Day as I have received very few reports (if any at all) in the past 5-6 months or so. All reports for Americanism/Loyalty Day can be mailed to Mike McInnis 15 Vines Road, Saco, ME 04072-1733. They can also be faxed to me @ 207-283-9357. Or at my email: qmvfw7997@yahoo.com

AUDIT & FINANCE
Alfred E. Michaud Sr., PSC

The next Finance meeting will be at the next COA.

Reminder to all be sure your post and District are incorporated, Trustee reports in and up to date, 990 are filed, Bonding up to date and insurance. Those with employee's Federal and State Tax's up to date. Finally, anyone holding a position or office in the organization their dues are up to date.

Grants, NVMS
Jennifer Lane, PSC

Grants: We have received payment for our State of Maine VSO Grant of an additional \$12,000 and the State of Maine Homeless Veterans Grant of \$5,630.97. Our VA Transportation Grant of \$40,000 is on track and our comrades are being transported by Penquis under this award.

Veterans and Military Support (VMS): Please be advised that the VFW National Headquarters Unmet Needs Program has changed. As of 09/01/2023 the Unmet Needs Program is only able to assist active-duty service members and their families to include activated Guard/Reserves. The financial hardship must be a direct result of a current deployment/military pay error not the fault of the service member/pending medical discharge due to military related injuries/illnesses received while on active duty. Grant limit has also increase to \$2,500.

Support your local Sport Clips location. Student Veteran Support Grant: These grants focus on supporting the overall student population with the communities that are not affiliated with SVA chapters. Grant awards to Post/Districts/Depts are up to \$500/event and up to two times a year. Military Assistance Program (MAP): Purpose: To provide financial assistance to VFW Posts/Depts. and Auxiliaries who sponsor events with their local military community. These funds are meant to build relationships and provide information on VFW programs and services. Adopt-A-Units are just that. Please refer to the National website for information on programs, applications, promotional items, and FAQ's.

NOTE: ALL VMS donations MUST go through the Program Dashboard found online at vfw.org. National will no longer accept paper check donations and please do not send any to me or the Department QM. IF you need assistance with donations, please contact me.

HOSPITAL/VAVS
Michael W. Blair, Director

Total donations for the month were \$1,000.00.

\$900.00 was given to Hospital / VAVS to be used for care and needs of Veterans.

\$100.00 was donated to the Recreation Department. I would like to thank Post #9394, Kittery, #6924, Fairfield, #6859, Portland, and #10643 Windham.

Please make your checks payable to Hospital / VAVS Togus VA.

Scouting
Keith Davis, PSC

Hello Comrades, I hope this finds you well. We are fresh off the VOD/Patriots Pen/Teacher of the year banquet. It is always a pleasure attending this event. District 9 also held their banquet on 28 January, and it was outstanding.

The old web site is down. Until the new website is up and running you will have to send your scouting activities to me via the paper community activity form.

To date I have received one input from the posts.

If you know of a scout that has completed his Eagle project and will be awarded Eagle rank, contact me. I have certificates that the Department can award to those Scouts.

Boy Scout Web Page

Pinetree Council <https://www.pinetreebsa.org>

Katahdin Council <https://www.katahdinareabsa.org>

VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE
Cornelius J. Ware, SO

1. Service Office visit procedures. VHA is still maintaining two entry points for now, Bldg. 200(main hospital) and Bldg. 205(primary care). A mask is not required unless you are suffering from cold, flu or Covid symptoms or you are going to an area where contagion is high i.e.: (ICU, Urgent Care, CLC Unit) just to name a few. Though we still continue to do appointments (this helps us with time management) walk-ins are welcome for disability claims issues. We welcome social calls but ask that you limit them to as short as possible so we can focus on the work at hand. Remember we are here to assist you, so please reach out to us as the need arises. You can continue to reach us at the VFW Service Office phone number (207)623-5723. Or send mail to:

VFW Dept. Service Office
VA Regional Office
P.O. Box 3311
Augusta, ME 04330-3311

Thank you for your understanding and support. You can also contact the Togus Benefits Office at (207)621-6938 for assistance in our absence. But for now, have a safe and joyous holiday.

2. Holiday Office closure. The office will be closed on Monday 19 February for President's Day.

3. Veterans and Community Connection Expo. The next Veteran and Community Connections Expo being held on Sunday 4 February 2024. The event aims to connect Service Members, Veterans, and their family members to Federal, State, and Community Resources. At the same time, they aim to connect Federal, State and Community Resource representatives with each other to expand networks, build partnerships and assist with improving referral services to one another. During the event, participants can connect to mental health services, build rapport with representatives to assist with community ties, and learn about safe-storage options to eliminate Veteran suicide.

Location: Pineland Farms Outdoor Center, 15 Farm View Dr., New Gloucester, ME

Date: Sunday, February 4, 2024

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Vendors will Set-up from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.; clean-up 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Required Supplies: 6-foot table, chair(s), mobile hotspot (if needed), and electricity (if needed) Cost: Free!

4. Mid-Coast Veterans Council (MCVC) Outreach We will be available once again to assist veterans with claims at the MCVC 62 Pegasus St. in Brunswick (the old bowling alley at the old NAS Brunswick) look for the static P-3 A/C. We will meet with veterans from 10am to 4pm on Wednesday 14 February and Wednesday 13 March. Please call (207)406-4103 to make an appointment, walk-ins are welcome. Please don't miss out on this opportunity to meet with our VSO's and get claims help and resource information.

VETERANS ADVISORY TO VA MAINE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

Jo Ann Maynard, Chairperson

"If January is the month of change, February is the month of lasting change. January is for dreamers...February is for doers."

February is American Heart Month. You have the power to take action to protect yourself against heart disease. Small heart-healthy actions like adding more movement to our day or choosing healthy foods, can have a big impact on protecting our hearts. The pool remains closed at Togus. Veterans interested in taking advantage of the agreement between the community and YMCA will need to contact their VA primary care provider to write a referral.

Be good to yourselves and be good to each other-Love Jo

Credentials/Public Relations

Jared Sawyer

Greeting Comrades

Credentials: 53% of Posts in the Department were eligible to vote at the Department Convention this year, next year my goal is 75%, let's all work together to meet that percentage next year! We can do that by starting off strongly addressing most of the requirements to vote this summer! Per National and State By-Laws, to vote at the State Convention you must have turned in all 4 Trustees Reports, 2 of which should have been turned in at this point. Your Post must also be inspected, your Quartermaster must be Bonded, all monies owed to the Department must be paid, and ALL Post and Districts are required to be incorporated. Check the State Quartermasters hitlist in these GOs to ensure you are aware of all these items and where you stand. Your Post is entitled to 1 delegate and 1 alternate per every 30 members in good standing as of March 31st of next year and has paid a registration fee for every delegate. You can vote as a Post Commander (1 Vote) or on behalf of them if you are a Post Senior or Junior Vice Commander, but you cannot then vote as a Post Delegate if you do. If you have questions about Credential requirements, Delegates, Alternates, or voting please reach out via email at QM6859@gmail.com

Public Relations: As Christmas approaches, come up with a media plan to advertise what your Posts are doing to support the community, use the holidays as an opportunity to get the word out of how we are supporting veterans with our good work in the community. By working with media outlets, Posts can raise awareness of the challenges faced by veterans and the work we are doing to support them. This can help to shape the narrative around veterans, issues and ensure that they are given the attention they deserve.

**Beals House/VSO
Teresa Drag**

Beals House:

Thank you to Post 10643 for their donation.
Next Board meeting is Saturday, March 9th.

VSO Office:

Continuing to receive surveys from Veterans and those consistently report satisfaction with our VSO office.
Thank you to both James and JoAnn for their work.

**Inspector
Danford Saucier**

Feb 29 is just around the corner for post inspections.
The following Districts are 100% --1, 2, 7, 8.
Districts 3, 4, 6, no reports at all

The following posts are reported as of 1-24-24.
Post 7856 Madson, Post 9787 South Paris, Post 6783, Lovell, Post 6859 Portland, Post 10643 Windham, Post
10879 Gorham and District 10 and Post 7997 Old Orchard Beach.

Send the reports to me at. P.O. Box 16 Fort Kent, Me 04743

**Website/ Community Activities
Chief of Staff
Christopher Robison (PSC)**

I have been told there was discussion surrounding the website and community activities reporting at the January CoA. There has been an ongoing disconnect between what was to have been provided to us and what we received as the new website. I am working with National to at least get the reporting system going on the new website. I will be chipping away at getting the remainder of the website updated and going in addition to enlisting National's help. It will take some time, but you should already notice some changes. For now, continue to report via email or USPS. I have sent out an email to all chairmen asking for all reports they have received to date. The response was minimal. The spreadsheet is as up to date as I can make it. I can only report what I and the other chairmen receive. If there are issues with missing information, please reach out to the program chairmen.

DEPT @ 92.59% - Need 484 For 100% 615 FOR 102% (7+)
Department Statistics

Maine as of Monday January 29, 2024

Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/- 100%	+/- 102%	City	N/R LM
2599	1	76	0	0	7	83	105	79.04%	-22	-25	PRESQUE ISLE	0
6187	1	40	1	0	7	48	50	96.00%	-2	-3	FORT FAIRFIELD	0
9389	1	301	3	2	64	370	392	94.38%	-22	-30	CARIBOU	0
9699	1	53	0	0	4	57	59	96.61%	-2	-4	ASHLAND	0
District Total	1	470	4	2	82	558	606	92.07%	-48	-62		0
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/- 100%	+/- 102%	City	N/R LM
1605	2	110	1	1	4	116	122	95.08%	-6	-9	BURLINGTON	0
7529	2	48	0	0	6	54	61	88.52%	-7	-9	ISLAND FALLS	0
District Total	2	158	1	1	10	170	183	92.89%	-13	-18		0
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/- 100%	+/- 102%	City	N/R LM
9779	3	81	1	0	15	97	109	88.99%	-12	-15	CALAIS	0
11553	3	98	0	1	9	108	111	97.29%	-3	-6	HARRINGTON	0
District Total	3	179	1	1	24	205	220	93.18%	-15	-21		0
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/- 100%	+/- 102%	City	N/R LM
109	4	102	0	0	37	139	150	92.66%	-11	-14	ELLSWORTH	1
1761	4	140	0	1	15	156	175	89.14%	-19	-23	BANGOR	0
3381	4	142	0	1	15	158	177	89.26%	-19	-23	OLD TOWN	1
4633	4	99	4	0	4	107	111	96.39%	-4	-7	HAMPDEN	1
District Total	4	483	4	2	71	560	613	91.35%	-53	-67		3
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/- 100%	+/- 102%	City	N/R LM
4298	5	41	0	0	9	50	61	81.96%	-11	-13	DEXTER	0
5723	5	4	0	0	5	9	10	90.00%	-1	-2	JACKMAN	0
6924	5	91	0	0	3	94	98	95.91%	-4	-6	FAIRFIELD	0
7865	5	119	4	42	34	199	169	117.75%	+30	+26	MADISON	3
10881	5	18	1	0	3	22	23	95.65%	-1	-2	FARMINGTON	0
District Total	5	273	5	42	54	374	361	103.60%	+13	+5		3

Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/- 100%	+/- 102%	City	N/R LM
3108	6	108	2	0	19	129	155	83.22%	-26	-30	BELFAST	0
4169	6	8	0	0	2	10	12	83.33%	-2	-3	VINALHAVEN	0
6131	6	46	1	0	3	50	62	80.64%	-12	-14	NORTHPORT	0
9437	6	32	0	3	2	37	34	108.82%	+3	+2	WASHINGTON	0
District Total	6	194	3	3	26	226	263	85.93%	-37	-45		0
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/- 100%	+/- 102%	City	N/R LM
2197	7	65	5	0	18	88	95	92.63%	-7	-9	TOPSHAM	0
7738	7	70	5	0	2	77	76	101.31%	+1	-1	BATH	0
District Total	7	135	10	0	20	165	171	96.49%	-6	-10		0
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/- 100%	+/- 102%	City	N/R LM
9	8	33	0	0	5	38	47	80.85%	-9	-10	GARDINER	0
887	8	189	2	2	19	212	238	89.07%	-26	-31	AUGUSTA	1
1285	8	189	3	0	3	195	203	96.05%	-8	-13	WATERVILLE	0
8835	8	215	3	12	27	257	263	97.71%	-6	-12	WINSLOW	5
9526	8	32	0	0	5	37	42	88.09%	-5	-6	WINTHROP	0
District Total	8	658	8	14	59	739	793	93.19%	-54	-72		6
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/- 100%	+/- 102%	City	N/R LM
1603	9	296	2	1	42	341	380	89.73%	-39	-47	LEWISTON-AUBURN	1
1641	9	41	0	4	31	76	73	104.10%	+3	+1	RUMFORD	0
3335	9	161	1	0	20	182	203	89.65%	-21	-26	JAY	0
9787	9	91	0	0	15	106	124	85.48%	-18	-21	SOUTH PARIS	0
District Total	9	589	3	5	108	705	780	90.38%	-75	-93		1
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/- 100%	+/- 102%	City	N/R LM
6783	10	29	0	0	2	31	37	83.78%	-6	-7	LOVELL	0
6859	10	298	4	1	35	338	368	91.84%	-30	-38	PORTLAND	5
9328	10	29	0	0	2	31	30	103.33%	+1	-0	HARRISON	1
10529	10	61	0	0	0	61	66	92.42%	-5	-7	YARMOUTH	0
10643	10	71	0	0	19	90	98	91.83%	-8	-10	WINDHAM	1
10879	10	194	0	0	16	210	247	85.02%	-37	-42	GORHAM	0
District	10	682	4	1	74	761	846	89.95%	-85	-104		7

Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/- 100%	+/- 102%	City	N/R LM
5744	11	104	1	2	29	136	146	93.15%	-10	-13	SOUTH BERWICK	0
6977	11	163	0	2	14	179	194	92.26%	-15	-20	YORK BEACH	0
7997	11	152	9	0	123	284	277	102.52%	+7	+1	OLD ORCHARD BEACH	0
9394	11	48	2	1	3	54	58	93.10%	-4	-6	KITTERY	0
9935	11	151	3	0	96	250	262	95.41%	-12	-18	SANFORD	2
District Total	11	618	15	5	265	903	937	96.37%	-34	-61		2
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/- 100%	+/- 102%	City	N/R LM
15020	99	589	16	6	72	683	760	89.86%	-77	-93	RUMFORD	7
District Total	99	589	16	6	72	683	760	89.86%	-77	-93	QM'S HOUSE	7
Post	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	+/- 100%	+/- 102%	City	N/R LM
State Total		5028	74	82	865	6049	6533	92.59%	-484	-615		29



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

THIS 2023 – 2024 YEAR - WILL YOU HELP?

“HONOR THEIR COURAGE”

“RETAIN-REINSTATE-RECRUIT”

DIST	Div	Post #	Name	HIGH	2023	1/29/2024	102%	LIFE	NEW	REINST	CONT	MEM %	DUES:
1	2	2599	Presque Isle	570	105	-22	-26	76	0	0	7	79.04%	\$36.50
1	2	6187	FortFairfield	228	50	-2	-3	40	1	0	7	96.00%	\$36.50
1	5	9389	Caribou	1393	392	-22	-30	301	3	2	64	94.38%	\$36.00
1	2	9699	Ashland	291	59	-2	-4	53	0	0	4	96.61%	\$36.50
1			TOTALS	2482	606	-48	-63	470	4	2	82	92.07%	
DIST	Div	Post #	Name	HIGH	2023	1/29/2024	102%	LIFE	NEW	REINST	CONT	MEM %	DUES:
2	3	1605	Burlington	211	122	-6	-9	110	1	1	4	95.08%	\$33.50
2	2	7529	Island Falls	178	61	-7	-9	48	0	0	6	88.52%	\$36.50
2			TOTALS	389	183	-13	-18	158	1	1	10	92.89%	
DIST	Div	Post #	Name	HIGH	2023	1/29/2024	102%	LIFE	NEW	REINST	CONT	MEM %	DUES:
3	3	9779	Calais	269	109	-12	-15	81	1	0	15	88.99%	\$35.50
3	3	11553	Harrington	237	111	-3	-6	98	0	1	9	97.29%	\$35.50
3			TOTALS	506	220	-15	-21	179	1	1	24	93.18%	
DIST	Div	Post #	Name	HIGH	2023	1/29/2024	102%	LIFE	NEW	REINST	CONT	MEM %	DUES:
4	3	109	Ellsworth	355	150	-11	-14	102	0	0	37	92.66%	\$35.50
4	3	1761	Bangor	703	175	-19	-23	140	0	1	15	89.14%	\$36.00
4	3	3381	Old Town	604	177	-19	-23	142	0	1	15	89.26%	\$35.50
4	3	4633	Hampden	284	111	-4	-7	99	4	0	4	96.39%	\$35.50
4			TOTALS	1946	613	-53	-67	483	4	2	71	91.35%	
DIST	Div	Post #	Name	HIGH	2023	1/29/2024	102%	LIFE	NEW	REINST	CONT	MEM %	DUES:
5	2	4298	Dexter	141	61	-11	-13	41	0	0	9	81.96%	\$35.00
5	1	5723	Jackman	57	10	-1	-2	4	0	0	5	90.00%	\$35.50
5	3	6924	Fairfield	436	98	-4	-6	91	0	0	3	95.91%	\$35.50
5	3	7865	Madison	163	169	30	26	119	4	42	34	117.75%	\$38.00
5	1	10881	Farmington	45	23	-1	-2	18	1	0	3	95.65%	\$35.50
5			TOTALS	842	361	13	3	273	5	42	54	103.60%	
DIST	Div	Post #	Name	HIGH	2023	1/29/2024	102%	LIFE	NEW	REINST	CONT	MEM %	DUES:
6	3	3108	Belfast	597	155	-26	-30	108	2	0	19	83.22%	\$36.50
6	1	4169	Vinalhaven	81	12	-2	-3	8	0	0	2	83.33%	\$31.50
6	2	6131	Northport	230	62	-12	-14	46	1	0	3	80.64%	\$37.00
6	1	9437	Washington	135	34	3	1	32	0	3	2	108.82%	\$34.50
6			TOTALS	1043	263	-37	-46	194	3	3	26	85.93%	
DIST	Div	Post #	Name	HIGH	2023	1/29/2024	102%	LIFE	NEW	REINST	CONT	MEM %	DUES:
7	2	2197	Topsham	114	95	-7	-9	65	5	0	18	92.63%	\$35.00
7	2	7738	Bath	198	76	1	-1	70	5	0	2	101.31%	\$31.00
7			TOTALS	312	171	-6	-10	135	10	0	20	96.49%	

**"HONOR THEIR COURAGE"
JOHN BOUCHARD STATE COMMANDER**

DIVISION LEADERS <<>> JANUARY 29, 2023

>> LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE OUR DEPARTMENT GROW <<

DIV. I (10-50) TOP 3 POSTS IN DIV.		DIV. IV (201-300) TOP 3 POSTS IN DIV.	
1. 9437 WASHINGTON	108.82%	1. 7997 OLD ORCHARD BEACH	102.52%
2. 9328 HARRISON	103.33%	2. 8835 WINSLOW	97.71%
3. 6187 FORT FAIRFIELD	96.00%	3. 1285 WATERVILLE	96.05%
DIV. II (51-100) TOP 3 POSTS IN DIV.		DIV. V (301-400) TOP 3 POSTS IN DIV.	
1. 1641 RUMFORD	104.10%	1. 9389 CARIBOU	94.38%
2. 7738 BATH	101.31%	2. 6859 PORTLAND	91.84%
3. 9699 ASHLAND	96.61%	3. 1603 AUBURN	89.73%
DIV. III (101-200) TOP 3 POSTS IN DIV.		DIV. VI (401- HIGHER) TOP 3 POSTS IN DIV.	
1. 7865 MADISON	117.75%	1.	
2. 11553 HARRINGTON	97.29%	2.	
3. 4633 HAMPDEN	96.39%	3.	
TEN HIGHEST POSTS BY %		TEN LARGEST POSTS	
1. 7865 MADISON	117.75%	1. 9389 CARIBOU	370
2. 9437 WASHINGTON	108.82%	2. 1603 AUBURN	341
3. 1641 RUMFORD	104.10%	3. 6859 PORTLAND	338
4. 9328 HARRISON	103.33%	4. 7997 OLD ORCHARD BEACH	284
5. 7997 OLD ORCHARD BEACH	102.52%	5. 8835 WINSLOW	257
6. 7738 BATH	101.31%	6. 9935 SANFORD	250
7. 8835 WINSLOW	97.71%	7. 887 AUGUSTA	212
8. 11553 HARRINGTON	97.29%	8. 10879 GORHAM	209
9. 4633 HAMPDEN	96.39%	9. 7865 MADISON	199
10. 9699 ASHLAND	96.61%	10. 1285 WATERVILLE	195
DISTRICT STANDINGS		MAGIC NUMBERS FOR 2022-2023	
1. District 5 CLUKEY	103.60%	WE HAVE = 6049	
2. District 7 HARMON	96.49%	WE NEED 484 FOR 100% 615 FOR 102%	
3. District 11 MCINNIS	96.37%		
4. District 8 LAMBERT	93.19%	ALL POSTS/DISTRICTS SHOULD BE AT 100%	
5. District 3 BENNER	93.18%	5 N/R MEMBERS & EARN A BLUE BALL CAP	
6. District 2 EWING	92.89%	10 N/R MEMBERS & EARN A WHITE VFW SHIRT	
DEPARTMENT OF MAINE, VFW	92.59%	ALL DEPT OFFICERS ARE ASKED TO RECRUIT	
7. District 1 WATSON	92.07%	LET'S ALL WORK AS A TEAM AND	
8. District 4 SLININGER	91.35%	RETAIN – RECRUIT & REINSTATE 3 MEMBERS?	
9. District 9 HATCH	90.38%	NEED HELP or HAVE QUESTIONS	
10. District 10 GOODMAN	89.95%	ASK ANYONE ON THE MEMBERSHIP TEAM OK?	
11. District 6 ARMSTRONG	85.93%		

Scouts	Recruiter's Event Booth	Post Inspected	Delegates to National	Teacher to Department	Patriot Pen	Voice of Democracy	Bonding	Audit Report - Mar	Audit Report - Dec	Audit Report - Sept	Audit Report - Jun	Hospital /MAVS	POW - MIA	Youth	National Military Service	Community Service	Commanders Special Project	Make-A-Wish	Ordered Buddy Poppies	Blood /Safety/DrugAbuse	Americanism/Loyalty Day	Post #	Dist Div	Name	
		X					X			X	X	X							500			4	1	Presque Isle	
		X					X			X	X			X								2	1	Fort Fairfield	
		X					X			X												6	1	Caribou	
		X																				3	1	Ashland	
		X					X			X	X												2	1	District 1
		X					X			X	X											2	2	Burlington	
		X					X			X	X	X						X				2	2	Island Falls	
		X					X			X	X											3	2	District 2	
																						3	3	Calais	
										X	X											3	3	Harrington	
										X	X											3	3	District 3	
							X			X	X											3	4	Elsworth	
							X			X	X											4	4	Bangor	
							X			X	X											5	4	Old Town	
							X			X	X								1000			3	4	Hampden	
							X			X	X											2	4	District 4	
																						2	5	Dexter	
							X															1	5	Jackman Stat	
												X										1	5	Fairfield	
																						3	5	Fairfield	
							X															3	5	Madison	
		X					X			X	X											3	5	Farmington	
		X					X			X	X											1	5	District 5	
		X					X			X	X											4	6	Belfast	
							X			X	X											1	6	Vinalhaven	
							X			X	X								500			2	6	Northport	
							X			X	X								1000			1	6	Washington	
							X			X	X												6	6	District 6

