



MASSACHUSETTS E-LEGIONNAIRE

Volume 15 Issue 2

August 2024

Commander's Corner



Commander Nelson Isaack Blake

Hello and welcome to all of the Massachusetts American Legion Family. It is that time of the year again where all Departments meet up to celebrate all the wonderful accomplishments from the pervious legion family year. Where we will elect the officers that will lead us for the upcoming legion year, as convention draws near, at the end of the month. Let us not forget that membership for the previous year can still be paid, as we as a department can still reach 100% . So let not forget that members help us have more visibility in the community, which in

turn brings veterans that have never belonged to The American Legion, to us or even bring back members that decided to give up the membership. As for membership let us remember that it's the job of all of us to bring members in or back to this wonderful organization. As I said earlier we are just weeks away from the National Convention in New Orleans. We will meet as 55 departments and help make this organization grow and strive for a better future for veterans who are in this organization and those that are not a part of it. We will inform those that represent all of us in the government on what the needs of veterans are and what we want done veterans and family of veterans.

I hope, as this year gets going, to see a lot of this department and the wonderful legion family in it.

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I hope this department has a outstanding year as a family.

Hopefully, we will grow, and not continue lose any more members. I hope to see many of you at the national convention where we can help make decisions that will help this organization grown into it once glory of years ago .

Yours in service,

Nelson Izaak Blake
Department Commander



2024-2025 National Membership Target Dates

EARKY BIRD/ NEF KICKOFF	SEPTEMBER 11,2024	50%
FALL MEETINGS	OCTOBER 16.2024	55%
VETERANS DAY	NOVEMBER 14. 2024	65%
PEARL HARBOR DAY	DECEMBER 11 2024	75%
MID-WINTER	JANUARY 15, 2025	80%
PRESIDENTS DAY	FEBRUARY 12, 2025	85%
AMERICAN LEGION BIRTHDAY	MARCH 12, 2025	90%
CHILDREN & YOUTH	APRIL 9, 2025	95%
ARMED FORCES DAY	MAY 14, 2025	100%
DELEGATE STRENGTH	30 DAYS PRIOR TO NATIONAL CONVENTION	



American Legion National Commander Daniel Seehafer condemned the burning of American flags during demonstrations this week in Washington, D.C.

“It was horrifying to see our American flag burned in a display of hatred in our nation’s capital,” Seehafer said. “All of my brothers and sisters swore on their lives to protect the flag and all it stands for, including the right to assemble and protest peacefully. We hope that future protesters will express their sentiments with passion but with the proper respect for the American flag.”

The American Legion, the nation’s largest veterans service organization, has a long history of promoting flag advocacy, etiquette and respect. In fact, in the 1920s, the Legion coordinated a flag conference which led to the U.S. Flag Code, a set of standard protocols still in use today. Learn more about flag etiquette, history and more at legion.org/flag.

On Wednesday, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu addressed Congress. In response, thousands of pro-Palestinians demonstrated outside the U.S. Capitol. And about a mile away, others hoisted Palestinian flags and burned American ones.



The 2024 American Legion National Convention mobile app is now available for free download from the [Apple Store](https://www.apple.com/app-store/) or [Google Play](https://www.google.com/play/).

Already available are registration information, maps of convention hotels and New Orleans, local resources to plan a stay, and a link to the latest convention news. Leading up to – and during – the convention itself, the app will be updated with schedules, speakers, exhibitors, headlines and much more. It is now the only source for much of this on-site content, as the printed convention program book has largely transitioned into a souvenir item.

Among other updates, a survey for attendees will be added before the convention, courtesy of the Legion’s National Convention & Meetings Division. An alert will be sent out; be sure to enable alerts when downloading the app.

Information on all of The American Legion’s mobile apps can be found [here](#).



To My Legion Family,

Again, I want to thank the American Legion for giving us the opportunity to share our programs and events in the monthly edition of E-Legionnaire.

As a member who was not really interested in joining Facebook, I am so glad I finally changed my mind. I am amazed at all the events I have learned that our Legion Family is involved in around the department. Being a small part of that is so fulfilling. I am still not too adept at sharing on it but am able to find someone who can.

Volunteering with the Legion Family at the Rockport Post 98 Summer Outing, enjoying the music of the Navy Band with the Veterans at Chelsea and being a part of our annual Flag Ceremony honoring the Veterans we lost in the past year at the Home is just a few of the special highlights I have been able to share.

This President is learning more from the members all the time and I am proud to share my story as I did in the last edition and plan to continue to share, not just my story, but ours. As I said to the members in District 9 at their Installation of Officers; this is not my History, it is ours.

Our National President Trish Ward is coming to MA and wants to meet as many Legion Family Members as possible. She will be here from Sept. 12th-15th. We are taking her to the opening of the Big E in Springfield on Sept. 13th. We are in the process of finalizing plans for her visit and will share that as soon as we do.

Plans are also in the works for the Holiday Gift Shops we hold at our VA facilities and Soldiers Homes which we will also be sharing soon. The entire Legion Family is an integral part of making these Gift Shops so successful.

A-COUNTRY

R - EMEMBERING THE MISSION

E - VERY LIFE MATTERS

U - ARE A GIFT TO THOSE YOU HELP

N - EVER FORGET JUST HOW IMPORTANT THAT CAN BE

I - N THE LIVES OF OUR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

O - UR CAREGIVING MAKES A DIFFERENCE

N - EVER, EVER FORGET,

As we continue with the **"Be the One,"** initiative, imagine how good you would feel to know your friendly phone call helped to save a life. Always remember, everything you do makes a difference.

In Service, Not Self

Donna Blattenberger

Department President



Sons of The American Legion National Commander Donald Hall Jr. speaks during the Sons of The American Legion National Convention at the Charlotte Convention Center in Charlotte, N.C., on Sunday, August 27. Photo by Jeric Wilhelmsen/The American

Legion Family, are you ready to celebrate?

As we roll into July and wrap up our Legion Family year, there are numbers out there that are worthy to celebrate. So I hope that everyone is preparing to do just that at National Convention in New Orleans.

Here is a number for you: 390,168 members of the Sons of The American Legion as of July 2! That all-time high is still growing and all of our squadrons across the country are the ones making it happen. I know that the number will be even higher when we get to New Orleans. But can we get to 400,000? I will say this; it would not surprise me. Many times this year I have said a bigger Legion Family is a stronger Legion Family. Comrades, we are getting

stronger each day.

We will be celebrating this year all of the work of so many, so I encourage you to plan on being in New Orleans, and let's have some Mardi Gras style fun. Bring some decorations into the Sons convention hall and decorate your detachment signs. We are trying to plan some fun that everyone can enjoy and we ask you to be a part of it all. We will of course celebrate hitting the \$10 million mark for Child Welfare Foundation (CWF) and want every member there to be a part of it.

As I represent the Sons of The American Legion and my grandfather's service, I can tell you that I was excited to take the office last year and I am still excited to be able to serve this great organization this year. My travels have taken me to see many wonderful works and there is more left to see, so I encourage everyone — don't slow down. Let's continue the roll into New Orleans and celebrate all the work that is happening to spread the word of "Be The One," along with working all the great programs of the American Legion Family.

As Commander Seehafer says, together we "Save Lives and Change Lives." Remember that and you will continue on. It is as easy as remembering your why — just think of who is your why for belonging. That keeps us grounded and working.

Keep on getting it done, keep being proud of being a Son!

"Representing More Than Me"

Don "JR" Hall
SAL National Commander



James LaCoursiere Jr., American Legion leading candidate for 2024-2025 national commander, speaks at the 61st National Membership

If elected national commander of The American Legion at the 105th National Convention in New Orleans in August, leading candidate James LaCoursiere Jr. will continue to drive the Be the One suicide prevention mission, promote charitable giving to the Veterans and Children Foundation, and enhance quality of life for all veterans and military families.

“That is what we need to keep our focus on,” said LaCoursiere, from the Department of Connecticut, in his remarks to attendees of the 61st National Membership Workshop in Indianapolis on Saturday, July 27. And three words will guide his term as national commander: loyalty, unity and valor. “That is

what our organization is all about.

“Our loyalty goes years back when we all put our hand up and we took the oath to serve this great nation. Today, you all continue to show that loyalty through your commitment to this organization and to the United States of America,” he continued. “Unity is where we all band together for the same mission and the same purpose, which is to drive this organization forward, to let every community know who The American Legion is and what we represent, and that we are there for the United States of America and we are there for all veterans and all families. The valor is our hearts. Our total commitment.”

Department commanders and membership chairmen gathered for the National Membership Workshop at the Sheraton Indianapolis City Centre Hotel where LaCoursiere provided remarks. He gave every department two challenges: make Buddy Checks and work retention.

“Put a committee together when you go back home and start making Buddy Checks. Pick up the phone and make direct contact with your members,” LaCoursiere said, reminding Legionnaires that Buddy Checks are not membership drives or renewal calls. “It’s a well-being check ... ‘How are you doing?’ It’s an opportunity to let veterans know what’s going on at the post and what’s coming up.”

For retention, LaCoursiere encouraged members to contact veterans who haven’t renewed for 2024 and expired 2023 members. “The 2024 membership year is not done yet until December 31. If you sit back and you wait until September or October, you’re only going to be focused on 2025. We will grow the organization by working as a team. Let’s start talking about growth. Let’s talk about retention. Let’s talk visibility in every community throughout this nation.

“We as a team can do this. We are a true Legion of Americans, driving this nation forward with the same purpose and the same mission – for a better America.”

(Continued on Page 7)

Prior to National Membership Workshop attendees hearing remarks from LaCoursiere, they received suicide prevention training through the Legion's partnership with Columbia University as part of the Be the One mission. The training is free for American Legion Family members and their families to take part in. Sign up for a virtual training session at legion.org/betheone/training.

"I encourage you to take the training. Encourage the people in your departments, districts and posts to take that training," said Dan Wiley, Department of Kansas National Executive Committeeman in his remarks Saturday morning. Wiley is the 2025-2026 leading candidate for American Legion national commander. If elected, Be the One also will be his focus. "We will continue the mission of Be the One. It is the most significant issue facing veterans. It is the most significant issue of our time. It's also an issue that galvanizes all of us. I know that we are all touched by someone who has taken their own life."

Through the suicide prevention training, Legionnaires learned that it is important to reach out to veterans experiencing loneliness as a life-saving tool. The American Legion has a program to support this that Lacoursiere also addressed.

"We have something in The American Legion designed for them, right? Buddy Checks. It's important that you are doing Buddy Checks on these people," said Wiley, who shared that he lost a friend to suicide in January who always made Buddy Check calls to him and vice versa. "Talk with them, ask if they are doing OK and listen. If they're not OK, let them know it's OK not to be OK. Help them. We need to reduce the stigma with regard to getting mental help."

"It's never easy because we're not going to save everybody. But that doesn't mean we shouldn't try to save everybody, and I'll tell you why. By trying to save everybody we are going to save somebody."

Between National Commander Daniel Seehafer, LaCoursiere and Wiley, workshop attendees were challenged to hit 100% membership for 2025. Wiley brought humor to it.

Wiley was encouraged to speak with conviction at the National Membership Workshop. "I am a district court judge, so I know a little bit about conviction," he said as attendees laughed. "You're all guilty of being leaders in the American Legion Family. And your sentence is I'm going to place you on probation for a year on the condition that you achieve 100% membership. If not, you'll be back next year, and we will revoke your sentence." He then encouraged relationship-building with those in attendance by building team camaraderie, networking and planning to visit other departments.

"Relationships are the foundation of membership," he said. "And relationships are the foundation of The American Legion."

Welcome to the 2025 membership renewal cycle. Please process memberships as soon as you get them, hoping that most of the membership chairman are doing so via MyLegion. Being familiar with how MyLegion processes memberships and tracks those renewed online is certainly a benefit. New to membership? Need access to your Post roster, via MyLegion? Please check to make sure the Post Commander and Adjutants form has been submitted, even if you have the same Post Officers from the previous year. This is the trigger which allows access through MyLegion, for Post reports

Though we tend to focus on renewals for the 2025 season, look at your roster and reach out to those that have yet to renew for 2024. And while you're looking, take note of the past three years. Send them a personalized letter and invite them back to a meeting. Need help to get that going, e-mail me. How about a Membership Telethon! I have information packets on how to conduct a telethon. We have even developed a script which promotes membership and the "Why Belong".

The latest DMS/462 is available! We have downloaded the spreadsheet, cleaned it up, and sorted it by city/town. Membership chairman, District and Post, reach out to me and I'll send a copy. The file is .xls and you can sort any which way you want.

HELP! Looking for Districts to host a Membership Telethon. Looking to contact DMS/462 prospects and searching out the non-renewals. You provide the manpower and I'll provide training and support (lists, scripts, etc.) and as a bonus, I'll buy lunch.

By the numbers:

Current Veterans on 462—1018

Highest Concentration of DMS/462 (Top 3)

Lynn - 44 Weymouth - 24 Peabody - 22

Non-renewals past three years thru 2023 - 2366

Non-renewals, Department, 2024 (as of 1 July) 2159

How's your elevator pitch? A great place to start is with The American Legion "Basic Training" course, found at Legion.org/training. Easy watch, enjoyable and rich in history of The American Legion. Great membership promo: "The Servicemen's Readjustment Act" (GI Bill) is enjoying it's 80th year.

"Never again do we want to see the honor and glory of our nation fade to the extent that her men of arms, with despondent heart and palsied limb, totter from door to door, bowing their souls to the frozen bosom of reluctant charity." Harry Colmery, PNC 1943-1944

Scott Conner

Dept Sr. Vice Commander

Membership Chairman



*The American Legion
Department of Massachusetts*

RM 546 - 2 STATE HOUSE
BOSTON, MA. 02133-1044
(617) 727-2966
Email – deptadjutant@masslegion.org
Website – masslegion.org

Hello Fellow Legionnaires,

We are getting ready for Shelby, NC with the American Legion Baseball World Series and our National Convention in New Orleans, LA. I hope to see many of you in the Big Easy.

Our new membership year 2025 began July 1, 2024. Reminder any membership submitted to the office or online after July 1st must be at the new per capita of \$35.00 regardless if for 2024 or 2025 membership year.

Mylegion.org permission or access is based on Post’s Commanders’ and Adjutant form. If a Post has a new Post Commander or Post Adjutant and this form has not been submitted access to Post mylegion.org will not be granted to the new Commander or new Adjutant until that form is submitted. Also, if you have a change in either Post Commander or Post Adjutant during the year a new form must be submitted again.

The multiyear memberships can only be process at National offices. The ability to process multiyear memberships at the Post level has not been granted yet. Multiyear memberships will be treated the same way as PUFL’s memberships are handled. National releases PUFL funds due to Posts sometime after National Convention, September or October timeframe. The million dollar question is when National will release the multiyear funds due to Posts. The funds will not be released for all years at the same time. Post will received 2025 funds first and 2026 funds in 2026 etc... The Department Commander, Department Sr. vice Commander, Membership Coordinator, and myself are attending a membership workshop and I hope to get the answer on when multiyear Post funds will be released to Posts.

“Massachusetts, Where It All Begins”

Yours in Comradeship,

Lisa A. McPhee

Lisa A. McPhee

Department Adjutant

Our Mission: Inspiring America by strengthening and supporting our military, veterans and their families



Americanism—One of the 4 Pillars

Illegal Immigration

Illegal immigration stands as one of the most serious problems facing America, with millions of illegal immigrants inside our borders, and billions of dollars spent providing them with social services, education and jobs. The American Legion supports legal and manageable immigration. The Legion adamantly opposes illegal immigration, any kind of amnesty for those who enter America illegally, and ineffective measures to prevent illegal border crossings - particularly during a time of war against terrorism and drug trafficking.

The Legion's strategy to combat illegal immigration calls for strong border security, including physical barriers and high-tech surveillance methods; the elimination of economic and social-service benefits for illegal immigrants; employer sanctions against those who knowingly hire illegal immigrants; and the enforcement of existing immigration laws. The Legion also supports new laws that deny drivers' licenses to illegal immigrants, establish parameters for deporting non-criminals, and the designation of English as the official language of the United States. The Legion's position on immigration seeks to eliminate the visa lottery program, create new visa categories for agricultural workers (to replace those working illegally), and authorize the tracking of foreign visitors, including college students, members of the media and the diplomatic corps.

Robert Jerdan
Department Vice Commander
Americanism Chairman



VotersVoice

The American Legion's Legislative Division uses VoterVoice as its grassroots advocacy platform for connecting American Legion members and advocates with their members of Congress. VoterVoice allows The American Legion to contact every member of Congress on large, national campaigns as well as target specific members on key committees that pertain to The American Legion's legislative priorities.

In 2023, The American Legion conducted action alert campaigns that resulted in nearly 48,000 emails sent to Congress by Legionnaires and advocates.

Contact your congressional representatives

You can contact your representative through our campaigns located on our Legislative Action Center, votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/home. Be sure to share The American Legion's legislative priorities using the Legislative Agenda when you contact their office. While you are there be sure to sign up for our legislative alerts so you can stay up to date on all of The American Legion's legislative campaigns.



Another Summer with time flying by so quickly. In just a few weeks schools will be open again and many of us will be attending the National American Legion Convention in New Orleans, LA. It feels like we were just at the Department Convention in Marlborough, MA. For those not attending, the general sessions will be available on the web at www.legion.org. I encourage you to view the convention. Just prior to the general sessions, national committees will be meeting. The individual chairpersons then report on the meetings at various times during the general sessions. A new National Commander and 5 National Commanders will be elected as well as various resolutions passed. There is always a great number of impressive speakers. And just prior to convention will be the American Legion Baseball World Series in Shelby, NC. It is a great ball field. And each year they continue to improve it. All this makes for a busy month!

Let us not forget that November will soon be upon us and with it the general election. A time to vote for the US President, members of Congress along state and local officials. Are you registered to vote? If not, there is still time. And most important is to actually get out and vote!

I will suggest that one be an educated voter. Ignore the political ads. They are all biased. Personally, I ignore them along with most of the general media. Look at the voting records of the candidates. What are they proposing to do once elected? Do you agree with MOST of their proposals? There are several sites to get a sense of reality in terms of voting records. These include: aarp.org/electionguides; Ballotpedia.org; opensecrets.org; vote411.org; usa.gov/voting-and-elections; and votesmart.org. Please join me in voting this November!

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

John Lenotte, Alternate National Executive Committeeman Department of MA;
Past Commander, Post 4 Haverhill MA; Past Commander District 8 Essex County and Past Commander, Department of MA. Member American Legion National Media and Communications Commission. Member, American Institute of Parliamentarians. Local Board Member, Selective Service System. I may be reached at jplenotte@gmail.com





Canadian Lt. Col. Melanie Lake and National Staff Mario Marquez

American Legion National Security Director Mario Marquez, a retired Marine Corps sergeant major, presented at the NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) Public Forum on July 10 in Washington, D.C.

The discussion, featuring Marquez and Canadian Lt. Col Melanie Lake, focused on their experiences while serving under NATO. Marquez, who served for 31 years, was in Kosovo under NATO forces, did four tours in Iraq and two earthquake areas in Japan. Lake, a combat engineer, served three tours in Afghanistan and commanded Canada’s training mission in Ukraine.

Marquez expressed appreciation for NATO’s support of the U.S. in the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks. “That was the only time that Article 5 has ever been invoked by NATO,” he said. “We are grateful for that and we will never forget it.”

Lake noted a similar feeling in February 2022 when Russia invaded Ukraine, where she had been four months earlier. “I had the feeling that we had to do everything we can do to help our Ukrainian partners as they defend their democracy — and ours.”

This year marks the 75th anniversary of NATO’s formation when 12 countries signed the historic agreement in Washington, ensuring their collective defense in a volatile world.

Since then, NATO has expanded to 32 allies. They are meeting this week in Washington to make key decisions on steps to protect their one billion citizens as the world faces its most dangerous security environment since the Cold War.

Marquez discussed his first exposure to NATO, while he was serving in Kosovo. He recalled the support from German and Austrian troops who were already there. “We seamlessly began operations like we had been operating together for years,” he said. “I will never forget that. It allowed us to serve the people of Kosovo much better.”

Lake recalled when Kabul fell back into the hands of the Taliban. Like most Afghanistan veterans she questioned whether all the efforts were worth it but then found hope.

“It was the Afghanistan women who said, ‘this gave us 20 years to pursue our education, get jobs and be a part of public life here.’ And we’ve seen what our country can be and we’re not willing to give up on that.’ Right now, they are the fiercest resistance the Taliban is facing, both at home and at exile around the world.”

A Hitchhikers Guide to the Department

Aug 4th. - 100 Mile Walk for Children's Welfare Foundation, come congratulate the North Adams Post 125 walkers as they arrive at the Paxton 306 Post, Chicken BBQ and and fun. \$20.00 donation, to benefit CWF. Contact the Post or myself for tickets.

Also - 234th Anniversary of America's Longest, Continuous Seagoing Service. U.S. Coast Guard Semper Paratus

Aug 7th. - American Legion Baseball Regionals, go to legion.org/ baseball for schedule. Played at Gill Stadium, Manchester, NH. MA teams play the first and last games of opening day.

Aug 15. - American Legion World Series, Keeter Stadium, Shelby, NC

Aug 23 - The American Legion National Convention, New Orleans, LA

Sep 8 - POW/MIA Event ~ Battleship Cove, Aboard the USS Massachusetts. Contact Bill Chisholm for more info.

Sep 11 - 9/11 Ceremony at the Palmer Post, please contact them for more info.

Sep 14. - Department Membership Meeting and DEC, Post 221, Bedford.

The Future and Beyond: Oct 6. - Fall Foliage Parade, North Adams

Nov 14. Dept Commanders Luncheon, Nonantum Post

Submitted: Scott Conner

Department Sr Vice Commander, scottscpo@gmail.com 774-239-6162

SONS OF THE
AMERICAN
LEGION



National Children & Youth Academy

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 2024 8:30AM-12:30PM
NEW ORLEANS ERNEST N. MORIAL CONVENTION CENTER
ROOM 206, SECOND FLOOR

Calling all school-aged American Legion Family members. Join us for the 2024 National Children & Youth Academy. The earlier we involve our youth, the brighter our future will be!



AMERICAN
LEGION
AUXILIARY

TRAINING WILL INCLUDE:
FLAG EDUCATION
ALA JR. PATCH PROGRAM
LOUISIANA STATE POLICE
VEHICLE DISPLAY &
EDUCATION PROGRAM



SCAN ME



TO REGISTER!



VETERANS EXPO!



Free Food & Fun!

LIVE 

For Vets, Troops, Family & Friends

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21
VA Boston Brockton Campus
 10 AM – 2 PM, 940 BELMONT ST, BROCKTON, MA

-  Live Bands/Music and Free Prizes!
-  Jobs and Career Fair! Bring DD214
-  Fed/State Resources and Benefits
-  Health Services and Checks
-  Military Vehicle and Equipment Displays
-  Women Veterans Seminar at 11:00
-  Kid's Zone! Pony Rides, Bounce House and More





COOKOUT! 

*For more information, go to www.eventbrite.com and search for "Massachusetts Veterans Expo", email VABostonVets@va.gov or call (617) 275-6101.



Boston Healthcare System



City of Brockton



With generous support from Cell Phones for Soldiers



JOIN US AS WE REMINISCE
AND HAVE FUN AT OUR

“COUNTRY FAMILY REUNION!”



**TESTIMONIAL BANQUET in honor of
Department President Donna Blattenberger**

**Sunday, September 29, 2024
Middleton Post 227
69 River Street, Middleton, MA 01949**

**Social Hour: 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Dinner Served: 2 p.m.**

Donation: \$40.00

Make checks payable to: Methuen Unit No. 122

and Mail to: Beverly Monaco, Ticket Chairman
30 Seneca Street, Methuen, MA 01844
Telephone: (978) 687-1987

Deadline for Reservations: is September 15, 2024

. No tickets will be sold at the door.



Around the Department— Department Commander's Banquet



The American Legion
Department of Massachusetts, Inc.
RM 546 – 2 State House
24 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02133-1044
(617) 727-2966

Email: deptadjutant@masslegion.org

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER NELSON IZAAK BLAKE BANQUET

July 16, 2024

Dear Legion, Auxiliary, SAL and Riders,

Department Commander Nelson Blake's banquet, will be held on Saturday, November 16, 2024 at Nonantum Post 440, 295 California St, Newton MA 02458.

A social will be held at 3 PM - Opening of program 3:45 PM - buffet will be open at 4:15 PM

Ticket donations are \$ 50.00 per person and you need to purchase from your District Ticket Chairperson. Please make checks payable to "American Legion Department of MA" and mark "Tickets Only"

Tables will be set for 10.

Cutoff date for Banquet Tickets is **October 28, 2024 (Tickets required at door)**

Audience Business Casual (trousers and collared shirt for men and appropriate apparel dress for women - **please no jeans**)

Best Western Hotel, 380 Winter Street, Waltham MA 02451

Call Hotel (781) 890-7800 or use the link below

https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.22009.html?groupId=3M1JY5V9

The code is **American Legion**

Room rate King or Double \$129.00 plus tax 11.7% = \$144.10

Extra person in room - \$10.00 each

Free Breakfast Buffet and free parking

The cutoff date for reservation is **November 9, 2024**

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

Yours in comradeship:

Co Chairman: Robert Desrosiers and Robert Lewis

Ticket Chairman: Lisa McPhee Dept. Adj.

Ad Book Chairman: Louie Brault PNEC

Members: 10 District Ticket Chairman



Around the Department— Department Commander's Banquet



District Ticket Chairperson

Department Commander's Banquet

All tickets sales need to be in the Department Office

Deadline for tickets October 28, 2024

NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT DOOR

District 1

Dennis St Pierre
18 Orchard St
Adams MA 01220
beermansst@hotmail.com
413-652-5822

District 3

Gary Fontaine
404 Southwick Rd Trlr 43
Westfield MA 01085-4856
chieffont7@aol.com
413-519-2755

District 4

Scott Conner
7 Meadowbrook Rd
Spencer MA 01562
scottscpo@gmail.com
774-239-6162

District 5

Robert Desrosiers
441 Lakeview Ave
Lowell MA 01850
fishtruck15@aol.com
978-459-4260

District 6

James Fratolillo
374 Manet Ave
Quincy MA 02169
jdftratt@comcast.net
617-792-7175

District 7

Milton Lashus
15 Parker St
Charlestown MA 02129
miltonlashus@gmail.com
774-766-8960

District 8

Sandra Davis
PO Box 95
Gloucester MA
skeeisme@hotmail.com
978-879-8682

District 9

Stephen Souza
25 Billys Ln
Somerset MA 02726
t5ssteve@yahoo.com
508-642-6660

District 10

Rachel Perron
1 Ocean Dr
Mattapoisett MA 02739-2329
rachellperron@yahoo.com
207-632-2831



**Department Commander's Banquet
Honoring Nelson Izaak Blake**

Saturday - November 16, 2024

Copy deadline is October 28, 2024

Check Ad size

District # _____

Post # _____ Auxiliary # _____ Squadron # _____ ALR # _____

**Advertising rates for the commander's book
Check Ad Size Desired**

Printing area

7 1/2" x 5" \$60.00 Full Page _____

3 1/2" x 5" \$40.00 Half Page _____

1 1/2" x 5" \$25.00 Quarter Page _____

MICROSOFT WORD FORMAT

Email Ads to: deptcoordinator@masslegion.org

Please enclose check with Ad Payable to:

"The American Legion Dept. of MA"

Mail checks to:

**The American Legion
State House Rm 546-2
24 Beacon St
Boston MA 02133**

Check # _____

Amount \$ _____



Around the Department— Department Commander's Banquet



Department Commander Nelson Izaak Blake

Booster Sheet **Deadline is October 28, 2024**

District # _____

Post # _____

Unit # _____

Squadron # _____

ALR # _____

\$1.00 per person

\$2.00 per Mr. & Mrs.

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

Check # _____ Amount\$ _____

1 _____	16 _____
2 _____	17 _____
3 _____	18 _____
4 _____	19 _____
5 _____	20 _____
6 _____	21 _____
7 _____	22 _____
8 _____	23 _____
9 _____	24 _____
10 _____	25 _____
11 _____	26 _____
12 _____	27 _____
13 _____	28 _____
14 _____	29 _____
15 _____	30 _____

Post can also type names and send on a separate paper.

Mail to: The American Legion Department of MA
State House Rm 546-2
24 Beacon Street
Boston MA 02133



**THE DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY PRESENTS
CORAL GROUT FOR NATIONAL PRESIDENT 2026-2027**



Department of Massachusetts' Posts, Units and Squadrons!

A big thank you to all the units, posts and squadrons who have supported Coral's trip to being National President in 2026 -2027.

Our convention raffle realized over \$4000. The winner of the raffle was Kathy Larrivee from unit 311 Seekonk.

Several events have been held across the Department i.e. yard sales, dinners, dances and raffles.

The next scheduled event is a chicken barbecue at Berkley Post 121 (located 80 Myricks St, Berkley, MA.) It is co-sponsored by District 9's Legion and Auxiliary. It will be held August 18, 2024, at 1:00PM. Tickets are \$20 per person. Coral will be there to greet you. We hope to make it a family event. Horseshoes and corn hole games will be available. Tickets may be ordered by calling Ann Fournier 508-942-2609, sending in the attached form or at Berkley Post.

Remember, she will be our NATIONAL President of the American Legion Auxiliary in 2026 - 2027. It has been over 80 years since a National President has come from Massachusetts.

Donation checks should be made out to: THE CORAL GROUT LEADERSHIP FUND and mailed to the treasurer: Ann Fournier, 17 Porter St., Berkley, MA 02779

Thank you for your help.

Mary Ann Ventulett and Donna Blattenberger Co Chairs

Donna's contact is BLATTENBERGERDONNA@AOL.COM

Mary Ann's contact is mventulett30@comcast.net

Please send _____ tickets to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Total enclosed: _____



Around the Department— Westfield Post 124



Post 124 Riders represented the Post and the [The American Legion Department of Massachusetts](#) at two separate Parades in Westfield in the 4th of July.

First parade was for the Hampton Ponds Civic Organization and the second was for the Annual Wyben 4th Parade.

Around the Department— Woburn Post 101

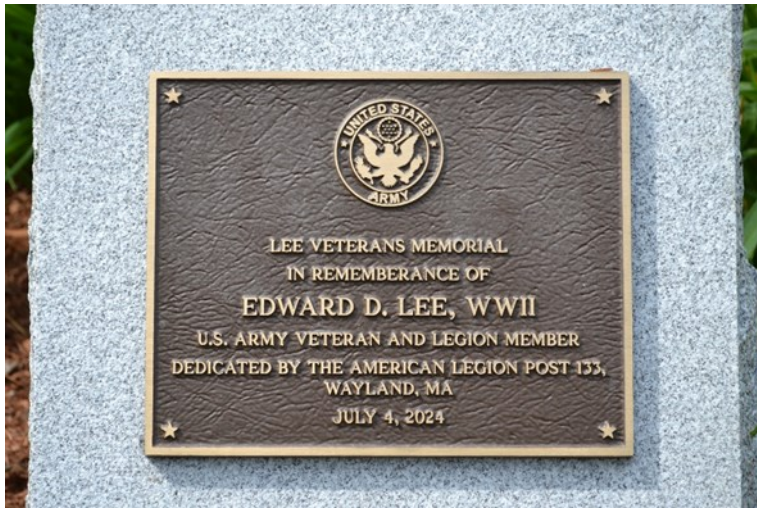


Great ride today today! Haverhill Alr chapter 4.
Alr chapter 101 showed up in force today.



Around the Department— New Flag in Wayland

On July 4 the Charles H. Alward Post 133 in Wayland conducted a ceremony at Carriage House at Lee’s Farm, an assisted living facility, to dedicate a flagpole and a monument to longtime Legion member Edward “Eddie” Lee. Eddie, who passed away in 2016 at the age of 92, represented the fourth generation of his family to own and operate their farm and market on the Boston Post Road. Many of the residents of Carriage House attended the ceremony. The design and installation of the flagpole and monument were joint efforts of Carriage House and Post 133.



Plaque in honor of Tech. Sgt. Edward Lee



Post members Richard Turner, Carl Bernardo and Paul Rufo prepare to raise the flag



View of the flagpole from Boston Post Road





Tonight, we wrapped up the very first season of the Massachusetts American Legion Softball League with an incredible doubleheader. These young women made history, and we couldn't be prouder!

Check out this fantastic photo of all four teams at our final games:

- Cherry Valley Post 443
- Webster Dudley Post 184
- Franklin Post 75
- Framingham Post 117

Their dedication, teamwork, and spirit have made this season unforgettable.

Thank you to everyone who supported us and cheered us on throughout this groundbreaking season. Here's to many more seasons to come!

[#MassLegionSoftball](#) [#InauguralSeason](#) [#fastpitchsoftball](#) [#MakingHistory](#) [#YouthSports](#) [#CommunityPride](#) [#MassachusettsSports](#) [#TeamSpirit](#) [#HistoricMoment](#) [#americanlegion](#)

8/4/2024	100 Milesfor Hope	Post 306 Paxton
8/23-8/29	National Convention	New Orleans, LA
9/8/2024	1:00PM POW/MIA	Battleship Massachusetts
9/14/2024	10:00AM Finance Committee	Post 221 Bedford
9/14/2024	11:00AM DEC & Membership	Post 221 Bedford
10/7-10/10	Fall Meetings	Indianapolis, IN

AMERICAN LEGION 2025 Membership Standing *as of July 24, 2024*

Department Membership Standings 2025 Membership Year

District 7: Suffolk 27.36%
District 5: Middlesex 26.58%
District 8: Essex 26.34%



	District	Goal	Current	% of Goal
1	BERKSHIRE	1184	247	20.86%
3	HAMPDEN/FRANKLIN/ HAMPSHIRE	3386	775	22.89%
4	WORCESTER	4380	930	21.23%
5	MIDDLESEX	3582	952	26.58%
6	NORFOLK	2292	524	22.86%
7	SUFFOLK	1122	307	27.36%
8	ESSEX	2411	635	26.34%
9	BRISTOL	2477	590	23.82%
10	PLY/BARN/NAN/DUKE	3542	883	24.93
297	CAPITOL HILL	405	326	80.49%
462	HEADQUARTERS	989	263	26.59%
	National Quota	25,770	6433	24.96%



Cameron Mirmelli Girls Nation President and Isabella Windmiller Vice President

Cameron Mirmelli, Scottsdale, Ariz. has been elected as the 2024 ALA Girls Nation president. Her vice president is Isabella Windmiller of Willard, Mo. They ran under the Federalist Party ticket.

Mirmelli and Windmiller were elected on Wednesday, July 24. Their inauguration was held on Thursday, July 25.

Back home in Arizona, Mirmelli participates in Mock Trial, plays basketball, and is president of the Spanish Honor Society. She is also the founder of PurpleLining.com, a blog and social media platform dedicated to young people to share opinions and ideas.

Windmiller is involved in several activities at her high school. She is on the Speech and Debate team, Leadership Team, Chamber Choir, theatre, and National Honor Society.

To learn more about this year's ALA Girls Nation, visit @ALAGirlsNation on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

	District	Goal	Current	% of Goal
1	BERKSHIRE	204	190	93.1%
2	FRANKLIN /HAMPSHIRE	260	264	101.5%
3	HAMPDEN	347	390	112.4%
4	WORCESTER	1039	1022	98.3%
5	MIDDLESEX	906	926	102.2%
6	NORFOLK	377	305	80.9%
7	SUFFOLK	110	110	100.0%
8	ESSEX	607	612	100.8%
9	BRISTOL	279	261	93.5%
10	PLY/BARN/NAN/DUKE	802	757	94.4%
462	HEADQUARTERS	583	114	19.5%
	National Quota	5,514	4,951	89.8%

Eligibility Requirements

All male descendants adopted sons, and stepsons of members of The American Legion, and such male descendants of veterans who died in service during the period of April 6, 1917, through November 11, 1918, or any time from December 7, 1941, to date, who served honorably, as set forth in Article IV, Section 1, of the National Constitution of The American Legion, or who died subsequent to their honorable discharge from such service, shall be eligible for membership in the Sons of The American Legion.

[Print an application »](#)

* Membership applications can be delivered to an [American Legion Post near you](#). There is a good chance that Post will have its own Squadron. If not, someone at the Post should be able to tell you where to find a Squadron near you. You can always contact [SAL National Headquarters](#) for information about finding a nearby Squadron.

	District	Goal	Current	% of Goal
1	BERKSHIRE	206	0	0.00%
3	HAMPDEN/FRANKLIN / HAMPSHIRE	626	2	0.32%
4	WORCESTER	948	4	0.42%
5	MIDDLESEX	1224	1	0.08%
6	NORFOLK	941	1	0.11%
7	SUFFOLK	167	17	10.18%
8	ESSEX	394	8	2.03%
9	BRISTOL	237	2	0.84%
10	PLY/BARN/NAN/DUKE	689	12	1.74%
	National Goal	5432	47	0.87%

Paxton American Legion

885 Pleasant Ave Paxton, MA

Chicken BBQ

to support

American Legion Post 125's



100 MILE

CHARITY WALK

North Adams to Paxton

one crazy and determined bunch
trekking 100 miles August 2nd-4th
to raise money for
one phenomenal childrens charity



Raising funds for
The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation

Benefitting the Betterment of all Children

100% of all funds received by American Legion Charities go to the charity - no administration fees

Let's
cheer
the
walkers in
on
their
arrival!

Chicken BBQ Dinner Fundraiser

Sunday August 4th

Tickets - \$20 Donation

1/2 chicken, salad, corn, fries, dessert

Walkers expected to arrive 4:00 pm-ish

Dinner to follow

For Tickets or More Info

Call or Text

Scott 774-239-6162

Adam 774-242-3971

Paxton American Legion

885 Pleasant Ave Paxton, MA



Post 98

Saturday morning



Coffee break



Veterans, Aux, and Potential Members

American Legion Hall

32 Beach st

8:00—10:30

Come on down

Rockport, MA



SERVICE DOG PROJECT MOTORCYCLE RIDE



AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS - CHAPTER 101 - WOBURN, MA



HELP US SUPPORT OUR VETERANS!



\$25 FOR RIDERS - \$10 FOR PASSENGERS

FOOD-RAFFLES 50/50-MUSIC

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 14TH - REGISTRATION 9:30AM - KSU 11:00AM

AMERICAN LEGION POST 101 - 194 LEXINGTON STREET, WOBURN, MA





Annual



American Legion Post 340

Chicken BBQ*

Saturday, Aug. 17, 2024

4:00 to 5:30

\$16.00/Dinner

150 Dinners to Be Sold

Take out available

To benefit:

The American Legion programs.

*** Reservations Helpful Please call:**

George Oleen (413) 229-6670

619 North Main Street, Sheffield, MA



Freedom Ride

Dalton American Legion
258 North Street
Dalton, MA



SUNDAY, AUGUST 6, 2023

Registration 9 -10:30am

KSU 11am

Breakfast by the Auxillary

POST RIDE ACTIVITIES

Food - Drink - Raffle

Live music by the HOT SHOT HILLBILLIES

Vendors ~ Public Welcome



SONS OF THE
AMERICAN
LEGION



Saturday, October 5th from 12-5 PM

Hanson Athletic Association

171 Reed St, Hanson, MA 02341

Proceeds will be donated to the



Sign up at the Whitman American Legion, Post 22

33 Legion Pkwy, Whitman, MA 02382

\$100 for a team of 5

Pay by cash or make checks payable to SAL Squadron 22

Checks can also be mailed to the Whitman American Legion - Attention: John Cameron

**Please print the full names of your team of 5 if you mail a check or add names to the sign-up sheet
at the Whitman American Legion**

We will also have a 50/50 Raffle and Side Raffles at the Bowling Tournament



**Massachusetts
E-Legionnaire**

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Department of Massachusetts, Inc.
Room 546-2, State House
Boston, MA 02122-1099
email: fmacdonald53@comcast.net

Editor

Francis J. MacDonald, Jr.

2023-2024 Officers

Commander

Nelson Blake

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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: deptsecretary@masslegion.org or to the Editor at fmacdonald53@comcast.net.

Still receiving correspondence through the U.S. Postal Service? Send the Department office your Name & Address and you will get a hard copy mailed to you.

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