

MASSACHUSETTS E-LEGIONNAIRE

Volume 16 Issue 5 October 2025

Commander's Corner



Scott M. Conner
Department Commander

The fall season is upon us, but first a special nod of the cap to The POW/MIA committee for an inspiring event. Great job dealing with the inclement weather issue and nice to see some of our veterans on the missing person, table for one.

Many Posts had 9/11 memorial programs, with participation from First Responders in there communities, great stuff seeing everyone coming together. Also, a number of Posts had and will have Vietnam Veteran programs, a special shout out to the Tuttle Post for inviting me to speak, thank you for the opportunity.

Pam Ray, National President of the American Legion Auxiliary will be in town, on Halloween weekend. I have been tasked with providing some Coast Guard Hospitality. Grace and I are arranging a tour of Northeast Sector, US Coast Guard Base Boston. We hope Massachusetts will be one of her highlights of the year.

Numerous opportunities abound to increase community relevance and participation. Does your Post host a "Trunk or Treat"? Do you participate in one? If you are, please let me know, I like candy. Are you planning events for "Veterans Month". Sponsoring a Veterans Day parade or participating in one, fly the Legion Flag high. Great opportunity to show case what we do. Those sponsoring events may want to show an American Legion video on the big screen. Many available to download from MyLegion.org and Vimeo.

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EGION Commander's Corner (Continued from Page 1)

And before you know it, the holidays are here, and as we do, we reach out to our less secure veterans in our community. Your local Veterans Agent or Local Police can assist in providing leads for those that could use some cheer.

BUDDY CHECK: We know what it is, we know how to do it, let's goooooo! Have you signed up for the 250 Challenge? You can use 250 buddy checks, as a group or individually, between now and July 4th 2026. Enroll at **legion.org** check out the opportunities, and you get a cool t-shirt too.

Get involved. Borrowing from LC Jay Bowen again. Be Part Of The Solution (BPOTS), join a committee. Got one that fits the bill perfectly for a younger legionnaire. Each District needs to appoint a member to the newly created "Gaming Committee". Please reach out to DVC Drew Pajak for more information, what a great opportunity to get involved.

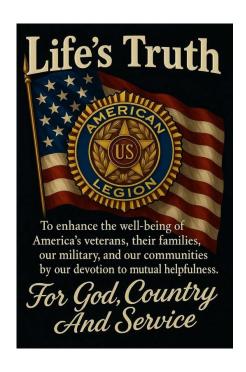
Post Commanders, please reach out to District Commanders, and to your District staff for information and support. All Posts should have received the 2026 membership cards by now. Hopefully we'll be at 60% renewal very soon.

My Commander's Charity is Operation Comfort Warrior, please consider having an event with proceeds to support this incredible program. A heartfelt thank you to Riders Chapter 204 with a considerable donation.

CHANGE OF VENUE ******** DEC - November 8th, Post 414 Sutton

Commanders Banquet ~~ Plainridge Park Casino, February 21st. Tickets are available \$50.00 ea. Hope to see you there.

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





Department President



Halloween Safety Tips from the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Massachusetts

Halloween is right around the corner! Costumes, candy, and community fun make it one of the most exciting nights of the year for children. The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Massachusetts wants to make sure all families enjoy the holiday safely.

As part of our mission to support veterans, their families, and our communities, we encourage parents, guardians, and children to keep these Halloween Safety Tips in mind:

Be Seen & Be Safe: Add reflective tape or glow sticks to costumes so children are visible to drivers. Costume Comfort: Choose face paint instead of masks that block vision, and make sure costumes fit well to prevent trips and falls. Safe Trick-or-Treating: Young children should always be with an adult. Older kids should stay in groups, follow a set route, and carry a

cell phone. Street Smarts: Use sidewalks and cross-walks, look both ways, and never dart out between parked cars. Check the Treats: Adults should inspect candy before children dig in. Discard anything unwrapped or suspicious. Respect Neighbors: Remind kids to say "thank you" and only visit homes with porch lights on. By following these simple steps, families can enjoy all the fun of Halloween while keeping children safe.

The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Massachusetts is proud to serve our communities—not only by honoring and supporting our veterans, but also by helping families enjoy traditions like Halloween in a safe and positive way. Please make sure to pass out the Halloween safety coloring book. We wish everyone a safe, fun, and spooky Halloween!

Sofia Elizabeth Blake Department President



A Community of Volunteers Serving Veterans, Military, and their Families



We know that military service is a sacrifice for the whole family, so ALA members quietly look for ways to ease the burden — whatever it takes to get that family back on their feet physically, mentally, socially, and vocationally. If we don't have the resources, we connect military families with our partners who do.

In honoring our veterans, one of our core values is to demonstrate and pass on respect for our country and our nation's flag. We promote patriotic youth programs, most notably the American Legion Auxilia-

ry <u>Girls State</u> and <u>Girls Nation</u> programs, held regionally and nationally, along with education programs, contests, and scholarships in local school systems.

Making our communities better places in which to live is another core value put into action by American Legion Auxiliary members every day across the country. Whether hosting a stand down to bring vital health and support services to homeless veterans, or coordinating a send-off or welcome-home event for a deployed military unit, ALA members are continuously at work in their communities, demonstrating the compassion and heart we have for those who serve our country and protect our freedoms.

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Detachment Commander



Detachment Commander Jesse Limanek

Greetings, brothers,

Hopefully, this message finds you all in good health. Fall is upon us, and many Posts and Squadrons that take time off in the summer have resumed their activities, events and functions. Over the last few weeks, I attended several BBQs, dinners, and Remembrance Ceremonies. For those Posts who hosted events that I have attended, thank you for the hospitality

and service to your community, state and nation.

In the coming weeks, I have three requests for each Squadron in the district:

First, please give attention to your membership. Your eligibility to be part of our organization stems from your parent(s), grandparent (s), or great-grandparent(s) who took an oath to serve our Nation during time of war and peace. Your service to your Squadron is therefore also service to, or in memory of, members of your own family. Always remember that your membership has value beyond any Post activity or event.

Second, remember the importance of advertising and reporting your activities and events. Trust me, I truly understand how many of us do not like "tooting our own horn". After all, much of the volunteerism in which we engage is because we embrace the mission of supporting veterans and veteran causes. If you have something coming up at your Post, toot your own horn loudly and proudly!

And, if let me know, I will do everything I can to personally attend and support your event.

Third, help me with my Commander's Project. I am trying to raise \$1 per member in support of VCF the Veterans & Children Foundation. To be successful, I need the help of every Squadron - big and small. This challenge does not require any additional work, event, or activity. All that is required is to dedicate a small portion of any fundraising effort to support my efforts as your Commander. When reached, I am to present a check to our National Commander on stage at National Convention on behalf of the entire Detachment. This will help bring attention to the good work we, as part of the American Legion Family of Massachusetts, do on a daily basis.

Thank you all again for all that you do. And may God continue to bless the United States.

Respectfully,

Jesse Limanek

Commander for the Detachment of Massachusetts





EGION Membership—DSVC Robert Jerdan

The American Legion: Planting Seeds for a Thriving Future

As the vibrant colors of autumn arrive, so does an opportunity for renewal and growth within The American Legion. October 2025 marks a pivotal moment for us to not only reflect on our rich history but also to proactively cultivate the future of our organization. This month, let's focus on "Planting Seeds"—a theme that encourages us to sow the seeds of new membership while nurturing the deep roots of our current members.

The Tools of the Gardener: Recruiting New Members

Recruiting new members is about more than just numbers; it's about connecting with eligible veterans and their families who can benefit from and contribute to our community. The old way of simply asking "Are you a veteran?" is no longer enough. We need to be like a skilled gardener, preparing the soil and choosing the right seeds for our harvest.

- Think Locally, Act Personally: Don't just hand out pamphlets. Host a "Coffee with a Veteran" event at a local cafe or community center. This provides a casual, lowpressure environment where you can have genuine conversations. Ask about their service, their family, and their post-service life. Listen more than you talk.
- Show, Don't Just Tell: Instead of just saying "we help veterans,"

create a visual display at your post like the American Legion's disshowcasing tangible benefits. A picture of a veteran receiving a scholarship, a diagram of the VA claims process, or a testimonial from a family member who used a Legion benefit can be far more powerful than words.

- Targeted Outreach: Use social media to your advantage. Your post can create a short, impactful video (under 60 seconds) for platforms like Facebook or Instagram. Feature a younger veteran talking about why they joined, or highlight a recent community service project. Use a clear call to action: Use your post accounts.
- Embrace the "Buddy System": Encourage current members to become mentors to new recruits. This one-on-one connection can make a new member feel welcomed and valued from day one. It's much easier to join an organization when you have a friend showing you the ropes.

Nurturing the Soil: Retaining Our Current Members

A healthy garden requires constant care. Retaining members is just as important as recruiting new ones. We must provide a compelling reason for them to stay connected and engaged.

• Highlight the "Hidden" Benefits: Many members are unaware of the full scope of benefits available to them. Dedicate a portion of each post meeting to a "Benefit Spotlight." Choose one benefit,

counts on travel or financial services, and have a member explain how they've used it. Or, invite a local expert to talk about the free VA claims assistance the Legion provides.

- Foster a Sense of Purpose: Veterans join for a mission. Keep that mission alive. Engage members in meaningful community service projects. This could be a food drive for local veterans in need, a school flag etiquette program, or volunteering at a senior care facility. When members feel they are making a difference, they are more likely to stay involved.
- Build a Strong Digital Community: Create a private Facebook group or an email newsletter specifically for your post. Use it to share meeting minutes, announce upcoming events, and celebrate member milestones like birthdays, anniversaries, or achievements. A sense of belonging extends beyond the post walls.



Continued on Page

EGION **Membership Continued**

• Open the Dialogue: Encourage feedback. Distribute a simple, anonymous survey to your members asking what they value most about their membership and what they would like to see improved. Use this feedback to shape your post's future activities.

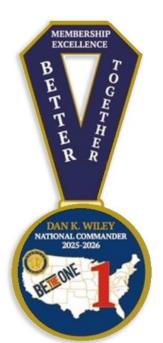
This October, let's embrace our

role as cultivators of The American munities. Let's get to work Legion. By using these tools to actively recruit new members and deeply engage our current ones, we can ensure our organization continues to grow and thrive. Our strength lies not just in our numbers, but in our shared commitment to one another and our com-

planting those seeds.

Robert Jerdan Department SR Vice Commander 25-26 Candidate for Department Commander 26-27

AMERICAN Membership National Commander's Incentive Program



American Legion National Commander Dan K. Wiley will award his national commander Be the One membership incentive pin to any Legionnaire who obtains two new members into The American Legion.

A new member is any eligible person joining for the 2026 membership year who was not a member of The American Legion during the 2025 membership year. Transfers do not count as new members.

Each member listed must be eligible for membership in The American Legion. New Auxiliary members and Sons of The American Legion members do not count toward this incentive. Forward names of Sons of The American Legion members or Auxiliary members to your squadron or unit for use in their respective incentive programs.

Only one coin will be awarded per individual. Upon receipt, American Legion National membership staff will confirm the names in the national database and mail the coin directly to the person who earned it.

Incentive Form is available on next page or online at Legion.org





NATIONAL COMMANDER DAN K. WILEY'S 2026 MEMBERSHIP EXCELLENCE INCENTIVE PIN CERTIFICATION FORM



Please make sure that the address, phone number and email address provided is for the recruiter and not the post.

Date:
Name:
Membership ID Number:
Street Address or PO Box:
City, State, Zip:
Email Address:
Phone Number:
☐ MAIL TO RECRUITER ☐ MAIL TO POST
TO QUALIFY YOU NEED TO <u>RECRUIT</u> (2) NEW MEMBERS INTO THE AMERICAN LEGION.
(A NEW MEMBER IS DEFINED AS ANY <u>ELIGIBLE VETERAN</u> JOINING FOR THE 2026 MEMBERSHIP YEAR WHO <u>WAS NOT</u> A MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DURING THE 2025 MEMBERSHIP YEAR). <u>TRANSFERS DO NOT COUNT AS NEW MEMBERS.</u>)
NEW AUXILIARY MEMBERS AND SAL MEMBERS DO NOT COUNT TOWARDS THIS INCENTIVE. PLEASE FORWARD THE NAMES OF NEW SAL MEMBERS OR AUXILIARY MEMBERS TO YOUR SQUADRON OR UNIT FOR USE IN THEIR RESPECTIVE INCENTIVE PROGRAMS. CONTACT YOUR STATE HEADQUARTERS FOR MORE INFORMATION.
PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT THE MEMBERS HAVE BEEN PROCESSED BEFORE SUBMISSION. COINS WILL NOT BE MAILED UNTIL THEY ARE VERIFIED ON THE NATIONAL DATABASE.
THE DEADLINE FOR THIS INCENTIVE IS JUNE 30, 2026, OR UNTIL SUPPLIES ARE EXHAUSTED.
(2) NEW MEMBERS:
(Include full name, ID number, department, post)
1
Return completed forms to: The American Legion Fax: 317-630-1413
Internal Affairs & Membership Division Email: kadams@legion.org
PO Box 1055

Indianapolis, IN 46206

EGION **Historian—Cindy Lacoste**

Homecoming 250th Anniversary of rine Corps, salute our military serthe US Navy and US Marine Corps Celebrating the Services who secured 250 years of independence.

As Americans celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence - the Semiquincentennial - Philadelphia and New Jersey will be commemorating the founding of the military services that helped the United States gain and defend our independence for 250 years. This special week will include exciting events, including the parade of Navy ships and other vessels, a spectacular flyover by the Blue Angels, special museum exhibits, tours of modern and historic ships, and much more. These celebrations will shine a spotlight on the birthplace of our nation, honor the Navy and Mavice members and veterans, and remind us what unites us all.

Many of us have ties to the military through our parents, grandparents and others who served before us and paved the way of our history. A small piece of this history being celebrated in October in Philadelphia ties directly to my father and my "why" for joining the military.



USS Becuna (SS-319)

One of the historic displays at

Penns Landing in Philadelphia was my father's submarine, the USS Becuna SS-319. I have toured his submarine and felt his history come to life for me. "Becuna, a World War II-era submarine, launched into service in January 1944, just nine months after construction started. "Becky" has called Philadelphia home since 1969. She was moved to Penn's Landing and opened as a museum in 1976 as a part of the bicentennial celebration of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. She's been docked alongside *Olympia* ever since." It is important that we always preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all wars. This small piece of history is just one of those among the millions of others. Happy Birthday to all our Navy and Marine Corps brothers and sisters!!!



The marketing year began as always with our address label program. These patriotic themed return address labels are mailed to members and your generous donations help fund the department Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation program which uses the funds for worthwhile causes such a as canteen books for veterans at VA facilities. Many thanks to all who donated.

I am pleased to report that The Department of Massachusetts displayed a sign in left field of Holy Cross Baseball Stadium (Fenton Field) host site of the 2025 Northeast Regional American Legion Baseball Tournament. The sign proudly displayed American Legion Baseball's 100th season.

I am pleased to report that our partnership with The Springfield Thunderbirds of The American Hockey League and the "Veteran of the Game" program will continue for the 2025-2026 season. As always we are allowed to have information tables at home games. This is a great opportunity to increase brand awareness of our organization to not only veterans but the general public as well.

The committee has decided to move forward with two fundraising initiatives for the winter. First will be the return of our winter sweepstakes mailed to all members. Please consider returning your tickets with a donation. Not

only does your donation help the department and its programs but you can also win cash prizes ranging from \$500 to \$3,000. We will also have an online 50-50 raffle. Both will be drawn in January. More information will be forthcoming on the 50-50 so look for participation information on the department website as well as the E Legionnaire.

As always if you have any marketing ideas, do not hesitate to contact the committee or the department.

Mike Davis. PNEC Marketing Chairman





EGION Legislative—10 Steps to and Effective Meeting with members of Congress

Have an effective meeting and stand out from the crowd by following these steps

Members of Congress receive thousands of meeting requests from constituents and interest groups every year. Most of these requests are delegated to staff members who manage the subject, while a select few, typically those of particular relevance to the Member's district or legislative priorities, may be granted a meeting with the Member directly. During a typical week when Congress is in session, staffers will attend dozens of meetings covering a wide range of issues, including with veteran service organizations like The American Legion.

To have an effective meeting and ensure that you stand out from the crowd, American Legion Legislative Division Director Julia Mathis shared these 10 steps to follow with members of the Legislative Commission at the 106th National Convention in Tampa, Fla.:

Step 1: Research Your Members of Congress Know their educational and professional background, committee assignments and key legislation. Understand what matters to their district and identify shared interests. Read their official bio.

Step 2: Be Organized and Assign a Primary Speaker Limit your group to 2-3 people; congressional offices are smaller than expected. Include constituents when possible. Choose one person to lead. Consider optics, for example: bring a woman veteran when discussing women veterans' issues

Step 3: Develop Your Meeting Plan Who is telling the pertinent facts and issues? Decide on a clear request that makes sense for this Member of Congress. Do they need to support an existing bill? Or write new legislation? Have your "ask" ready, and ensure it's something realistic they can do.

Step 4: Arrive on Time Arrive no more than 15 minutes early. Do not knoc just walk in and let the staffer

at the front desk know who you are and who you are there to see. If your meeting leader has a business card, present it (only one) to the staffer.

Step 5: Remain Flexible Remember that Members of Congress do not control the floor schedule, thus your

meeting time might shift. Be flexible and professional. Sometimes, in order to still meet with you, they may

move your meeting to a new location/time, such as a hallway or committee room.

Step 6: Build Rapport Building a relationship with your Member of Congress is vital to your success. Ensuring you meet with your Members at least once a quarter, particularly back home, is a great way to establish a professional relationship.

Step 7: Focus on Two or Three Issues Our legislative agenda covers many topics. Choose 2-3 you're passionate about. Don't overwhelm the meeting. Bonus: Give the agenda or point paper at the end of the meeting so they focus on you, not the paper.

Step 8: Make Your Ask Personal When delivering your "ask," make it personal by telling your Member of Congress how it will help veterans in their district.

Step 9: Thank Them for Their Time Make sure you thank them, even if you do not end with an agreedupon action. Respect goes a long way; remember, you represent The American Legion.

Step 10: Take a picture! Share it on social media and tag your Member of Congress. Don't forget to submit your contact report to www.legion.org/action.

The Pay Our Troops Act would guarantee servicemembers get paid if Congress fails to pass federal funding legislation for the 2026 fiscal year.

Lawmakers are scrambling to ensure troops, including members of the Coast Guard, continue to receive paychecks if congressional gridlock leads to a government shutdown on Oct. 1.

Rep. Jen Kiggans, R-Va., this week reintroduced the Pay Our Troops Act to guarantee service members get paid if Congress fails to pass federal funding legislation for the 2026 fiscal year by the end of the month.

"As a former Navy helicopter pilot, wife of a veteran and mom of a service member, I know firsthand the sacrifices military families make every single day," she said. "The last thing they should face is financial uncertainty caused by partisan gridlock."

Speaker Mike Johnson, R-La., plans to bring a stopgap spending bill to the House floor this week to fund the government through Nov. 21, but Democrats have said they will oppose the measure unless it includes an extension of Affordable Care Act tax breaks.

Republicans will need the votes of at least seven Democrats to pass the legislation in the Senate and will likely need the backing of some Democrats to pass it in the House, where some fiscal conservatives are bound to withhold their support.

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., on Wednesday accused Republicans of refusing to work with Democrats and said his party will soon release its own proposal for a short-term funding extension.

The standoff has raised fears of a shutdown that would require service members to report for duty but not get paid.

Kiggans' legislation, which has dozens of co-sponsors, would direct that existing, unappropriated U.S. Treasury funds be used to continue paying members of the armed forces, both active and reserve duty, as well as the Coast Guard. The funds would also pay civilian employees at the Department of Defense and Department of Homeland Security, and contractors who directly support service members.

Multiple military and veterans organizations have endorsed the bill, describing it as a "common-sense, bipartisan" measure that protects military personnel from the political uncertainty of government shutdowns.

"Our military is willing to do their job for the country, which often puts their lives at risk," said Kathy Roth-Douquet, the CEO of the nonprofit Blue Star Families. "We just ask that Congress do their job to keep the government running and get us paid."

The legislation would provide the same paycheck protections Congress gave service members shortly before the start of a 16-day government shutdown in 2013.

Troops were mostly unaffected during the last government shutdown in 2018-2019, but members of the Coast Guard worked without pay for more than a month because the service is operated by the Department of Homeland Security instead of the Defense Department.

Activists have warned that even one missed paycheck can put troops at serious financial risk. One in three military families has less than \$3,000 in savings, according to Blue Star Families, and the Defense Department previously estimated that nearly one in four service members has trouble putting food on the table.

If Congress does not pass pay protections before a government shutdown takes effect, service members will receive back pay for any missed paychecks once federal funding resumes.



AMERICAN Americanism—DVC Chris Manning

The Department of Massachusetts is teaching the history of Old Glory and how to show respect for the flag. - Taken form the August Dispatch



The American Legion Department of Massachusetts created a curriculum to educate first graders about the history of the U.S. flag and how to show respect for Old Glory. The Flags for First Graders program curriculum is available here.

The 20-minute program engages youth by asking questions about the flag such as how many stars and stripes, when is Flag Day and how old is the flag, and shares a few dos and don'ts. When

Massachusetts Legionnaires visit classrooms, they also hand out small U.S. flags to each student as well as a "Our Country's Flag" comic book. <u>Stick flags are available</u> through American Legion Emblem Sales.

The comic book is for elementary age students to help them understand the importance of the American flag, how to show respect for the flag, and how to protect our country's freedom. More than 31,700 copies of "Our Country's Flag" has been purchased in 2025 alone. Purchase through <u>American Legion Emblem</u>

Legislative Action Alerts



Celebrate America with the

USA250 CHALLENGE!



What: The American Legion's USA 250 Challenge is a yearlong celebration of the nation's 250th birthday. It offers participants three challenge categories — community service, physical activities and mental health awareness — to pursue goals such as 250 hours, miles, Buddy Checks or other measurables.

When: Through July 4, 2026.

Who: American Legion Family members and anyone else. Participants may pursue their goals individually or as part of a team.

Why: In addition to celebrating America, proceeds from the \$30 registration fee and all donations go to the Legion's Veterans & Children Foundation, which supports disabled veterans and military families in need.

How: Scan the QR code to learn more and register. Or visit legion.org/usa250/challenge



America250 Department of Massachusetts Initiative October 1, 2025 - July 4, 2026

The Department of Massachusetts has created a program, overseen by the 250th Anniversary Committee, to support participation in The American Legion's National USA 250 Challenge.

Scope: Reflecting on the successes of the 100 Miles for Hope, the USA 250 Challenge has three Challenge Catégories:

Fitness Challenge—Log 250 miles or hours through walking, running, cycling, swimming, etc. (team example: 10 members walk 25 miles each.

Wellness Challenge—Achieve the number 250 related to mental and emotional well-being activities. Examples include performing 250 hours of yoga, conducting 250 buddy checks, signing up 250 participants for Be the One training, or Riders could cover 250 miles (team example: 5 team members each conduct 50 Buddy Checks).

Community Service Challenge - Complete 250 hours of community service to achieve the number 250 related to such an activity. Some examples include collecting and sending 250 care packages to service members, cleaning up 250 gravesites at a veterans cemetery, teaching flag advocacy to 250 students, and more.

There are many more challenges under each category, and additional ones are being considered.

The USA 250 Challenge is a "canned" program provided by National. Participants from the Legion Family would need to enroll in the program via the portal, follow the rules, and purchase the commemorative shirt (with proceeds going to VCF). The national program has the tools to track the successes of the participants. We use this accessible data to determine if our criteria has been met for awards.

Awards: The individual or group must meet eligibility rules and challenge criteria to be considered for awards. These awards are available to Individuals or Groups.

Criteria - All participants, whether individually or in a group, must enroll in the TAL USA 250 Challenge.

An individual or group must complete a minimum of five challenges, and may only duplicate one particular challenge, no later than July 4, 2026. *See attached List of Challenges* on next page

Available Challenges

Note: You may complete any challenge, mix if you wish, but you may only duplicate one specific challenge. A minimum of five challenges, thus you may choose to do one challenge twice, and each of the other three must be different.

250 hours of community service 250 care pkgs to service members

Cleaning 250 Veteran Gravestones Teach flag advocacy to 250 students

Perform 250 hours of yoga Conduct 250 buddy checks

Sign up 250 for the Be the One training Riders could cover 250 miles. 10 X 25

Collect/Retire 250 worn flags Distribute 250 wreaths

Invite 250 veterans to dinner, or breakfast 250 toys for Toys for Tots

Spend 250 minutes in the classroom 250 Hours of Mentorship

Spend 250 hrs with a veteran Volunteer 250 hrs at the VA

Call 250 games of Veterans Bingo Be a Marine, chew 250 crayons

Log 250 miles or hours through walking, running, cycling, swimming, etc.

Collect and Distribute 250 items to Homeless Vets or Seniors

New Challenges are added all the time.



Revolutionary Voices—Saturday Oct 11,2025



Indigenous People's Day: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. - Free with museum admission. Enjoy special programs on Wampanoag history from 10 am to 2 pm, free with general Museum admission; see documents of Indigenous soldiers in the American Revolution and participate in a range of family activities!

Revolutionary Voices: A Benefit Performance for Pilgrim Hall – 6 – 8:30pm. Don't miss Revolutionary Voices: Plymouth Debates Liberty & Loyalists, an original play in one act

by Patrick T.J. Browne. This riveting dramatization of Plymouth's deliberations during the escalating tensions of the American Revolution is based on authentic records and features commentary from Mercy Otis Warren, a trailblazing political thinker during an extraordinary era of change, portrayed by Michelle Gabrielson of the Mercy Otis Warren Society. Enjoy a Q&A with play's creator, Dr. Browne, and acclaimed Warren biographer Nancy Rubin Stuart following the performance. TICKETS: \$75 pp. Light refreshments & cash bar; reservations required.

PRESENTED WITH THE PLYMOUTH ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY & THE MERCY OTIS WARREN SOCIETY For information, contact development@pilgrimhall.org, (508) 746 –1620, ext. 3

Liberty & Union Day



Liberty & Union Day is an annual event that celebrates Taunton, Massachusetts' rich history and culture. We commemorate the events of October 1774, when our community became one of the first in the American colonies to raise a flag in opposition to British rule. That flag – the "Liberty and Union" flag – flies proudly over our city to this day.

Hosted by the Old Colony History Museum, the day features what life was like in 1774 through a variety of local colonial crafter demonstrations, Continental and British reenactors, live music, delicious food, as well as plenty of family-friendly activities.

Enjoy the beauty of fall in New England and the hospitality of the Taunton community while we celebrate our local contribution to the American Revolution.

Curious & Complex Connections: Environmental History & The War of Independence



This is a hybrid event. FREE for MHS Members. \$10 per person fee (in person). No charge for virtual attendees or Card to Culture participants (EBT, WIC, and ConnectorCare). The in-person reception starts at 5:30 and the program will begin 6:00 PM.

Many of us give only a moment's thought about the environment when considering the War of Independence: the slope of Breed's Hill, the ice-

choked Delaware River, and diseases such as smallpox. But what might we gain by connecting biology, ecology, and geology to the thinking and actions of soldiers and civilians? Rebels and British soldiers acquired and used energy in the form of food, fuel, and work animals, which shaped people's lives, the course of the war, and the direction of environmental change. Join us as David Hsiung, in conversation with Joyce Chaplin, discusses the intricate and often surprising ways in which the natural environment and the war changed each other.

Goto Massachusetts250.org for more information

LEGION Editorial - NEC John Lenotte

At the National Convention in Tampa FL, I attended the Media and Communications Commission meeting. There was a lot of great information including the following: Be the One resources are available online, approximately 20,000 have been trained to date; the national website continues to be updated; there is a new book called "Rise of Our Flag" (65 pages), which tells the story of our symbol of freedom, available through Emblem Sale. The annual report is also available online as is the digital magazine. Let us not forget the podcasts continue to gain popularity. As noted in the past, remember that Legiontown is a page where you can post information about a project your Post has done, not everything is able to get into the Legion magazine. It is also a source of ideas for projects you can do!

On the Legion national website (<u>www.legion.org</u>), there are a number of resources that are there for your use. This includes a buddy check toolkit; Be the One awareness and the USA 250 challenge.

You may want to check out on Youtube this documentary: Truths and Myths about the Vietnam War, narrated by Sam Elliott. It is about 45 minutes long and has received many positive reviews.

This Fall there will be an American Legion Baseball tribute on September 6 at Yankee Stadium along with a Holiday Discount/Gift guide in the monthly Legion magazine. Did you know that the Legion magazine has been published continuously since July 4, 1919? It is ranked in terms of male readership as #3 in the country and #8 among females. Personally, I always find a lot of good information in it.

The coming year will also see many patriotic celebrations as we look to the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The Legion Media and Communications Division is working on a toolkit that will be available to members to help with the celebration. Remember, in July, 2026, the USS Constitution will be leading the tall ships into Boston Harbor. What is your city or town doing to celebrate? Is your Post involved?

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

John Lenotte, National Executive Committeeman Department of MA; Member, American Institute of Parliamentarians. Local Board Member, Selective Service System. I may be reached at jplenotte@gmail.com





NEW ENGLAND

PGA HOPE (Helping Our Patriots Everywhere) is the flagship military program of PGA REACH, the charitable foundation of the PGA of America. PGA HOPE introduces golf to Veterans with disabilities to enhance their physical, mental, social and emotional well-being. There is <u>NO COST</u> to our veterans. With your support, we serve our veterans across New England with an emphasis on helping those with physical and emotional disabilities that would most benefit from our initiative.

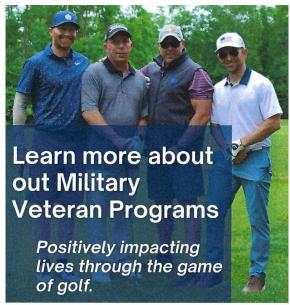
- There are more than 500 PGA HOPE programs across the country, hosted in all 50 states.
- Veteran suicide is a major issue in the Veteran community, and statistics show 22 Veterans a day commit suicide. PGA HOPE is working to change this statistic by utilizing the game of golf as a form of therapy.

Participants of PGA HOPE programs include military Veterans living with physical and cognitive challenges such as Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and amputees, among other challenges.

• In 2024, PGA HOPE will impact over 17,000 Veterans and Active Duty Military nationwide, taught by over 3,000 PGA Professionals from around the country.

PGA HOPE has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Veterans Affairs, which enables Recreational Therapists to refer Veterans to the PGA HOPE program as a form of therapy.







www.nepga.com/foundation/pgahope

EGION

Veterans post unveils reserved parking for **Purple Hearts**

by: Jonah Frangiosa—Eagle Tribune



HAVERHILL - Some wounds never fully heal, but once again, the city has done its part to honor those who bear them.

On Thursday, which was National Purple Heart Day, a blue tarp was laid across the pavement outside the American Legion Wilbur M. Comeau Post 4 on North Main Street. A long black cover masked a metal sign perched over the blue covering.

Nearby, a crowd gathered to witness as both were removed to unveil a new, reserved parking space for Purple Heart recipients. The event brought together city leaders, veterans, and community members in a show of respect for those wounded in action.

Mayor Melinda Barrett, City Coun- The audience of spectators and cil President Thomas Sullivan, Post fellow veterans rose to their feet

Commander Tim Dougherty, and former Post Commander Chris Manning stood shoulder- toshoulder before the unveiling. Beside them sat Karl Pfeil - a U.S. Marine Corps veteran who served

Mayor Mellinda Barrett and Karl Pfeil unveil the reserved parking spot's sign

13 months in Vietnam and was awarded two Purple Hearts for injuries sustained in battle.

"It's an honor to be here in the presence of Karl, who put his life on the line multiple times, stood for the country, stood for his fellow servicemen, and truly gave everything he had to his service," Barrett said. "Haverhill is a proud Purple Heart community."

to applaud him as several speakers honored his sacrifice. Manning and another veteran, Tobin Lynch, gripped two corners of the blue tarp and pulled away. As the tarp dragged, a radiant rectangle of purple paint was revealed on the newly reserved parking spot.

Now, Purple Heart recipients were designated their very own frontrow spot when visiting the post. Pfeil and Barrett positioned themselves by the commemorative metal sign and unsheathed its cover.

"RESERVED PARKING, America's Combat Wounded Veterans," the purple-bordered sign read in bold letters.

The sign also included an illustration of the medal's heart-shaped emblem shining against a white background. The symbol itself with a gold-trimming of George Washington's profile - is a storied one. First created by General Washington on Aug. 7, 1782, it was named the Badge of Military Merit and established to recognize "any singularly meritorious action," as the former president once said.

The medal was revived in 1932 in its more modern form, and is now awarded to service members who are wounded or killed in action.

Purple Heart Parking (Continued)



The Purple-painted reserved parking spot for Purple Heart recipients at American Legion Post 4.

On the 243rd anniversary of its establishment, the American Legion post paid tribute to those who received this reward.

"You don't see this in any parking lot," Manning said.
"Purple Heart recipients don't get much recognition.
When people drive into our parking lot now, we want people to know what we celebrate – veterans."

According to Manning, the idea came after a recent repainting of all the parking lines outside the Legion. It was the post's treasurer, Dave DiCeglie, who suggested reserving a space for Purple Heart recipients ahead of the national observance.

"This is how we recognize them. We have to," said Veteran Services Officer Jeffrey Hollett.

"This is a spot that's set apart as a place of honor. If you're a Purple Heart recipient, we reserve this spot for you to acknowledge your service and your sacrifice to this country."

Haverhill is among a growing number of "Purple Heart Communities." That designation was first given to the city – alongside Methuen – on Purple Heart Day in 2021. Now, just a few hundred feet from the post's reserved parking spot is another purple sign that welcomes travelers into Haverhill.

"WELCOME TO OUR PURPLE HEART CITY," the sign, stationed on the state border, reads.



Poppies

Hello All,

I am the Poppy Chairperson for the American Legion Auxiliary this year. We are going thru a transition, so I wanted to spread the news about some changes in ordering poppies. To best streamline the program I ask that before you order poppies thru us please contact me (info on poppy form) We have a limited quantity available at this time. Also note, that prices have increased this year. If you are in need of pop-

pies please remember we need up to 8 weeks to get them to you. If you have a need for poppies in a shorter time span, you can order them thru Emblem Sales which takes up to 4 weeks. Thank you for your continued support of the American Legion Auxiliary Poppy program.

Katina Polemenako

See Next Page for Poppy Order Form



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS, INC. State House, Room 545-A3 - Boston, MA 02133 Telephone:

Orders for ALL Poppy Drives

Post/Un	it Name:Post/U	Post/Unit #		
Name:	Telepi	Telephone:		
Address	:City/Town:			
Zip Coo	e: E-mail:			
	owing order is submitted to Department Headquarters to pro-	T T (47.00)		
	ALLOW 8 WEEKS FOR DE (MEMORIAL DAY ORDERS MUST BE			
We wis	to order:			
	Poppies at \$260.00 per 1000	<u>\$</u>		
	Poppies at \$ 140.00 per 500	\$		
-	Poppies at \$ 40.00 per 100	\$		
-	Poppy Kits @ \$130.00 each (includes labels)	\$		
-	Extra Labels for Poppy Kits @ \$10.00 per 100	0		
ļ	Postage & Handling:	\$		
	Total:	\$		
Enclose	d: Check \$Money Order \$	-		
This for Depart	rm must accompany order and be mailed to American Innent of MA Rm 545-A3 Boston, MA 02133 Effective 1/1/2025 POSTAGE CHART 1-500 Poppies \$12.00 501-1000 Poppies \$18.00 1001-2000 Poppies \$26.00			

For every additional portion of 1000 add \$17

Before placing order please contact: Katina Polemenako, Department Poppy Chairperson polkattone@comcast.net or call (351) 444-8650



From the Millennium—The Flag of the United States of America Jesse Limanek (MA), Americanism Commission



On July 4, 1776, the Second Continental Congress gathered in Philadelphia, and after much debate, approved the final wording of the Dec-

laration of Independence. This decision came more than year after blood had been shed at Lexington and Concord. Yet, even though the delegates of the states unanimously adopted the Declaration, this nation was nothing more than a rag-tag band of former colonies. Its soldiers were primarily part-time citizen-soldiers sign of the flag has been modified mustered to serve in local militias. They were as divided as our early leaders in cause and mission. Even flag, adopted in 1960 upon the the creation of the Continental



Emanuel Leutze, "Washington Crossing the Dela-

Army under the command of General George Washington could not to deploy that power globally. bind the nation together as one. Why? Because it lacked a symbol under which all could unite.

Either by intention or by accident, the Congress would rectify this problem by creating a symbol for the nation. On June 14, 1777, a resolution was passed stating that, "the flag of the United States declares that the flag "represents be 13 stripes, alternate red and

white" and that "the union be 13 stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation." This new flag would become one of our most important national symbols. Each of the colors on the flag would have meaning. Red, found in seven of the stripes, represents valor and bravery. White, found in the six remaining stripes, represents purity and innocence. And the blue, found in the canton, represents vigilance, perseverance, and justice.

Since it was first created, the detwenty-six times – due to the growth of the Union. Our current entry of Hawaii as our 50th state, is the longest-serving flag in our nation's history and officially turned 65-years old on July 4th, 2025.

Today, our flag is one of the most recognizable symbols on Earth. To our nation's allies, it represents freedom, democracy, and hope. To our enemies, it represents the power of our nation and its ability And to fellow our citizens, it represents so much more.

From our Pledge of Allegiance, we know the flag represents our Republic, united as "one Nation under God", and for all who hold it dear, it promises both "liberty and justice." The US Flag Code also a living country and is itself considered a living thing."

Essentially, our flag and nation are one, and the God given rights, which too many take for granted, are guaranteed to all who stand under it. But, it must be protected to ensure that freedom's light may never be extinguished.



Since the earliest days of the Republic, from the Minute Men roused from their beds by Revere, Dawes, and Prescott racing towards Concord; to the men of the 54th Massachusetts who spearheaded an assault of Fort Wagner on Morris Island, South Carolina; to the Rough Riders who followed Colonel Roosevelt up San Juan Hill; to the Marines who charged through a waist-high wheat field towards German machine gun positions in Belleau Wood; to the soldiers of the US First Army who stormed the beaches in Normandy; to the men who battled both the Chinese and artic temperatures in the Chosin Reservoir valley; to those who fended off a hidden enemy that seemingly appeared everywhere throughout South Vietnam during Tet;

SONS OF THE LEGION

From the Millennium—Continued

world fighting a Global War on Terror; and to those who served elsewhere during both times of war and peace since 1776, millions have stepped forward to ensure that the "star spangled banner yet wave." It is fitting, therefore, that we, the "proud possesto do the same within our home communities.

All members of The Sons of the American Legion are called upon to "foster and perpetuate a true spirit of Americanism." An easy way to do this is through our allegiance to the flag. During our meetings, we should proudly and loudly recite the Pledge of Allegiance. At public ceremonies, we should stand in reverence when the National Anthem is performed. We should assist with flag placements and removals at

to those deployed throughout the veterans' graves for Memorial Day. We should encourage those in our communities to familiarize themselves with the rules articulated within the US Flag Code. We should help our neighbors with he proper disposal of unserviceable flags by sharing information of when and where our sors of a priceless heritage," strive Posts perform flag retirement ceremonies. And we should educate the youth on the importance of our flag.

> If your squadron needs assistance, visit the Flag Advocacy section within the Advocacy page on Legion.org. There you will find information from the American Legion on the Pledge, Flag-Folding Procedures, and a guide to the Unserviceable Flags Ceremony, among others. It is a tremendous resource freely available for all to use.

If your Post/Squadron/Unit/

Chapter engages in flag placements for Memorial Day, please report this activity at Flying Flags for Heroes

(flyingflagsforheroes.com). The National Americanism Commission has set two annual goals for all squadrons throughout the organization: 1) the placement of one million flags, and 2) 100% participation from all Detachments.

Remember: as Sons, this is our mission - to spread the "great principles for which The American Legion stands." By encouraging patriotism, we are honoring those from which our eligibility derives. We must all do our part to "transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy" symbolized in this nation's flag. By doing so, we can ensure that, in the words of Francis Scott Key, "the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave, o'er the land of the free and home of the brave" now and forever.



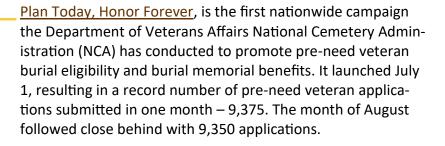


National Cemetery Administration

National Cemetery Administration launches first campaign to encourage pre-need veteran burial eligibility.

PLAN TODAY. HONOR FOREVER.

Eligible Veterans have earned VA burial and memorial benefits for themselves and their spouses.





The pre-need eligibility application allows veterans and spouses to find out if they are eligible for burial in a VA national cemetery or a VA grant-funded cemetery prior to their passing, or if they are eligible for memorial benefits such as a headstone, flat marker or bronze medallion for use in private cemeteries.

The objective of the campaign is to increase pre-need eligibility applications, build awareness of VA's burial and memorial benefits, and support end-of-life planning. Currently, the NCA

estimates that only 16% of the veteran population choose burial in a VA national cemetery. With the VA operating more than 155 national cemeteries and maintaining more than four million graves burial services at VA national cemeteries are provided at no cost to eligible veterans, their spouses and qualifying family members.

Start your pre-need application.

Pre-need applications require the veteran's Social Security number, date and place of birth, military status and service history (dates, discharge character, rank – information commonly found on a DD 214 or other separation documents). If you do not have discharge documents, NCA staff will help obtain the information needed to determine eligibility.

Since Jan. 1, 2025, NCA has approved 65,822 pre-need applications. And 300,000 applications since 2021.

Websites to help with pre-need burial:

- Plan Today, Honor Forever veterans and families
- Pre-Need Burial Eligibility
- Burial and Memorial Benefits



Department of Massachusetts
Commander's Banquet

Honoring

Scott M. Conner

Department Commander

Plainridge Park Casino

301 Washington Street Plainville, MA

Saturday, February 21st, 2026 Social - Noon Dinner Buffet - 1:00 pm

Dress Code - Casino Casual

Tickets - \$50 pp

Tables are rounds of 10

For tickets: Contact your ticket chairman

or

the Department Office at

617-727-2966 or DeptAdjutant@MassLegion.org

Checks payable to: TAL Dept of Mass

Ticket sales cutoff date - January 24th

Commander's Charity
Operation Comfort Warriors







Department Commander's Banquet Honoring Scott M. Conner

Saturday - February 21st, 2026

Copy deadline needs to be received (<u>not</u> postmarked by) in the Department office by January 24, 2026. Please plan for USPS delivery time

District #				
Post # Auxiliary #	Squadron # _	ALR #		
Check Ad Size Desired:				
7 ½" x 5"	\$60.00	Full Page		
3 ½" x 5"	\$40.00	Half Page		
1 ½" x 5"	\$25.00	Quarter Page		
Microsoft Word Format Email PRINT READY Ads to: DeptAdjutant@MassLegion.org We are unable to create ads for you. We will, however, place the Post name and address in the AdBook if a check is received without a printed ad by the time the book is submitted for print. Please see the deadline info above. Please note: We are not graphic designers Make check 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				
Please plan early and avoid disappointments!				
Ads with payments received after the deadline date will not be included in the ad book, and your payment received will be considered a donation to the Commander's Charity. Thank you for understanding and respecting the importance of the printer's deadlines!				
Any questions, feel free to call Lisa or Grace at (617) 727-2966. Thanks!				
Check #	Aı	mount \$		
Contact name and #	Contact name and #			



Department Commander Scott M. Conner Booster Sheet **Deadline is January 24, 2026**

	District #	
Post#	Unit # Squadr	on# ALR#
	\$1.00 per person	\$2.00 per Mr. & Mrs.
PLEASI	E PRINT VERY CLEARLY 🏵	NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR MISSPELLINGS
1		21
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18		38
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APPRECIATION Day SR Vice Commander Robert Jerdan Candidate for Department Commander

Donation \$35
All proceeds will be donated to Dept C&Y Specific Programs
March 7,2026

Please make all checks out to Robert Jerdan 75 Craig St Milton, MA 02186

20 Moon Island RD POST 382 SQUANTUM 12-4PM





Tyngsborough Post 247 Grand Re-Opening



LEGION Around the Department—Big E



4 state membership team at the Connecticut House on the Big E. Thank you to Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont and Rhode Island officers for a great membership outreach team.

Around the Department—West Boylston Post 204 Riders



Entering Fitchburg Airport escorting Tunnels to Towers 911 mobile museum.

LEGION Around the Department—Gold Star Memorial



EGION Around the Department—Auxiliary Presidents Testimonial













Around the Department—Holliston Post 47





Mr. Nickerson, the founder of Outpost Farm, turned 100 today. Holliston's oldest veteran. Charlie is an amazing man. So hard-working, nice, helpful, and generous. Back in the day, he was also a warrior. He lied about his age to join the army early. He volunteered for the 82nd airborne. He made all 4 combat jumps in Europe. He was awarded 2 Silver Stars for valor and a Russian valor award among others. They don't make them like him anymore.



Holliston Post 47 presented Lieutenant James Barrett with a Certificate of Appreciation for his service to the Holliston Police Department as he leaves to become the new Chief of Police in Norfolk.

Around the Department— Cherry Valley Post 443 Family at the Leicester Harvest Fair













Around the Department—POW/MIA Ceremony

POW/MIA ceremony held at Swansea Post 303 instead of the USS Massachusetts today due to the heavy rains. Chairman Anthony Dias, PDC, and his committee did a fast pivot to ensure a smooth changeover. MC was Kenneth Starks, PDC.











Around the Department—POW/MIA Ceremony Big E

Opening Day at the Big E and the American Legion was in full force. At the Connecticut State House were members of CT, MA. VT and RI, Legion, SAL and Aux all represented. Great day, lots of visitors. Started out with a POW/MIA ceremony at the Chapel, thank you Maureen Cragen and all those who stepped up to help.



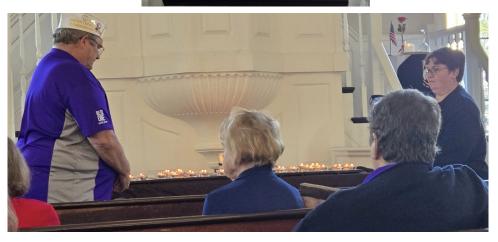






Photos by:

Department Historian
Cindy Lacoste



Vietnam Recognition Ceremony by Steve Gallant, Post 279

On September 6, 2025, the Chester P Tuttle American Legion Post 279, held a ceremony to recognize Vietnam Veterans from their post and from the town of Auburn.

To begin the event, everyone was asked to go outside to a memorial tribute to the fallen Vietnam Veterans. Surrounding the Traveling Vietnam Wall, owned by the Vietnam Veterans for the Community, Commander Rich Larson led a dedication of the memorial with the Star Spangled Banner, a prayer by Chaplain Don Legasy, a dedication of the monument



representing Soldiers that never made it back, and then Taps. When that was finished everyone reentered the banquet hall for the rest of the program.

Senior Vice Commander, Steve Gallant introduced Ray Robidoux to read a poem by Red Burnette. Steve introduced the speakers for the event, leading off with Massachusetts State Senator Michael Moore followed by Massachusetts State Representative Paul Frost. After that was the Town Manager Dori Vecchio. Following was a speech by Vietnam Veterans for the Community Phil Madaio.

Our keynote speaker of the day was the Massachusetts Commander of the American Legion, Scott Conner. Scott spoke about the committee that repatriates service members lost in battle. After the opening speeches, the names of each Vietnam Veteran was read out and the American Legion Auxiliary from the post went to them and pinned a Vietnam Tribute Lapel Pin on them and gave them a Proclamation from the President of the United States. You could see the gratitude in the faces of each Vet as they were pinned. Next there was another pinning ceremony.

The host asked if there were any wives present that supported their spouse while they were in service. They were asked to stand and the Auxiliary members approached them with a special Veterans' Spouse lapel pin. This was an unexpected bonus that was well received. Following that was a light lunch.

Thanks to the committee for their hard work in putting the event together. They were Chair Steve Gallant, Committee Members: Millie Larson, Lorie Zybus, Marsha Robidoux, Mike McNamara, Ray Robidoux, and Steve Conway. This was the conclusion of our event titled Welcome Home.





Start Date	Time	Event	Location
10/3-10/9		Fall Meeting	Indianapolis, IN
10/1/2025	1:00 PM	District 1 Meeting	Post 152, Williamstown,, MA
10/22/2025	7:00 PM	District 6 Meeting	Post 86, Braintree, MA
10/23/2025	7:00 PM	District 9 Meeting	Post 228, Somerset ,MA
11/8/2025	10:00 AM	Finance Committee, Membership Meeting, Department Executive Committee, Convention Meeting	Post 414, Sutton MA

2026 Membership Standing as of September 26 2025

	District	Goal	Current	% of Goal
1	BERKSHIRE	1120	716	63.93%
3	HAMPDEN/FRANKLIN/HAMPSHIRE	3142	1834	58.37%
4	WORCESTER	4265	2346	56.72%
5	MIDDLESEX	3312	1833	55.34%
6	NORFOLK	2190	1292	59.00%
7	SUFFOLK	1112	642	57.73%
8	ESSEX	2294	1296	56.50%
9	BRISTOL	2247	1130	50.29%
10	PLY/BARN/NAN/DUKE	3373	1928	57.16%
297	CAPITOL HILL	476	448	94.12%
462	HEADQUARTERS	867	328	37.83%
	National Quota	24,398	13,883	56.90%

Next Target Date 10/15/2025 55%



ALA Membership Eligibility

Membership in The American Legion Auxiliary shall be limited to the:



- (1) grandmothers, mothers, sisters, spouses, and direct and adopted female descendants of members of The American Legion; and
- (2) grandmothers, mothers, sisters, spouses, and direct and adopted female descendants of all men and women who served in either of the following periods: April 6, 1917, to November 11, 1918 and any time after December 7, 1941 who, being a citizen of the United States at the time of their entry therein served on active duty in the Armed Forces of any of the governments associat-

ed with the United States during either eligibility periods and died in the line of duty or after honorable discharge;

- (3) grandmothers, mothers, sisters, spouses, and direct and adopted female descendants of all men and women who were in the Armed Forces of the United States during either of the following periods: April 6, 1917, to November 11, 1918; and any time after December 7, 1941 who served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States during either eligibility periods and died in the line of duty or after honorable discharge; and
- (4) to those women who of their own right are eligible for membership in The American Legion.*
- * A woman who is eligible for American Legion membership is eligible to join the American Legion Auxiliary regardless of whether or not she is a member of The American Legion. However, eligibility of her female relatives (sister, mother, direct descendants) and/or spouse depends upon her membership in The American Legion.



2026 Membership Standing as of September 26, 2025

	District	Goal	Current	% of Goal
1	BERKSHIRE	202	27	18.12%
3	HAMPDEN/FRANKLIN HAMPSHIRE	637	105	16.48%
4	WORCESTER	1064	99	9.30%
5	MIDDLESEX	949	78	8.22%
6	NORFOLK	365	61	16.71%
7	SUFFOLK	95	18	18.95%
8	ESSEX	629	52	8.27%
9	BRISTOL	263	33	12.5%
10	PLY/BARN/NAN/DUKE	754	148	19.63%
462	HEADQUARTERS	149	27	18.12%
	National Quota	5,107	688	13.47%



September Edition of The Millennium



Go to Masslegion.org/newsletter for your copy



2026 S.A.L. Membership Standing as of September 26, 2025

	District	Goal	Current
1	BERKSHIRE		52
3	HAMPDEN/FRANKLIN / HAMPSHIRE		121
4	WORCESTER		241
5	MIDDLESEX		97
6	NORFOLK		273
7	SUFFOLK		64
8	ESSEX		81
9	BRISTOL		48
10	PLY/BARN/NAN/DUKE		111
	National Goal		1088







FUNDAY !!!

4th Sunday of the Month

Lunch

We will service a simple Lunch starting at 12:00pm until sold out or 3pm.

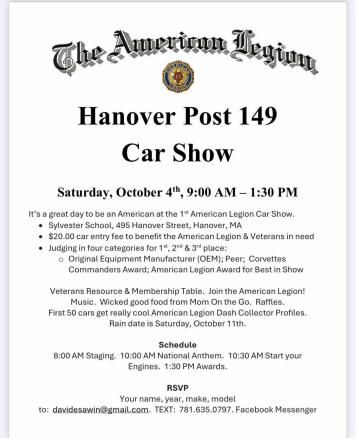
2. Win various cuts of meat or other prizes.

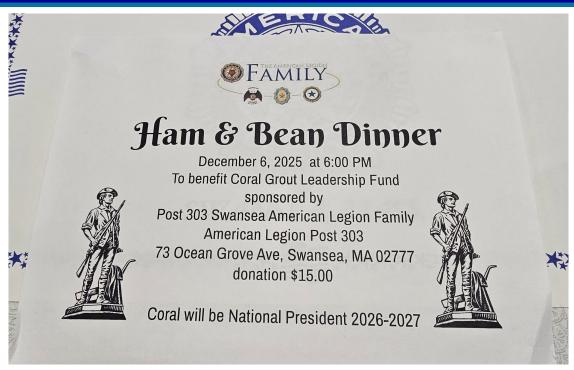
3. Tickets are randomly drawn, and winners receive their prizes.



Plymouth Memorial Hall









Bring a donation from the list of needs for our "Thanks to Yanks" drive and receive an entry for the door prize.







"Veterans Strengthening America"



Massachusetts E-Legionnaire

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

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

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Sr. Vice Commander Robert Jerdan

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Alternate National Executive Committeeman

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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:

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



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