



(802) 223-7131 EMAIL: alvthq@talofvt.com
www.vtlegion.org

Mark Your Calendars – Upcoming Events

Department Commander

Fred E. Wilson, Jr.

Good day to all.

The American Legion's motto is "Veterans Strengthening America."

The American Legion's value principles are as follows:
A VETERAN IS A VETERAN - which means The American Legion embraces all current and former members of the military and endeavors to help them transition into their communities.

SELFLESS SERVICE - which means The American Legion celebrates all who contribute to something larger than themselves and inspires others to serve and strengthen America.

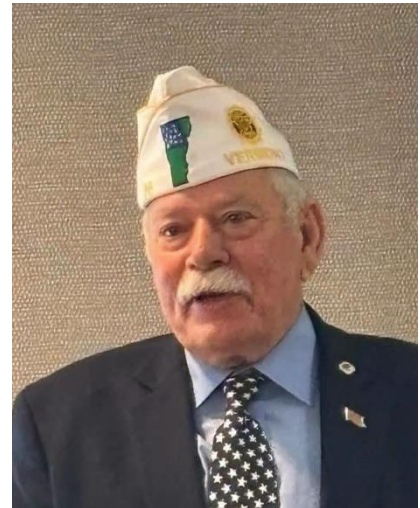
AMERICAN VALUES AND PATRIOTISM - which means The American Legion advocates for upholding and defending the United States Constitution, equal justice and opportunity for everyone and discrimination against no one, youth education, responsible citizenship, and honoring military service by seeing and participating in memorial events.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - which means The American Legion meets the unique needs of local communities.

ADVANCING THE VISION - which means The American Legion educates, mentors, and leads new generations of Americans.

HONOR THOSE WHO CAME BEFORE US - which means The American Legion pays perpetual respect for all past military sacrifices to ensure they are never forgotten by new generations. The American Legion Family! We strengthened the nation. We honor all who serve.

Commander's Project Announcement and Commander's Project Beneficiary:
VA White River Junction Suicide Prevention Program VA White River Junction Medical Center 163 Veterans Drive White River Junction, VT 05009 Main Line: (802) 295-9363. For the 2026–2027 membership year, one of my Commander's Projects will focus on a mission that stands at the heart of our duty as Legionnaires: preventing veteran suicide and strengthening the network of care that saves lives. I have designated the VA White River Junction Suicide Prevention Program as an official beneficiary of this year's Commander's Project.



Why This Program Matters: Veterans across Vermont turn to the White River Junction VA Medical Center for crisis intervention, mental-health support, and suicide-prevention outreach. Their Suicide Prevention Program delivers: Direct support to veterans at risk. Crisis follow-up and individualized safety planning. VA S.A.V.E. training for community groups and service organizations. Coordination with Vet Centers, the Vermont National Guard, and local agencies. Outreach to isolated and rural veterans who may otherwise go unseen

This mission reflects the core of the American Legion's "Be the One" initiative and aligns with our American Legion Priority #1: ensuring no veteran feels alone, forgotten, or without a path to help.

How Posts Can Support the Commander's Project: Posts, Squadrons, Riders Chapters, and Auxiliary Units are encouraged to participate through: Direct donations, Fundraising events, Dedicated proceeds from raffles, dinners, or community activities. Memorial contributions honoring departed veterans. Every dollar collected will be directed to the VA White River Junction Suicide Prevention Program to strengthen training, outreach, and life-saving intervention efforts.

Our Duty and Our Promise> The American Legion was founded on service, responsibility, and care for those who served. By supporting this program, we reinforce Vermont's ability to reach veterans in crisis and uphold the values that define our organization. I call every post in our department to join me on this mission. "Be the One" who helps save a life.

Additionally, I would like to raise \$1000.00 each for the Oratorical, Boy State, Legion Baseball and (TFA)Temporary Financial Assistance programs. Every Post will have opportunities to contribute, and every dollar will go directly toward assisting and saving people's lives here in Vermont.

Attended The Addison County Fair and Field Days, 3 Aug. - 9 August 2026. Objective: Showcase Addison County's Agricultural Heritage highlights local farming traditions, livestock, crops, and rural skills through exhibits, demonstrations, and competitions that preserve Vermont's agricultural identity. Offer space for community organizations, including veteran groups. Provide Community Education & Youth Development.

Will attend The 2026 Vermont State Fair in Rutland, Vermont will be held on August 18-22, 2026. This fair will feature 4-H/FFA shows and exhibits, livestock shows and sale, professional rodeo, motorsports show, entertainment, concerts, carnival rides, demolition derby, vendors, great food and more. Admission: Children 5 & under: and military (with ID): Free every day. Thursday (Veterans & Senior Day): Veterans & Seniors free.

Attended the National Membership Workshop on 7–8 August 2026 in Indianapolis, a two-day American Legion training event focused on: 1: Strengthening recruiting and retention skills — presentations on effective outreach, welcoming new members, and sustaining engagement. 2. Advance leadership development — responsibilities at post, district, and department levels; succession planning; mentoring future leaders. 3.

Developing actionable membership strategies — participants collaborate to build department membership plans using national vice commanders and regional groups. 4. Understand organizational processes — instruction on resolution development and how ideas become policy. 5. Explore innovative membership tools and trends — interactive sessions and best-practice sharing. 6. Support revitalization efforts — guidance on post/district revitalization and legislative priorities. 7. Advance “Be the One” integration, incorporates suicide prevention awareness into membership conversations and outreach activities.

I will attend the 107th National Convention 2026, with other members of the Vermont American Legion Family from August 28th through September 3rd, 2026, in Louisville, Kentucky.

Essex claims the 2026 Vermont American Legion Baseball State Title. Game 1: Brattleboro Post 5 def. Addison County, 19–9. Game 2: Ludlow Post 36 def. Franklin County Post 1, 10–9. Game 4: Essex Post 91 def. Lakes Region, 9–8. Game 8: Essex Post 91 def. Ludlow Post 36, 8–2. Semifinal: Essex Post 91 def. Brattleboro Post 5, 10–0 (6 innings). Semifinal: Ludlow Post 36 def. Lyndon Post 30, 8–5. Final Game 14: Essex Post 91 def. Ludlow Post 36, 9–6. Championship Game 15: Essex Post 91 def. Lyndon Post 30, 11–6.

We have celebrated America’s 250th birthday. But more importantly, we celebrate America’s promise. We stand on the shoulders of giants. Now it is our turn to lead with honor, integrity, and purpose.

I would like to visit as many posts as possible during the next ten months, please email me @ [2fredwilson@gmail](mailto:2fredwilson@gmail.com) to schedule a time and place for my visit.

Thank you for your trust. As I have stated before, I am ready to serve all legionnaires and our American Legion Family.

For God and Country, protect our troops.

Fred E. Wilson Jr.
Commander - 2026–2027
The American Legion Department of Vermont





COMMANDERS' PROJECTS FOR 2026-2027

We must sustain this mission through **fundraising**. From July 2026 through June 2027, my goal is to raise \$10,000.00 in donations to support suicide prevention (VA White River Junction Suicide Prevention Program). Additionally, I would like to raise \$1000.00 each for the Oratorical, Green Mountain Boy State, Legion Baseball and (TFA) Temporary Financial Assistance. Every Post will have opportunities to contribute, and every dollar will go directly toward assisting and saving people's lives here in Vermont.



THE AMERICAN LEGION Oratorical Contest



Senior Vice Commander – William Charron

Hello Legionnaires,

Recognizing Our Posts & Their Impact

Soon-to-be Commander Jay Bowen reminded us at the Membership Conference that *our posts need to brag about what we do*. He is absolutely right. Across Vermont, our Posts quietly accomplish extraordinary service that deserves to be recognized and shared with our communities.



Post Highlights

- Post 27 – Middlebury donated \$4,000 to local charities this month.
- Post 50 – Castleton: Legionnaire Silas Loomis volunteers *hundreds of hours* coaching football in Whitehall, NY.

These are only two examples of the many contributions our Posts make every week. Post leadership: please send your Post's recent activities, donations, events, and volunteer efforts to coach.charron@gmail.com.

Building a Community Impact List

I encourage each Post to prepare a list of *what we should be doing* to strengthen community engagement, including:

- Donations to local organizations
- Support for children and youth programs
- Opening Post Homes for community events
- Presenting Post accomplishments to town halls and selectboards

This helps our communities understand the value the American Legion brings to their towns.

Northern & Southern Revitalization Initiative

We are beginning the process of organizing Northern and Southern Revitalization Teams with support from National. This effort will require collaboration from:

- Northern & Southern Area Commanders
- District & County Commanders
- Post leadership and members
-

Revitalization is a team effort. Together, we can strengthen membership, energize community involvement, and ensure every Post has the tools needed to thrive.

I would like to invite Northern and Southern Area Commanders to attend next year's Leadership Conference. Their participation will help unify leadership, strengthen communication, and support our department's long-term goals.

Upcoming Visit – National Commander Candidate Matthew Shuman

We are arranging a visit from the current trailing candidate—soon to be the leading candidate—for National Commander, Matthew Shuman, during Saint Patrick's Day weekend in March. He is looking forward to visiting our department and meeting the Legionnaires of Vermont. This will be an excellent opportunity to showcase our Posts, our programs, and the strength of our Legion Family.

Program & Event Highlights

American Legion Baseball – State Tournament: This year's tournament was held at Fair Haven High School, the Fair Haven Rec Fields, and—due to weather—the championship game at Saint Peter's Field. The final matchup featured Essex vs. Lyndon, with Essex securing the state title. Essex then advanced to the regional tournament, finishing as regional runners-up. Outstanding work representing Post 91 and the State of Vermont.

Addison County Fair & Field Days

We had an excellent turnout at the Addison County Field Days. Karlene Devine organized an outstanding booth and coordinated a strong team of volunteers from across our Legion Family. Thank you to everyone who represented us with pride.

Vermont State Fair – Rutland

Preparations are underway for the Vermont State Fair in Rutland. Volunteer sign-ups are open here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0548ACAE2DA7FAC52-65066454-rutland#/>

Your participation is essential to making this a successful event.

Membership Conference – Indianapolis

Commander Wilson and I attended the National Membership Conference in Indianapolis, focusing on strategies to:

- Strengthening our Posts
- Reach and engage younger veterans
- Maintain and honor our outstanding long-time members

For God and Country,

Bill Charron,
Department Senior Vice Commander

NVC, PDC Ron LaRose

My Fellow Legionnaires:

At the end of this month, I will be officially the Past National Vice Commander for the Northeast Region representing the National Commander.



I want to thank the Department of Vermont for their support of me during the yearlong tour I have been on. I also thank Post 19 for supporting me. It goes without saying; I thank my family for their support in all of my travels to the Northeast Region Departments.

The Northeast Region consists of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, and France. Some Departments I visited twice, but National would not authorize me to visit France. That was the responsibility of the National Commander. Because the Northeast Region is relatively close to home, I drove to most states with the exception of flying to Pennsylvania, Delaware, District of Columbia, and once to Rhode Island.

This tour has been exciting and very informative of how other Departments work. I learned a lot more about the American Legion than I thought I knew. I met some great people along the way. I believe I was well received during all of my visits carrying the message from our National Commander. I can't remember one stop where there wasn't at least one Past National Commander in the audience. When you are speaking to a large gathering and notice a PNC in the front row, you want to present your 'A' game! I also held monthly ZOOM meetings with all NE Region Departments.

National has appointed me as the point of contact for the Department of Vermont. This means I control Call-Ins and more importantly, I will be recommending my successor when it is Vermont's turn to provide a National Vice Commander for the Northeast Region in the future. I could go into a lot more detail in this article, but I prefer to extend an opportunity to each Post to invite me, if you so desire, to a meeting and I can go into more detail of this tour. I want to encourage young 'blue hatters' to challenge themselves by educating themselves in their assigned positions and to grow within the Department of Vermont. I will be looking for that next National Vice Commander from Vermont.

I am back in Vermont and will be actively participating in Department conferences and conventions, of which I missed a year's worth during this last year.

If you are interested in inviting me to a Post meeting to talk about my tour, contact me by email: ronalddlarose@gmail.com; by telephone: 802-453-3818 (w), 802-453-7663 (h) or cell 802-989-8573.

Ron LaRose
NVC, PDC

NEC/PDC - Joseph Zickmund

Legionnaires,

As your National Executive Committeeman, I look at our upcoming 107th National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky, as more than just our largest annual gathering; it is the fulfillment of our governance and administrative responsibility. Thousands of delegates, veterans, and guests will look to national leadership to steer the course of the organization.



For those of us on the National Executive Committee, this week represents the culmination of a year's worth of oversight—fusing our ongoing responsibilities over the annual budget, statutory contracts, and constitutional updates into the collective, democratic decision-making of our 55 departments.

The importance of this convention rests in our mandate to build a bridge between local grassroots priorities and national policy. The resolutions we debate and pass on the convention floor are what directly forge the Legion's legislative agenda, giving us the teeth and authority required when presenting our mandates to Congress. Every vote we cast and every policy we establish impacts real-world outcomes for our fellow veterans—whether we are strengthening healthcare access through the VA, advancing national security initiatives, or scaling critical community programs.

It is our duty during this pivotal week to ensure that the voice of every post is heard and that our sacred obligation to America's heroes is executed with fiscal and strategic precision.

Thank you for the honor of representing the veterans of Vermont.

For God, Country, and the American Veteran,

Joe Zickmund
NEC/PDC Vermont

Northern Area Commander – Christopher Wood

Hello from the Northern Area.

My thoughts this time around revolve around the themes of mentorship and information.

I have just started my rounds across Districts one, two, and three, but so far, these two themes seem to pop up frequently. As membership declines there seems to be that one or two people that do the lion share of work at a Post while the remaining few just pay their dues and show up once in a while. Then we sit around a table later on and gripe that other people are not doing what we expect of them.



This only makes our membership angry and resentful! We as leaders need to empower these members by sharing some of the important work that we do and then recognize them as important pieces of the organization. How many Legionnaires of the year did we have last year, and how many applications did we receive?

Did you know? Many of our pieces of the organization seem to operate in a vacuum, as many times it seems that one part of the organization doesn't seem to know what is going on in another part. Did you know that the Legion Riders are doing a Legacy Ride next weekend? Have you donated money to the Veterans & Children's Foundation which is the charity the Legion Riders supports? There are many (sometimes not updated) websites, newsletters, Facebook pages, flyers, and posters etc. that seem to lead to information overload.

There are also many programs of the American Legion that are all vying for attention and support. As leaders in the organization, we have to share what we know (I listen to PDC Stub Sherman A LOT) and find effective ways to get current and relevant information between Sons of American Legion, Auxiliary, and Legion Riders.

See you all at a Post!

Christopher Wood, No. Area Cmdr.

Southern Area Commander – Richard Baptie

Greeting Fellow Legionnaires.

I hope you are all doing well.

I had the honor to work the Addison County Fair with two great veterans, Dolores Krawczyk and Karlene Devine. There was a game where the kids could spin a wheel (or adults) for a 25-cent donation or if they could say the Pledge of Allegiance, they would win a hand flag or candy. I was amazed that nearly 100% were able to correctly recite Pledge of Allegiance.



I also was honored to attend the service for Benard Sweeney who die while a POW of WWII. Private Sweeney was buried in a mass grave and was identified by forensic science. Private Sweeney had enlisted in Bennington, VT, his hometown. He returned to his hometown for interment. It was a very moving service that was well deserved.

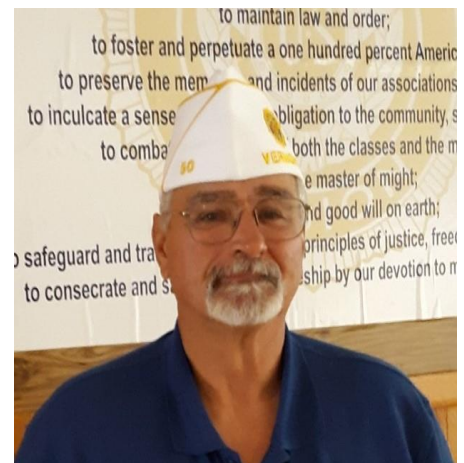
For God and Country,

Richard N. Baptie
Southern Area Commander

Department Chaplain – Stephen Frost

Greetings, fellow American Legion Family members!

I pray this message finds you well and happy. Time seems to be flying by, as of late and we should guard ourselves against the frustrations of our kind, who are, (perhaps), overachievers in our desire to serve our Legion mission and fellow veterans, children, youth and communities.



Proper mental hygiene dictates that we need to forgive ourselves for our occasional absence from the rapidly moving train of EXCELLENT causes and opportunities that are presented to us. I have observed a few folks in our community, who become stressed by the overwhelming pace, which they volunteer for, or the perception, that others among us silently require of them.

I want to remind, all, that forgiveness is one of God's greatest gifts, which he FREELY gives! I implore our membership to, not only, forgive those who struggle to meet the schedule, for any, of a variety of reasons, but, ESPECIALLY, to forgive yourself, if you find that you are at

maximum saturation, and unable to give that constant 100 percent you are known for, in your faithful service.

I find myself in this position, regularly, as I am, most often, away, due to the nature of my civilian career. It frustrates and disappoints me, often, and I apologize to you, My Dear Friends, when I am unable to commit to some of the wonderful invitations I have received, from various Posts. Let's all agree, to continue to ask each other for their presence and service, as we always have, and accept a "no thanks ", graciously.

For those, among us, who feel they haven't been asked to step forward and join in activities of The American Legion, and its programs, ALL are welcome! PLEASE volunteer, so organizers of such events can feel free to call on you when you wish to participate. Organizers LOVE to teach, train and build their bench, so they, too can catch some downtime, rest and repair.

I am abundantly proud of each of our members, who invest in membership, and readily step forward, or, for that matter, remain in reserve, to serve our mission. Choose wisely, try a variety of paths of service, and awaken your soul, in service to our mission.

Finally, Cindy and I were honored to meet Post 50 Commander Rich Baptie, PDC Cathy Tester, (with her Son), and other representatives of Post 13, for the interment, at Park Lawn Cemetery, in Bennington, of the repatriated remains of WWII Army Air Corps PFC Bernard Sweet, who succumbed to illness in a Pacific POW prison, after having endured the Bataan Death March.

His family farm, in Bennington was down the road from my childhood home, and I hunted there, as a child, not knowing the storied history and tragic events of my neighboring family, and their heroic son. We were grateful to the Bennington VFW, for an excellent service and their kind stewardship of this solemn event, as well as their hospitality in house, after the funeral.

Dear Friends, I look forward to seeing you, soon, and ask you to look after yourselves, as well as our ailing members. Please reflect on what I shared with you, on this day. See if you recognize yourselves, here, and take VERY good care of your bodies and Spirits. Pray for a frame of mind, that allows you to rest, now and then. Pray to our Holy Father for a forgiveness of self, and others, whom you may recognize as having walked along this path, too vigorously. Take a breath.... Meditate on pleasurable pastimes and rebuild for your next iteration of service. Love yourself!

Love one another and remain faithful to God and His Eternal Promise for humankind.
May He Bless each of you, evermore!

Stephen Frost,
Department Chaplain

2nd District Commander – Scott Leigh

Hope everyone is having a good summer.

Make sure and do your buddy checks. For some Veterans it's the only communication they get.

It would be nice to see all Posts send a few members to their local nursing homes to visit Veterans; it would mean the world to them.

Keep working hard on membership it's a never-ending battle but our most important fight.

God bless our deployed troops.

For God and Country,
2nd District Commander, Scott Leigh



3rd District Commander – Wayne Goulet

Legionnaires,

Thank you for selecting me as your Third District Commander. During the upcoming weeks, I will contact all posts in the district to schedule a visit and find out the exciting things your post is doing.

Since this is the month of August, I would like to highlight two past events that were made possible because of American Legion support.



August 9, 1921: The U.S. Veterans Bureau is created. The U.S. Veterans Bureau was a historical independent federal agency established in 1921 to handle veteran relief, hospital care, and disability insurance. It merged into the Veterans Administration in 1930, which later became today's U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

August 26, 1982: The American Legion donated \$1 million to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund as the wall's largest single contributor. The [Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund](#) (VVMF) is the nonprofit organization established in 1979 by Jan Scruggs and fellow veterans. Operating without ongoing federal funding, VVMF preserves The Wall's legacy, maintains the site, and runs national outreach program

4th District Commander – Dolores Krawczyk

Hello Brothers and Sisters in arms

I'm truly grateful for the warm welcome at several American Legion Posts I've visited. There are a lot of great activities happening with devoted staff and volunteers. As department officials, we continue to stress sharing what has been successful at your Post. Every post may increase their membership by sharing those added incentives with other Posts. A free luncheon for those (early birds) who pay their 2027 membership dues before November 2026 is a great example.



We have the privilege of having a booth at most Statewide fairs. That's our prime opportunity to reach out to Veterans and inform them of the benefits that go along with membership. This year we're having the entire American Legion family manning the fairs.

Truly a great idea to work together and have some fun while conducting some grassroots outreach. We need more dedicated volunteers to sign up for a shift between August 18 through August 22nd. Together we can grow and create an obligation to our communities, a sense of Americanism and remind others of the core principles by which our Country was founded on.

For God and Country

4th District Commander
Dolores Krawczyk

5th District Commander – Lew Graham

Greetings, All,

National is coming up and keeping folks busy, but after that I will be calling for a District meeting. It has been quite a while since we have fielded a quorum and there is business to be conducted. Please let me know whether you prefer an in-person meeting or include a Zoom option to save travel.

We are still looking for a Windsor County Commander, so please step up or encourage someone else to support our district. They are the local face of the Legion to the public and are a bedrock of our organization supporting the Post members.



This summer has been a good one for American Legion Baseball. District 5 had three teams playing and Post 36's team took third place. It is such a pleasure to see the enthusiasm in our young players.

It is great that we have a DSO back on board. Larry Thompson has done a good job for me, and I encourage anyone who needs his services to give him a call. It's good to have his expertise on your side.

I am recovering from surgery and unable to attend National this year but should be back to normal by the end of September. Have a great end of summer and give grace to the leaf peepers, Vermont can use their visits this year as always.

If you have any questions or suggestions, my phone is 802-279-0441.

For God and country

Lew Graham

Essex County Commander – Roy McKinnon

I have been working on evaluations, if I have not contacted your Post I will be doing so upon returning from the National Convention.

I see that Posts are already working hard on membership, keep up the good work. We still need help at local fairs and events from local Posts.

The Summer is going by fast, and I have seen that most Posts are hosting 250th events, car shows, BBQs, and helping with community events.

The last thing I would like to mention is for all Posts to do buddy checks on members, young and old. Please ensure all veterans know that we are here to help with anything we can.

Roy "Buz" McKinnon
Essex County Commander/ 2nd District Sargent at Arms
603 331-5000
Buzzmckinnon@gmail.com



Membership Director/SAL Advisor – PDC, Bill Brothers

Hello Everyone Hope all are doing well.

I had the opportunity to attend the Sons of the American Legion - Detachment of Vermont's DEC meeting and they are doing well and have put a good membership plan in place, as well as a slate of officers that all seem to be on track with a plan moving forward.



Membership teams are now working the local and county fairs with booths set up to educate people on what our mission is and what we do for our communities and veterans in the State. I know with membership I will be setting up zoom meetings when I get back from National Convention with all district and county commanders so we can work as one on helping Posts that need help with membership and retention. If anyone has needs in the area of revitalization, let us know and we will be there to help with it.

As you all have heard we had a great legion baseball season this year. Congratulations to Colchester's baseball team on a great year. We are now getting ready to go to Louisville for National Convention and I hope to bring back some great information from it this year and see what National has for us this coming year regarding membership.

Remember to do buddy checks on veterans that might need something or just to see how they are doing. I want to send a thank you to Senior Vice Commander Bill Charron on his job with legion baseball and everyone else that was involved, thank you all.

Thank you all again for what you all are doing for membership.

For God and Country,

PDC William Brothers

Post Everlasting
Gone but Never Forgotten...

Webb, Edward ... 13	Jackson, Joseph ... 27
Fortin, Lionel ... 19	Ross, John ... 27
Keller, Jay Dr. ... 19	Wright, III H.K. ... 27
Plunkett, John ... 19	Orth, Thomas ... 37
Perras, Lionel ... 19	Daley, William ... 39
Place, Larry ... 19	Prehemo, Henry ... 47
Kelley, Roland ... 21	Therrien, Philip ... 47
Tokarski, Joseph ... 24	Lyman, Raymond ... 49
Gould, Bruce ... 24	
Cassin, Raymond ... 27	
Bigelow, Cleon ... 27	





Mark Your Calendars – Upcoming Events

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HQ Closed – August 24th – 30th Vacation

National Convention Louisville KY August 27th – September 3rd

Fall Conference – October 17th Rutland Post 31

**National Commander Visits Vermont! October 22, 23, 24th
(Info coming!)**

**Directory is in the works! If you have NEW phone, email, address let
us know @ HQ!**

**Website is updated and continues to be, check out New info and
updated photos!**

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2026 Green Mountain Boys' State Recap — Dave Cobb

Introduction

From June 21-26, 2026, Saint Michael's College hosted the Green Mountain Boys' State program. This year's session brought together 42 delegates representing over 20 different high schools from across the state for an immersive leadership experience.

Program Highlights

The week was enriched by a diverse range of guest speakers. Professionals from state government, the military, and various non-profit organizations shared their expertise, providing delegates with unique insights into public service and civic engagement.

State Leadership

- **Governor:** Momin Waquar, South Burlington High School
- **Lt. Governor:** Sam Martin, Saint Johnsbury Academy
- **Secretary of State:** Marshall Somerville, Albany Academy
- **State Treasurer:** Alex Harlow, Milton High School
- **Auditor of Accounts:** Brayden Hill, Rice Memorial High School
- **Attorney General:** Reed Cousino, Mt. Abraham Union High School

Scholarship Recipients

- **Daniel Murphy:** NVU scholarship
- **John Tanner:** Cobb Scholarship
- **Hardy Toof:** Messier Scholarship
- **Forrest Barnes:** Curtis Scholarship
- **William Carter:** Loyzelle Scholarship

Commitment to Service

A significant number of delegates expressed interest in attending a military academy and serving our country. To support these ambitions, several letters of recommendation will be written for a selection of delegates across the different military academies.

Gratitude

We express our sincere gratitude to the Vermont American Legion and all Local Posts. Their vital funding made this transformative experience possible for our students, and we thank them for their continued support of Vermont's youth.



August 2, 2026

**American Legion Riders
Department of Vermont**

Dear American Legion Riders Chapter Officers and Members,

The Department of Vermont American Legion Riders is currently reviewing the 2019 Department Constitution and Bylaws to ensure they continue to meet the needs of our Chapters and members across the state.

As part of this review process, we are seeking input, recommendations, and suggested amendments from all Chapters. Your experience and perspective are important in helping us maintain governing documents that are clear, effective, and reflective of the needs of today's Riders program.

We encourage your Chapter to review the current Constitution and Bylaws and submit any proposed changes, additions, deletions, or areas that may require clarification. Please include the specific article, section, or paragraph being addressed, along with the rationale for the proposed change.

Areas for consideration may include:

- Membership requirements
- Officer duties and responsibilities
- Elections and appointments
- Meetings and voting procedures
- Chapter organization and operations
- Department structure and governance
- Any other provisions that may need updating or clarification

Please submit your recommendations **no later than September 15 2026**. Allowing adequate time for review and consideration before any proposed amendments are presented for action.

All submissions can be sent to: Brian Massey Jr.

Email: brian.massey.jr@gmail.com

Mailing address: P.O. Box 1 Northfield, VT 05663

All suggestions will be reviewed and discussed as part of the constitutional review process. We appreciate your participation and commitment to strengthening the American Legion Riders program throughout Vermont.

Thank you for your continued dedication to our veterans, our communities, and the American Legion Family.

For God and Country,

Brian Massey Jr.
Constitution & Bylaws Chairman
Department Safety Officer
American Legion Riders
Department of Vermont