



American Legion
Department of Vermont
Monthly Bulletin

May 2022

"For God and Country"



DEPARTMENT OF VERMONT COMMANDER

Catherine M. Tester

Vice Commander of Post 1819 Kevin Hawley and I had the honor of presenting Scholastic and Leadership awards to 24 Norwich Cadets on April 19. And on April 30, Department Historian Victor Stone, Colchester Post 91 and 1st District Sgt of Arms Henry Lingo and I attended and presented UVM ROTC awards. These fine young men and women are our future, and it was an honor to present these awards and bring visibility to the American Legion.

Northern Area Commander and Reconnect Committee Chair Mark Cloutier, Past President Corrina Colson and I attended the deployment ceremony for the Vermont Air National Guard 158th Fighter Wing's deployment to Europe. Mark and I had the honor of presenting a ceremonial blue star banner to a family. All other family members were given a flag before they left the ceremony to fly proudly.

Department Detachment Jeremy Revell, several SONS and Legion members and I joined Preston Sharp's "Flags and Flowers" tour in

Green Mount Cemetery in Montpelier placing flags and flowers on veterans graves. Vermont was the last stop on Preston's recent trip. Preston has honored veterans in 41 states and honored around 280,000 veterans. He began his mission when he was 10. You can read more about him and "Flags and Flowers" at <https://prestonsharp.net/>.

Most Posts are holding elections or have already had elections. Thank you to those officers who have stepped up to lead their Posts in this great organization. As a reminder, send your contact information to Department of your elected officers and contact your District Commander to schedule our Posts installation.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Annual Convention. It starts off with a Golf Tournament on June 23 and a Legion Riders Ride-in at Noon to kick off the opening ceremonies on Friday, June 24.

For God and Country,
Catherine M. Tester
Department Commander

Happy Spring,

I hope that everyone is able to enjoy some of the recent sunshine that we have been having, seeing green grass, birds and peepers chirping is very welcome.

Thank you to all of the posts, legions, Sons Squadrons, Auxiliary Units and private businesses that donated to my Commander's project to preserve the bell at the Bennington Vermont Veterans home. I am amazed and in awe by your generous donations. THANK YOU. This past month I attended the Vermont Veterans Home Board meeting and reviewed the project. We are hoping to break ground very soon. If you have not donated and would like to please mail your donation to the Department with a note on the memo line for "Commanders Project".

Sr. Vice Commander Scanlon, 1st



PAUL E. DILLARD

NATIONAL COMMANDER

AMERICAN LEGION



Dear American Legion Family and Friends,

If you ever want to feel reassured about the future of our country, I highly recommend volunteering for an American Legion youth program.

The alumni list of our programs reads like a “who’s who” of people shaping America. It includes a former president, at least two vice presidents, senators, governors, supreme court justices, professional athletes, entertainment icons, military leaders and corporate CEOs.

After exiting the Constitutional Convention, Benjamin Franklin famously replied to a curious onlooker that the delegates drafted, “A Republic, if you can keep it!”

If you worry about our nation’s future, [I recommend you watch the final round of](#)

‘A Republic, If You Can Keep It’

[The American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program that occurred in Indianapolis April 24.](#)

[Emma Noble](#), a junior from Alabama School of Fine Arts in Birmingham, placed first and earned a \$25,000 college scholarship. High school seniors [Ashley Tuell](#) and [Jackson Boone](#) finished second and third respectively. All have extensive knowledge of the Constitution, outstanding communication skills and extremely bright futures.

We also see thousands of other bright lights excel in Boys & Girls State, Junior Shooting Sports, American Legion Baseball, Junior ROTC and Legion-sponsored Scout troops.

Nearly every time I walk the halls of Congress or tour a military installation, one or more impressive leaders will mention to me about their experience as a participant in one of our great programs.

This is no coincidence. The young men and women who

participate in our programs are the best that America offers. On top of proven skill, they have exhibited values such as patriotism, good citizenship and a solid work ethic.

Every mainstream newscast seems to focus on the many problems and challenges that our nation faces. Fair enough, but this is also a nation that endured the Civil War, Jim Crow, a Great Depression, two world wars, terrorism and massive natural disasters. Yet we continue to recover and prosper.

So, in response to Mr. Franklin, I believe we will keep this Republic, and that Emma, Ashley, Jackson and thousands of American Legion youth alumni will be a major reason why.

For God and Country,

Paul E. Dillard

National Commander

For God and Country,

Paul E. Dillard



Remember -
our fallen heros.
They are the reason
that we are free.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Department Commander	1	Annual Convention Banquet Information	16
National Commander	2	Annual Convention Hotel Info	17
Sr. Vice Commander	4	Convention Agenda	18
Northern Area Commander	5	Department Service Officer Want Ad	20
Save the Date, Department Convention	5	Education and Scholarship Awards	21
Department Chaplain	6	Department Golf Tournament	22
Legion Riders	6	Hole Sponsor for Dept. Golf Tournament	23
District 2 Commander	7	A Way in the Wilderness	24
District 5 Commander	8	Army Reserve Ambassador	25
Caledonia County Commander	8	Oratorical	26
VA Adds Respiratory Cancers	9	Endorsement of Department Officers	27
ROTC Cadet Awards	10	Post Everlasting	28
Bennington County Commander	11	Department Commanders Project	29
Post 12 Displays Special Banners	11	Auxiliary President Project	30
Green Mountain Boys State	12	SAL Commanders Project	31
Call to Department Convention	13		

SUICIDE

If you or someone you know is experiencing suicidal thoughts, please call the crisis line at 1-800-273-8255, press 1 for veterans. You could also text at **838255**.



Commander Tester's Motto for the year:

*"Have a goal for tomorrow,
A plan for today,
And remember the lessons of yesterday."*



SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Tom Scanlon

In the past year I have authored articles about membership, Law and Order Program, reconnect, LIT, commissions/committees, etc. However nothing has been written about the rituals and traditions of the American Legion and the importance of the same. Why is it important to have a POW/MIA Chair and ceremony at meetings and events, or to read the Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion and recite the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of meetings? Most of the answers to these questions are very evident.

All of the items mentioned above

are for the most part ceremonial rituals steeped in history and tradition. Just like the military ritual provides guidance throughout one's service, and ours while a member in the American Legion. We share rituals as part of a common identity. That being a member of the American Legion. Ritual is important to us as human beings. It ties us to the important past where traditions were first established and from where our history as an organization first evolved. Just look at the first sentence of the Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion; "For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes". It leads us to what we must do and accomplish in this great organization. It has provided us with important guidance since its early

days in 1919.

We all must remember that these rituals actually helps us to attract new members and to maintain those that are currently with us. It gives us identity. However, there is a down side as C.S. Lewis so aptly described; "The modern habit of doing ceremonial things unceremoniously is no proof of humility; rather it proves the offender's inability to forget himself in the rite, and his readiness to spoil for everyone else the proper pleasure of ritual." Our American Legion rituals and traditions form the very fabric of this great organization, and we should all embrace them.

Veterans Inquiring About Assistance

Vermont Residents

Please contact Rhonda at the Department of Vermont Veterans Affairs at 802-828-3379 or for additional information visit their website at: <https://veterans.vermont.gov/office-veterans-affairs/office-veterans-affairs-staff>

New Hampshire Residents

Please contact The Department of New Hampshire American Legion Service Officer, Michael Hartt at 603-222-5786 or for additional information visit their website at: <https://legionnh.org/page/content/services/departmentservice-officer>

If you have general questions, please contact The American Legion Department headquarters at 802-233-7131 or email at alvthq@talofvt.com during regular business hours



NORTHERN AREA COMMANDER

Mark Cloutier

Welcome fellow Legionnaires.

Hopefully the snow is finally gone, and the warmer weather is here to stay.

Department Commander Catherine Tester, Auxiliary PDP and NEC Corrinna Colson and I were able to attend the deployment ceremony for the VTANG Green Mountain Boys. This is the first time that I have been to one of these and I can say that it a humbling experience. Commander Tester and I were invited to the stage to present a Blue Star Banner to the Lucey Family. Both parents serve in the VTANG and

the father is the one being deployed. It was truly an honor to present this banner.

If any of you have attended an event like this, or any event with our local military or their families, please let me know. There is a Reconnect form for us to fill out so we can get credit for it from National headquarters. I also need this information for my end of the year report at State Convention in June.

I know that most posts have now had their post officer elections and that means that officers *must* be installed. If there have not yet been officer installations, please contact your district commanders to make arrangements. If the dis-

trict commanders are not available, please check with your county commanders as they can do the installations also.

Lastly please get your Consolidated post reports to Melodie at Dept Headquarters.

Be safe and stay healthy!

I can be reached at **802-371-8097**, by email post7adj@gmail.com, or just shoot me a message on Facebook.

Mark Cloutier

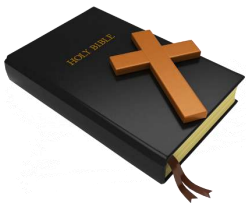
Northern Area Commander, Department of Vermont
For God and Country

Save The Date Department Annual Convention

Mark your calendars and begin planning to attend The American Legion Department of Vermont's 103rd Convention, **June 23 - 25, 2022**. The Double Tree by Hilton in South Burlington has been selected as the site location.

The cost of rooms will be \$179.99 plus tax and Banquet on Friday evening will be \$35 per person. More information on when you can reserve your room and banquet tickets will be forthcoming in the March Bulletin





DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN

Ken Coonradt

Howdy Legionnaires,

This is a good time to thank God for creating the four seasons. Especially the Spring season. We've finally made it through the winter and the mud season. Looking out our kitchen window we notice the pussy willows beginning to burst and patches of green grass are quite visible. The bird feeder is abuzz with blue jays, cardinals, chickadees, red wing black birds and doves. Love the doves, they are so gentle and don't get aggressive like some others. Doves do their eating on the ground, don't bother the other birds, and come and go without being noticed. The blue jays are very bossy, they shush the others away until they get their fill and then the others are left to eat in peace. I even have quite a good crop of very fat squirrels bounding around. Soon we'll see the trees budding and flowers abound. It's a wonderful time of the year, praise God.

Hope everyone reflected on the great entrance Jesus made into Jerusalem and realized on Good Friday He took our sins to the cross. We can never repay that sacrifice He made for all of us. And even more meaningful, the fact that He gave us the gift of everlasting life after death. Our bodies will return to dust, but our souls will reside with God forever. Praise God for His wisdom, love, and blessings.

Please pray for all our veterans and troops serving around the world.

God bless,

Chaplain Ken

Greetings Riders,

Riding Season is here! I know some of you "Diehards" have been at it for a little while already despite the rather chilly start to the season. Good for you! Enjoy it all you can. Here are a few items for your consideration:

The Riders of Lyndon Post 30 are holding their 1st Annual Bike Show on 21 May at Lyndon Post 30 on Memorial Drive on the Lyndon/St. Johnsbury line, from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Registration is \$5.00 per bike, followed by Chicken BBQ/Pulled Pork, Baked Beans, Salad, and Dessert, with a live band – The FOG at \$20 per person.

The Ride-to-Convention (June 23-26 at the Double Tree in Burlington) is in the process of being planned. I'll provide more information as it becomes available.

Our Department-wide Summer Rally is being hosted by the Riders of Lyndon Post 30 on 23 July. This will be in conjunction with their 3rd Annual Ride for Homeless Vets. You may choose to join the ride and attend the Summer Rally at the end of it, or you may feel free to just show up for the Rally after the ride returns. The details as I currently understand them are that Registration for the ride begins at 9:00 AM with kickstands up at 11:00 AM. Coffee and donuts will be available for the participants. The Summer Rally will begin after the ride returns, which should be at around 2:00 PM, with a brief meeting and an opportunity for some social time. The day will also include a silent auction, entertainment, and food. This is a great opportunity to support a good cause and to socialize with other Riders



and their Chapters. We hope to see you there!

As always, if you have anything you want shared via the Bulletin or put out on my mail list, please feel free to let me know. I can be reached by email (preferred) at trollfur@yahoo.com or by phone at 802-272-0416.

Ride Safely,

Lou Furry
Director
American Legion Riders
Department of Vermont



DISTRICT TWO COMMANDER

Lou Furry

Greetings Legionnaires,

There are two items I'd like to offer this month.

The first is that it is now "Installation Season". Many Posts have held elections of officers, or are in the process of doing so. Those officers need to be installed. Lyndon Post 30 was installed on 1 May and Hardwick Post 7 is scheduled for 19 May. Until Convention on June 23-26, 2nd District Posts may feel free to contact me to schedule installations via email (preferred) at troll-fur@yahoo.com or by phone at 802-272-0416. After Convention, you will have a new 2nd District Commander, as I am running for Northern Area Commander.

The second item:

As we all know (or should...), meetings of The American Legion are governed by Robert's Rules of Order.

I would therefore like to offer a little bit of education on Parliamentary Procedure.

One of the most misused, abused and "weaponized" motions that I have seen used in recent history at our meetings, be they at Posts, Department

Executive Committee, or Conventions, is the motion "to Call the Question," which has the technical name of "Move the Previous Question" in Robert's Rules of Order. It is very common for people to shout out the word "question" or "I call the question" in the expectation that debate will immediately stop, and a vote will be taken. This is NOT CORRECT.

THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT "CALLING THE QUESTION"

1. A member must have the floor in order to make this motion. Raise your hand and wait until the chair gives you the nod – "recognizes you" – before speaking.

2. When you make this motion, you are only suggesting that YOU would like to stop debate and vote. It is an expression of your wish, and nothing more.

3. This motion requires a second. There have to be at least two people in the room who want to cut off debate before it can be considered.

4. This motion cannot be discussed or debated. As soon as the chair hears a second, they immediately take the vote.

5. It takes TWO-THIRDS of the voting members in favor to cut off debate. Therefore, the chair should take the vote by show of hands, and not by voice.

6. If indeed two-thirds of the group want to stop debate and vote, then the chair immediately takes the vote on the pending motion – the motion that the group is considering at this time. No further discussion is allowed.

That is it in a brief form. For more detailed information on this particular motion, which takes up a lot more room than I have here, I would refer you to Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised, 12th Edition, Section 16.

Because the "weaponization" of this motion stifles healthy debate and prevents opposing views from being heard, I'll also refer you to Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised, 12th Edition, Section 23 for "Point of Order", which you will be hearing me shout whenever I hear the "Call the Question" motion being misused in the future.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lou Furry



DISTRICT FIVE COMMANDER

Lew Graham

Once again it is great to see we are still focusing on membership. We have 2 posts over 95% and Posts 17 and 43 have made 100%! With Memorial Day coming up it is a great opportunity to congratulate these posts and know that they are dedicated to remembering our fallen and honoring our living veterans. Many thanks to Commander Tester for taking the time to come down and install Ballard-Hobart Post 36's new officers and stay for refreshments and conversation. The Auxiliary of Post 36 has the first male Unit President in Vermont. What a great milestone just two years after men were able to qualify as Auxiliary members. Department Convention and National Convention are coming up. Each Post is

authorized a certain number of voting delegates. If you are interested in being a delegate to either convention, please contact your adjutant so you can take the steps necessary to get elected as one. I would like to visit each Post and install or meet your new officers. Please email me with a date and time and I will try my best to meet your schedule. Also please send me any events your post is planning so we can get the information out to all our District folks. The more the merrier when there are chances to get together and support our mission.

For God and Country
Lew Graham
District 5 Commander



CALEDONIA COUNTY COMMANDER

David W. Perron

Good by April and hopes May warms us all up. June is around the corner start thinking and planning for Convention. Time to book hotel and get your numbers in for Banquet. Membership starts with you!!!!!! Let's make are Post stronger and healthy. Everyone's job!!!!!! Keep up the good work with all actives throughout all Post. There's a good article in April's Dispatch. On page four **How to find expired members and non-renewals**. Step by step instructions on how to.

Please let me know if I can do anything to help with anything you folks need.

COUNTY COMMANDERS- I'll be doing up an end of year Evaluation report, please let me know if numbers have changed for being completed.

Membership, Membership WE CAN DO THIS.

Contact #'s Home-525-3895 Cell 272-2793

Perrondavid323@yahoo.com

David W Perron

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced the addition of nine rare respiratory cancers

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced the addition of nine rare respiratory cancers to the list of conditions [presumed to be service-connected](#) due to military environmental exposure to fine particulate matter.

VA determined through a focused review of scientific and medical evidence there is biological plausibility between airborne hazards, specifically particulate matter, and carcinogenesis of the respiratory tract, and that the unique circumstances of these rare cancers warrant a presumption of service connection.

Based on these findings, VA published an interim final rule establishing presumptions of service connection for several rare respiratory cancers for certain Veterans. These cancers include:

- Squamous cell carcinoma of the larynx;
- Squamous cell carcinoma of the trachea;
- Adenocarcinoma of the trachea;
- Salivary gland-type tumors of the trachea;
- Adenosquamous carcinoma of the lung;
- Large cell carcinoma of the lung;
- Salivary gland-type tumors of the lung;
- Sarcomatoid carcinoma of the lung; and
- Typical and atypical carcinoid of the lung.

The rarity and severity of these illnesses, and the reality that these conditions present a situation where it prompted us to take action. We are utilizing a new approach, one that takes all available science into account, with one goal in mind— getting today’s Veterans—and Veterans in the decades ahead—the benefits they deserve, as fast as possible. We are fulfilling our promises to provide more care, more benefits and more services to more Veterans than ever before.

VA focused its rule on the rare respiratory cancers above for Veterans who served any amount of time in the [Southwest Asia theater of operations and other locations](#). VA invited and will consider public comments as part of this process.

VA focused its rule on the rare respiratory cancers for Veterans who served any amount of time in the Southwest Asia theater of operations and other locations. VA invited and will consider public comments as part of this process.

VA will contact impacted Veterans and survivors to inform them about potential eligibility.

To apply for benefits, Veterans and survivors may visit [VA.gov](#) or call toll-free at 800-827-1000.

Pool table for sale

Hartford Post 26 - Pool Table for Sale

Slate – Excellent Condition

Taken all apart for Moving

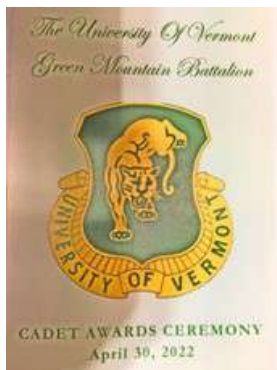
Call Fred Stebbins at 802-296-2236 to schedule a time to take a look and make an offer!

ROTC Cadet Award Ceremonies

As the academic year winds down and with graduation and commissioning ceremonies on the horizon, both Norwich University and the University of Vermont held special events to honor and recognize those Cadets and Midshipmen whose progress, contribution, and performance appreciably advanced their respective organizations.



On April 19, 2022 Dept. Commander Cathy Tester, Sr. Vice Commander Tom Scanlon and 1st Vice Commander Post 1819 Kevin Hawley attended the Norwich University Tri-Service Awards Ceremony in Northfield. They presented American Legion Military Excellence Awards to eight Cadets and four Midshipmen who demonstrated general military excellence during the school year. Additionally, they presented American Legion Scholastic Excellence awards to a dozen students.



Later in the month on April 30th Dept. Commander Tester, ably assisted by Colchester Post #91 Commander and Dept. Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, Henry Lingo and Dept. Historian Victor Stone, attended the University of Vermont Green Mountain Battalion Cadet Award Ceremony. At UVM the American Legion Military Excellence Award was presented to one Junior and one Senior who were in the top 25% of his or her respective ROTC academic class and have demonstrated outstanding qualities in leadership, discipline and character. The American Legion Military Scholastic Award was presented to a junior and a senior who were in the top 25% of their classes and had demonstrated outstanding qualities in leadership, discipline and character and participated in community activities or sports.

At both institutions it was obvious that their ROTC programs are producing high quality, talented, enthusiastic and motivated young men and women who will serve as the future leaders of our Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines. The American Legion offers its highest congratulations to both Universities.



Interesting UVM factoids:

During the War of 1812 UVM was closed in order to allow students and faculty to serve in the military

The Land Grant Act of 1866 initiated military training at UVM

In 1874 the U.S. Army assigned an Officer to serve as the first Professor of Military Science at the University

In 1921 UVM granted commissions to graduating Cadets for the first time

The UVM ROTC program hosts students from UVM, Champlain College, Middlebury College, and St. Michael's College



BENNINGTON COUNTY COMMANDER

Joe Bump

Comrades,

Hard to believe that May is here. Hopefully the weather is turning favorable and the flowers are growing. This is a busy month for the posts. The elections should be over and you should be looking ahead to installation. There are testimonials and dinners, the posts are getting active, the outdoors are opening up and convention is right around the corner. I sincerely hope that each of you is healthy and I will be getting out to the posts as I can. I am once again running for County Commander and

hope you will support me. Try to plan and attend convention. It is an opportunity to see old friends, contribute to the department issues and vote for the new leadership. Let me know if you need assistance with anything. Your District commander is available for installations and so am I. Let me know if you need one of us. Try to get out and visit a post, enjoy the weather and stay healthy. Hope to see you all soon.

Joe Bump, Commander
Bennington County

Richford Post 12 Displays Special Banners in Time for Memorial Day



This year the Richford Legion had banners made for the 19 men who have been KIA from our town since WWI. We also have included a banner for each branch of the service as well as Post banners and POW banners.



May, 2022

Fellow Legionnaires,

Greeting from Boys' State. By the time this message gets to you, we will be well underway to hosting the 82nd edition of the program.

Your staff is working diligently to overcome the recruiting challenges presented by the COVID-19 epidemic. We face significant barriers because we have lost the most valuable component of our program – the satisfied customer! Encouragement and information from the preceding year delegates is our most effective recruiting tool. After no program in 2020 and an abbreviated one in 2021, we have been working the phones and e-mails to keep our program name in the forefront of school counselors and our supporting Legion Posts.

Thank you for stepping up and supporting your local high schools!!! We have received many calls from Legion Posts who are in contact with schools, potential delegates and families in support of Boys' State 2022. You have opened up the lines of communication, and your checkbooks, to engage our young men in conversation about the benefits of the program. This will bode well for years to come as we look to promote the youth programs of the sectors of our American Legion Family.

- At this time, we are in the middle of our recruitment process, and still have two weeks to go. We are cautiously optimistic that we will exceed the number of delegates (37) from 2021.
- We are in contact with state and local legislators who serve as volunteer resources for the guys.
- We have met with the staff at Northern Vermont University – Lyndon to plan and organize the program, housing, and staffing needs necessary to have a successful week.
- We continue phone and e-mail contacts with high school guidance and administrators in support of their recruiting efforts.

We have received approval to invite family members and Legionnaires to the Wednesday night program. (June 22 – 7:00 PM – Twilight Theater, NVU-Lyndon campus) It's still too early to tell if we will have a Band in 2022. However, we will hold the inauguration of our newly-elected executive branch officers, and pay tribute to the men and women of the American Legion who make this program possible.

Headed back to work now. Please feel free to contact me at any time with questions, concerns, and great ideas!

For God and Country,

Dave Cobb
GMBS Director

Dave Cobb, Director
227 Brigham Hill Road
Essex Junction, Vermont 05452
dave.cobb.vt@gmail.com

802 535.2716



THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF VERMONT
P O BOX 396
MONTPELIER VT 05601-0396
WEB-SITE: www.vtlegion.org

CALL TO DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

THE 103rd ANNUAL CONVENTION, THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF VERMONT IS HEREBY CALLED IN CONFORMITY WITH THE ACTION OF THE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL CONVENTION COMMITTEE AND WILL BE HELD IN SO. BURLINGTON, VERMONT AT THE DOUBLETREE BY HILTON HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTER ON JUNE 24th and 25th, 2022.

PURPOSE

To receive the reports of Department Officers and Chairmen of Standing Department Committees.

To act upon any resolution and/or amendment to the Department Constitution and By-Laws, as presented.

To elect, by vote, the following Department Officers for the ensuing year:

COMMANDER	(1)
SENIOR VICE COMMANDER	(1)
NORTHERN AREA VICE COMMANDER	(1)
SOUTHERN AREA VICE COMMANDER	(1)
DISTRICT COMMANDERS	(5)
COUNTY COMMANDERS	(13)
FINANCE OFFICER	(1)
NECman (next vote 2023)	(1)
Alt. NECman (next vote 2023)	(1)

To select the site of the 2023 Department Convention

To elect the Delegates and Alternates to the 2022 National Convention. (Department Commander elect, immediate Past Department Commander and Incoming Department Adjutant shall, by virtue of their offices, shall be delegates to the National Convention. National Executive Committeeman, by virtue of his/her office, shall be a delegate to the National Convention.) (Section III, Article VII, National Constitution & By-Laws.)

To transact such other business as may be legally brought before the Convention.

REPRESENTATION

Shall be by Posts in accordance with Department Constitution & By-Laws, Article V, Page 9.

ARTICLE V – Section 3. A Department Convention shall be composed of delegates and alternates chosen annually by each Post, each of which shall be entitled to one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for each twenty-five memberships or major fraction thereof, paid to the Department Finance Officer, 45 days prior to the date of the opening of the Department Convention. Delegate strength to be based on membership on file at Department Headquarters 45 days prior to the opening date of Department Convention. Membership received following the 45-day period at Headquarters Office shall not be used in determining Post delegate strength. In addition, each Post shall be entitled to one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate at large. All Past Department Commanders and current Department Officers and current elected National Officers, while in good standing in their respective Posts, shall be delegates to the Department Convention with vote, to be exercised with their respective Posts, such votes thereof, shall be in addition to the number of delegates allowed said Posts as provided in this section.

Section 4. Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote. Alternates shall have all the privileges of delegates and shall vote only in the absence of the delegate. No voting by proxy shall be allowed.

Section 5. The Posts shall elect all delegates and alternates not less than thirty (30) days prior to the opening date of the Department Convention.

Section 6. A quorum shall exist at Department Convention when (40%) of the Chartered Posts within the Department are present. When the Credentials Committee Chairman reports a Quorum, as set forth in the Bylaws of this Constitution, the Convention may transact any business before it.

Section 7. The Department Convention Committee, i.e., Resolutions, Credentials, Distinguished Guests, and/or any other Committee that may be deemed necessary to conduct a Department Convention, shall be appointed by the Department Commander, not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the opening date of the Department Convention. Only accredited delegates to the Department Convention shall be eligible for appointment to any Convention Committee. The Standing Committee on Constitution and By-Laws shall constitute the Constitution and By-Laws Committee at the Department Convention.

CREDENTIALS

Attention of all Posts is called to the resolution relating to delegates and alternates passed by the 1936 Department Convention, reading as follows:

RESOLVED, that it is the sense of this Convention that delegates and alternates presenting themselves to the Committee on Credentials for seating shall, in addition to complying with present regulations, be required to present to the Committee on Credentials their Membership Card, or having failed to bring such card, shall furnish to the Committee other evidence sufficient to satisfy such Committee, that they are members in good standing of the Post they propose to represent;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is a sense of this Convention that all persons entering the

Convention Hall at or for any of the business sessions of the Department Convention, shall be required to show their Membership Cards before being allowed to enter.

IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT ALL DELEGATES ARE INSTRUCTED TO HAVE THEIR LEGION MEMBERSHIP CARD, FOR THE CURRENT YEAR (2022), WITH THEM AT CONVENTION.

THEIR LEGION MEMBERSHIP CARD MUST BE SHOWN ON SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 2022. NAME CONFIRMATION FROM DELEGATE SHEET WILL ALSO TAKE PLACE SO THAT HE/SHE MAY BE SEATED IN THE VOTING SECTION OF THE CONVENTION.

DISTRICT MEETING

District Commanders may call a meeting of the delegates and alternates from their respective districts, at such time and place as will not conflict with the Convention Program.

RESOLUTIONS

Posts having resolutions to present to the Convention are required to send one (1) typewritten copy of each resolution to the Department Adjutant, Department Headquarters, P O Box 396, Montpelier VT 05601-0396, two (2) weeks PRIOR to the opening date of the Department Convention.

AMENDMENTS – DEPARTMENT CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE XIV, Section 1 (PAGE 20). The Department Constitution may be amended at any Department Convention by a two-thirds vote of the total delegates thereat; provided that the proposed amendments shall have been sent to all Posts and members of the Department Executive Committee at least thirty (30) days prior to the opening date of a regularly called Department Convention.

Section 2. That no proposed amendment shall be submitted through the Department Adjutant to the several Posts, as provided in Section 1 of this article, unless said proposed amendment shall have been first submitted by a Post, the Department Executive Committee, or by the Constitution and By-Laws Committee of The American Legion, Department of Vermont, Inc.

Section 3. Any provisions of this Constitution shall be automatically amended to conform to any amendment adopted by The American Legion, at its National Convention, to the National Constitution of The American Legion, when said amendment affects that Department or its internal organization.

Section 4. Any amendment to this Constitution shall be effective at the close of the Department Convention, at which the same is adopted.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF VERMONT

2022 STATE CONVENTION BANQUET

DOUBLETREE by HILTON, Williston Rd., SO. BURLINGTON VT

Friday, June 24, 2022

COCKTAILS – 6:00 P.M

DINNER – 6:30 P.M.



Tuscan Chicken or Sliced Roast Beef with Herb Demi

The above will be served with Fresh Tossed Garden Salad (Rolls and Butter,
Roasted Red Potatoes, Penne Pasta with Red Sauce, Seasonal Roasted Vegetables,
Chef's Choice Dessert Table – Coffee, Tea and Lemonade
\$35.00 per person – All Inclusive

Make Checks Payable to American Legion Department of Vermont and

SEND CHECKS TO:

Dept. HQ, P.O. Box 396, Montpelier, VT 05601-0396

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS: June 10, 2022

PLEASE RESERVE: # _____ Banquet Tickets

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

NAME: _____ Post/Squadron/Unit: _____

(Circle Legion Sons of the American Legion Auxiliary)

**The American Legion – Department of Vermont
103rd State Convention**

Hello there!

We're glad you can join us for your 2022 State Convention.

We have rooms reserved at DoubleTree by Hilton Burlington Vermont for June 23, 2022 through June 26, 2022. Booking is simple, go to <https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/americanlegionsummer2022/> or call us at 1-802-865-6600

We're looking forward to seeing you in June!



Book Your Room

Event dates: June 23, 2022 - June 26, 2022

Book by: May 29, 2022

DoubleTree by Hilton Burlington Vermont

Address: 870 Williston Road, South Burlington, VT 05403USA

Rooms & Rates

- **2 Double Beds - \$179.00**
- **1 King Bed - \$179.00**



*On behalf of the
Department of Vermont
American Legion, I want to thank
all of you for your commitment to
our Veterans and the
communities in which we live.*

*Our duty does not end when we
take off our uniforms. It begins a
new chapter of helping those
that need our strength and
dedication.*

I have been proud to serve as your

Notes for the Convention:

*Please use the microphones if
you would like to be recognized
by the podium.*

*Please state your name and
Post number when speaking.*

*This assists the stenographer in
producing an accurate history
of our proceedings.*

*Don't forget to pick up your Post pack-
ets at the HQ table.*

*Thank you for attending our
Department Convention. We
hope you have a great time!*

*FUTURE DATES:
D.E.C. MEETING JULY 10, 2022
AT POST #3
BEGINNING AT 12:00PM*



VERMONT AMERICAN LEGION ANNUAL CONVENTION

June 24 & 25, 2022

**Double Tree Hotel
Burlington, Vermont**

Thursday , June 23

8:30am - Golf Tournament
Cedar Knolls Country Club

4:30pm - Past Dept. Commander Meeting
Carleton Room

6:00pm - Past Department Commander/
President Dinner
Windjammer

Friday, June 24th

9:00am - Dept. Executive Committee

12:00pm - Legion Riders Arrival

12:30pm - Opening Session

Call to Order: *Commander Tester*

Presentation of Colors: *Fair Haven Post 49*

Invocation: *Chaplain Ken Coonradt*

POW/MIA: *Area Commanders*

Pledge of Allegiance: *Silas Loomis*

Welcome: *Commander Catherine Tester*

Resolutions: *PDC Royal Sheeley*

Constitution and Bylaws: *Rebecca Otey*

NEC Report: *PDC Ron LaRose*

Internal Affairs: *PDC Royal Sheeley*

Dept. Adjutant: *Brian Markwell*

Dept. Finance: *Dennis Minoli*

Dept. Convention: *Fred Stebbins*

Athletic Report: *Scott Stevens*

Children and Youth: *William Ferman*

Americanism: *PDC Barb Bushaw*

Eagle Scouts: *PDC Ron Larose*

Boys State: *Dave Cobb*

Law Cadet: *Tom Scanlon*

Legislative: *PDC Richard Farmer*

Oratorical: *Karlene Devine*

Education & Scholarship: *PDC Fred LaTour*

Sons of The American Legion: *Bruce Paquin*

Membership Awards: *Tom Scanlon*

Children and Youth & Americanism

Awards Presentation: *PDC B. Bushaw*

~~Salute to Colors and Recess~~

Saturday, June 25th

8:30am - Convention Convenes

Salute to the Colors: *Fair Haven Post 49*

POW/MIA: *Area Commanders*

Invocation: *Chaplain Ken Coonradt*

Pledge of Allegiance: *Silas Loomis*

Preamble to the Constitution: *Cmdr. Catherine Tester*

Commander Remarks: *Commander Catherine Tester*

Final Report of Rules: *Rebecca Otey*

Reading of the Call to Convention:
Adjutant – Brian Markwell

Credentials Report: *Dennis Minoli*

The Spirit of Youth Awards: *PDC Bushaw*

Law Officer of the Year: *Tom Scanlon*

Resolutions Report: *PDC Royal Sheeley*

Legislative Report: *PDC Richard Farmer*

Finance Report: *Dennis Minoli*

Department Awards: *Brian Markwell*

Selection of 2023 Convention Site

Unfinished Business

New Business

Election of Officers

Department Commander

Installation

Senior Vice Commander

Area Commanders

Finance Officer

Installation

DISTRICT CAUCUS - 25 minutes:

Elect delegates to National Convention

District & County Commanders

Installation By: *Rebecca Otey*

Benediction: *Chaplain Ken Coonradt*

DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER

The American Legion Department of Vermont is seeking applications from candidates interested in this part-time salaried position located at the VA Hospital in White River Junction, VT.

The DSO, who is an employee of the Vermont American Legion, is responsible for keeping a complete file of all laws and VA Regulations pertaining to veterans' benefits and a current file of all veterans for whom the office holds Power of Attorney, and a complete set of applications for benefits received from clients.

The DSO will advise and assist veterans or their dependents presenting claims for disability, compensation, death, insurance, pensions, State and local laws, evaluates and determines validity of claims by reviewing legislation, regulations and precedents and by studying veterans medical reports and service briefs, and will assemble pertinent evidence. The DSO will request hearings before proper government boards and orally presents briefs and reviews board decisions to decide whether an appeal is warranted.

The DSO serves as the Department Child Welfare Director, administers child welfare and rehabilitation funds according to the needs of deserving veterans and their families within the total amount authorized by the Department Finance Committee.

The DSO maintains and makes distribution of grants from the Vermont Legion Family Assistance Fund.

Assists and trains post service officers with current activities and legislation. Participates in post and civil functions such as panel discussions and speeches to inform the public with of services rendered, rights and benefits of veterans and dependents. Supervises and controls the operation of the Department Service office.

The Department of Vermont is an equal opportunity employer and is looking for a critical thinker who is service-minded, trustworthy, and ethical. Will hire for ability and character, and will train for skills. Certification is required upon completion of training.

Interested American Legion members, or veterans who are eligible for membership in the American Legion, should submit a letter of interest, resume and other credentials to: The Department Adjutant, P.O. Box 396, Montpelier, VT 05601-0396. A background check is required for this position.

103rd National Convention



THE 103RD NATIONAL CONVENTION WILL TAKE PLACE IN MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN - AUGUST 26 - SEPTEMBER 1, 2022. SAVE THE DATE! TO CHECK OUT WHAT IS ALREADY PLANNED GO TO WWW.LEGION.ORG/CONVENTION/RESOURCES. NOMINATIONS FOR ATTENDING THE NATIONAL CONVENTION HAPPEN AT THE JUNE CONVENTION.



2021 – 2022
American Legion – Dept. of Vermont
Education and Scholarship Winners

\$1,500.00 1st Place Winner – Merritt Perkins, Arlington VT (Burr & Burton Academy)
Received the Department of Vermont Educational Award

\$1,000.00 2nd Place Winner – Jasmine Wegie, Brattleboro, VT (Brattleboro UHS)
Received the Catherine M. Tester Department Commander Educational Award

\$500.00 Winner – Alexandra Bonavita, Middlebury, VT (Middlebury UHS)
Received the Crippen Fellows Post 50 PDC George Harrington Award

\$500.00 Winner – Dylan Anderson, Brattleboro, VT (Brattleboro UHS)
Received the Department of Vermont Award

\$500.00 Winner – Meridian Joy-Piper, Barnard, VT (Woodstock UHS)
Received the Department of Vermont Award

\$500.00 Winner – Shixin Huang, Wells River, VT (Blue Mountain Union HS)
Received the District #4 Award

\$500.00 Winner – Hannah Lane, Brattleboro, VT (Brattleboro UHS)
Received the Bennington Post 13 PDC Ralph Brown Award

\$500.00 Winner – Natasha Bowen, Newport, VT (North Country UHS)
Received the Department of Vermont Award

\$500.00 Winner – Samera Rideout, Chittenden, VT (Rutland High School)
Received the Windsor Post 25 PDC Roy Sweet Award

\$500.00 Winner – Landyn Leach, Irasburg, VT (Lake Region UHS)
Received the Colchester Post 91 PDC Barbara Bushaw Award

\$500.00 Winner – Felicia Poirier, Ferrisburgh, VT (Vergennes UHS)
Received the Crippen Fellows Post #50 PDC Royal Sheeley Award

\$500.00 Winner – Jayden Wright, Brattleboro, VT (Brattleboro UHS)
Received the Ludlow Post 36 PDC's C. Lawrence, H. Vail, D. Garland and C. Ferris Award



**“SPONSOR A HOLE”
CEDAR KNOLLS COUNTRY CLUB
2022 ANNUAL CONVENTION GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**PROUDLY SPONSORS
THIS HOLE**

Your Department of Vermont is again sponsoring the Annual Golf Tournament this year, to be held at Cedar Knolls Country Club, Hinesburg, VT. We are asking, as a fund-raiser, to have all the Post’s sponsor a hole; whether it be the American Legion Family, Post and Auxiliary, Post and Sons, or whatever mixture you would like.

You may want to sponsor a hole in Memoria or thank you to a special Veteran. Whatever the case may be, we would appreciate your participation. The Legion Riders may want to get involved also. Kindly submit \$100.00 to Department of Vermont, earmarked for Golf, NLT May 31, 2022.

All proceeds will go to Veterans Programs. Alter the above block to suit your needs. You can also call Melodie at HQ’s, tell her what you want on your placard and pay by credit card over the phone.

Thank you in advance for your continued support.

Brian Markwell, Dept. Adjutant



THE DEPARTMENT OF VERMONT PRESENTS
THE AMERICAN LEGION ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT
JUNE 23, 2022, SHOTGUN START 8:00 A.M.
GET YOUR TEAM ORGANIZED AND REGISTERED EARLY
CEDAR KNOLL GOLF CLUB
\$80.00 PER PERSON/4 PERSON TEAMS/\$320.00 PER TEAM

PLAYER 1	_____	AL/AUX/SAL/RIDER	_____	POST	_____
PLAYER 2	_____	AL/AUX/SAL/RIDER	_____	POST	_____
PLAYER 3	_____	AL/AUX/SAL/RIDER	_____	POST	_____
PLAYER 4	_____	AL/AUX/SAL/RIDER	_____	POST	_____

SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION AND CHECK TO DON TETREALT,
70 SOUTHVIEW DRIVE, NO. BENNINGTON, VT 05257 PRIOR TO
JUNE 16, 2022 (CUTOFF DATE)
BARBEQUE AT THE END OF THE ROUND

A WAY IN THE WILDERNESS

Rev. Susan
Maginn



I drove my government-issued truck into the desert to visit a Marines unit, the familiar cammie netting assuring me: *Your people are here.* A high-ranking enlisted leader had requested to talk to a chaplain. We found a rare patch of shade, sat in the dirt, and laughed a little as we called it my office.

The Marine said he was going through a tough time and needed to vent to a chaplain's confidential ear. But I heard a story that was beyond "tough." He told me what he had witnessed and done to protect others—tasks no Marine would ever wish upon another—things that still haunt him. He told me that sleep deprivation was catching up; how many Marines count on him; how he needs a break but can't ever take one.

I took in both the nobility of this man and how the weight of that nobility could soon break him, putting himself and his Marines at risk. I assured him that if he just wanted to trust me with his secrets, I would take them to my grave. However, I recommended something very different: to talk to his leadership about sending him home to get help. We talked about how this would look weak to the Marines he supervises, but how he could also set an example of what it means to ask for help.

He asked me to be with him as we asked his chain of command for their support.

An hour later, a senior-level command team member called me: he disagreed with me, and assured me the Marine would not come home.

I told him that it's his job to make that call, and my job as a chaplain is to inform him when I think the command is assuming an excessive level of risk. As long as you make informed decisions about the risk, I told him, then my job is done. He said he would think about it.

The next morning I was informed that the Marine was flown home.

Military professionals need to remain mission-focused. Military chaplains are there to remind leaders that none of us are mission-making machines. The military teaches us that no matter how technically or tactically proficient we are, we are all replaceable. It's a gift to know none of us are so special and none of us are so alone.

DEPARTMENT OF VERMONT

126 State Street

P.O. Box 396

Montpelier, Vermont

05601-0396

800-501-7131

802-223-7131

vtlegion.org

Melodie Ashford

Executive Administrator

Finalvt@talofvt.com

Department of
Veterans Affairs

800-827-1000

www.va.gov

American Legion
Headquarters

317-630-1200

www.legion.org

Vermont Office of
Veterans Affairs

802-828-3379

www.veterans.vermont.gov

VA Hospital
White River Jct., Vermont

802-259-9363

Benefits
800-827-1000 or,

Army Reserve Ambassador Emeritus for New Hampshire

Dear Vermont AL Department):

I believe that you are the current Commander of the American Legion, VT Chapter and am looking for your help.

I am presently serving as the United States Army Reserve Ambassador-Emeritus (USAR) for NH and have been asked to reach out to try to find Ambassador candidates in Rhode Island and Vermont. My thinking is that the best place to go would be our sister American Legion chapters in those states. **Vermont was previously represented by John Des Groseilliers from Hardwick. John passed over a year ago and AR command is seeking a replacement. Perhaps you know of potential candidates. Vermont is assigned one USARA.**

Essentially, an Army Reserve Ambassador post is an appointed voluntary position with a goal to maintaining Army Reserve contacts in their home states of soldiers and spreading the Army Reserve message generated by the Commander of the Army Reserve in Washington. In the Northeast from Maine to Virginia, we align ourselves 99th Training Battalion out of Fort Dix. The current Army Reserve Ambassador for NH

is James Steiner who succeeded me when I was made "Emeritus."

Since, the current Army Reserve force is presently is a very diversified group of soldiers, candidates are welcomed to come from all walks of life. Any citizen eager to put some volunteer time in to help Army Reserve soldiers can be qualified. Prior Military Service is not required but helpful. A motivated civilian who wants to put in the time can come up to speed quickly. As an example, while I previously served in public office, I did not serve in the military and have been an Army Ambassador for over 12 years. We generally look for 2-3 potential candidates for the selection committee.

Here is my personal thoughts on Skills needed for and Army Reserve Ambassador: 1) A current knowledge or learned knowledge of elected leaders in your state is helpful along with the willingness to go meet those leaders where possible along with their staff. Included are leaders at the Federal, state and municipal levels. This knowledge is helpful when the local ARA is called upon to arrange for meetings when the Commanding General or subordinate from the 99th, who may make the rounds to introduce themselves and tell elected leaders how they can help AR soldiers and advise state and federal leaders how the AR can help them in times of crisis or disaster; 2) A willingness to speak before groups to encourage recruiting,

further the AR message including the availability of scholarships and the like. 3) The willingness to help soldiers and their families wherever they can. 4) A Willingness to attend periodic training and informational conferences at Ft. Dix, Washington or elsewhere. These are covered expenses; 5) Willingness to visit AR facilities in state and meet with soldiers to assist with morale and show that we care; 6) Numerous self-initiated activities. This is a position that requires the Ambassador to be self-initiated with quarterly reporting of activities to our coordinator at the 99th.

The position is a good way for someone to get to know the state and contribute a lot to soldiers and their families. I have found it to be an interesting and rewarding endeavor.

Please give me a call when you can to confirm the current officers of the Vermont Department and advise who else you feel that I should reach out to.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Thanks Again, Jim.

James A. Normand
Army Reserve Ambassador
Emeritus for New Hampshire
15 High Street
Manchester, NH 03101
Work: (603) 624-6655
Home: (603) 624-8733
Fax: (603) 647-0333
JimNormand@nhattorney.com



“Because I said so!” won Emma Noble of Alabama, \$25,000 at the National Finals of the American Legion Oratorical Program. “The Power of Executive Orders: Because I Said So!” was the title of her winning speech. Emma characterized a Presidential Executive Order as a “Because I said so” from the President of the United States. Putting an Executive Order into effect does not involve an “act of Congress” thus requires less time to put it into effect. She educated the audience to the fact that executive orders were used to expand the National Parks system, expedite construction of the Panama Canal, desegregate the military in WWI, and establish Japanese internment camps during WWII. The Emancipation Proclamation was an executive order.

Between President Theodore Roosevelt and President Harry Truman, an average of 206 executive orders were given annually. More recently, Presidents Bush, Obama and Trump issued an average of 260 executive orders annually. Following a directive from a parent for “because I said so” is dependent on trust. “Knowing that Presidents have the power of executive orders means that voters must be able to trust their candidate’s potential executive orders.” Emma closed her speech in 9 minutes and 59 seconds by reminding the audience that it is a citizen’s responsibility to their country to be an informed voter and select the candidate they can trust with the executive order privilege.

If this arouses your curiosity, you may view Emma’s and the other 2 finalists’ speeches at <https://www.legion.org/legiontv/PLD1D27913E787209F/dPy2SdhBuke>

There were 50 competitors this year including representation from France and the District of Columbia. Our Department winner, Jeswin Antony, a junior from Harwood UHS finished the quarter final round. Jeswin’s dad, Antony Gnanapiragasam, accompanied him to Indianapolis. He shared with me that Jeswin would be the first in the family to go to college. Imagine being a first generation American with a dream of being a doctor and being the first in the family to go to college? Thank you, Harry N. Cutting Post 59

ORATORICAL PROGRAM

for working with Jeswin, beginning with an essay contest in junior high school.

Quarter-Final Contest 5 (1 st and 2 nd to SF-2)			Semi-Final Contest	
Room TBD			Room: Hall of Champions	
ARKANSAS	COLORADO	IDAHO	Arizona	Ala
KANSAS	NORTH DAKOTA	OKLAHOMA	Oklahoma	Tex
Quarter-Final Contest 6 (1 st and 2 nd to SF-2)				
Room TBD				
ILLINOIS	MARYLAND	NORTH CAROLINA		
TEXAS	UTAH	VIRGINIA		
Quarter-Final Contest 7 (1 st and 2 nd to SF-3)				
Room TBD				
CALIFORNIA		NEBRASKA		
PENNSYLVANIA		SOUTH DAKOTA		
Quarter-Final Contest 8 (1 st and 2 nd to SF-3)			Semi-Final Contest	
Room TBD			Room: Golden Ball	
GEORGIA	IOWA	MAINE	Pennsylvania	So
OHIO	TENNESSEE		Tennessee	Ind
Quarter-Final Contest 9 (1 st and 2 nd to SF-3)				
Room TBD				
CONNECTICUT	INDIANA	NEVADA		
OREGON	VERMONT	WISCONSIN		

See the Department Year End History for more about the Indianapolis 2022 experience.

Do you know an adult that has an affinity for young people, an interest in history or public speaking and commitment to academic pursuits? Would they make a good coach for this speech contest? Refer them to me, please. (802) 877-6392

The amendments for the Assigned Topic should be published soon. If you know of any potential competitors, grade 9 – 12, refer them to me. Developing the 3-5 min. speech for each of the Assigned Topics is a good summer exercise.

Thank you all that have supported the Department Oratorical Program, whether you were a contest personnel, a financial donor, assisted with publicity or talked it up at your post. The future would not be so bright for Jeswin if you were not there.

For God and Country

Karlene DeVine

Department Oratorical Program Chair

ENDORSEMENTS OF DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

YEAR: 2022 - 2023

The Legionnaires listed below have been endorsed for the following offices

OFFICE OF:	LEGIONNAIRE	SPONSORING POST
DEPT. COMMANDER	THOMAS SCANLON	27
SR. VICE COMMANDER	MARK CLOUTIER	07
NO. AREA COMMANDER	LOU FURRY	07
SO. AREA COMMANDER	WILLIAM FERMAN LEWIS GRAHAM	49 36
1 ST DISTRICT COMMANDER		
2 ND DISTRICT COMMANDER	DAVID PERRON	30
3 RD DISTRICT COMMANDER	JOSEPH ZICKMUND	10
4 TH DISTRICT COMMANDER	WILLIAM BROTHERS	49
5 TH DISTRICT COMMANDER		
ADDISON COUNTY COMMANDER		
BENNINGTON COUNTY COMMANDER		
CHITTENDEN COUNTY COMMANDER		
CALEDONIA COUNTY COMMANDER	ANGELA MARSHALL	58
ESSEX COUNTY COMMANDER		
FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMANDER		
LAMOILLE COUNTY COMMANDER		
ORANGE COUNTY COMMANDER		
ORLEANS COUNTY COMMANDER		
RUTLAND COUNTY COMMANDER		
WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMANDER		
WINDHAM COUNTY COMMANDER		
WINDSOR COUNTY COMMANDER		
DEPT. FINANCE OFFICER	DENNIS MINOLI	10
NECman		

POST EVERLASTING



PREGENT, RAYMOND	03
GAUTHIER, JOHN	03
NORMAN, DELMAR	03
MORISSETTE, GAETAN "BUTCH"	03
GIROUX, LEONARD	03
FOERCH, KENNETH R	14
SWINTON, RAYMOND	14
CONLEY, RODNEY	14
YANDOW, RAYMOND A	14
FARNSWORTH, ALLEN	14
STEARNS, RONALD	19
NELSON, JOHN K	19
WARYAS, FREDERICK J	37
ADAMS, JAMES A	42
BASILIERE, RICHARD	91
WORTHEIM, STANLEY G	91
WESTCOTT, MITCHELL	91
SHEPARD, DOUGLAS	91



"Whereas, we humbly bow to the will of Devine Providence, while ever cherishing in our hearts the memory of distinguished service to our country and outstanding contributions to American Legion comradeship. The American Legion does mourn the passing of these comrades. "



Department
Commander
Catherine M. Tester

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER'S PROJECT

*Preserving a piece of the
Veterans Home history*

Project: To build a permanent structure to house the original chapel bell at the Vermont Veterans Home.

Goal: To raise \$15,000.00 for this project.

History: The Vermont Veterans Home came into being in 1884. In 1890, a chapel was built entirely with donations from the Grand Army of the Republic. The bell for the chapel was donated by Major A. B. Valentine, a prominent businessman in Bennington at this time.

During the period 1967 - 1976, several renovations and building projects were completed and the original chapel was taken down. A new chapel was built along with a large community room. The Chapel Bell was kept but not built into the new chapel. Instead, it was affixed to a 4' high wooden post structure and parked outside the chapel building. Over the years, the Bell had rusted badly and was in poor condition.



In 2016, the Bennington Rotary Club arranged for the Bell to be refurbished. The metal pitting was repaired, and the Bell proper was repaired and resurfaced. However, it still resides atop the 4' wooden posts and is now placed at the memorial area on the Home grounds. This method of display leaves the Bell open to the elements and more evidence of metal pitting and deterioration of the Bell proper is occurring.

The Plan: The project entails the Bell being removed from the wooden posts and placed in a permanent structure that would protect it from the elements and place it on display with a plaque giving the history of the Chapel Bell.

The structure will be placed in the grassy area just in front of the main entrance of the Veterans Home and resemble the original architecture of the Veterans Home. The Bell would be hung inside the structure rather than set on a base.

A stamped concrete walkway would lead to the Bell display with a wrought iron fence around the structure.

Local contractors have already been contacted and have signed on for the project.



How to

Donate: This project is being funded 100 percent by donations to the Commander's Project. Donations are gladly accepted from individuals, Posts, Squadrons, Units, business's or departments.

Donations can be made to the Chapel Bell Project in two ways:

1. Mail your donation to the Department of Vermont at P.O. Box 396, Montpelier, VT, 05601. Make the check out to the "Department of Vermont". Please put *Commander's Project* in the memo line.
2. You can present your check in person to Department Commander Tester at any event that she is attending.

American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Vermont President
Francisca Massey

“President’s Project – Vermont Paws & Boots”

Vermont Paws & Boots Mission Statement: “Vermont Paws & Boots assists disabled Veterans and First Responders by teaming them with rescue dogs and creating a bond allowing each to thrive again”

Vermont Paws & Boots



\$10.00 per ticket – Many chances to Win! All Proceeds will go to Vermont Paws & Boots



1st Prize – Vermont Teddy Bear Co. - Cuddle Puppy (*T-Shirt with Aux Emblem included)



2nd Prize – Doggie Gift Basket with Gift Certificates

**3rd Prize – Handmade Full Size
Patriotic Blanket**



And Several More Surprises to Be Drawn!!!

**To Purchase Tickets: Send Payment to ALA HQ – “President’s Project” – PO Box 192,
Montpelier VT 05601**

Drawing will be held at Department Convention June 2022

SON's Commanders Project

Pathways Vermont Supportive Services for Veteran Families

2021 FACT SHEET

In partnership with



The Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program is a national initiative funded by the Department of Veterans Affairs to address homelessness among veterans in the United States.

The SSVF program is housed in Vermont Veteran Services at the University of Vermont, with case management and housing services provided by Pathways Vermont. The program helps very-low income veteran households who are homeless or imminently at risk of homelessness gain and retain stable housing.

Services provided include needs assessment, intensive housing case management, assistance accessing VA benefits and financial assistance.

PROGRAM SERVICES

The Supportive Services for Veteran Families program provides short-term supportive services to participants to help them obtain and/or retain stable housing in 90 days. The program uses a Rapid Rehousing approach, meaning the program's priority is to support participants in developing a permanent housing option.

Intensive case management is the primary service provided. In certain cases, case management may be augmented by temporary financial assistance. This assistance is used to help with expenses related to securing housing, for example rental assistance, security deposits, utility deposits and other related expenses. It should be noted that financial assistance is limited in amount and cannot be guaranteed.

FY22 FUNDING

In 2014 Pathways Vermont was awarded a subcontract from SSVF at UVM to provide case management and housing services for a Supportive Services for Veteran Families grant awarded by the Department of Veteran Affairs. The SSVF program operates in all 14 counties in Vermont and 6 counties in the eastern Adirondacks. We have to raise \$15,000 to cover expenses that the grant does not cover.

Source of funds	Amount
SSVF at UVM Department of Veterans Affairs Grant	\$48,000
Fundraising	15,000

FAST FACTS*:

248

Vermont Veteran
Families Housed

138

Vermont Veterans Supported
to Positive Outcome

224

Instances of
Homelessness
Prevented
(through temporary
financial assistance)

183

Children
Served

*Through March 2021

