My Fellow Legionnaires,

I hope everyone has survived the holiday season. I hope this season was special for each and every one of you and your families and friends. Let’s hope and pray that 2020 will be successful and full of all you hope for.

Our Mid-Winter Conference at the Double Tree Hotel and Conference Center in South Burlington is January 24-25, and I am hoping each and every Post can be represented at this conference. Even if you cannot make the banquet Friday night, please try to make the conference on Saturday. All the Department Committees make presentations and I am sure there is some piece of information that will be shared that you will note and bring back to your Post. Remember, nothing ventured, nothing gained!

Our membership is doing well, but we all know the slope is getting steeper to reach each Post’s goal. Focus on your renewals. Then reach out to veterans in your community that have never been a member or their dates did not meet the criteria. It is a new era for all veterans who have been honorably discharged since 1941, have served on active duty for at least one day and can now be a member of the largest veteran’s organization in the world. It is our duty to convince these non-members to become one of us. Convince your Post membership to work hard at increasing your membership.

Senior Vice Cathy Tester has scheduled revitalizations in southern Vermont. If your Post is near one of these events, do your best to have representation there to work on increasing your membership. This is also a great opportunity to see how other Posts work at membership and socialize with new acquaintances.

Have all County Commanders completed their inspections of their county Posts? If you are having problems reaching this goal, talk to your District Commanders for assistance. During your visits, encourage your Posts to continue to strive to make their membership goals. When they make their goals, the Department will make its goal.

Hope to see you all at Mid-Winter!

For God and Country,

Ron LaRose
Department Commander
802-453-3818 (w) 802-453-7663 (h) 802-989-8573(c)
ronaldllarose@gmail.com
PREAMBLE OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

For God and Country we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America;
To maintain law and order; To foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism;
To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all wars;
To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation;

To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses;
To make right the master of might; To promote peace and goodwill on earth;
To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy;
To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America,
and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation,
under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all
**DEPARTMENT OF VERMONT MONTHLY BULLETIN**

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
Thursday, December 5, 2019

USS Vermont Commissioning Tickets Available Now:
Join Governor Phil Scott, USS Vermont Commissioning Committee, and the crew of the USS Vermont for the Commissioning of Vermont’s Namesake

Montpelier, Vt. – Ticket requests for the USS Vermont (SSN 792) commissioning ceremony on April 18, 2020 in Groton, Connecticut are available now. Governor Scott will join boat sponsor, Gloria L. Valdez, the USS Vermont Commissioning Committee, and the Crew of the USS Vermont to welcome the new Virginia-class submarine into service for the U.S. Navy.

The USS Vermont is the 19th Virginia-class nuclear attack submarine to be built and the third U.S. warship to bear the name “Vermont.” This new ship will carry a crew of 15 officers and 120 enlisted. It also joins a legacy of two other nuclear submarines with ties to Vermont, the USS Ethan Allen (SSBN 608) and the USS Montpelier (SSN 765).

The USS Vermont was christened on October 20, 2018 and will be put into service in April. Help send off the USS Vermont and attend the commissioning ceremony. Tickets can be requested here: https://sites.google.com/view/vtssn792cc/request-tickets?authuser=0

For any questions regarding this event, please contact the USS Vermont Commissioning Committee via e-mail: ussvermont792@gmail.com

Event Details:
Saturday, April 18, 2020
Commissioning Ceremony Begins at 10:00 a.m.
Naval Submarine Base New London, PIER 6, 1 Crystal Lake Rd, Groton, CT 06340

Contact: Debra Martin, chair, USS VERMONT Commissioning Committee 802-249-0487, capvid1124@aol.com; Or Bill Mattoon, Public Affairs committee member; 802-885-3886, emattoon@vermontel.net
Happy New Year,

I want to thank each adjutant, commander, membership chairman and anyone else who has assisted for their work with membership. The Department of Vermont has met each of our membership goals set by National. As we continue in 2020, each of these goals are harder to achieve, but, I believe that if we all work together we can achieve great things and meet our goals.

The Department has held two membership revitalizations – District 2 in October and most recently District 4 the beginning of January. District 2 transferred 20 legionnaires from Direct Mail (DMS) or Post 100 into a Post home. District 4 helped 27 legionnaires find a Post home and several lapsed members from the phone calls renewed their membership at their post. So… we have increased our post ranks by over 50 legionnaires. **AND WE ARE NOT DONE!** On March 14 we will be conducting a membership drive for District 1 at Colchester Post 1 from 9:00am to 3:00pm. Please mark you calendar and plan to join us.

Last year on January 10, 2019 our membership was 8,501 this year we are at 8,557 an increase of 56 members. That may not seem like a lot but being ahead of where we were a year ago is GOOD NEWS!

Are you submitting membership through mylegion.org? Want to learn more about mylegion.org? There will be a mylegion.org workshop on Friday afternoon starting at 3:00pm. Stop by and check it out.

To help with your membership stop by and see Melodie for your 2019 non renewal list.

Have you taken the American Legion Basic training course? Visit [https://www.legion.org/alei](https://www.legion.org/alei) to learn more about this this self-paced online course.

Hope to see you at the Mid Winter Conference on January 24-25.

For God and Country,

Catherine M. Tester
Sr. Vice Commander
ctester2663@gmail.com
802-989-3755

See you at the
Mid-Winter Conference,
January 24-25 at
the Doubletree Hotel in South Burlington
Happy New Year to all,

As we get ready for the Mid-Winter Conference it is also time for the District Four and Five Commanders to look for serious candidates to fill the Southern Area positions for 2020-2021. As you know, I took the position of Southern Area Commander at the last DEC meeting to ensure that we had a functional chain of command for the rest of the year. I do not desire to be a “retread” candidate next year. Therefore, If you have prospective candidates for District, County, and Area Commander please get endorsement letters in to Department so they can be posted at Mid-Winter Conference as potential candidates. If not we should insure that the main agenda item for our District Caucus’ in the spring is to insure that we have a complete slate of Candidates for all positions in the Southern Area. If you have any concerns, suggestions, or questions, please call me and we can discuss the issues. Also keep in mind that spring brings the annual Oratorical Competitions. It is my understanding that there are several contestants readying themselves for the competition and up to 6 may be competing from the 4th District of the Southern Area. When you have your Post Oratorical Contests please encourage post members to participate as judges and guests.

For God and Country,

PDC Royal E. Sheeley
Southern Area Commander

Happy New Year to all! I am pleased to report that the Department attained the 80% (80.282) membership goal before the January 15th target date. A sincere thanks to all working so diligently on this important effort. Remember that our goal is 10,500 for the current year. We have received several new Legion Act members and know that there are many more “out there” that can recruited to our ranks. As we progress through the year please annotate your all of your activities for inclusion in the Consolidated Post Report (CPR). This report is used by the National Headquarters to demonstrate to Congress and the President the importance of our programs in our communities and states. Finally please consider attending the Mid-Winter Conference on January 24-25 at the Hilton Doubletree. You will hear reports from all Department Chairman and others on the current status of the department.

Respectfully,

Keith O. Arlund
Department Adjutant
NORTHERN AREA COMMANDER

Tom Scanlon

First and foremost, I would like to wish all a Happy New Year and best wishes for a happy, safe, and healthy 2020. I hope all have had a wonderful holiday season, enjoying family and friends … and some great food.

LAW CADET PROGRAM ..... Everything has been finalized and our Program will be conducted at the New Hampshire Police Cadet Training Academy (NHPCTA), located on the campus of the New Hampshire Technical Institute, located at 31 College Drive, Concord, New Hampshire. This Academy is a program of the NH Troopers Foundation, Inc. which is a self-funded 501(c)3 non-profit supported by sponsors and donations. The 2020 program will run from Saturday, June 20th to the graduation in the afternoon of Friday, June 26th.

The program is open to young men and women, ages 14 to 20, with the sponsoring post cost being $250.00. This one week intensive residential program has a curriculum with a focus on law enforcement and is conducted in a regimented paramilitary structure. The Academy mission is to build qualities such as self-discipline, self-respect, self-esteem, and pride in one’s self through respect, discipline, teamwork and motivation. Cadets will participate in physical training, formations, marching and will always display military etiquette.

Cadets will live in the college dormitories and the training will cover a variety of law enforcement related topics. During the week a staff of approximately 25 full time law enforcement officers are on site 24/7 mentoring the young attendees.

Those completing the basic (1st year) program are eligible to come back the 2nd year for the Advanced Program and once completing the same, can return for year 3 and the Leadership Program. Many of the staff Law Enforcement Officers have completed one, if not all three of the program years.

A new Vermont American Legion brochure reflecting this change has been published and is available and the updated application is now at the Department and on the Department web site.

Additional information about this Academy can be found at www.nhpcta.org.

Get the word out about the program and that it is a definite go starting this year due to the coordination with the NHPCTA. Please let your local high school guidance office know about the program and direct them to our Vermont American Legion website at www.vtlegion.org/cadet.

See all at the Mid-Winter Conference on January 24th and 25th 2020.

For God, Country & Community

Tom Scanlon
Hope everyone had a great Christmas and a Happy New Year. Hope you all got a little quality time with family and friends.

Hope to see you all at Mid-Winter Conference at the Double Tree Hotel and conference center in South Burlington on Jan 24,25.

We all need to work harder in Membership. So am asking each Post in Caledonia Country to get out there and bet the brushes.

**REMEMBER MEMBERSHIP, MEMBERSHIP.**

Please feel free to call or text me at any time and will find the answer for you or ask until I get the answer.

Please keep up the wonderful work throughout are Community’s.

Thank you all for serving. Contact #’s Home-525-3895 Cell 272-279, Perrondavid323@yahoo.com

David W Perron
Caledonia Country Commander

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Good Day Essex County, Well Christmas is behind us and I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas with family and friends. In few days it will be New Years and I hope it is a good one for everyone. January is busy month with the Mid-Winter Conference around the corner, If you plan on going please make your reservations soon.

If you should have questions and need some help, please feel free to contact me, rbaribeau@myfairpoint.net or at 603-538-7474.

Let us remember we have men and women out in the field, fighting for this great country. Let us keep them in our hearts and prayers that they all return back home to their families and homes safe and sound.

For God and Country,

Richard Baribeau
Essex County Commander
**DISTRICT TWO COMMANDER**

*Mark Cloutier*

Welcome fellow Legionnaires. The holidays come and gone, and the days are now getting longer. Before you now it spring will be here.

The second district is looking really good for membership. The 80% goal is close, and we need to make that goal. Let’s make some calls and work on those renewals. If anyone needs help making calls, please feel free to reach out to me.

Midwinter conference is this month and I am looking forward to it. This year the conference is at the Double Tree (formerly the Sheraton) in South Burlington. Please call and reserve your room now if you plan on attending as they fill up fast. You will find more information about this in the bulletin. If you have never been to this conference I strongly suggest attending, as this is usually a very informative conference. Hope to see you all there.

Stay warm and enjoy the rest of the winter.

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

Mark Cloutier  
Department of Vermont  
2nd District Commander  
For God and Country

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**DISTRICT FOUR COMMANDER**

*Christina Moore*

Hello Fellow Legionnaires,

hope everyone had a great Holiday season. With that said we are in the New year and we need all the membership we can get. Remember all programs rely on membership. With the legion Act being signed there are many vets who are now able to join. I like to see ALL of us go out find a new eligible veteran. Explain why you belong you just might just find the next commander or next cook for your post you never know.

I would also like to thank the American Legion Auxiliary for allowing me to help at the Vermont Veterans home Christmas shopping day. Enjoyed the whole day and hope to do again next year.

I hope all posts are using mylegion.org the reports you can print are very helpful. I printed the expired list for my post found several leads that I hope will lead to more members. If you need help please call I can help.

Also a new year is a good time to check records make sure Insurance, licenses and paperwork are in order. Please don’t be caught out of date on things.

God Bless our Troops!  
Chris Moore  
4th District commander
Legionnaires:

Hope you had the best of holidays and a Happy New Year. Now we have to settle down and meet the challenges before us.

Our first challenge is membership. 2019 membership ran out on the last day of December. This means they are no longer members of the American Legion. I would suggest that a number of post members divide the number of non-renewals between them. Contact these people face to face is best, but a phone call will do. Offer to bring the new membership to them. Let them know that they are an important part of our organization.

It would be great if each post in the district could choose a legion project for the year. This project could be big or small. We are a service organization and many members want to help other veterans. This is a great way to do so.

On January 24 and 25 the American Legion Department of Vermont will be holding their Mid-Winter Convention at the Double Tree Hilton in South Burlington. It would be nice to see a representative from each post at this convention. If you can’t make it; both days, be there for the general meeting on Saturday. It doesn’t have to be an officer from the post, any member can represent the post.

During the year, there is a great deal of talk about this legion. Some of the time, this talk is not based in fact, but only in hearsay. If you have questions, contact an office or headquarters and they should be able to get the facts.

For God and Country,

Dick Farmer
5th District Commander
802-885-2641

In an effort to spread the amazing events and things our Legion Family does, we are sharing the Detachment of Vermont, Sons of the American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary Department of Vermont newsletters. We hope you enjoy reading about our Legion Family.

Sons of the American Legion  http://www.salvermont.com/

Auxiliary Department of Vermont https://www.vtalauxiliary.org/
Happy New Year from Washington County- January brings an end to the Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah, and New Year’s Eve celebrations. I hope everyone had an opportunity to spend quality time with family, friends, and at post celebrations. It is time to reflect on the year that has gone by and get ready for the year yet to come. The next membership target date is January 17th, and our posts are trying to reach 80% of their quota by this date. This is the time of year to check in with our members that we haven’t heard from in a while and make sure they are doing ok. Here’s to a great 2020.

There are many events to talk about this time of year, but here are some of the highlights of things going on in Washington County. SAL Squadron 59 in Waterbury is still working on setting up a recognition for the World War II Veterans that we were able to get information on from Waterbury, Barre, and Colchester. The Legion Riders in Waterbury are hosting dinner and movies, live bands, and paint and sips over the next month or two. Speaking of live bands, winter seems to be a good time for music as many Washington County posts are advertising live music through the month of January. Couple this with breakfast, lunch and dinner at the local posts, and I am sure I will see many of you in the near future.

Chris Wood

**Attention Posts**

We would like to have a section of the bulletin for posts to include their events. We will break the events down into three categories:

- Events that happen weekly, monthly or yearly, i.e. breakfasts, Friday night dinners, bingo, etc.
- One off fundraising events, comedy shows, impersonators, etc.
- Legion Family functions, i.e. Past Commanders event, Legion birthday celebration, etc.

Please send the following information: Post name and Post number, district, name of event, when (monthly, first Sunday or specific date), cost, location, and contact information.

Please send this information by the first of the month to be included in the monthly bulletin. If your events occur monthly, there is no need to submit each month.

Information should be sent to Catherine Tester at ctester@aol.com.

**Mid-Winter Conference**

**January 24-25**

**Double Tree Hotel, South Burlington**
Greetings all,

A new year is upon us and I hope that everyone enjoyed the holiday season. As I traveled throughout the county, some thoughts came to me. We are over the membership hump and some have done well. No post can afford to lose members due to failure and yet I have personal knowledge that it happens. Long time commanders who mistakenly believe they own the post and make all the decisions for the post. When a post refuses to help veterans, it can have a devastating impact on membership. For a post to lose 7 members due to selfish inaction, there is a leadership problem in that post. We have a limit as to how long the commander can hold the post at our highest level for just this reason. Your post should be turning the leadership within the post as often as possible. No post should feel like it is a one-man operation. When the commander feels he is the ultimate decision maker and in fact makes decisions for the post without input from the members, there is a problem. We the department leadership owe the post our full support to the other members of that post if warranted. If you feel that this is happening in your post, call me and I will start the necessary action to fix the problem.

Mid-winter conference is right around the corner. I hope that you are planning on attending. We are only as good as our leaders and members who attend and work the conference and convention. This should be a fun and informative conference. If you have never attended, you will be surprisingly delighted. Conference this year is January 24-25.

There are great things happening in our department. Be active and be a part of the best department in the country. Your enthusiasm is what makes us great. Take a look and see if you need to skim the fat and bring the best to the top. Only through your actions can we get a great reaction.

For god and country,

Joe Bump
Commander, Bennington County
(802) 733-4101

VERMONT SSN792 CALENDAR

The VERMONT (SSN 792) Commissioning Committee is issuing a 15-month calendar covering October 2019 to December 2020 to honor the upcoming Commissioning of the Submarine VERMONT (SSN 792); all Naval Ships that have carried Vermont namesakes and the men and women that have sailed on those vessels. The calendar pictures the first ships to carry the name “VERMONT” as well as numerous other ship pictures and noted Vermont individuals. The cost of this 15-month calendar is $10.00 each plus shipping. Please contact Bill Mattoon at e-mail: emattoon@vermontel.net to make arrangements of individual calendar orders or group Post orders.
Hi Legionaries,

I hope you all had a great holiday season.

This time of the year the Legion Children and Youth programs are in full swing. Oratorical Program students are learning their speeches for contests; Baseball teams are fundraising and working on schedules, uniforms, insurance, etc.; Boys State is working with high schools and recruiting Juniors to attend the program and the Law and Order program is working on candidates to attend their program.

The Children and Youth Committee is conducting the 2nd Annual Bullying Poster Contest for fifth graders throughout the state. I will share information at Mid Winter. A similar contest was conducted last year for 5th graders and we received 29 posters.

Let’s not forget our Legion members that may need help and also Soldiers that are on active duty and their Family is at home and may need some help. Let’s also not forget our shut ins and just stopping for a short visit makes them happy you were thinking of them.

I hope to see many of you at Mid Winter Conference.

Be safe traveling during the winter months.

God Bless America,

PDC Barbara Bushaw
Children and Youth Chairman

Mid-Winter Conference
January 24-25
Double Tree Hotel
South Burlington
Greetings from your Boys’ State staff! We hope you all had a healthy and happy holiday season.

Ten members of our staff met on 7 December to evaluate our 2019 program feedback and adjust our planning for 2020. Based upon our delegate feedback, “If it isn’t broke, don’t fix it!”, so our changes will be minimal. We are fortunate to have such a dedicated staff that blends many veteran counselors with several young staffers who recently completed the program.

Here’s the basic information we have so far:

Dates are Sunday, June 21 – Friday, June 26.
Location: Northern VT University – Lyndon, Lyndonville, VT
Delegate Fee: $275 per delegate (May be revised at January Committee Meeting)

We are recruiting new committee & staff members as well! We have several district committee slots available in Districts ###. We are also looking for someone to handle our digital media presence – Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and (Of Course!) our Department of Vermont Web Site.

We are looking to establish a year-long presence, that can be planned and coordinated based on the availability of the person interested. This position does not require attendance for the entire program in June. Please contact Dave Cobb with any questions or inquiries.

If you are interested in learning more about participation or helping with recruiting delegates from high schools in your area, consider attending the Boys’ State Committee Meeting at Mid-Winter. We are scheduled to meet at 11:00 AM on Friday, January 24 at the Conference Center. More information will be available as we get closer to Convention.

Green Mountain Boys’ State would like to recognize the contributions of two new members of Post Everlasting: Dell Hill of Morrisville and Dan Hilliard of Hartford. These gentlemen distinguished themselves by making significant contributions to GMBS at the local and state level. The 2020 Program will be dedicated in their honor.

‘Til next year!

For God and Country,
Dave
Your American Legion

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
Veterans Hospital - White River Junction  802-295-9363  www.whiteriver.va.gov
Department of Vermont Headquarters  802-223-7131  www.vtlegion.org

Department Officers

Department of Vermont Commander  Ron LaRose  Post 19  ronaldllarose@gmail.com
NEC Man  PDC Fred Latour  Post 33  fredericklatour41@gmail.com
Senior Vice Commander  Catherine Tester  Post 50  ctester2663@gmail.com
Department Adjutant  Keith Arlund  Post 36  keitharlund@yahoo.com
Department Finance Officer  Dennis Minoli  Post 10  cdminoli@charter.net
Department Chaplain  Kenneth Conradt  Post 13  howdydoo57@hotmail.com
Department Service Officer  Milt Willis  Post 67  milton.willis@va.gov
Department Judge Advocate  Rebecca Otey  Post 19  oteyrebecca@yahoo.com
Alt. NEC Man  PDC  David Woodward  Post 13  dwalvt@gmail.com
Historian  Raymond St. John  Post 03  stjohnray@hotmail.com
Sgt. At Arms  Frederick Stebbins  Post 33  stebbins196@gmail.com
Northern Area Commander  Thomas Scanlon  Post 27  tscanlon@aol.com
Southern Area Commander  PDC Royal Sheeley  Post 50  root98@comcast.net

Department of Vermont Headquarters
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Montpelier, Vermont 05601-0396
800-501-7131 / 802-223-7131
vtlegion.org

Melodie Ashford, Executive Administrator - alvthq@myfairpoint.net
### District Commanders

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<th>District</th>
<th>Commander</th>
<th>Post</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District 1</td>
<td>Edwyn Flynn</td>
<td>19</td>
<td><a href="mailto:skflynn@accesstv.com">skflynn@accesstv.com</a></td>
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<td>District 2</td>
<td>Mark Cloutier</td>
<td>7</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cloutier.mark@gmail.com">cloutier.mark@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>District 3</td>
<td>Harold Breer</td>
<td>10</td>
<td><a href="mailto:breerharold7@gmail.com">breerharold7@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>District 4</td>
<td>Christina Moore</td>
<td>87</td>
<td><a href="mailto:skittlestaz65@gmail.com">skittlestaz65@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>District 5</td>
<td>PDC Richard Farmer</td>
<td>67</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ida9999@vermonttel.net">ida9999@vermonttel.net</a></td>
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### County Commanders

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<td>Alan Smith</td>
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<td>Joe Bump</td>
<td>90</td>
<td><a href="mailto:make57@comcast.net">make57@comcast.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Caledonia County</td>
<td>David Perron</td>
<td>30</td>
<td><a href="mailto:perrondavid323@yahoo.com">perrondavid323@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chittenden County</td>
<td>Jessica Blanchard-Patenaud</td>
<td>91</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jessblanchard64@gmail.com">jessblanchard64@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essex County</td>
<td>Richard Baribeau</td>
<td>47</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rbaribeau@myfairpoint.net">rbaribeau@myfairpoint.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin County</td>
<td>Brian Markwell</td>
<td>60</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bdmarkwell@gmail.com">bdmarkwell@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lamoille County</td>
<td>Roland Cleveland</td>
<td>33</td>
<td><a href="mailto:itotkids30@myfairpoint.net">itotkids30@myfairpoint.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange County</td>
<td>Larry Hart</td>
<td>78</td>
<td><a href="mailto:larryhart64@gmail.com">larryhart64@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orleans County</td>
<td>John Hurlburt</td>
<td>21</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bjhurlburt3@gmail.com">bjhurlburt3@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rutland County</td>
<td>William Ferman</td>
<td>49</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bill956bf@gmail.com">bill956bf@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington County</td>
<td>Christopher Wood</td>
<td>59</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chriswood0869@gmail.com">chriswood0869@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Windham County</td>
<td>VACANT</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Windsor County</td>
<td>Ronald Farr</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:RonFarrar@hotmail.com">RonFarrar@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Sons of the American Legion**

Detachment of Vermont

salvermont.com

Dave Hendee - Detachment Commander

splashbbd@gmail.com

- Sr. Vice Commander

Marc Colety - Adjutant

colety@gmail.com

Norman Scolaro - Finance Officer

norbsco@comcast.net

**American Legion Auxiliary**

Department of Vermont

talauxiliary.org

Corrina Colson - Department President

Ccolson.alavt@gmail.com
### Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Event/Meeting</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 2020</td>
<td>Mid-Winter Conference</td>
<td>Burlington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2020</td>
<td>District One Revitalization</td>
<td>Post 91, Colchester</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 2020</td>
<td>Department of Vermont Convention</td>
<td>Burlington</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Boy’s State</td>
<td>No. Vermont Univ.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Law Cadets</td>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 2020</td>
<td>National Convention</td>
<td>Louisville, KY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 2020</td>
<td>National Convention</td>
<td>Louisville, KY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 2020</td>
<td>Boy Scouts Salute to Veterans Parade</td>
<td>Ludlow, VT</td>
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</table>

Please, don’t forget to renew your membership. The easiest way is to renew is on-line at [www.legion.org/renew](http://www.legion.org/renew). All you need is your member ID# and a credit card. If you don’t know your member ID#, contact the department; I’m glad to help. Simply renewing your membership shows and provides a significant level of support for the Post.
Membership Renewal Schedule

During each membership year, National Headquarters sends renewal notices in July, October, January, March and May. Sometimes, at a department’s request, a special notice may be mailed in February to boost a department’s renewals.

The accompanying list is the 2020 membership year renewal schedule for transmitting dues to arrive at National Headquarters by the established dates. This schedule will be followed to remove the names of paid members prior to a specific mailing. Using the renewal schedule, National Headquarters extracts unpaid member records, then prints and mails the renewal notices.

### 2020 RENEWAL NOTICE SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CUTOFF DATES</th>
<th>RENEWAL DATES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FEBRUARY 12, 2020</td>
<td>FEBRUARY 26, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>APRIL 8, 2020</td>
<td>APRIL 24, 2020</td>
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</table>

To ensure members do not receive additional renewal notices, mail transmittals to your department two to three weeks prior to the cutoff date or pay your members’ dues directly to National Headquarters through your post myLegion.org portal.

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**Convention and Mid-Winter**

**Mid-Winter Conference UPDATE**

My Fellow Legionnaires,

We are getting close to the Mid-Winter Conference on January 24-25. The Convention Committee has their last meeting with Double Tree on the January 14 to go over anything that we need to get done. Looks like everything will be great and should go really smooth.

I will say again that if you are looking to be there for a meeting on Friday you should be checking in on Thursday. As a reminder, check in time is 4:00PM on Friday and the hotel will work very hard to get everyone into their rooms around that time. This will be the last bulletin before Conference, if you have questions please feel free to contact me at rbaribeau@myfairpoint.net, or at home 603 538-7474, or my cell 603-722-4234.

Richard Baribeau
Chairman Mid-winter Conference.
Endorsements for Department Officers

All Department Officers from County Commanders to Department Commander, the National and Alternative Executive Committeeman, in addition to any perspective candidate for the position of National Vice Commander are encouraged to be endorsed at the annual Mid-Winter Conference.

If you are planning on running again for your current position or looking to move to another position, please be prepared to announce the endorsement at Mid-Winter conference.

Department of Vermont Convention and Mid-Winter 2020

The 2020 Mid-Winter Conference and Convention were both voted on and both will be held at the DoubleTree in Burlington, Vermont.

The Mid-Winter Conference - January 24 - 25, 2020

And, the winner is . . ._Oops, not yet.

Banner year for applications.

4 from District 1
1 from District 2
2 from District 3
6 from District 4 (4 from one school)
1 from District 5

I am waiting for final confirmation from the applicants now. I have contacted some posts to request they sponsor a student. I am available to assist in running contests and providing hard copies of necessary paperwork.

I am working on the Department Final to be at the Capital in Montpelier on Sat. Mar. 7.

See you at Midwinter.

Karlene DeVine

Female Veterans, looking for support?

Call the Women Veterans Hotline.

1-855-VA-WOMEN (829-6636)
Commander’s project
2019-2020

My commander’s project involves two targets: Green Mountain Council Mount Norris Boy Scout camp and the Vermont Veterans Home in Bennington. As most of you know, I have been very involved in scouting for many years and I wanted to give back to Green Mountain Council what it has given the youth of Vermont. I hope to raise $5,000 for new tents for one camp site at Mount Norris.

For the Vermont Veterans Home, they are in the early stages of designing and constructing a veterans mobility trail around their campus to be used by the residents and their families. Initial estimates are around $100,000. I am asking for donations toward this project with no specific goal in mind. Whatever amount we raise will be used as seed money for this project.

I thank all legionnaires and posts for their consideration towards my commander’s project.

Ron LaRose
Department Commander
TO: ALL ADJUTANTS AND COMMANDERS

It is that time of the New Year, “The Department Adjutant’s Membership Challenge”. I am challenging every Post to bring Membership to the Podium during Mid-Winter Conference. We have obtained a number of National Commander Bill Oxford Pins, and will present one to each and every Post that comes to the podium with membership during the Business Meeting at Mid-Winter Conference, Saturday, January 25, 2020.

Present Commander LaRose with membership at the podium, and be rewarded with the National Commanders Pin.

For those Posts not represented at the Conference, kindly give your membership to the County Commander, or anyone that will be present.

HAPPY NEW YEAR AND “GOOD LUCK”

Keith O. Arlund
Dept. Adjutant
AMERICAN LEGION 2020
MID-WINTER MEETING

Quick and Easy Reservations for Attendees

Book your room at the Double Tree by Hilton Burlington Vermont.

A block of rooms has been reserved for January 24, 2020 — January 25, 2020 at the discounted rate of $119.00+ a night, with breakfast.

Visit (click on Link) Today to Book your Room

Book your group rate for the American Legion Mid-Winter Meeting 2020

Or

Please have posts contact me directly with any rooming lists most of them already have my email, but just in case there are new people.

Amanda Rondeau
Event Manager
802-865-6630 direct | 802-865-6620 sales office | 802-865-6617 fax

Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Burlington
870 Williston Road, South Burlington, VT 05403
THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF VERMONT

2020 MID-WINTER CONFERENCE BANQUET

DOUBLE TREE by HILTON, Williston Rd., SO. BURLINGTON VT

Friday, January 24, 2020
COCKTAILS – 6:00 – 6:30 P.M
DINNER – 7:00 P.M.

Chicken Parmesan with Roasted Tomatoes or Sweet Italian Sausage and Peppers

The above will be served with Fresh Caesar Salad (Plated), Warm Garlic Bread,
Baked Ziti with Fresh Herbs, Mozzarella & Tomato Salad with Balsamic Vinaigrette, Chef’s Dessert Table
with Brownies & Cookies, Coffee and Lemonade

$34.00 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: January 12th, 2020

PLEASE RESERVE:

Chicken Parmesan#_______  Sweet Italian Sausage and Peppers#_______

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: $________

NAME: ________________________________________________________________

(Circle) POST AUX  S.A.L.
We welcome you to the 2020 Mid-Winter Conference. Please visit our Hospitality Room at the Doubletree on Friday, January 24th following the Banquet until 11:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL PARLOR

SCHEDULE – FRIDAY, JANUARY 24

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Registration DIAMOND FOYER

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

10:00 – 11:00 p.m. Oratorical DIAMOND 1
10:00 -11:00 p.m. Law Cadet CARLETTON RM
11:00 -12:00 p.m. Americanism/ Children & Youth DIAMOND 1
11:00 – 12:00 p.m. Boys State CARLETTON RM
12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Internal Affairs CARLETTON RM
12:00 – 12:30 p.m. Chaplains Mtg. DIAMOND 1
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. District & County Cmdrs. Meeting DIAMOND 1
3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Mylegion.org Post Training DIAMOND 1

CONFERENCE BANQUET

SOCIAL HOUR 5:30 – 6:30 P.M.

BANQUET 6:45 P.M.

PROMENADE/EMERALD BALLROOM
SCHEDULE – SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 2020

7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Registration – DIAMOND FOYER

9:00 A.M.  Joint Meeting  EMERALD III ROOM

♦ Post Colors: Ballard Hobart Post #36
♦ National Anthem – “Sweet Transition” (Local HS)
♦ Invocation: Ken Coonradt, Chaplain
♦ POW/MIA Empty Chair Ceremony
♦ Military Children’s Table Ceremony - Junior Auxiliary
♦ Guest: Jim Douglas, Former Governor of the State of Vermont. In residence at Middlebury College.

9:30 A.M.  American Legion Business Meeting  EMERALD III ROOM

♦ Welcome: Commander – Ron LaRose
♦ Post Roll Call – Keith Arlund, Adjutant
♦ Law & Order: Thomas Scanlon
♦ The Veteran’s Place: Chuck Nettleship & Karen Boyce
♦ Vermont Veteran’s Home - Al Faxton
♦ Vermont National Guard - ESGR: Linda Fowler
♦ VAVS – Kenneth Coonradt
♦ Americanism – Christina Moore
♦ Boys’ State – Dave Cobb
♦ Oratorical - Karlene DeVine
♦ NECman – PDC Fred Latour
♦ Athletic – Leon “Scott” Stevens
♦ Service Officer–PDC Milt Willis
♦ Education & Scholarship – PDC Jerry Stewart
♦ Convention Committee – Richard Baribeau
♦ Children & Youth –PDC Barbara Bushaw
♦ Membership – Catherine Tester
♦ Post Evaluation – Lewis Graham
♦ Legislative – PDC Richard Farmer
♦ American Legion Riders – Lou Furry, Dir.

(Continued on page 27)
Boy Scouts/Ex POW – Ronald LaRose
Reconnect – Tom Scanlon
Constitution & Bylaws – Rebecca Otey, J.A.
Public Relations – Catherine Tester
Memberships to the Podium: Adjutant’s Incentive
Endorsements of Department Officers
Sweepstakes Drawing: Cmdr. LaRose
Benediction – Ken Coonradt, Chaplain

Retirement of Colors – Ballard Hobart Post #36 Adjournment

DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CLOSE OF THE REGULAR

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
SCHEDULE
SATURDAY, JANUARY 25
EMERALD 1 ROOM
8:30 A.M. - SAL DEC Meeting
9:30 A.M. - GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING & WORKSHOP SESSION
For the month of December the commander has attended or visited the following:

Department Headquarters 12/4 – 12/13
   Played Santa at the VA Hospital 12/6
   Visited with Dan Hillard 12/6
   Attended at Quilt of Valor presentation at Post 50 12/6
   Attended a 100th Birthday supper at post 76 12/7

Persian Gulf War Began Jan 16th, 1991

I am asking again all that the Post Historians to PLEASE try to go on-line to the American Legion Centennial Celebration website, (Centennial.legion.org) and do a legacy of their Post Home. Some of you have started one, but have not entered any info. Thank you to all that have started one. Out of 69 Posts only 20 have either started one or they have entered a lot of good information. This information lets the other Posts & States see what your Post has done.

Because every Post has a Legacy whether it was chartered in 1919 or 2019, it has a story. Behind every namesake there is a man or woman who made an important sacrifice, your Post has stepped up and served, helped others in need. Every Post has a Vision. This is an opportunity to look back on all your Post has achieved. Put together a book so the future members can see what your post as done.

Hope to see you at Mid-Winter, Have a Safe and enjoyable New Years
CMDR. LAROSE: *(Performed opening and POW MIA Chair, Preamble)* we will now have the Roll Call.

CMDR. LAROSE: Any discussion on the motion? Motion is to accept the minutes as read. All in favor, any opposed, minutes carried. Thank you. I don’t think there are any restrictions on us emailing the DEC minutes, so I think we should send out a copy, because this is very lengthy to get through. What we are going to do is email them to you, you look at them and you have comments you write them down and bring them to the next DEC Meeting which will be Mid-Winter. Melodie will get these out to you before then to review, and this should speed up the process and you can bring up your issues if need be. Comments, I will entertain a motion, am I overstepping my bounds?

D. MINOLI: So you all have the Finance Report that Fred is passing out as of September 30th; this is not a good report because every year at this time 50% of our dues money has come in for the first three months so the report shows a very good profit, but as you all know so well that will change in the upcoming months. Any questions? I will entertain a Motion.

CMDR. LAROSE: Motion was made and 2nd that we accept the Finance Report subject to audit, any further discussion? All those in favor say I, any opposed? Motion carried.

D. MINOLI: Linda Perham was the new Adjutant and that he had promised the Department would not meddle in the situation and allow Post #31 to get back on their feet. ; I think you all received an email regarding a $5,000.00 dollar loan that the Department made to Post #31. C. TESTER: I make the Motion to Ratify the loan of the $5,000 dollars.

Motion carried. Patriot Fundraising was charging us four to five hundred a month for these administrative costs and I don’t think we would have them on the local level with who we went with years ago. We have talked to Patriots, they have told us those charges will go away, so we are kind of waiting to see what happens before we make a recommendation on staying with them or going with a firm here within the State.

T. SCANLON: Mr. Scanlon reported at length on the Law Cadet Program. VT will send/refer all interested to the New Hampshire program.

It is well worth our effort, less expensive, it only costs $250 dollars per student, instead of the $275.00 dollars we are now paying. . At this point this is much easier and a better program to boot. One other thing I have. , I would propose that we do a professional association sponsorship for $1,000 dollars

CMDR. LAROSE: Motion made and seconded that we do a $1,000.00 dollar ad in the New Hampshire Law Cadet publication or program. Any further discussion? All in favor, any opposed. Motion carried.

S. LOOMIS: . One of the problems that we are having is number one the Vermont Police Academy is under reconstruction and number two is they are increasing the training weeks starting this next year and possibly a fourth echelon of academy training so it’s a small academy and this thing with New Hampshire is actually a plus factor for us as Tom said.

C. TESTER: What I am proposing is that every member of the DEC provide a gift so if you don’t want to go out in your community to solicit your favorite restaurant or a business for a donation that you provide a tax donation and we will buy a gift card or something else with it.
We want the raffle at Mid-Winter, you have now until the end of the year to get the gift to us. Will want it at Mid-Winter and the drawing of the raffle will be right before the banquet. That is my proposal, I think people will buy a ticket if prizes are spread out more across the State and not centralized in Middlebury and Orwell and Rutland.

M. CLOUTIER: Is the raffle for our general fund?

C. TESTER: I would really like it to be for a certain program, it could be for Americanism, Boys State; either. Any Americanism program. Children and Youth as well. This would help us not to be spending money out of our general fund for some of these programs.

CMDR. LAROSE: I think the first question is does the DEC support this 100% because she is asking for all of us to get a prize of $25 dollars or more, or cough up $25 bucks!

D. WOODWARD: I make the motion that we do this with a minimum of $25 dollars. Will you get tickets printed?

C. TESTER: Yes, I will have Middlebury College print the tickets for free.

CMDR. LAROSE: Motion made and a second over here that we have the raffle; $25 dollar minimum prize and all DEC members participate. They will be sending prizes to Department or cash, any further discussion? All those in favor say I, any opposed. Motion carried.

C. TESTER: The next thing I have Commander is the website update. With membership and such I have passed this off to Mark Cloutier who actually is a web designer and master so he will have a meeting and hopefully we will have something in the next couple of months or by Mid-Winter on that.

So the other thing I have is Membership. We have several Posts that have not turned in any membership. They are and this list is Posts under 50% as of October 5th; our Target Date was 55%. So in District #1 we have Milton Post #57, they are right now at 48.65%, four members from last year. I know that the Chittenden County Commander has been in contact with Milton but there may be other issues besides membership. I think they are having other problems within their Post and of course what falls behind is membership. In District #2 we have Jay Peak #28, they have a goal of 70 and they have not sent in any membership. They are at 12.26% so they have five PUFLS and four members have renewed on line. I propose we really take a look at Jay Peak.

M. CLOUTIER: I will try once again to get ahold of the Post Commander.

C. TESTER: Outstanding. Perfect thank you. So we are right around 350 members down and hopefully we can get this corrected soon. The next thing I have is Southern Area. I know that it is vacant and I have a candidate. Do we have anyone else? So my candidate that is here today is a Past Department Commander, Past NECman, and like Dick Farmer said, “he’s going to be a retread”, but filling the position with someone who has his knowledge I think will help the District Commanders in the South. I would like to recommend PDC – Royal Sheeley as Southern Area Commander.

CMDR. LAROSE: Are there any other candidates from the floor? Any other candidates from the floor, any others?

A. SHELDON: We would nominate; with his transferred membership yesterday, Lewis Graham.

C. TESTER: Only DEC members can vote! There are folks in here that are not DEC members.

CMDR. LAROSE: The results are PDC - Royal Sheeley is elected as recycled Southern Area Commander. (Applause) Is there a speech?

CMDR. LAROSE: then Linda Perham is here today to give us a status report on Rutland Post #31.
L. PERHAM: Thank you Commander. Commander LaRose and I talk weekly about Post #31. I was at a meeting at Post #31 in June when I went and transferred my membership from Bellows Falls #37 to Post #31 for the purpose of becoming their Adjutant.

*Ms. Perham made her report that has mailed to all DEC members.*

*There was a long between members that is detailed in full in the DEC minutes sent to all DEC members.*

R. SHERMAN: Years ago we had a group of us, around 2004 we worked and raised money for the regional baseball tournament. Now this money that was raised was not delegated as general fund money up at Department. A few dollars has still been sitting in a fund up at Department, I would like to make the motion that we draw this money from that fund and give it to the Finance Committee to possibly send to Rutland Post #31.

R. SHERMAN: I request that we turn the money in this fund over to the Finance Committee.

CMDR. LAROSE: And someone over here seconded it? So Christine seconded the motion to transfer the money from the restricted fund over to the Finance Committee. Any further discussion? All those in favor, opposed? Motion carried. CMDR. LAROSE: Dennis, do you understand what he said? Finance Committee has control of this restricted money now, and how much is it?

D.MINOLI: $4,783.96 cents.

F. LAOUR: Do we need a motion?

K. ARLUND: No, the Finance Committee will take care of it.

CMDR. LAROSE: Well that’s the next question, does the DEC as we sit here know or have anything they want to offer to the Finance Committee?

M. LEMNAH: That money should be given to Post #31 to take care of some of their things. One way that we all help is by giving out of our District Funds each year as well.

CMDR. LAROSE: We will order one. I will work on the banner as well that we carry at National, we can get some PVC pipe and on the end will be an elbow so that it can be carried easier. Another piece in the bottom so we can weigh it down some. I will be damned to carry that like that again! Was terrible, but we will fix it. Anything more?

*There was a discussion of the status of Department flags. The department flag has been cleaned and have new state flag.*

F. STEBBINS: I make a motion we adjourn.

CMDR. LAROSE: We are getting to that. Chaplain Ken will lead us in the closing prayer, uncover.

K. COONRADT: *(Performed closing benediction)*

CMDR. LAROSE: *(Performed closing ceremony)*

Meeting Adjourned at 4:20 P.M.
“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.”
American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Vermont President
Corrinna E. Colson

Presidents Pin Raffle

Celebrate 100 Year of Service to Veterans
Donate $10.00 to the VT Presidents Project

Honor Flight “Vermont”

To receive her pin & enter a raffle to win some amazing prizes including...

TAL Commemorative Coin Sets

100th Anniversary American Legion/Auxiliary Custom Designed Vermont Teddy Bear Couple

USS Vermont Teddy Bear

Patriotic Crocheted Blanket & Pillows

MANY MORE PRIZES INCLUDING VT RESORT & RESTAURANT GIVEAWAYS

To Enter Raffle, Send Payment to ALA HQ – Pres. Pin - PO Box 192 Montpelier, VT 05601 PH 802-223-3141
DRAWING TO BE HELD AT PRESIDENTS TESTIMONIAL CELEBRATION SPRING 2020!!
Are you homeless?

At risk of homelessness? Did you serve in the U.S. military?

We can help.

Serving Vermont and areas in New York. Call 802-656-3232

Supportive Services for Veteran Families
1-844-820-3232 toll free
802-656-3232
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802-656-3232
Supportive Services for Veteran Families
1-844-820-3232 toll free
802-656-3232
Support your local American Legion Post and their programs - **Play BINGO!!**

**Post 87, West Rutland, VT**

Weekly bingo every Thursday night  
Doors open at 4:00pm  
Games start at 7:00pm.

Jackpot of $999, break open tickets. 
Snack Bar open selling fried foods, soda, water, candy and desserts.

---

**Post 7, Hardwick, VT**

Weekly bingo every Monday night  
Doors open at 6:00pm  
Games start at 7:00pm.

Auxiliary kitchen open selling hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken fingers, French fries, onion rings, soda, water, etc.

---

**Post 50, Castleton, VT**

Weekly bingo every Tuesday night  
Doors open at 5:00pm  
Games start at 7:00pm.  
$1,000 Grand Prize Possible  
(if more than 90 people in attendance)  
Auxiliary kitchen selling hot dogs, salads, main dishes, soups, weekly specials, soda, water, etc.