



VETS NEWS

A Newsletter of the Men and Women of District 4
Department of Massachusetts

VetsnewsD4@gmail.com

Ray "Sunshine" Samko - Executive Editor

March 2024



Legionnaires encouraged to engage in promoting voting but remain non-political during election cycle



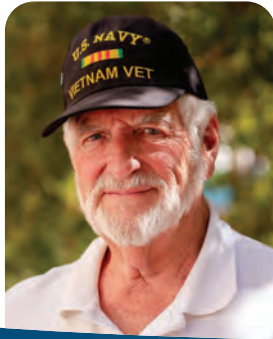
The American Legion
JAN 18, 2024

This year ushers in a presidential election. And while American Legion posts are encouraged to promote "Get Out the Vote" (GOTV) efforts, it is important to remember to remain nonpartisan in the process.

The American Legion is a nonpolitical, nonpartisan organization but advocates for all U.S. citizens to register and vote in all elections. The American Legion does not show preference for or against any particular candidate or political party.

With that mind, here are some dos and don'ts for Legionnaires and posts to follow during the election cycle.

- 1. Can I wear my American Legion cap to a political event?** No. The American Legion cap is considered the official legion uniform (see p. 38 of 2024 Officer's Guide). If attending a political event, The American Legion cap, or any clothing with The American Legion emblem visible, must be removed so as not to imply any endorsement by The American Legion.
- 2. Can we use our American Legion post for a political event?** When using post facilities to host any candidates, the post must remove American Legion emblems and American Legion flags to avoid any impression of endorsements. Candidates for all parties must be presented equal opportunity to use the facilities on the same terms and conditions as other competing candidates.
- 3. Can I get The American Legion at the local, state and national level to support a candidate running for Congress or any political office?** No. In Article II, Section 2, of the Constitution of The American Legion, "The American Legion shall be absolutely nonpolitical and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles nor for the promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment." Additionally, the National Charter, approved by Congress, stipulates The American Legion as an organization is nonpolitical. Therefore, The American Legion as an organization is never to help or endorse a candidate. However, you, as a private citizen and not speaking for the organization, can do whatever is legal and ethical to advance his/her candidacy.



VA S.A.V.E. TRAINING

FOUR WAYS YOU CAN HELP A VETERAN IN CRISIS

What is VA S.A.V.E. Training?

VA S.A.V.E. Training is a free, brief online or in-person course that will help you act with care and compassion if you come across a Veteran who is in crisis or having thoughts of suicide. The acronym S.A.V.E. helps you remember the important steps involved in suicide prevention:

- S** Know the **Signs** that indicate a Veteran might be thinking about suicide
- A** Ask the most important question of all — “Are you thinking of killing yourself?”
- V** Validate the Veteran’s experience
- E** Encourage treatment and Expedite getting help



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

How to Support a Veteran in Crisis

Keep these tips in mind when talking with a Veteran who may be at risk for suicide:

- Remain calm
- Listen more than you speak
- Maintain eye contact
- Act with confidence
- Do not argue
- Use open body language
- Limit questions—Let the Veteran do the talking
- Use supportive, hopeful comments
- Be honest—There are no quick solutions, but help is available

Additional Resources

- **VA Mental Health Services:** Get information about inpatient and outpatient services available through VA at [MentalHealth.VA.gov](https://www.mentalhealth.va.gov).
- **Online Resource Locator:** Find VA facilities, Vet Centers, suicide prevention coordinators, and other VA resources at [VeteransCrisisLine.net/LocalResources](https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/LocalResources).
- **Keep It Secure:** Promotes awareness about the simple steps you can take to protect yourself and your family. It focuses on sharing information about secure gun and medication storage, the warning signs of suicide, and how to find the support you or a Veteran loved one needs. [KeepItSecure.net](https://www.KeepItSecure.net)
- **Don't wait. Reach out.:** Use this site to find support and resources designed specifically for Veterans. If you're a family member or a friend, you can also find resources for the Veteran in your life. [VA.gov/REACH](https://www.VA.gov/REACH)

Do you want to take VA S.A.V.E. Training?

Go to learn.psycharmor.org/courses/va-save to take the course online or contact your local suicide prevention coordinator to schedule in-person training: [VeteransCrisisLine.net/LocalResources](https://www.VeteransCrisisLine.net/LocalResources).

You don't have to be enrolled in VA benefits or health care to take VA S.A.V.E. Training.

S

Know the *Signs* that indicate a Veteran may be thinking about suicide

The signs below may indicate that a Veteran needs help. If you or a Veteran you know is experiencing any of these, contact the Veterans Crisis Line:

- Hopelessness, feeling like there's no way out
- Anxiety, agitation, sleeplessness, or mood swings
- Feeling like there's no reason to live
- Rage or anger
- Engaging in risky activities without thinking
- Increasing alcohol or drug use
- Withdrawing from family and friends

The signs below require immediate attention. If you or a Veteran you know is experiencing any of these and needs medical attention, call 911 now:

- When asked, they express a desire to hurt or kill themselves
- When prompted, they reveal they're looking for ways to die by suicide
- They talk about death, dying, or suicide
- They begin to exhibit self-destructive behavior, such as increased drug or alcohol use, talking about obtaining/using weapons for self-harm, or saving up medication

A

Ask the most important question of all: "Are you thinking of killing yourself?"

Other ways to ask the question include: "Are you thinking of suicide?" or "Have you had thoughts about taking your own life?"

When asking the question, remember:

- **DO** ask the question if you've identified warning signs
- **DO** ask the question in such a way that's natural and flows with the conversation
- **DON'T** ask the question as though you're looking for a "no" answer ("You're not thinking of killing yourself, are you?")
- **DON'T** wait to ask the question until they're halfway out the door

V

Validate the Veteran's experience

Use the following steps to let the Veteran know you're listening and acknowledge their experience:

- Talk openly about suicide. Be willing to listen, allow the Veteran to express their feelings, and make supportive, encouraging comments.
- Recognize the situation is serious
- Don't pass judgement

E

Encourage treatment and Expedite getting help

If a Veteran is having thoughts of suicide, remain calm and reassure them help is available:

- **DON'T** keep the Veteran's suicidal behavior a secret
- **DON'T** leave them alone
- Try to get the Veteran to seek immediate help from their doctor or the nearest hospital or emergency room
- Call 911

Safety is Important

Never negotiate with someone who has a gun. Get to safety and **call 911**. If the Veteran has taken pills, cut themselves, or has done harm to themselves in some way, **call 911**.



Chat at VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat • Text 838255

The Veterans Crisis Line isn't just for Veterans. Our responders can connect Veterans' families and friends with helpful resources.



The American Legion
Department of Massachusetts
Office of the Department Adjutant

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

To One and All,

Form season will soon be upon us and I wanted to reiterate the importance of completing Post and District forms by the due date. I have said on several occasions there are reasons why forms are due by a certain date. A timely form submission makes the Post, District and the World go around smoothly. There is really a method to the madness of forms. If a Post or District has issues filling out their forms please call the office WE ARE HERE TO HELP not like the government. I also want to mention that this year's Department Convention will have a multi-subject training block built into the schedule. If you have suggestions please call the office or contact the Department Training Committee WE ARE HERE TO HELP, really we are here to help. We would love to see all Legionnaires at the training sessions even if you do not plan on attending the Department Convention please come to the training sessions. That is all for now hope to see you all at the National Commander's Luncheon in April and Department Convention in June.

“Veterans Strengthening America”

Yours in Comradeship,

Lisa A. McPhee
Department Adjutant

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



**The American Legion
Department of Massachusetts, Inc.
RM 546 – 2 State House
Boston, MA 02133-1044
(617) 727-2966
Email: deptadjutant@masslegion.org**

NATIONAL COMMANDER DANIEL J. SEEHAFFER

Dear Legion, Auxiliary, SAL and Riders,

Our National Commander Daniel J. Seehafer Testimonial - **Saturday, April 6, 2024**

Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel
181 Boston Post Road West
Marlborough, MA 01752.

Time: **3:00 PM Buffet luncheon** ****NOTE CHANGE IN TIME****

Ticket donations are **\$45.00** per person and may be purchased from your District Ticket Chairperson. Please make checks payable to **“American Legion Dept. of MA”** and mark **“Tickets Only”**
Tables will be set for 10.

- Cutoff date for Banquet Tickets is **March 21, 2024**
- Head Table Business Dress (coat & tie for men – and appropriate apparel dress for women)
- Audience Business Casual (trousers and collared shirt for men and appropriate apparel dress for women)

All room reservations must be made directly through the Hotel - **Call Hotel or use the link**

- Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel at (508) 460-0700
- The American Legion code is **American Legion**
- Link: https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.22024.html?groupId=6X4IM0W1
- The room rate per night is \$129.00 plus 11.7% tax = **\$144.09**
- The cutoff date for room reservation is **March 5, 2024**
- **District Ticket Chairman listed on page 2 of 2**

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

Yours in comradeship:

Co-Chairman: John P “Jake” Comer PNC
Paul A Morin PNC
Vice Chairman: Jodie Pajak NEC
John Lenotte ANEC
Ticket Chairman: Lisa McPhee Dept. Adjt.
Ad Book Chairman: Louie Brault PNEC
Members: Mark Avis PNVC
Milton Lashus PNEC
10 District Chairman



National Commander's banquet
Honoring Daniel J. Seehafer
Saturday – April 6, 2024

Copy deadline is March 14, 2024

District _____

Post _____ Auxiliary _____ Squadron _____ Riders _____

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

Printing area

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

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

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

- **Pictures will be accepted**
- **Email Ads to:**
deptcoordinator@masslegion.org
- **Make out checks to American Legion Dept. of MA**
- **MICROSOFT WORD FORMAT**

Name: _____

Stuff to Remember

National Commander's Luncheon

April 6, 2024

Mass American Legion Auxiliary

Golf Outing

March 24, 2024

[\(Scroll down for info\)](#)

Mass Detachment SAL

Bowling Tournament

April 13, 2024

[\(Scroll down for info\)](#)



BOYS STATE COMMITTEE
THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS
RM 546-2 STATE HOUSE BOSTON MA 02133
617-727-2966

To: All Post Commanders and/or Boys State Chairmen:
From: Mark Avis, Chairman Massachusetts Boys State

The 2024 Boys State Program will be held at Stonehill College, North Easton, from **Saturday, June 15, 2024 to Friday, June 21, 2024**. This year, the cost of sponsoring each boy will be **\$375.00** for the regular tuition, or **\$350.00** for those who pay for students by the **“EARLY BIRD”** registration date of **APRIL 1, 2024**, after the cost is **\$375.00**. **Please make your check payable to “The American Legion” and designate “Boys State” in the lower left corner of the check. Please use the tear-off sheet at the bottom of this notice (page 2) indicating your Post Chairman, as all future correspondence will be mailed directly to them.** All checks for the 2024 Boys State Session must be in the hands of chairman by May 20, 2024. The first 400 applications will be accepted. We encourage you to actively seek outside co-sponsors (e.g. politicians, businesses, or banks) to help pay for these boys to attend.

Boys chosen to attend Boys State must be interviewed by the Post Chairman, and his signature attesting to this must appear on Citizen Applications. Each Post Chairman should explain Boys State in detail to the boys and their parents so that they will know what is expected of them during their stay. The Boys State website (<http://www.maboysstate.org/>) contains a wealth of information, 2024 interest application, including video, photographs, program books, and program descriptions. Students and parents should be directed to this resource for information and announcements.

Beginning in January 2024, we will have applications available via email or regular mail. Please select the email option on the tear-off sheet if that is how you would like to receive the paperwork.

Once we have received payment for your 2024 Boys Stater

- 1. Detailed instructions will be provided in the application packets that are sent to the Post if by regular mail.**
- 2. Or emailed to the address provided on page 2**

DISTRICT	NAME	EMAIL	PHONE #
1	George Oleen	gao1964@gmail.com	413-229-6670
1	Dale Alden	aldewndale@hotmail.com	413-229-3163
2	Leo Barber	Debbie_barber2002@yahoo.com	413-336-1273
3	Ryan Howe	Shawn.r.howe.yf@gmail.com	413-875-5923
4	Lisa McPhee	Lredsox1964@aol.com	978-230-6208
5	Nelson Blake	captblake82@gmail.com	978-201-7821
6	Charles Hurd	Hurdcharles63@gmail.com	857-258-9945
6	Wendy Eng (CONS)		617-584-0078
7	Mike Davis	chickendaveus@yahoo.com	617-335-0241
8	Bruce Heisey	bbheisey@hotmail.com	978-526-4880
9	Richard Mangels	richmangels@gmail.com	774-301-0164
10	Francis MacDonald	fmacdonald53@comcast.net	508-477-0955
Chairman	Mark Avis	avis14@comcast.net	413-535-9234

TEAR OFF SHEET TO RECEIVE YOUR BOYS STATE APPLICATION

Send this form to:

Mark Avis
 14 Shaw St
 Palmer MA 01069

POST _____ DISTRICT _____

NUMBER OF BOYS _____ CHECK AMOUNT _____

Sponsors Name _____

Post Chairman _____ Phone # _____

Address _____ Zip code _____

High School _____

High School Contact _____

Please send the **APPLICATION** for Boys State via **email to this address:**

Email: _____



An Apple Original Film

★ BOYS STATE ★

THE MOVIE

What do Michael Jordan, Neil Armstrong, Bill Clinton, Roger Ebert, Jon Bon Jovi, Bruce Springsteen, Troy Aikman have in common?

They are just a handful of prominent graduates of Boys State

See what Boys State is about
Available on Apple TV

No actors, just real Boys Staters

Follow a thousand Texas high school seniors as they gather for Texas' 2019 Boys State week-long program for an elaborate mock exercise: Building their own state government.

[Boys State Movie Trailer](#)

VIETNAM PINNING CEREMONY

PATRIOTS



Please join the New England Patriots Foundation and Cross Insurance as we honor, salute, and recognize Vietnam War Veterans.

DATE: THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2024

TIME: 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Program will begin promptly at 11:00 AM

LOCATION: GILLETTE STADIUM — CROSS PAVILION

RSVP: CHARITABLEEVENTS@PATRIOTS.COM • BY MARCH 15

Please provide first and last name, rank, branch of service and years served

ATTIRE: BUSINESS CASUAL (SERVICE APPAREL ENCOURAGED)

EACH VETERAN CAN BRING ONE GUEST



**Female Vets,
You're Invited!**

Veterans Northeast



Outreach Center

Red, White, and Blue Brunch

Join us to celebrate our Female Veterans!

Friday, March 8th, 8:30-10am
10 Reed St. Haverhill
RSVP 978-372-3626

Legion Family doing great things in the District

THE ITEM FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2024 B5



Working on a blanket during a Berlin Auxiliary meeting are Cindy DeLeo, Susan Giroux, Peg Stone and Yvette Prayor.
Photo by The Item

Ladies of the Berlin Legion Auxiliary help others

For The Item

BERLIN - Berlin American Legion Auxiliary Unit 162, is an organization dedicated to supporting veterans and their families, focuses in assisting families in distress and championing various causes. Global activities encompass:

- **Community Service:** Engaging local initiatives to benefit the community
- **Funding Cancer Research:** Contributing to advancements in cancer treatment
- **Advocating for Elderly Rights:** Supporting the well-being and rights of senior citizens

Locally, Berlin American Legion Auxiliary Unit 162 has made significant contributions. During the challenging holiday season, they took action to alleviate loneliness:

- **Gift Cards for Veterans:** In 2023, the women of this unit sent gift cards to Veterans Affairs Hospitals in West Roxbury and Jamaica Plain;
- **Cash donations to Veterans Inc:** A cash donation was made to Veterans Inc located in Worcester;
- **Active participation in Wreaths Across America:** Members honored fallen veterans by placing wreaths on their grave stones;
- **Support for Berlin's Food Pantry:** Countless volunteer hours are dedicated to the local food pantry;



Trudy Tervo works on a blanket during a recent Berlin Auxiliary meeting.

- **Veterans Day Cards and Memorial Day Tributes:** Veterans received heartfelt cards, and flowers were planted at Legion Auxiliary grave sites;
- **Poppy Coloring Books:** Donations to the local Berlin Library and 19 Carter; and
- **"No Sew" Blankets:** The ladies of the Auxiliary crafted blankets for not only veterans in Berlin, but to local homeless women veterans' shelters in neighboring towns.

Dedicated members include: Jane Sawyer, Susan Seed, Cindy DeLeo, Janet Lamy, Susan Giroux, Trudy Tervo, Ellen Ororato, Jen Butler, Tracy Hill, Diane Barter, Clarie Pond, Peg Stone, Miki Patterson, Diane Wilson and Linda Shute.

American Legion Auxiliary

Children and Youth



Tournament

When: March 24 2024 at 9:00 A.M.

Where: Trombetta's Farm

655 Farm Road

Marlboro MA 01752

Basket Raffles 50/50 Raffle Lots of different Contests

Gather your team of 4 or 5 players to play!

Cost: \$20.00 per player

Tee Sponsorship! \$50.00

**Join us for this fun event that impacts youth
in our community!**

American Legion Auxiliary

Children and Youth



Tournament

Team Registration

\$20.00 per player

Name of team _____

Minimum players per team 4 maximum 5

Team Members:

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

5) _____



**DETACHMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION**

**The American Legion Family of Massachusetts
“Partnership for Kids”**

Dear Partners:

The American Legion Family of Massachusetts, in conjunction with Boston Children’s Hospital, Baystate Children’s Hospital and UMass Memorial Health Care is proud to continue supporting a program called:

“Partnership for Kids”

The “Partnership for Kids” program provides an opportunity for Posts, Units, Squadrons, Rider Chapters, Individuals or Private Business to support our local Children’s Hospitals and receive the recognition they deserve. Through the “Partnership for Kids” we have created the “American Legion Family Dream Maker” Award. A Dream Maker is a Post, Unit, Squadron, Rider Chapter, Individual or Private Business that contributes \$250.00 or more to one of the Children’s Hospitals listed above. A mountable certificate will be issued to those who attain the “Dream Maker” status. However, donations of any amount are greatly appreciated. A \$10.00 donation can give a Million Dollars’ worth of dreams to the Children in these hospitals.

Every year, Children’s Hospitals treat millions of children for every disease and injury imaginable. Since the beginning of this program The American Legion Family in Massachusetts has contributed \$158,993.00 dollars to the Children’s Hospitals here in Massachusetts to ensure that the best care is available whenever children need it. One hundred percent of the funds raised stay at the hospital you wish to contribute. Last year at the 12th Annual American Legion Family “Partnership for Kids” Bowling Tournament the total raised was \$9,753.23. This tournament has raised over \$82,500.00 for the three Hospitals here in Massachusetts. We hope the 13th Annual American Legion Family “Partnership for Kids” Bowling Tournament being held on April 13, 2024 will be equally successful. The contact information is listed below:

Checks Payable To:

Boston Children’s Hospital Baystate Children’s Hospital UMass Memorial Healthcare

Send To:

Boston’s Children’s Hospital 401 Park Dr., Suite 602 Boston, MA 02215 ATTN: Erin McCarthy	Baystate Health Foundation 280 Chestnut Street, 6 th Floor Springfield, MA 01199 ATTN: Maria Gorecki	Office of Philanthropy UMass Memorial Health Care 365 Plantation Street, Biotech One Room 301 Worcester, MA 01605 ATTN: Liz Parker-Gagne
--	--	---

A Massachusetts American Legion Family donation form has been created which allows us to track the donations by each Post, Unit, Squadron, Rider Chapter, Individual and Private Business. All donations will be made directly to the hospital of your choice. This will allow them to put your donation to work as soon as it arrives.

**Please join us in helping our children at these hospitals and become a
Massachusetts American Legion Family Dream Maker**



The American Legion Family

13th ANNUAL “PARTNERSHIP FOR KIDS” BOWLING TOURNAMENT

**SATURDAY, APRIL 13th, 2024
12:00 PM to 4:00 PM**

**WEBSTER TIMBER LANES
460 Bedford St., Abington, MA 02351**

**Proceeds to benefit Boston Children’s Hospital, Bay State Children’s Hospital
and UMass Memorial Children’s Medical Center**

Limited to 22 teams – First come, first served for team sign-ups

Five Person Teams

\$25 per person / \$125 per team / \$10 for non-bowlers

50/50 Raffles | Food provided during tournament

Send payment & registration forms to:

Bill Sheehan

296 Hancock St., Abington, MA 02351

Make checks payable to: Whitman SAL Squadron 22

***Confirmation of entry forms will be sent upon receipt of completed registration
Must be paid un full to secure registration***

**THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY
“PARTNERSHIP FOR KIDS”
BOWLING TOURNAMENT**

**WEBSTER TIMBER LANES
460 BEDFORD ST., ABINGTON, MA 02351**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024
12:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.**

**REGISTRATION FORM
TOURNAMENT OPEN TO ALL
POSTS – UNITS – SQUADRONS – LEGION RIDERS**

\$25.00 PER PERSON / \$125.00 PER TEAM

POST NO. _____
UNIT NO. _____
SQUADRON NO. _____
RIDER CHAPTER NO. _____

BOWLER NO.1 _____
BOWLER NO.2 _____
BOWLER NO.3 _____
BOWLER NO.4 _____
BOWLER NO.5 _____

**SEND PAYMENT & REGISTRATION FORMS TO:
BILL SHEEHAN
296 Hancock St. Abington, MA 02351**

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
Whitman SAL Squadron 22**

**CONFIRMATION OF ENTRY FORMS
WILL BE SENT UPON RECEIPT OF COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM
MUST BE PAID IN FULL TO SECURE REGISTRATION**



Department of Massachusetts The American Legion Family

Post, Unit, Squadron, Riders Number: _____

Post, Unit, Squadron, Riders, Individual, Business Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Post, Unit, Squadron, Riders, Individual, Business Address: _____

City: _____, State: _____, Zip Code: _____

Donation Amount: \$ _____

Make checks payable to the
Children's Hospital of your choice.

Please circle the organization the donation is from:

POST UNIT SQUADRON RIDERS INDIVIDUAL BUSINESS

Baystate Children's Hospital

Baystate Health Foundation
280 Chestnut Street, 6th Floor
Springfield, MA 01199
ATTN: Maria Gorecki

Boston Children's Hospital

Boston Children's Hospital
401 Park Drive, Suite 602
Boston, MA 02215
ATTN: Erin McCarthy

UMass Memorial Healthcare

Office of Philanthropy
UMass Memorial Health Care
365 Plantation Street, Biotech One RM 301
Worcester, MA 01605
ATTN: Liz Parker-Gagne



masslegion.org/programs/legion-softball

legion
softball

SOFTBALL TEAMS WANTED!

AREA POST SPONSORSHIP AVAILABLE

*PUTTING THE GAME BACK INTO THE
COMMUNITY*

AMERICAN LEGION

Softball Fastpitch League is sanctioned by the American Legion, Department of Mass and will mirror that of American Legion Baseball. Offering a program for Lady high school softball players and will help teams develop during the summer and keep teams together.

If you are interested in forming a team and/or would like updates on the status of this new program, please submit your contact information and we will be in contact as plans progress. Registration is open for the 2024 season!

Contact Sue Sears (774) 922-2843

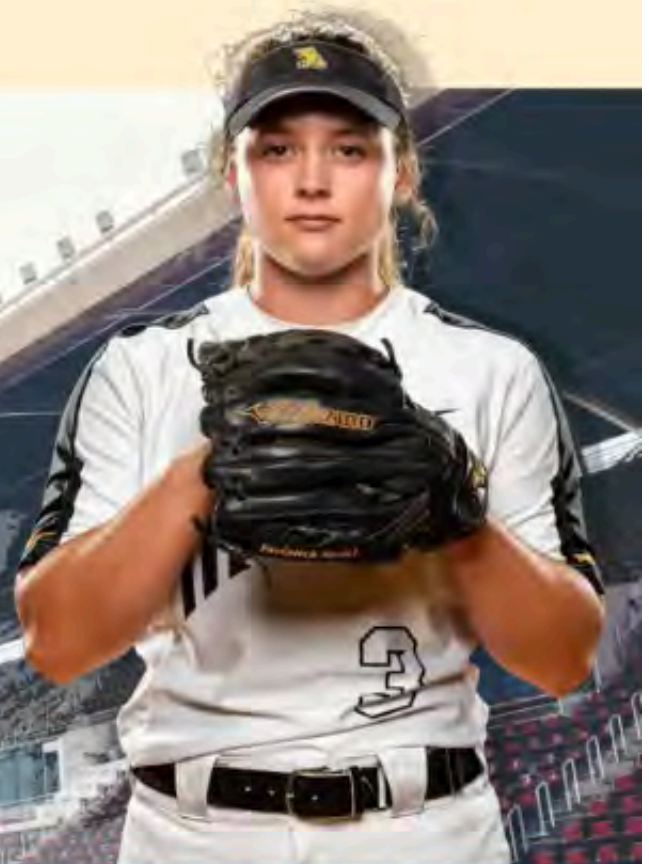
AGE ELIGIBILITY

PLAYERS GRADUATING IN
2024-2028 ARE ELIGIBLE FOR PLAY
IN THE 2024 LEGION SOFTBALL
SEASON

Playoffs start

July 24 - 28

**REGISTRATION FEE:
\$150 per team**



District Officers 2023-2024

Commander	Steve Gallant Post 279 508-832-3664 swg49@gmail.com
Sr. Vice Commander	Adam Doud Post 306 774-242-3971 adam.doud@gmail.com
Jr. Vice Commander	
Adjutant	Dale Smith Post 306 508-340-9746 dalelorna.hs@gmail.com
Finance Officer	Carol Messier Post 414 508-735-9048 cmmessier406@gmail.com
Chaplain	Peter Newman Post 102 978-249-6679 havegunwillchaplain@gmail.com
Historian	Dave Peckham Post 279 508-335-7495 liztooth@aol.com
E-Board	Consists of All Post Commanders that are present at District Meeting

Department Officers 2023-2024

Commander	Sandra Davis skeeisme@hotmail.com
Sr. Vice Commander Membership	Nelson Blake captblake82@gmail.com
Vice Commanders	
District 1-2-3	Drew Pajak dwpajak@gmail.com
District 4-5-8	Scott Conner scottscpo@gmail.com
District 6-7-9-10	Robert Jordan rjerdan@gmail.com
Historian	Ryan Howe shawn.r.howe.yf@gmail.com
Executive Committee Woman	Cindy Lacoste clacoste13@gmail.com
Adjutant	Lisa McPhee deptadjutant@masslegion.org

Upcoming Meetings



Department

**April 6, 2024
Best Western Plaza
Marlboro, MA**



District

**March 16, 2024
Post 109
Sturbridge**



District



LINKS

Department of Massachusetts

masslegion.org

Legion Baseball

masslegionbb.org

Legion Ladies Fast Pitch Softball

masslegionsb.org

American Legion Oratorical Program

legion.org/oratorical

Legion Training

legion.org/training

Department Training

scottscpo@gmail.com

DUES INCREASE FOR THE 2025 MEMBERSHIP YEAR

At the National Convention held on August 25-31 in Charlotte, NC, it was voted to increase the National per capita by \$5.00.

At the Department Executive Committee meeting held on September 16th it was voted to increase the Department per capita by \$2.00.

These increases will take effect on July 1, 2024 for the 2025 Membership Year.

Beginning July 1, 2024 Posts will need to send \$35.00 per member.

Membership Year 2025 per capita **\$35.00**

National will get \$23.50 (was \$18.50)

Department will get \$11.50 (was \$9.50)

IMPORTANT IMPORTANT IMPORTANT

When completing the **Annual Post Data Report** for the 2025 Membership Year
Current Annual Post Dues - **Make sure your Post has enough to cover the new per capita.**





Help!!

***Looking for submissions for the
AI White Award
Community Service by a
Post/Unit/Squadron/ALR family member***

Also

***Be on the look out for Teacher of The Year
There has got to be one somewhere!***

***Award criteria can be found on MassLegion.org
Programs - scroll down to Americanism***

**AMERICAN
LEGION**

**Hiram O. Taylor
Post 189 Sterling**



**Meat
Raffle!**

When: March 10, 2024

Time: 1: 00 PM

Where: Eight Point Sportsmen Club

Address: 147 Beaman Rd, Sterling, MA 01564

******Bring your friends, neighbors, relatives you like, and
money.....!!! All to benefit Post 189*******

POST PARADE PARTY !!

**VERNON HILL AMERICAN
LEGION POST 435
WORCESTER, MA**



**SUNDAY
MARCH 10TH
2PM**

**Irish Music By

**THE
POURMEN**

**267 Providence St.
Worcester, MA**





NEXT FRY
FRIDAY
APRIL 5TH

FISH FRYS



FIRST FRIDAY OF
MONTH
OCTOBER - MAY
5 PM - 8 PM

**DINE-IN
OR
TAKE OUT**
508-753-9252

fish 'n chips
scallops
combo-fish 'n scallops
shrimp
chicken strips 'n fries
clam chowder

PAXTON AMERICAN LEGION

885 Pleasant Street
Paxton, MA

508-753-9252





Nasty Habits

A Tribute To The Rolling Stones

FRIDAY

APRIL 12, 2024

SHOW STARTS @ 7:30PM.

VERNON HILL

AMERICAN LEGION POST 435

267 PROVIDENCE STREET, WORCESTER, MA. 01607



Operation Playhouse

ARE YOU A VETERAN OR A MILITARY FAMILY AND WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE A FREE PLAYHOUSE FOR YOUR CHILD OR GRANDCHILD THROUGH OUR OPERATION PLAYHOUSE PROGRAM?

IF SO, PLEASE REVIEW THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

- You must be generally or honorably discharged, or still on active duty.
- You must have children or grandchildren up to 12 years of age.
- You must live in New England. (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, or Vermont).

If you meet the above criteria, please visit

<https://www.habitatmwgw.org/programs/operation-playhouse/veteran-playhouse-application/> or contact Pam Pollan at playhouse@habitatmwgw.org.

For more information about Operation Playhouse, please visit: <https://www.habitatmwgw.org/programs/operation-playhouse/>.

Thank you for your service! We are honored to give back to the service men and women who have sacrificed so much for our country. We are one of just a few Habitat organizations in the U.S. to offer this program.



VETS NEWS SUBMISSIONS

Have an upcoming Event? (All Posts in state invited)

Send your pdf flyers to Vetsnewd4@gmail.com

Have an article to share from your Legion Family group?

We love articles with pictures!

Send to Vetsnewd4@gmail.com

-Post Everlasting-

Please submit any names of

District 4 Legion Post, Unit, Squadron, Chapter members that
have passed since June 1, 2023 to Vetsnewd4@gmail.com

Post Everlasting is posted on the D4 Website-

District4-legion@cityslide.com

Thank you,

The Newsroom

