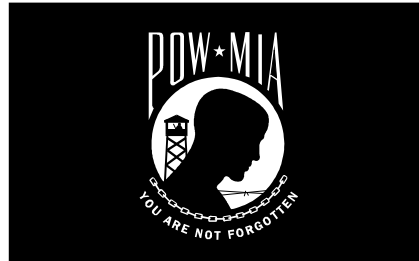


**ADJUTANT'S  
NEWSLETTER**  
OFFICE PHONE 856-8951  
EMAIL:  
ADJUTANTNH@LEGIONNH.ORG



## THE DEPARTMENT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE THE AMERICAN LEGION

**TO MY LEGION FAMILY:**



## OUR FALLEN COMRADES

As many are aware the Department of New Hampshire has lost several past leaders of the Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL all within a 2 month period. Most recently we also lost our Service Office Administrative Assistant, Pauline Kissell to a sudden medical issue leaving a big hole in the Department Service Office and our ability to serve the veterans of this state. At no time have there been so many passing on in this Department that have touched and influenced so many members of the American Legion. As a result I felt it necessary to recognize them and dedicate this month issue of my newsletter to all of them.



American Legion Past Department Commander Elmer (Bud) Dunn 1986-1987

American Legion Past Department Commander Frank Anderson 2010-2011

American Legion Auxiliary Past Department President Marion Grant 1993-1994

SAL Past Detachment Commander Randy Marcotte 1991-1992

Department Service Office Administrative Assistant Pauline Kissell 2009-2017

## DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

In reference to remembering our fallen members the deadline for submitting names for the Memorial Service at convention was May 1<sup>st</sup>. However we will take names already sent until May 5<sup>th</sup>. After that date any names submitted will have to go on next year's Memorial Service listing. This is so Department has the time to put the program together for this year's service.

The Department will also not accept any more ads for the convention book after May 5<sup>th</sup> as well. The book needs to go to the printer so that we have time to make any corrections.

I am including a copy of the agenda below. This is a draft and as always subject to change. You will see we have taken out training this year because the Department is holding a weekend long Leadership school in June. There will be more information on that moving forward.

**THURSDAY – MAY 18, 2017**

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM **PRE-REGISTRATION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES**  
7:00 PM DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING – BALLROOM DAYS  
INN

**FRIDAY – MAY 19, 2017**

7:45 AM **MEMORIAL SERVICE IN THE BALLROOM, DAYS INN (DOORS CLOSE AT 8:00 AM)**  
**OPENING CEREMONIES FOR CONVENTION**  
ADVANCEMENT OF COLORS (DEPARTMENT CHAMPIONSHIP COLOR GUARD,  
TILTON POST 49)  
INVOCATION – DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MIKE POLLITT  
MEMORIAL SERVICE

8:00 AM – 2:00 PM (ONLY) **REGISTRATION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES TO  
NATIONAL CONVENTION AT DEPARTMENT HOTEL HEADQUARTERS –  
DAYS INN**  
(IF YOU ARE A DISTRICT DELEGATE TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION  
YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO REGISTER AGAIN)

9:00 AM MEETING OF RULES COMMITTEE

9:00 AM **(JOINT SESSION)**  
CALL CONVENTION TO ORDER - DEPARTMENT COMMANDER  
COLORS IN PLACE –  
INVOCATION – AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN – DONNA BRYANT  
PLACEMENT OF POW/MIA FLAG – DEPARTMENT VICE  
COMMANDERS PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  
PREAMBLE – DEPARTMENT COMMANDER TOM WILEY ADDRESS  
OF WELCOME – DEPARTMENT VICE COMMANDER  
CALL TO CONVENTION – DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT

9:10 AM WELCOME ADDRESSES  
NH DELEGATION –TBD  
TOWN OF LINCOLN WELCOME  
NH VETERANS HOME COMMANDANT – MARGARET “PEGGY” LEBRECQUE  
NATIONAL BICE COMMANDER – VINCENT TROIOLA  
NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT – PATRICIA LACH  
VETERANS COUNT  
GOLD STAR MOMS

9:45 AM PRESENTATION – DEPARTMENT OF N.H. LAW ENFORCEMENT  
OFFICER JUSTIN PEARSE - NASHUA P.D.  
LEGIONAIRE OF THE YEAR AWARD

**10:00 AM BREAK (AUXILIARY AND SONS OF AMERICAN LEGION EXCUSED) 15  
MIN**

10:15 AM REPORT OF RULES COMMITTEE

10:30 AM ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DEPARTMENT OFFICERS FOR 2017-2018

10:45 PM ADJUTANT ANNOUNCES ROOMS FOR COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND CAUCUSES

**FRIDAY - MAY 19, 2017 (cont'd)**

- 10:45 – 12:30 PM AWARD PRESENTATIONS
- 12:30 AM BREAK FOR LUNCH (RETURN AT 1:30 PM)
- 1:30 PM SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION OPENING SESSION CONVENTION COMMITTEE MEETINGS
- 1:30 PM COMMITTEE MEETINGS: LOCATIONS TBA
- 3:30 PM CAUCUSE (CAUCUSE WILL INCLUDE ALL DISTRICTS)
- 5:00 PM COLOR GUARD COMPETITION (DAYS INN GRAND BALLROOM)

**SATURDAY - MAY 20, 2017**

- 7:30 – 11:00 AM (CONT) REGISTRATION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES TO THIS ANNUAL CONVENTION
  - 8:30 AM RECONVENE CONVENTION  
CALL CONVENTION TO ORDER  
COLORS IN PLACE, SALUTE TO COLORS  
PRAYER  
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
  - 9:00 AM REPORTS OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN RESULTS OF MEETINGS:  
AMERICANISM  
FINANCE CHAIRMEN  
INTERNAL AFFAIRS  
RESOLUTIONS  
TROPHY & AWARDS  
VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION  
CHILDREN AND YOUTH  
UNIFORM GROUPS
  - 10:30 AM GREETINGS FROM DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT  
INSTALLATION OF SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DETACHMENT OFFICERS  
**NOMINATIONS OF DEPARTMENT OFFICERS**  
INSTALLATION OF DISTRICT OFFICERS
  - 11:00 AM REPORT FROM THE DEPARTMENT CONVENTION COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
  - 11:15 AM MEETING OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE
  - 11:30 AM REPORT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE
  - 11:45 AM ELECTION SETUP
  - 12:00 PM ELECTION OF DEPARTMENT OFFICERS AND DELEGATES TO NATIONAL CONVENTION
  - 12:45 PM TELLERS MEETING AFTER VOTE
  - 1:30 PM RECONVENE FOR FINAL BUSINESS SESSION  
COMPLETE PRESENTATION OF AWARDS
  - 3:30 PM NEWLY ELECTED DEPARTMENT COMMANDER AND DEPARTMENT OFFICERS TO MEET
- UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
- 6:00 PM SOCIAL FOR BANQUET (INDIAN HEAD RESORT)

7:00 PM BANQUET, INCLUDING CHANGING OF THE GUARD

SUNDAY – MAY 21, 2017

9:00 AM WREATH LAYING AT WAR MEMORIALS IN PARK

ADJOURN CONVENTION

There are also still tickets available for the convention banquet. However they are going fast.

\*\*\*\*\*AT THIS TIME WE CANNOT ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS\*\*\*\*\*  
SEND YOUR CHECK, YOUR AD, AND THIS FORM TO:

AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF NH  
121 SOUTH FRUIT ST STE 103  
CONCORD, NH 03301

**Ads and payment must be at Department by May 1**

The following is information on the banquet:

**CONVENTION BANQUET**

The Convention Banquet will be held at the INDIAN HEAD HOTEL, in LINCOLN, NH on Saturday May 20, 2017 at 7:00 pm. Social hour will be at 6:00 pm. All American Legion Family members are welcome to attend.

The cost of the ticket is \$30.00 per dinner with a choice of Beef or Fish

PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM AND SEND IT TO:

VERNON LEIGHTON  
374 Hayward St  
Manchester, NH 03103

Forms for the Banquet can be found on the website at  
[www.legionnh.org/view/document/convention\\_banquet\\_2017.pdf](http://www.legionnh.org/view/document/convention_banquet_2017.pdf)

**DEADLINE: MAY 5, 2017 CONTACT PERSON VERN  
LEIGHTON 785-9622**

# NATIONAL CONVENTION

The 99<sup>th</sup> National Convention will be held in **Reno Nevada, August 18 – 24, 2017**. The Department of New Hampshire will be staying in the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino Hotel, 2500 East Second Street, Reno, NV 89595. I recommend to those of you wishing to go to this convention this year that you start making plans now.  
<https://www.grandsierraresort.com/>

The cost per night is \$115.00 + 13% tax + \$2.00 Tourism Tax = \$132.00 a night. I have King and Queen rooms available. Right now I have 23 rooms assigned to this Department. However the Keene Band from Post 4 has decided to join us this year and will also be competing in the National Band Competition along with joining us in the parade.

There is free parking and valet parking available at the hotel. This particular Hotel has a lot of amenities available within the hotel to include many restaurants, activities for the family, and of course gambling.

A copy of the housing form, along with other information is on the website which needs to be back to me with a one night deposit by **July 1, 2017**, [www.legionh.org/page/content/members/national-convention-information](http://www.legionh.org/page/content/members/national-convention-information). Even though the deadline is July 1<sup>st</sup>, I would like to have names to me of those that know they are going for sure now. I need to get a idea of how many rooms I might have left because I need to set up the Keene Band this year too and may have to request more rooms beyond the 24 I have now. I appreciate any assistance in this since the hotel we are going to has 17 departments staying in it.

The banquet tickets this year will be \$47.00 a piece. I need people to get back with me as soon as possible on how many tickets they might want. I originally will order 30 tickets, but if there is more that want to go, I need those numbers before national sells out. After that it is first come first serve for any tickets that departments might have left over.

I will be updating the national convention page as I get information. So please take a look when you get a chance. Just to give you an idea and round trip ticket to Reno is costing between \$1000 to \$1500 for 2 people depending on what airline you want to take and how many stops there are.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE RESIDENTS CARE ABOUT VETERANS READ THESE TIPS FOR GIVING TO VETERANS CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS

Attorney General Joseph Foster issues these practical guidelines for New Hampshire residents who want to make donations to help our veterans:

1. Do your research. You will read in the newspaper or see something on the internet or watch something on television about a charitable organization that supports our veterans or our troops overseas. Go on the computer and find that organization's website and read about its plans and its track record in helping our troops or our veterans. Does it describe the specifics of what it does? Does it operate in New Hampshire? How much of your donation will go to help veterans?
2. How much of my donation will go to help veterans? That is often a tough question to answer. Some charitable organizations eat up almost all of their money in fundraising expenses or management salaries. Generally, donors want to see that that the organization uses a good amount of its revenue toward providing program services.
3. Many people are seeking donations for veteran's causes using Facebook and Twitter. Some link to crowd funding websites. Making donations this way may be quick and easy, but you may not know exactly where the money is going, and what good it is going to do. And just because someone has recommended an organization online does not mean you do not have to do your own research.
4. Online donation sites should use encryption technology that ensures security for data transmission. Before entering sensitive information (i.e. credit card number, personal identification data, etc), verify that the site requesting this information is secure.
5. There are websites that can provide you with information about larger organizations that work with veterans. Consider looking up an organization on Charity Navigator ([charitynavigator.org](http://charitynavigator.org)), GuideStar ([guidestar.org](http://guidestar.org)) or even the Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance ([www.give.org](http://www.give.org)).
6. Organizations that solicit charitable contributions in New Hampshire are required to register as charities with the Charitable Trusts Unit. Call 271-3591 or go on the CTU website to check out this organization. Again, do your research.
7. Beware of lookalike and sound-alike charities. Many organizations use words like "veterans" or "warriors" or "heroes" or "Vietnam".
8. If someone calls you over the telephone to make a contribution for a veterans



- organization, think twice. Do you know the person? Do you recognize the name of the charity? Are they registered in New Hampshire? Take the time to do your research. Ask the caller for the organization's web site address, or ask that they send you materials in the mail. No cause is so urgent that you can't take the time to check it out.
9. Did you know that professional solicitors (i.e. people who get paid to make phone calls for charities) must be registered with the Charitable Trusts Unit? Call 271-3591 or go on the CTU website to check out the solicitor's organization.
  10. And remember, never give out personal information over the telephone, including credit card and bank account numbers, to someone you do not know.
  11. Think local. There are a number of groups with a good track record working with veterans in New Hampshire. Ask a veteran who may have taken advantage of its services. Again, do your research.
  12. If someone is selling merchandise with a promise that "100% of the proceeds" will go to a veterans organization, it does not mean your entire purchase price will get directed there. Contact that organization. It should be able to tell you how much it gets from each sale, and it might not be much.
  13. If you are concerned that your donation be tax deductible, then you need to ask a further question. Has the charitable organization received "501(c)(3)" status with the Internal Revenue Service? Many veterans organizations do good work, but they have chosen not to get 501 ( c )(3) status. And donations made to help an individual or a family are not tax deductible. Just remember that before you donate.

Finally, Attorney General Joseph Foster announces that the Charitable Trusts Unit of the Department of Justice is available to answer questions regarding charitable giving to veterans organizations or regarding any calls you receive requesting donations for charitable purposes. Call 271-3591, or e-mail us at [charitabletrusts2@doj.nh.gov](mailto:charitabletrusts2@doj.nh.gov) or click on our web page at: [www.doj.nh.gov/charitable-trusts](http://www.doj.nh.gov/charitable-trusts)

### **Manchester VA Medical Center to Hold Veterans Town Hall**

**What:** The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Manchester VA Medical Center is hosting a town hall for Veterans, family members and the public to provide feedback on VA operations and recommendations for VA programs.

**Who:** Manchester VA Medical Center Leadership, Subject Matter Experts from VBA and Vet Center, Veterans and public.

**When:** May 11, 2017 from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

**Where:** Greenland Veterans Center  
376 Portsmouth Avenue, Greenland, NH 03840

**Background:**

This Manchester VA Medical Center town hall is one of many VA is holding around the country. The meeting will be an open forum for Veterans to discuss and engage with VA officials about their healthcare and benefits.

Congressional stakeholders, Veteran Service and Non-Governmental Organizations, are also encouraged to attend.

RSVP: Media interested in attending should RSVP [Kristin.Pressly@va.gov](mailto:Kristin.Pressly@va.gov)

Photo © Arline Grant 2014

**THE MOVING WALL** COMING TO UNH DURHAM  
May 4-8, 2017

Join UNH's commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War.  
For more information or to volunteer, call (603) 862-0643 or visit [www.unh.edu/veterans](http://www.unh.edu/veterans)

**SERVICE CREDIT UNION**  
★★★★★

### VCP Phone Line Imposter

It has come to VA's attention that a phone line has been set up by an unknown party to potentially "mimic" the VCP phone line. This imposter phone line may be intended to reach Veterans who inadvertently dial the VCP number incorrectly.

We want you to know that we are taking this seriously and to keep you aware of the steps we are taking. VHA Office of Community Care (VHA CC) has reported the "mimic" line to the VA Office of Inspector General for a possible civil or criminal investigation.

#### "Mimic" Phone Line

The phone line established to "mimic" the VCP phone line is 1-**800**-606-8198. You know you have reached the wrong VCP phone line when:

- The phone line offers callers a \$100 rebate *if* the caller provides a credit card.
- The phone line does *not* state the caller has reached U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or the VCP phone line.

**Be aware** that this phone number incorrectly confirms callers had reach the VCP *if the caller asks that question.*

#### VCP Phone Line

The correct VCP phone line is 1-**866**-606-8198. This line is for Veterans to check their eligibility for the VCP and ask questions about the program.

If you are unsure if you have reached the correct phone line, hang up and dial 1-**866**-606-8198 again. The phone line will state the called **has** reach the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.



**Please Post**