

# No One Does More for Veterans

## Maine VFW Department Service Office



07/29/2016

Department Service Office

[Edition 1, Volume 1]

### National Convention

The Crescent City hosted the 188<sup>th</sup> VFW National Convention July 22-27, 2017 and Maine was well represented. Thousands of VFW and Auxiliary members convened at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans to welcome our new VFW Commander-in-Chief Keith E. Harman and Auxiliary National President Dee Guillory. Next year's convention will be held July

*"Earn your success based on service to others, not at the expense of others."  
-H.Jackson Brown Jr.*

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### Department of Maine

### VFW Service Officers

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Togus VFW Service office

207-623-5723



State Adjutant Andre Dumas with State Commander Richard Farris leads the Maine delegates at the VFW National Convention in New Orleans

21-25, 2018 in Kansas City, MO.



## 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Maine Military and Community Network Conference

July 20 saw the Augusta Civic Center come alive with representatives from all over the area to support the health interaction between the military/veteran civilian communities of Maine. This event happens every year and those interested in participating in the event or attending should contact [mainemcn.org](http://mainemcn.org) for more information.



JoAnn Bolduc VFW AVSO and Maureen Malley AL AVSO check in to the conference



Distinguished guests included keynote speakers Vice Admiral Raquel C. Bono, Director for the Defense Health Agency and Dr. John Wesley Fisher, author of “The War after the War”.

## The Silhouette Project

Displayed prominently at the Maine Military and Community Network Conference were the silhouettes bearing the names of 22 Maine Veterans who have taken their own lives. Created by Gold Star Mother Linda Lajoie who lost her son in 2014 to suicide, this display has traveled through Maine as a poignant reminder that we as veterans often suffer invisible wounds in silence. There is help and it is never too late to let someone know you are hurting. If you or a loved one or a comrade is struggling, reach out. Call 1800-273-8255, veterans press 1. There is also 24 hour online help at [www.veteranscrisisline.net](http://www.veteranscrisisline.net) that offers 24 hour a day on line chats. You are not alone.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Columbus Day: October 9 (office closed)

PSO Training and Outreach: October 13 (Caribou Post 9389)

COA: October 14 and 15 (Caribou)

Homeless Veterans Stand-down at Togus Campus: October 21

Eastern States Conference: October 27-29 Portland, ME

Daylight Savings Time Ends: November 5. Remember to set your clocks back!

Veterans Day: November 11 (office closed November 10)

Thanksgiving Day: November 23 (office closed)

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day: December 7

Christmas Day: December 25 and New Years Day: January 1 (Office closed)

### Post Service Officer Helpful Hints!

**Post service officer training will be held in conjunction with the Quarterly Council on Administration meetings. Class will begin the Friday prior from 8am-12 pm at the local post (wi-fi accessibility dependent) immediately followed by an Outreach event from 1-4 pm. For more information contact facilitator Cornelius “James” Ware at [Cornelius.ware@va.gov](mailto:Cornelius.ware@va.gov).**

**Please do not keep any old VA forms. These forms are updated regularly and the VA often does not accept any outdated forms in support of a claim. The most current forms can be found through the VA.gov website or contact your service office at 207-623-5723.**

KNOW YOUR SERVICE  
OFFICER:

David D. Williams  
(Rumford Post 1641)



*I served in the Navy from 1981-1985 I got my VFW eligibility as the ship I was stationed on was anchored off the coast of Lebanon during the conflict that was going on over there at that time. I was*

*there when the US Embassy was attacked. While in the Navy I was assigned to V-4 Division fueling helicopters. I joined the VFW in 1983 thanks to my Grandfather. I have been the post quartermaster since 1993. For the last few years I have been the Post Service officer. As the post S.O. I assist fellow members and non members alike with transportation to medical appointments in Rumford or Togus were ever they may need a ride too. One time I received a call from the Rumford V.A to ask if I could pick up a Veteran way up in Rangeley headed towards N.H. He had a scheduled appointment at Togus with no way of getting there. There are times when I receive calls requesting information on benefits and stuff like that and I refer them to our Togus service Office.*

*In 2012-13 I was the State Commander and became and*

*All American State Commander. Then in 2014 I was elected State Quartermaster which I am in my 4th year in this position. Then at the 2017 State Convention I was nominated and elected as National Council member for the term of 2017-2021. I am married to my wife Betsey and we have 3 kids and 7 grandkids.*

*If you would like to nominate a Post Service Officer for KNOW YOUR SERVICE OFFICER contact:*

*207-623-5723 or email  
Cornelius.ware@va.gov or  
joann.bolduc@va.gov*

*Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States  
Service Officers by Post*

|                            |                            |                           |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2599 Andrew J. Kinney      | 618 Donald A. Pelkey       | 9389 Andre L. Dumas       |
| 9609 Lester J Dubois       | 9699 Bruce R. Junkins      | 1605 Brian T. Smith       |
| 2299 James C. Brawn        | 4154 Eric E. Buckingham    | 7529 Richard D. Burton    |
| 9779 Stephen P. Dow        | 11553 Charles A. Warden    | 109 Daniel P. Sullivan    |
| 1761 Dwight E. Cressey     | 3381 Corey E. Carr         | 4527 Shawn A. Jernigan    |
| 4633 Curtis D. Slininger   | 4298 Neil P. Clukey        | 5723 Edward J. McCall     |
| 6924 Stephen G. Dostie     | 7865 Craig L. Jackson      | 7866 Elwin A. Matthews    |
| 10881 Clyde P. Penney      | 11191 Nathan R. Harth      | 3095 Robert T. Wilshire   |
| 3108 Anthony R. Kimble     | 4169 Larry M. Hopkins      | 6131 Kent D. Woodward     |
| 9437 Eugene R. Kirkpatrick | 2197 Stanley E. Harland    | 4525 John S. Blodgett     |
| 7738 Robert E. Joyce       | 9 Earl C. Stevens          | 887 Cornelius J. Ware Jr. |
| 1285 Jeremy J. Lockhart    | 8835 JoAnn Bolduc          | 9526 Frank D. Smimmo      |
| 1603 Ralph J. Carter       | 1641 David D. Williams     | 3335 George B. Wyman      |
| 9150 Bertrand A. Dutil     | 9787 David C. Bradbury     | 11032 Robert D. Hodgkins  |
| 832 William N. Shaw        | 6783 Clifford R. Purinton  | 6859 Bryan E. Noyes       |
| 9328 Randall C. Withee     | 10529 John S. Ames         | 10643 Dennis Marshall     |
| 10879 Alan E. Reed         | 11362 Catherine R. Merrill | 5744 Paul R. La Pierre    |
| 6548 Kenneth W. Kingsley   | 6977 Raymond W. Farnham    | 7997 Michael A. McInnis   |
| 9394 Paul R. LeBlanc       | 9935 James E.N. Bachelder  |                           |

*Spotlight On: The Korean Service Medal*

*Korean War Veteran can take pride in being recipients of the Korean Service Medal (KSM), an award symbolizing honorable service and sacrifice in a full scale war.*

*Created by Executive Order No. 10179 on*

*November 8, 1950, the medal covers the period June 27, 1950-July 27, 1954-a full year after the armistice was signed. It includes service within the Far East Command-Korea, combat flight crews based on Japan and Okinawa and ships in the Sea of Japan and the Yellow Sea. It also recognizes*

*consecutive or 60 non-consecutive days of temporary duty in the theater.*

*Service with a unit or headquarters stationed outside the theater but directly supporting Korean War military operations during this time also entitles the veteran to this medal in some cases.*

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*Approximately 1.6 million troops earned their KSM on the soil of South Korea. Others served offshore or in neighboring Japan (in direct support), bringing the total to 1.8 million. Some 36,576 Americans died in the war, 103,284 were hospitalized for wounds. Often called the "forgotten war", it has been anything but that to VFW. Instrumental in promoting the Korean*

*War Veterans Memorial, the organization also donated \$600,000 towards its construction. VFW has welcomed Korean War veterans into its ranks since 1950, shortly after the KSM was created. (From the VFW fact sheet updated April 2009).*



Jul/Aug/Sep2017  
(Editor's Note: I had the opportunity to visit the Korean War Memorial in 2016. It is especially dear to me as I had lost my father, a Korean War vet, the summer prior. My father did not know it existed much less have the opportunity to visit. We reached the Memorial at dusk when the ghostly shapes of those soldiers emerging from the trees were particularly poignant. I urge everyone to take the opportunity to visit those Memorials at least once in your life. Television shows and pictures truly do not do them justice.)

*Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States  
No One Does More for Veterans*

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