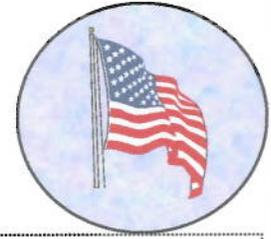


Volume 13 Issue 3



RETIREE NEWSLETTER



SEP-DEC 2008

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
PUBLISHED BY THE MEARNG RETIREE COUNCIL

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<http://www.me.ngb.army.mil/retire/retiree.htm>

We are continuing to update our mailing list to include all MEARNG retirees. **If you know any retiree(s) who are not receiving the newsletter, please send their name and address to a member of the Retiree Council or e-mail us.**

Please advise us of mailing address changes. If you do not wish to continue receiving the newsletter, contact a council member.

Continuation of Newsletter The Retiree Council has decided to **continue the Retiree Newsletter to spouses of deceased retirees when the spouse requests it.** Many items in the newsletter may prove valuable to the surviving spouse.

New Members: Membership is open to retirees of all ranks and gender from all parts of Maine. If you or a retiree you know are interested, please contact a Council member. Retired NCOs should consider getting involved to have their concerns surfaced and to demonstrate they are still an active member in military affairs.

COMMENTARY This is the thirty-eight Retiree Newsletter, normally published in Apr, Aug and Dec. Our purpose is to keep you informed and provides you a continuing sense of belonging to the Guard after retirement. We hope the newsletter helps accomplish that purpose.

Information is furnished through various sources, and is only made available in this newsletter for your information. Information and comments contained in this newsletter is intended solely for the personal interest of the recipient and should not be considered as an endorsement. If you have an item you would like considered for publication, please send it to the MEARNG Retiree Council, Camp Keyes, Augusta, ME 04333

NOTE:

This newsletter and all previous issues of the newsletters can be found on the following web site: this is a new change for retiree page

****RETIREMENT BENEFITS AND SERVICES****

shop on line at military exchanges: LOG ON AT: aafes.com or usmc-mccs.org or navy-nex.com or cg-exchange.com

Subject: Funeral-newsletter-update
(UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Volunteers welcome in helping to conduct
Military Funeral Honors

The POC is:
Mr. Frank R. Norwood, MSG (Ret)
Maine Military Funeral Honors Coordinator
1-800-958-5967
207-626-7822/7805
E-Mail: frank.norwood1@us.army.mil

Since October 2004, the Maine Military Funeral
Honor Program has performed
3111 Military Funerals for the Veterans of
Maine. According to the Maine
Veteran's Administration, Maine will lose
nearly 4000 Veterans (all
branches)

per year through the year 2010. Retirees
are welcome to participate in
providing Military Funeral Honors for
Maine's Veterans. The rendering of
Military Funeral Honors is a way to show our
Nation's deep gratitude to
those

who, in times of war and peace, have
faithfully defended our country. Funds
are available to compensate certain
categories of retirees and buglers.
When

requested, Retirees, in class A uniform will
receive a per day stipend,
(whether training or performing a Military
Funeral. This stipend is
intended
to offset the cost of gasoline, meal and other
authorized expenses. To
perform Military Funerals you will need to
train with the current members of
the team. This would be a 4 hour, hands on
session. I will not put you on

the spot. You will not be asked to present a
flag to the next of kin until
you are comfortable. If you have any
questions please contact me at the
above numbers or stop by my office here at the
Augusta Armory.

Only person to receive a stipend are those
requested to be party of the funeral party by
Mr. Norwood and are qualified.

Mr. Frank R. Norwood
Maine Military Funeral Honors Coordinator
Office toll free: 1-800-958-5967
Office: 207-626-7822
DSN: 626-7822
Cell: 703-901-8531
FAX: 207-626-7804
Web site: www.funeralhonors.org

Pickings from the grape vine. or odds and ends.

**The Maine National Guard will host the
2009 Retiree Activity Day (RAD) at the
Augusta Armory on Saturday 22 August.
The MeARNG Council will be looking for
volunteers to work the event. See RAD
2009 Poster page 12 Please make
copies and post where retirees may go.**

**LTC Jim Laflin assumed chairmanship of
the MeARNG retiree council during
council meeting October 2008.**

**Need assistance from all MeARNG
retirees. Please notify BG (RET) Al
White, editor of this newsletter, if you
become aware of the death of a
MeARNG retiree. Need info for TAPS
section this newsletter**

**Maine Military Community Services
Family Program**

See page 13 for details on what is offered under this program, This program is run under TAG Maine supervision but is for ALL services personnel who are from Maine.

See ways you can help!

Help a guard family when you can.

Write to a soldier

Volunteer your talent and services

Make a monetary donation

Continue to be a PROUD American

FMI contact MSG Claudel (207)626-4410

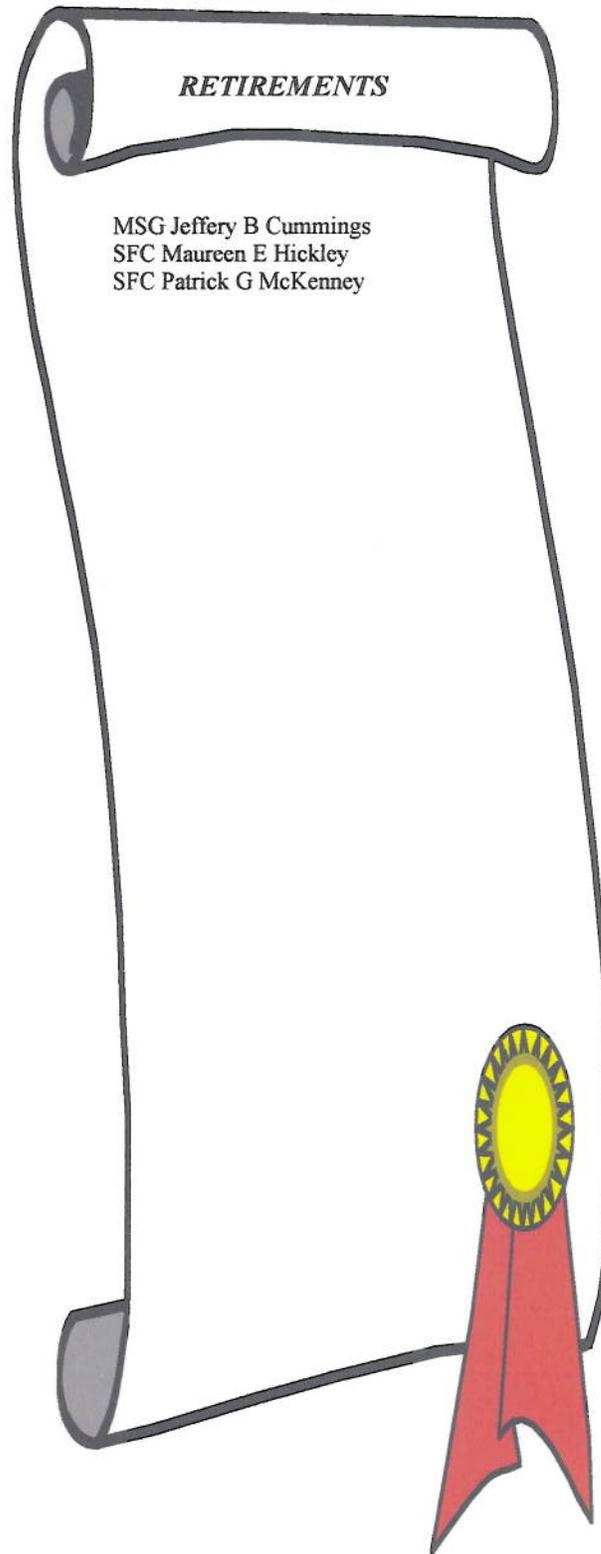
**SGT MEARNG (RET) WILLIAM A
GOODMAN HAS FOUND A WAY TO
CONTINUE TO SERVE. SEE PAGE 17.**

**FOR MORE INFO CONTACT BILL AT
(207) 564-3037 OR
windrider57@yahoo.com**

****TRANSITIONS****

RETIREMENTS

MSG Jeffery B Cummings
SFC Maureen E Hickley
SFC Patrick G McKenney



(**Any names that are not on this list, was not done intentionally, please advise.)



TAPS

- SFC (RET) ROBERT S BROWN
- CW4 HAROLD HARDISON
- SFC (RET) WILLIAM H RUSSELL JR
- 1SG (RET) ROGER TONDREAU

It is suggested that the Headquarters at Camp Keyes, Augusta, Maine be made aware of a deceased retiree. Upon receiving notification, word will be disseminated to Staff and Units of the Maine Army National Guard. This will enable any active guard member who may have served with the retiree to pay their condolences. Person to call is the Directorate of Personnel at 207-626-4536



We will never forget

MISCELLANEOUS

WEB SITES YOU NEED TO HAVE

FOR INFO ON MEARNNG RETIREES TO INCLUDE NEWSLETTERS go TO:
www.me.ngb.army.mil/retire/retiree.htm

For National Guard Association of Maine "NGAME go to: <http://www.ngame.us/>

For Maine Army National Guard go to:
<http://www.me.ngb.army.mil/default.htm>

For Maine National Guard Family Assistance go to:
<http://www.me.ngb.army.mil/family/default.htm>

****UPCOMING EVENTS****

MeARNG Retiree Council Meeting Dates for 2009:

The Council meets on Tuesdays at 0900 in the TAG conference room, Camp Keyes, Augusta. Any retiree or non-retiree is welcome to attend.

<i>DATE</i>	<i>DAY</i>
February 10 2009	Tuesday
April 7 2009	Tuesday
June 09 2009	Tuesday
August 11 2009	Tuesday
October 13 2009	Tuesday
December 8 2009	Tuesday

*All meetings at 0900 hours -- TAG conference room
Jim Laflin, Chairman*

Maine Army Retiree Council Meetings – Calendar Year 2009:

(Not to be confused with the MEARNNG Retiree Council. This council is for all branches of service in Maine).

The Maine Army Retiree Council conducts meetings, at various times, which imparts information of interest to all military retirees. Retirees of all military services, and their spouses, are invited and encouraged to attend. Scheduled meetings for 2007 are as follows:

- 02 Apr 09, 1930 hrs, Air National Guard Base, 514 Mainiac Ave., Bangor, Me 04401

- 05 Jun 98, 1930 hrs, Post #31 American Legion Post, Washington St., Auburn, Me 04210
- 06 Aug 09, 1930 hrs, Maine Veterans Home, Scarborough, Me 04074
- 09 Oct 09, 1930 hrs, Post #40, American Legion Post, W6nthrop, Me 04364

For additional information relative to these meetings, contact either of the following individuals:

- CSM Edward L. Davis, AUS (Ret) (207) 469-7918, PO Box 50, East Orland, Me 04431
- CSM Estol R. "Mac" McClintock, USA (Ret), (207) 683-6121, 59 Huff Corner road, Wellington, Me 04942-8709
- SFC Harold L. Ware, AUS (Ret) (207) 642-2757, 110 Fort hill Road, Standish, Me 04084

Maine Military Historical Society Board of Directors and annual meeting dates:

The Society is looking for additional board members. If you are interested contact the Society president Dwaine Drummond at 626-4220. See page 15 for MMHS schedule of events for 2009. All members or friends are welcome to attend board meetings.

MAINE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY IS PLANNING A GUIDED BUS TRIP TOUR OF THE GETTYSBURG BATTLEFIELD IN OCTOBER, 2009. See page 14 for more information. Make a copy and send in as directed to be kept informed on the plans for this informative and exciting trip.

FAMILY ASSISTANCE CENTER VOLUNTEER FACT SHEET. SEE PAGE 10 also SEE PAGE 09 DEPLOYMENT 152 OF OUR OWN!

Please if you have time and skills listed, and we all do GET ON THE LIST TO LEND A HAND IF NEEDED.



Retiree E-Mail Addresses**

Listed below are e-mail addresses of some of our retirees. This is a way of keeping in touch, providing upcoming events and news of interest between regular issues of the newsletters. If you would like to have your e-mail address included in this list, contact al white at albertwhite@suscom-maine.net

If you change your e-mail address you will need to provide me with the change. An incorrect e-mail address can affect my distribution group for sending out e-mails. One bad address can affect the entire group. This is also a way of keeping you informed of deaths, legislative issues, family support, etc.

- Adams, Earl, MG adamscarl@roadrunner.com
- Adams Larry 1SG ladams73@maine.rr.Com
- Anderson Joseph F SFC janderson@pwless.net
- Armstrong, Read, CW4 - readarmstrong@yahoo.com
- Amoroso, Francis (Frank) J, COL - guardme1@verizon.net
- Ash, George, SGT - gla1956@yahoo.com
- Ashmore, John H MSG john.ashmore2@verizon.net
- Atkins Ernest D. Jr, SGM. - MILRETSGM@aol.com
- Azzarello, Leonard S., SSG - the chip3@maine.rr.com
- Barron, Mike, SSG - ma1fcs@hotmail.com
- Barry, Bruce M., LTC - barrybm@msn.com
- Barstow Richard O SSG- abnormalbarstow@yahoo.com
- Beaudion, Ricahrs Maj - rbeaudoin@netschape.com
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- Bennet,Ronald SSG-ronald_ben@verizon.net
- Benson, Donald, ISG - dabenson@verizon.net
- Bilodeau, Arlene V., SSG - ABilodeau@roadrunner.net
- Birmingham, Kerry, SGM - sgm.birmingham@verizon.net

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 Blaine, Bill, blainewh@rcas.ngb.army.mil
 Blair, David, COL - dhblair@watervillesd.com
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 Toppan, Wellington, Co; wctoppan@roadrunner.com

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Correct Mailing Address

HELP!!!!

It is imperative that we have your correct mailing address in order for you to receive your newsletter.

Please provide your correct mailing address by contacting a member of the Retiree Council or mailing it to:

Dept. of Def., Vet. & Emerg. Mgmt.
 33 State House Station
 ATTN: MS. Lori Jones
 Augusta, Maine 04333-0033

We are now up to 1,454 members str

****RETIREE COUNCIL MEMBERS****

James Laflin	Chairman
Robert Weymouth	Vice Chairman
James Laflin	Secretary
	Chairman Retiree List
Martin Asdourian	Romain Savoie
	David Blair, David Shorey
Jeanne Clements, Dean Soule, Donald Laflin	
Edward Davis Douglas Welsh Jr.	
Estol (Mac) McClintock Nathan Grass,	
Clifton Johnson, Albert White	

**MAINE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 LOOKS FOR NEW MEMBERS.**
 THE SOCIETY RUNS THE ONLY PURE MILITARY
 MUSEUM IN MAINE. IT IS LOCATED AT CAMP
 KEYES. The ENTRANCE IS JUST OUTSIDE THE

MAIN GATE AT CAMP KEYES.

The society is a non-profit organization under Section 501 (C) (3) of the Internal revenue Code of 1954, as amended It is financed through membership dues, grants and tax deductible donations. Any donation big or small will be appreciated and will be put to good use!

There is no cost to tour the museum, a donation jar is available for those who wish to donate. For a tour contact CW5 (RET) Ronald Roussel at (207) 582-7568 or MS Soraya Thomas at 626-4350.

The society honors a segment of the military at the annual meeting each year normally held in October. During 2008 the Society honored Maine's family Support personnel

Retirees, this is YOUR museum .The Board of Directors hope that you will join today or make a donation to keep this valuable piece of military history going!

The Society is looking for volunteers who live in close proximity of the museum at Camp Keyes to give tours, to house clean, to catalogue new items to act as security when large groups are visiting etc.Training will be provided by Ron Roussel, or other qualified MMHS members. If you are interested call Ron at (207) 582-7568.

SOCIETY LOOKING FOR IDEAS FOR MUSEUM TO SHOW OUR INVOLVEMENT IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN.

What would be good display items? Need ideas from veterans of those areas. Contact CW5 (RET) Ron Roussel at (207) 582-7568 or e-mail at : ronrous@msn.com

We are in need of pictures, artifacts etc. What is the most representative of each country that we can show/ exhibit?

The Battlefield Cross Memorial Fund has reached its goal. The Augusta Emblem Club will now be buying the 2nd memorial. It will be dedicated and will be on display in

the Hall of Flags in the State House. More info soon as to the date and time. Many thanks to all who donated. This memorial will honor all Maine service personnel killed since 9/11.

The first Fallen Soldier Battlefield Cross Memorial was dedicated on September 11 2008 in the Hall of Flags at the State House. Dog Tags of the eight fallen MeARNG Guardsman were hung on the memorial by family members. See Page 16.This was a very memorable and solemn occasion. This memorial now resides inside the main entrance to the TAG building along with pencil sketches of the fallen soldiers. Please make every effort to stop by and view the memorial and say a prayer for the fallen soldiers, their families and for those now serving!

Many thanks to the Augusta Emblem Club for sponsoring this project especially to Mrs. Louise P. Dorr, president of the club.

National Guard Association of Maine 2009 Scholarships

The National Guard Officer's Association of Maine is offering four \$500 scholarships. Any dependant of a current, deceased or retired Maine National Guard Member who will be attending a college, university or technical school full time during the 2009/10 school year may apply. Applications may be received between 2 January – 1 March 2009. Applications may be obtained on-line at www.ngame.us or by contacting Col John Goulet at (207) 430-5633 or john.goulet@us.army.mil

Family Assistance Center Volunteer Fact Sheet

Address:
State Family Assistance Center
State Armory
179 Western Avenue
Augusta, Maine 04330-0033

Wanted: Volunteers to assist families of deployed soldiers. All of us have interests/skills we are good at and want to share with others. If you want to help our soldier's families please take a minute and complete this form. With winter fast approaching the FAC would appreciate your offer to support our families in need.

Volunteer Information:

**The Family Assistance Center
Closest To You**

Name: _____

___ Augusta

Address: _____

___ Portland

___ Bangor

Phone: Home: _____

___ Caribou

Work: _____

Cell: _____

___ Statewide

Organization If Applicable: _____

Skills/Interests to share:

- ___ Clerical
- ___ Notary Public
- ___ Yard Work
- ___ Electrician
- ___ Plumber
- ___ Gen Home Maint/Repair
- ___ Carpentry
- ___ Wood Splitting
- ___ Auto Maintenance
- ___ Heating/Furnace Issues
- ___ Run Errands
- ___ Provide Transportation
- ___ Make Phone Calls

- ___ Babysitting/Childcare
- ___ Provide Refreshments
- ___ Make Phone Calls
- ___ Nurse/Med Tng
- ___ Plowing/Shoveling Snow
- ___ Lawyer or Legal help
- ___ Tax Help
- ___ Computer Skills
- ___ Support Events/Activities
- ___ Financial Planning
- ___ Crisis Comfort
- ___ Mentorship
- ___ Whatever Is Needed

Your Skills Not Listed:

Please Fax to 626-4512 ATTN: Kerry Birmingham



**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 08, 2008 – DECEMBER 14, 2008**

MILITARY BUREAU

The following charts depict Maine Army and Air National Guard units and personnel currently alerted, mobilized and deployed as well as the operation or mission they are supporting.

MAINE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD INDIVIDUAL DEPLOYMENTS				
Unit	Mission	Personnel	Location	Status
Detachment 3, Medical Detachment	Community-Based Health-Care Organization (CBHCO)	2	Hanscom Air Force Base, Massachusetts	Deployed
Detachment 3, Medical Detachment	Operation Iraqi Freedom	1	Fort Sill, Oklahoma	Deployed
Joint Force Headquarters	Operation Warrior Trainer	1	Fort Dix, New Jersey	Deployed
Joint Force Headquarters	Joint Task Force Guantanamo	1	Guantanamo Bay, Cuba	Deployed
133rd Engineer Battalion	Operation Iraqi Freedom	1	Camp Shelby, Mississippi	Deployed
133rd Engineer Battalion	Operation Warrior Trainer	2	Fort Dix, New Jersey	Deployed
152d Maintenance Company	Operation Warrior Trainer	1	Fort Dix, New Jersey	Deployed
Security Force II	Operation Warrior Trainer	1	Fort Dix, New Jersey	Deployed
Total:		11		

MAINE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD UNIT DEPLOYMENTS				
Unit	Mission	Personnel	Location	Status
Co C, 126th Aviation Regiment	Operation Iraqi Freedom	127	Tallil, Iraq	Deployed
Embedded Training Team	Operation Enduring Freedom	16	Afghanistan	Deployed
Joint Force Headquarters FWD 39	Operation Enduring Freedom	1	Afghanistan	Deployed
Operational Support Airlift Command	Operation Iraqi Freedom	8	Classified	Deployed
Total:		152		

MAINE AIR NATIONAL GUARD DEPLOYMENTS				
Unit	Mission	Personnel	Location	Status
101 st Air Refueling Wing, Bangor	Other/Air Reserve Component Volunteer	1	Birmingham, Alabama	Deployed
101 st Air Refueling Wing, Bangor	Other/Air Reserve Component Volunteer	1	Charleston, South Carolina	Deployed
101 st Air Refueling Wing, Bangor	Operation Deep Freeze	1	Christchurch, New Zealand	Deployed
101 st Air Refueling Wing, Bangor	Other/Air Reserve Component Volunteer	1	Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota	Deployed
101 st Air Refueling Wing, Bangor	Classified	1	RAVEN	Deployed
101 st Air Refueling Wing, Bangor	Air Expeditionary Force / Operation Enduring Freedom	2	Eskan Village, Saudi Arabia	Deployed
101 st Air Refueling Wing, Bangor	Air Expeditionary Force / Operation Iraqi Freedom	3	Balad, Iraq	Deployed
101 st Air Refueling Wing, Bangor	Classified	6	Detainee Movement Operation	Deployed
101 st Air Refueling Wing, Bangor	Other/Air Reserve Component Volunteer	11	Royal Air Force Lakenheath, United Kingdom	Deployed
101 st Air Refueling Wing, Bangor	Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom	171	Bangor International Airport, Maine	Activated – Home Station
132 nd Air Refueling Squadron, Bangor	Air Expeditionary Force / Operation Iraqi Freedom	3	Balad, Iraq	Deployed
243 rd Engineering and Installation Squadron	Other/Air Reserve Component Volunteer	1	JFK International Airport, Jamaica, New York	Deployed
265 th Combat Communications Squadron, South Portland	Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom	1	Iraq	Deployed
265 th Combat Communications Squadron, South Portland	Other/Air Reserve Component Volunteer	1	Yokota Air Base, Japan	Deployed
Joint Force Headquarters	Honor Guard	1	Bangor International Airport, Maine	Activated – Home Station
Total:		205		

LEWISTON - The Maine Army National Guard is creating a new group of soldiers to handle one of Iraq's most dangerous threats: the roadside bombs known as improvised explosive devices.

The unit will begin its work on Saturday Nov 1 2008 in Norway.

Eventually, the 251st Engineer (Sapper) Company will have about 100 soldiers, but when Capt. Donald Lachapelle takes command of the unit, it will have about 55 men and women. Nearly half of the soldiers - known as "sappers" in Army parlance - will be new to the Guard and the uniform. Some will still be completing their training.

All will have distinguished themselves to become sappers, Lachapelle said.

"Our mission is going out and finding explosives," he said. "Everyone goes out and tries to avoid them."

The company will become part of the 133rd Engineer Battalion, which has soldiers in several armories including Norway and Lewiston. Pentagon leaders have targeted the battalion for deployment to the Middle East in early 2010. However, since the sappers are so new, they would likely stay behind when the battalion goes.

For now, their mission is to get trained.

Lachapelle, who lives in Norridgewock, wants his people to get a baseline of knowledge on finding and handling bombs, making roads safe for friendly forces and slowing the enemy.

The specialty goes back hundreds of years. The term "sapper" is traced back to the French word "sapeur," said Capt. Shannon Cotta, spokesman for the Maine guard. Historically, sappers were military engineers who specialized in breaching and constructing fortifications.

In Iraq, the work uses lots of high-tech gear including robots with boom arms to diffuse or safely explode the enemy's ordnance, said Lachapelle, who has completed deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan.

"We make it so that forces can move along," he said.

MILITARY RETIREES And Dependents



All Branches of the Armed Forces/Uniformed Services



You are Invited to

THE TWELFTH ANNUAL NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND MILITARY RETIREE ACTIVITY DAY

SPONSORED BY

THE NATIONAL GUARD OF MAINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE, AND VERMONT IN COOPERATION WITH BRUNSWICK NAVAL STATION AND FORT DRUM, THE MAINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE AND VERMONT RETIREE COUNCILS, AND THE RETIRED ACTIVITIES OFFICES OF BRUNSWICK NAVAL AIR STATION AND THE PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIPYARD.

HERE'S WHAT'S AVAILABLE

LEGAL ASSISTANCE, HEALTH CARE INFORMATION,
SURVIVOR BENEFITS, RECREATIONAL FACILITIES,
COMMISSARIES, EXCHANGES,
VETERANS ADMINISTRATION
VETERANS CEMETERIES, VETERANS HOMES,
DEERS/ID CARD RENEWALS, AND MUCH MORE.



COME AND JOIN US
SATURDAY AUGUST 22 2009
AT THE AUGUSTA ARMORY
AUGUSTA, MAINE



All activities will be indoors

Round trip transportation provided from armory to small BX and Maine's outstanding Military museum, at Camp Keyes, Headquarters of the Maine National Guard. Lunch at the armory, hamburgers, hotdogs, chips and soda.



0800-0900 REGISTRATION
0900-0945 OPENING CEREMONY
0945-1400 STATIONS AND DISPLAYS OPEN



Directions to RAD 2009

**TAKE EXIT 109 OFF THE MAINE TURNPIKE, STAY RIGHT ON WESTERN AVE. ARMORY IS ½ MILE ON LEFT.
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: LTC (RET) James Laffin at 207-685-3152.**



Maine Military Community Services Family Program

Family Readiness Groups

Unit Family Readiness groups led by volunteers with a mission of education, support and mission readiness. This program educates through training and activities which enhance morale, support and life long friendships within the military community.

Family Assistance Centers

1-888-365-9287

Established in 4 geographical areas to give families a place to get information and assistance. Established in Feb 02, each are still very active

Augusta

Portland

Caribou

Bangor

Military One Source

As part of the Joint Services Family Assistance Program a full time consultant works out of Camp Keyes to service all Maine Military Families. Briefings, outreach, and resource referrals are all available by calling our Family Assistance Center

Military Family Life Consultant

As part of the Joint Services Family Assistance Program a master level social worker is now on staff to meet with service members and family members for short term counseling and referrals.

Transition Assistance Advisor

The TAA informs and assists service members, returning from deployment, and their family members apply for and use their veteran, VA, Tricare, State and Federal benefits

Youth Programs

Kids go through a lot during deployment and this program gives them strength like no other. This program promotes healthy families thru youth events, camps and great national and local programs that encourage and strengthen and encourage military families.

Maine National Guard Foundation Fund & Maine Military Relief Fund

501 3c non-profit fund that helps Maine soldiers, airmen and families in times of emergencies. This program is solely funded thru donations.

Maine National Guard Morale Fund

This fund is funded through 4% of Camp Keyes PX sales and private donations. Money is used to foster morale for Maine Guard soldiers and families.

Maine National Guard Youth Fund

Through fundraising and donations, we are able to have youth activities that will help children know that we care, that they are not alone, and also way that they can cope with deployments.

Ways you can help

- Help a guard family when you can
- Write to a soldier
- Volunteer your talent and services
- Make monetary donation
- Continue to be a PROUD American

MSG Barbara A. Claudel
State Family Program Director
Maine Army National Guard
(207) 626-4410

www.me.ngb.army.mil/family

MAINE MILITARY MUSEUM
PROPOSED HERITAGE TOUR ITINERARY

SATURDAY 10 OCTOBER 2009

- ✘ DEPART AUGUSTA AT 0600
- ✘ BREAKFAST IS ON YOUR OWN (NOT INCL.)
- ✘ BAG LUNCH (INCL.) OR PURCHASE AT REST STOP
- ✘ SUPPER BUFFET IN GETTYSBURG (INCL.)

SUNDAY 11 OCTOBER 2009

- ✘ BREAKFAST IS ON YOUR OWN
- ✘ GUIDED TOURS
 - 0800 - 1400 (BAG LUNCH PROVIDED)
 - 1400 - 2000 : FREE TIME
- ✘ SUPPER: BBQ WITH GUEST SPEAKER (PROVIDED)

**MONDAY 12 OCTOBER 2009
(COLUMBUS DAY)**

- ✘ DEPART GETTYSBURG AT 0600
- ✘ BREAKFAST IS ON YOUR OWN (NOT INCL.)
- ✘ LUNCH IS ENROUTE (NOT INCL.)
- ✘ SUPPER IS ENROUTE (NOT INCL.)

**ESTIMATED COST PER PERSON
\$300.00**

INCLUDES :

- ✘ LODGING (DOUBLE OCCUPANCY)
- ✘ TRANSPORTATION (TOUR BUS)
- ✘ DINNER BUFFET (FRIDAY)
- ✘ BAG LUNCH (SATURDAY)
- ✘ DINNER BBQ (SATURDAY)
- ✘ TOUR GUIDE AND APPLICABLE FEES
- ✘ DRIVER TIPS

**PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO SORAYA TO
ENSURE YOU RECEIVE THE LATEST UPDATES!**

.....
YES! I'M INTERESTED IN JOINING THE TOUR!

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

EMAIL _____

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS (DIET, ACCESS, ETC) _____

**MAINE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ATTN: MS. SORAYA THOMAS
DFE BLDG #8, CAMP KEYES
AUGUSTA, ME 04333-0033
(207) 626-4350**



MMHS

Schedule of Events:

10 December 2008	Pearl Harbor Remembrance and Holiday Open House
14 January 2009	Board Meeting: 1700 Museum Work Session: 1800-2000
11 February 2009	Board Meeting: 1700 Museum Work Session: 1800-2200
18 February 2009	Speaker Series at the Augusta Armory
11 March 2009	Museum Work Session and Pizza Dinner: 1700-2000
15 April 2009	Board Meeting: 1700 Museum Workshop: 1800-2000
13 May 2009	Speaker Series at the Augusta Armory
18 August 2009	Board Meeting: 1700
15 September 2009	Board Meeting: 1700
06 October 2009	Board Meeting: 1700
10-12 October 2009	Bus Tour
TBD	Annual Meeting (Location TBD)

15

Maine honors Iraq war dead

BY GLENN ADAMS
The Associated Press

AUGUSTA

Families of Maine soldiers who have died in Iraq and Afghanistan took turns hanging dog tags of their loved ones on a newly unveiled memorial during an emotional ceremony Thursday.

The somber observance took place after Gov. John Baldacci and the adjutant general of the Maine National Guard, Maj. Gen. John Libby, unveiled the Battlefield Cross Memorial. It is a bronze, life-size representation of a rifle pointing downward into the ground, capped by a helmet with boots at the side.

Memorials symbolized by the statue become places where surviving members of a fallen soldier's squad gather to remember their fallen comrade.

Baldacci told the family members seated in the State House Hall of Flags, "Our Maine National Guard have always been our heroes." Before being called to fight in the current war, they were called upon to help the state recover from the devastating ice storm of a decade ago, he said.

"This is a very solemn day to remember our lost heroes," said Baldacci, referring to the Sept. 11 date marking the seventh anniversary of the terrorist attacks of 2001. "Today we honor eight Maine National Guardsmen who lost their lives in the global war on terrorism."

"We can never say enough about these Maine men. Their loss is deep and has impacted all of our community that is Maine," Baldacci said.

Libby told the families there was little he could say to help the healing process, but said, "I hope you can take some closure and comfort" from the day's observance.

"They are gone, they are not forgotten," said the state National Guard chief.

The soldiers from Maine or with ties to the state who lost their lives in Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Endur-



KEVIN BENNETT / BANGOR DAILY NEWS VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BARBARA DAMON DAY, right, mother of fallen Maine Army National Guard soldier Captain Patrick D. Damon of Falmouth clutches a set of dog tags to her chest before hanging them on a Battlefield Cross Memorial at the Hall of Flags in the state capitol building on Thursday. Damon Day was escorted by Maine Army National Guard soldier, PFC Tyler Cookson, left. Eight fallen Maine Army National Guard soldiers were honored in this fashion on Thursday.

ing Freedom in Afghanistan include Sgt. Christopher Gelineau; Staff Sgt. Lynn Poulin Sr., Sgt. Thomas J. Dostie, and 1st Sgt. Michael Jones, all of the 133rd Engineer Battalion.

Also honored were Staff Sgt. Dale Kelly and Staff Sgt. David Veverka, both of 3/172nd Mountain Infantry Battalion; Capt. Patrick Damon, 240th Engineer Group, and Sgt. Richard Parker, 1/152nd Field Artillery Battalion. All except for Damon, who was serving in Afghanistan, were part of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The Maine National Guard Battlefield Cross Memorial is

to be permanently placed in the public entrance to the Maine National Guard Headquarters at Camp Keyes in Augusta.

During the ceremony, a Maine Army National Guard soldier in formal uniform escorted relatives of each of the fallen soldiers to the memorial. The survivor then placed a dog tag on the rifle portion of the memorial. A framed sketch of each of the soldiers formed a backdrop to the memorial.

Funds for the memorial were privately raised by the Augusta Emblem Club, which supports veterans' and patriotic causes around Maine.

RETIREE NEWSLETTER

How very cool it is to be "retired" from military service, yet still serve. I am a proud member of the American Legion, Post 29, in Dover-Foxcroft. I serve as the Post Chaplain. I am also an avid motorcycle rider, a member of the Maine Patriot Guard, and most recently, one of the newest members of the American Legion Riders (ALR) out of Post 73 in Corinna. I love the mission of the Legion and the Riders.

One of the main objectives of the ALR is to support the aims and purposes of the American Legion, through service to the community, state and nation. Today, the ALR is involved in such things as participating in bingo games at local VA hospitals, hosting fundraisers for local charities, participating in motorcycle "runs" to raise money for charity, and participation in ceremonies and parades, to name a few. The Riders also raise money for such organizations as local VA hospitals, battered women and children's centers, varied children and youth programs, schools for blind children, veterans relief, needy families and many, many others. In the beginning, it was believed that the ALR would be just another bunch of "Bikers". Today, after seeing the generous things they do, the ALR has gained tremendous respect in both the American Legion arena as well as home-town communities throughout the nation.

Recognition by home-town communities has marked the program as a true success, and have proven to be a very valuable asset to that community. Motorcyclists can be a very dedicated and tight-knit group of people. When you combine this with the fact that they are Legionnaires, you have nothing short of a win/win situation. The American Legion Riders was never intended to be a "Motorcycle Club". As stated, it is to be able to work with the local Post to assist in promoting the American Legion, it's goals, and continuous service in honor of those that have gone before us, protecting the rights and dignity of those of us who remain, and to those who are currently serving overseas and abroad.

Pure enjoyment!! The ALR is all about people working together and enjoying themselves. It may be a group of riders working on a fundraiser for a local charity, a warm summer evening ride together, or maybe just sitting at the Post sharing stories. Does this sound like something you're interested in? There are quite a few ALR groups throughout Maine. To be a member, you must:

- Be a current member of the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of the American Legion.
- Own a motorcycle (at least 250cc) or be the spouse of an owner who is an American Legion Rider member.
- Note: Must meet requirements of both 1 & 2

Talk to members within your community, and locate the below listed Posts and Chapters for more information on becoming a member of the American Legion Riders. For me and my wife Karen, we can not think of a better way to enjoy our passion for biking better than being American Legion Riders

Chapters are currently located at Auburn Post #153, Bath Post #21, Caribou Post #15, Corinna Post #73, Damariscotta Post #42, Farmington Post #28, Madawaska Post #147, Mechanic Falls/Minot/Poland post #150, Millinocket Post #80, Oxford Post #112, Richmond (State Chapter) Post #132, Rockland Post #1, Rumford Post #24, Topsham Post #202, Turner Post #111, and Winthrop Post #40

"Retired", but Still Serving.

Bill Goodman, SGT. MEARNG (Ret)