



The Patriot News

The Newsletter of the Maine Military Historical Society



Volume 1, Issue 1

July 2010

Maine Military Historical Society

33 State House Station – Camp Keyes
Augusta, Maine 04333-0033

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A Word From The President

Greetings Military History Enthusiasts:

Today marks a new beginning for the Maine Military Historical Society. You are looking upon (and hopefully enjoying) the 1st edition of "The Patriot News".

The Board of Directors is working hard to breathe life into the organization. The coming months will be busy as we pull together the 2nd Annual MMHS Heritage Tour (Boston and Lexington/Concord) and our Annual Meeting, both in October.

In addition, BG (Ret) Don Marden is spear heading our planning processes to kick off a Capital Campaign to build a new museum.

I encourage each of you to volunteer to help the Society in any way you can as we build our educational and cultural capabilities to ensure Maine's storied military history lives on.

Dwaine



2010 Annual Meeting

By Al White

The annual meeting of the Maine Military Historical Society will take place on Saturday 23 October 2010 at the Augusta Armory. The theme for the meeting is "The Maine Military Historical Society Honors Maine's Military Service Organizations" - "Service for Life".

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

6:00 pm Social Hour with live music & hors d'oeuvres

7:00 Seating, National Anthem and Colors posted.

7:30 Dinner (Outstanding Buffet]

8:30 Guest speaker from a service organization.

9:30 Short Business meeting.

9:50 Evening Ends

Cost is \$25.00 per person and includes an extensive buffet, tax, gratuity and entertainment. A cash bar will be available.

This meeting is open to all MMHS members, members of Maine's Military Service Organizations and friends of the historical society.

Invitations will be mailed to all members, and Service Organizations NLT the end of August 2010.

Please mark your calendars and reserve this date for a GREAT time.

2010 Heritage Tour Oct 9-10



This year's tour will take place in Boston, MA. The MMHS will visit the battlefields of Lexington and Concord, Bunker Hill and walk the Freedom Trail in Boston, MA.

The MMHS will depart Portland via train where it will

meet the tour bus at North Station.

This is a 2 day event. Cost is \$225/person. Price includes transportation and lodging. For reservations or more information please contact Soraya Umphrey or David Googins at 626-4350.

The Helmet, M-1

By Ron Roussel

To the American Service Members of three wars and several semi forgotten conflicts, the "Steel Pot" or "Brain Bucket" of WW II, Korea and Vietnam was the common recognizable silhouette of Americans in uniform. Soldiers, Marines, Airmen, Sailors and Coasties wore them, cooked out of them, washed and soaked their feet in them and may have done some things in them that can't be mentioned here. They were makeshift shovels, bailers, seats, hammers, pillows and some other nouns that we're certain Veterans and prior service men and women can tell us more about.



Spanning almost fifty years, the *M-1 Helmet* was an improvement in protection from its predecessor. It consisted of two pieces. The liner was of laminate construction which fit inside an outer steel portion. (Individually or to supply folks they were known as Liner Helmet and Helmet Steel.)

The "Pot" (nothing to do with herbalists here) came on the scene in mid 1942, depending how far in the Pacific you may have been. [*Those unfortunate servicemen and women who were overrun by the Japanese in 1941 were still wearing the WW I style Trench Helmet. Guard units called up in 1940-41 reported with WW I Overcoats and WW I Trench or Brodie Helmets.*]

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

THE MMHS WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME:

John Bielowicz

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2010 HERITAGE TOUR

PLACE: BOSTON, LEXINGTON & CONCORD, MA

TIME: 9-10 OCT 2010

Visit the battlefields at Lexington and Concord and the Freedom Trail in Boston.

MMHS 2010 ANNUAL MEETING

PLACE: AUGUSTA ARMORY

TIME: 23 OCT 2010 @ 1800

Annual Meeting & Banquet.

Know of a special event? Please let us know so that we can inform our membership.

Dates in Military History

JULY

1775 – George Washington took command of the Continental Army, outside of Cambridge MA.

1861 – Confederate victory at the First Battle of Bull Run

1863 – The Battle of Gettysburg 1 – 3 July.

1876 – Battle of the Little Big Horn.

1918 – Battle of the Second Marne Offensive begins.

1944 – Napalm was used for the first time during the American invasion of Tinian, in the Marianas Islands.

1950 – General Douglas MacArthur was named commander of UN forces in Korea.

1966 – American Planes bomb the DMZ for the first time during the Vietnam War.

AUGUST

1782 – General George Washington established the Purple Heart as a badge of military merit. This was the first decoration ever created in the American military.

1864- Admiral David Farragut, USN, exclaimed "Damn the torpedoes full speed ahead" as he ran through a Confederate minefield at Mobile Bay, AL and captured defending Confederate ships.

1942 U.S. Marines land on Guadalcanal, in the Solomon Islands. This was the first amphibious operation in World War II.

1945 – The Enola Gay drops the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan.

1982 – 800 U.S. Marines landed in Beirut, Lebanon, as part of a multinational force overseeing the withdrawal of PLO fighters.

September

1783 – The peace of Versailles was signed between the USA, Britain, France and Spain, ending the American Revolution.

1814 – US Naval Captain Oliver Hazard Perry defeated a British flotilla in the Battle of Lake Erie. Though mortally wounded in action, he uttered the famous cry "Don't give up the ship".

1864 – Confederate troops abandoned Atlanta in the face of continuing attacks by federals under General Sherman.

1943- The allied invasion of Italy began.

1969 – President Nixon ordered resumption of heavy bombing of North Vietnamese targets.

Continued from Page 2

The steel pot was with the Marines and the 43rd Infantry Div on Guadalcanal, New Guinea and with Patton's soldiers at Kaserine Pass, as well as the Bulge and helped to take the surrender on VE & VJ Day. They brought them back out to protect the GI's who fought in to hard to pronounce places in Korea and a few years later were updated with camouflage covers for Vietnam.

Throughout WW II, there were variations of the "Steel" issued to paratroopers, U. S. Army Air Corps and the U. S. Navy and Coast Guard.

The Maine Military Historical Society's Museum has a steel helmet that was worn by a soldier on 6 June 1944 as a member of the 29th Infantry Div. A German soldier's bullet fired from above the Normandy beaches pierced the steel portion of the GI's helmet went spinning around the helmet liner and the expended round then fell on the ground in front of the stunned but very grateful soldier. This is one of the many artifacts in the Museum that helps us to tell the stories of fighting men and women throughout our proud Military History. (*The helmet was donated by the Veteran's family, the soldier having died after a full life forty years after D-Day.*)



"Now that ya mention it, it does sound like the patter of rain on a tin roof."

120. Willie and Joe cartoon from Stars and Stripes Newspaper (SSN)

From The Historian

Greetings! As the newest member of the Command Staff at the Maine Army National Guard, I am grateful for the opportunity to introduce myself to you. I am Staff Sergeant Esther Kazian, Command Historian. I am excited for the opportunity to work in a capacity to share my passion for history and historical preservation. I have trained at the Army Heritage Education Center and am currently back in college for a degree in Military History with an emphasis on Civil War history. A unique aspect of my position is to study the history of arguably the oldest militia in the country lending insight to our historical operations from the march of Benedict Arnold to the Plains of Abraham to the Aroostook War and the Civil War. I look forward to getting to know everyone in the historical community here at Camp Keyes and welcome any questions.

Sincerest regards,

SSG Esther Kazian

New Membership Rates

Recently the Board of Directors voted on new membership rates. The New rates are:

Individual Membership	\$15
Senior/Student Membership	\$10
Family Membership	\$20
Lifetime Membership	\$250
Corporate Membership	\$500

Admin Note

If you wish to receive information on the Maine Military Historical Society ' on-going events or any updates on current happenings, please drop an email to Soraya Umphrey at soraya.thomas@us.army.mil.

Please be sure to send me any changes to your address or email address. It's important that we keep our records as current as possible.

Soraya Umphrey



MAINE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

*A non-profit organization located at historic Camp Keyes in Augusta, Maine.
Striving to preserve Maine's long and proud military history and traditions
and Maine's contributions to the Nation's defense and history.*

Our 2010 Annual Meeting and Banquet Buffet is scheduled for **Saturday 23 October 2010.**

Our theme this year is:

The MMHS Honors Maine's Military Service Organizations - "Service for Life"

In conjunction with our meeting, we will publish our **Annual Report** booklet. A copy of this booklet will be provided to those attending, those advertising, and a range of individuals and organizations having similar interest in the preservation of history. Your **tax deductible** support for this endeavor will receive wide distribution, be put to honorable use and be sincerely appreciated!

Page size is 8 1/2" x 11". Copy will be in black and white. We can use unscreened color or black and white ad copy, camera ready with glossy or matte finish.

2010 Annual Report Advertisement Order Form

Deadline for order and copy submission is 3 September 2010.

Yes! We are interested in preserving Maine's proud military heritage! Here's our order:

Company/Organization: _____

Contact Person: _____ **Title/Position:** _____

Address: _____ **City:** _____ **Zip +4:** _____

Contact Phone: _____ **Contact email:** _____

Our Ad is submitted for the following:

☐ **Full, one page ad: \$100.00** ☐ **3/4 page ad: \$75.00** ☐ **1/2 page ad: \$50.00** ☐ **1/4 page ad: \$25.00**

Please make checks payable to the **Maine Military Historical Society**, and mail check and ad copy to:

The Maine Military Historical Society

Attn: Treasurer

Camp Keyes

Augusta, ME 04333-0033

PLEASE VISIT OUR PREFERRED VENDORS

As we get corporate sponsors, we will list these as preferred places to shop.

Letter From the Editor

We need Your Input!

Welcome to the first Newsletter of The Maine Military Historical Society.

We would like to ask all members for their personal stories, histories, pictures or events that they would like to have published within these pages. Maybe you have a funny story about Annual Training or a story about deployment or you would like to tell someone else's story.

Articles should be no more than 300 words. Any photos submitted should be JPG or BMP.

Please submit any articles or comments to:

David.Googins@us.army.mil

David Googins



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