

**American Legion  
Membership  
Eligibility Dates**

April 6, 1917 to Nov. 11, 1918  
**(World War I)**

Dec. 7, 1941 to Dec. 31, 1946  
**(World War II)**

June 25, 1950 to Jan. 31, 1955  
**(Korean War)**

Feb. 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975  
**(Vietnam War)**

Aug. 24, 1982 to July 31, 1984  
**(Lebanon /Grenada)**

Dec. 20, 1989 to Jan. 31, 1990  
**(Panama)**

Aug. 2, 1990 to today  
**(Gulf War / War on Terrorism)**

**WE  
DARE  
TO  
CARE**

**Sabattus American Legion  
Harry J. Conway  
Post 135**

P.O. Box 392  
40 Island Road  
Sabattus, Maine 04280

Tel. 375-4058  
(Leave a Message)

**Website:**

[www.americanlegionpost135.sabattus.net/](http://www.americanlegionpost135.sabattus.net/)



**Sabattus  
American Legion  
Harry J. Conway  
Post 135**



**BLUE STAR SERVICE  
BANNER  
PRESENTATION**

**September 7, 2013**

**40 Island Road  
Sabattus, Maine**

## HISTORY

The Blue Star Service Banner was assigned and patented in 1917 by World War I Army Capt. Robert L. Queisser of the 5th Ohio Infantry. Queisser's two sons served on the front line. His banner quickly became the unofficial symbol for parents with a child in active military service. On Sept. 24, 1917, an Ohio congressman read the following into the Congressional Record: "The mayor of Cleveland, the Chamber of Commerce, and the governor of Ohio have adopted this service flag. The world should know of those who give so much for liberty. The dearest thing in all the world to a father and mother: their children." Blue Star Mothers and Gold Star Mothers organizations were established during World War I and remain active today.

During World War II, the department of War issued specifications on manufacture of the flag as well as guidelines indicating when the service flag could be flown and by whom. Restrictions were also passed on who can wear the service lapel. The Department of Defense authorized the service flag and service lapel on Dec. 1, 1967, with Department of Defense Directive 1348.1, which implemented an act of Congress (United States Code 179-182). The Blue Star Service Banner is an 8.5-by-14-inch white field with one or more blue stars sewn onto a red banner. The size varies but should be in proportion to the U.S. flag.

Today, families display these banners when they have a loved one serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. The blue star represents one family member serving, and a banner can have up to five stars. If the individual is killed or dies, a smaller golden star is placed over it. Gold stars are placed above the blue stars or to the top right of the flag, in the event a flag represents multiple service members.

Blue Star Service Banners were widely used during both world wars, but were not embraced during the Korean or Vietnam wars with the same enthusiasm. The American Legion rekindled that spirit of pride in our military men and women following the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks by providing banners to military families across the nation.

## SABATTUS AMERICAN LEGION TO HOST BLUE STAR BANNER CEREMORY

On September 7th at the Sabattus American Legion Post at 40 Island Road in Sabattus, there will be Blue Star Certificate and Flag presentation's to family members of local men and women currently serving on active duty in the armed forces.

The program is scheduled to begin at 11:00 am, followed by a cookout consisting of hamburgers and hot dogs.

This event is free to those attending. If you have a family member currently serving and would like to be part of the ceremony please contact one of the following members by September 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Joan Caron** - 375-4639

**Tracey Rancourt** - 504-0521

**Joseph Michaud** - 946-5502

**Amedeo Lauria** – 375-4004

*Funding for this event is  
Made possible by the  
**Wallace E. Wright  
Memorial Fund***

## Some of the organizations and activities sponsored by the Sabattus Legion/Auxiliary

- ***Sons of the Legion***
- ***Junior Auxiliary***
- ***Local Scholarships***
- ***Oratorical Contest***
- ***Special Olympics***
- ***Camp "Tall Pines"***
- ***Boy and Girl Scouting***
- ***Boy's and Girl's State***
- ***Sabattus Recreation***
- ***Legion Riders***
- ***Children and Youth Activities***
- ***Americanism***
- ***Child Welfare Foundation***
- ***Togus Gift Shop***
- ***Maine Veterans Home***
- ***Troop Support***
- ***Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets for those in need.***

