



Tardiff-Belanger Post #39 Newsletter



Volume XII, Issue IV

April 2017

Happenings...

Meetings, Bingo & Cribbage

Meeting: 7:00 p.m.
Social Hr. 6:00 p.m.
Monday, April 3, 2017

Cribbage: 6:30 p.m.
Thursdays, partners

Bingo: 2:00 Sundays
& 6:30 Tuesdays

HALL HOURS:

Tuesday - Beano
Doors open at 4 pm

**Mon, Wed through
Fri - 3 pm**
Saturday - 2:30 pm

Sunday - Beano
Doors open
at 12 pm

**The Post is
NON -
SMOKING**



LEGION UPDATES.....

From your Commander

Comrades,

Another year is coming to an end. I want to thank everyone that made the year a success.

The Post is in good standing and is doing well. We voted to donate \$200 to VAVS.

The new officers for 2017-2018 are:

Commander - H. Ralph Withee
1st Vice - Robert E. Demchak
2nd Vice - Robert E. Washburn
Adjutant - Leroy Welch
Finance Officer -
Vincent J. Santoni, Jr.
Service Officer - Bob Washburn
Americanism - Bradlee Farrin
Chaplain - John Ziacoma

Historian - Eli Moore
Sgt at Arms - Phil Daigle

Executive Committee:
Gene Dube
Curt L. Sanborn
Gene D. Tweedie

The Installation of Officers is Saturday, April 1st. 5-6 pm is Social Hour; 6 pm is supper and the Installation will follow.

The first drawing for the 120 Club starts on April 7th! Have you signed up yet?

Again, thank you everyone!

*H. Ralph Withee
Commander*

Attention Veterans

Have some spare time? Interested in volunteering?
The People Who Care Food Cupboard are looking for
veterans who'd like to volunteer their time.

Interested?

Contact Ralph Withee at 696-3375

SAL Squadron #39

Founded in 1932, Sons of The American Legion exists to honor the service and sacrifice of Legionnaires

Hello Squadron 39 members!

Our 2017-2018 Officers are:

Commander: Mark Long
 1st Vice: Peter Graves
 2nd Vice: Jimmy Pinkham
 Finance Officer: Paul Turek
 Adjutant: Sam Whitmore
 Sgt at Arms: Mike Adams
 Chaplain: Randy Wyman
 Historian: Jeff Ireland

The Sons opened their wallet yet again this month for

those in need. Young Braden Wheeler of North Anson requires a kidney transplant, so the S.A.L. came through with \$200 to offset those considerable expenses.

The members voted a \$100 donation to Pine Tree Camp in Rome, a mainstay in the Rome/Smithfield region for more than 50 years. Its a summer camp for developmentally disabled adults and youth. As squadron Jeff Ireland says, No one is turned away.

Squadron Financial Officer Paul Turek happened to be at

Post 39 the afternoon of March 3, the day when fire broke out on nearby Main Street. After a quick call to Commander Mark Long for approval, Paul headed to Hannaford's to purchase supplies for the busy firefighters. Paul returned to the scene with four cases of bottled water and three 12-packs of assorted sodas -- not to mention the all-important Butterfingers, Milky Ways and Rolos.

We've got those details on the next raffle. The winner gets two cords of wood, cut and split, and donated by Randy

Wyman & Daughter Trucking. Tickets are \$5 each, three for \$10. Drawing is May 1.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Sam Whitmore,
 Adjutant
 Mark Long,
 SAL Commander
 Ron Page,
 Chairman of SAL*

Dates to Remember!



- April 3rd - Regular Meeting
- April 17th – Executive Meeting @ 7 pm
- April 19th - Newsletter Submission Due
- April 24th – Put newsletter together @ 12:30 pm
- April 29th – Calendar Dinner

*** 120 CLUB ***

We will be starting a 120 club again. The club will start the first week in April and will run for 26 weeks. The cost will be \$5 per week for a single and \$10 per week for a couple. There will be a \$50 drawing each Friday for the full 26 weeks. If you win the \$50 weekly drawing and you're not paid up, another name will be drawn. On October 7th we will have a dinner with the choice of prime rib, lobster or chicken with all the fixings. Included with your dinner will be three drink coupons. There will be cash prize drawings of 1 for \$1000, 2 for \$500, 2 for \$250 and 5 for \$100. Following the drawings we will have open jukebox for your dancing pleasure. There will be a strict limit of 120 club members. If interested in joining, stop in at the Hall or contact Ralph Withee at 696-3375.

Auxiliary News...

The American Legion Auxiliary is the world's largest women's patriotic service organization. Through its nearly 10,500 units located in every state and some foreign countries, the Auxiliary embodies the spirit of America that has prevailed through war and peace. Along with The American Legion, it solidly stands behind America and her ideals

Hello Ladies,

As of the Executive Meeting on March 20th we have 131 members out of 134 paid. That puts us at 97.76% of our membership paid. It also means **we've surpassed April's membership goal of 95%! We only need THREE renewals to be at 100%! Please keep the dues coming in!!**

Your 2017-2018 Officers are:

President: Robin Turek

1st Vice: Tena Ireland
 2nd Vice: Lynn Boucher
 Secretary: Deborah Ashby
 Treasurer: Harriet Bryant
 Sgt at Arms: Merrilyn Vieira
 Chaplain: Sharon Mellows
 Historian: POSITION OPEN

Executive Committee:

Betty Dow
 Lauraine Mercier
 Maxine Dube

Please join me in welcoming Rowena Kunath of Madison, Deborah Zazulia of Madison, Ann Cody of Anson and Shirley

Melacon of Starks as our newest members! Welcome, Ladies!

Since the last newsletter, Maxine Dube has mailed out \$33,814.72 worth of coupons. A great big **THANK YOU** to Maxine and all who donate coupons. A special **THANK YOU** to all those who help to cut them for shipping.

At our March meeting we voted to donate \$200 to VAVS, \$50 to each of the 4 families that were dis-

placed due to a fire in their apartment building, \$50 to Somerset Family Violence Project, \$100 to NCB39BN - US Naval Sea Cadet Corps, \$200 donation to the Post for the Legion Birthday, \$25 to the Department President Gift, \$25 to the Ways & Means 50/50 Raffle Tickets, \$15 Bingo Package and a \$25 donation to the Chinese Auction for Brandon Wheeler. He is one of our Auxiliary mem-

ber and legionnaire's grandson, \$15 Bingo Package and 2 Daubers for a benefit for Amanda Carter's children.

The Annual Zumbathon to benefit Maine veterans will be on April 21st. More information is available on the flyer inserted in to this newsletter.

Our next meeting will be Monday, April 3rd at 7 pm. ALL ALA MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!

Remember to check out our Facebook page for upcoming events and information! <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ALAUNIT39/>.

Yours in Service, not self,



*Robin Turek
 Auxiliary President*

Calendar Dinner
 April 29th 5 - 7 pm
 American Legion Post 39
 Tickets: \$10

Chicken Cordon Bleu, Mashed Potatoes
 Veggie: String Beans & Carrots
 Roll

Tickets are still available. Please contact Sharon Mellows-Ziacoma @ 696-4938 to purchase tickets.

**If anyone wants to reserve the hall,
 you MUST contact any bartender at the Legion - 696-5848
 after 3:00 pm
 Mon & Wed - Sat
 An application must be completed in order to confirm your reservation!**

Legion Riders ~ Chapter 39

Greetings All,

Not a lot of people are thinking about their motorcycles with all the snow on the ground but this is March and you need to register your motorcycles! Once you have registered, please forward a copy of your registration and insurance card to our Road Captain, Brad Farrin, at PO Box 687, Norridgewock, ME 04957 or email him at brad.farrin@miltoncat.com.

You want to be ready for our RIDE & DINE! The second, Wednesday from April (or May if April is bad) through Octo-

ber. It doesn't matter if you cannot come on motorcycles. Just come for the camaraderie. We will meet at Madison Legion Post and kickstands up at 1700 (5:00 pm). No specific plan or destination. This will be determined by the people who show up. You do not need to be a Legion Rider. We welcome all! Let's Ride!

We still have some members who have not paid their dues. Please get your dues in as soon as possible! We have donated to the following: Coffee & Newspaper Fund @ Togus, Legacy Fund,

and Homeless Vets. Your support is needed!

Reminder that your help is needed at the ALR Beano the last Sunday of the following months: March, May, July, September, November!

Our next meeting will be April 3rd – hope you will be able to attend and support our riders!

Respectfully Submitted,

*Sharon Mellows-Ziacoma
Secretary*



**Installation of Officers
Saturday, April 1st
Social Hour ~ 5:00 - 6:00 pm
Dinner ~ 6:00 pm
Installation following dinner**




Sick Call



*Phil Daigle
Nunzio Biondello
Sharon Holt (aux)
Vinnie Grunmyer*

Post Everlasting



GIBERSON FUNERAL HOMES
PROUDLY SERVING THE COMMUNITY WITH COMPASSION,
CARING AND RESPECT.
JEFFREY S. SPROUL FUNERAL DIRECTOR
GFH@HFAIRPOINT.NET

18 RIVER STREET BINGHAM, MAINE 04920
40 MAPLE STREET MADISON, MAINE 04950
207-696-8081-207-672-5563



US Naval Sea Cadet Corps - NCB 39 Battalion



Greetings from
NCB 39 Battalion

During our last drill, we discussed weapon safety and proper sighting. After lunch we went to the indoor range to apply what we learned. We also held classes in mil drill, rates and recognition, and proper saluting. The cadets also learned how to make a Swiss seat from a length of rope which will be useful later this fall.

We had two new members join the unit this drill.

On March 18th, four cadets and three adults went to Boston for the day. We joined over 140 cadets from around New England for a tour of the USS San Jacinto, a guided missile destroyer. The cadets were impressed with the ship. We also saw the Navy hospital ship, Comfort, in port. We stopped by and toured the USS Constitution before leaving the city. We talked about Naval history and how far we have come. We also stopped in Portsmouth, NH to tour the USS

Croaker. The tiny sub seemed way too small for these cadets. They want to tour a modern submarine now, in order to compare them. That will have to be a future trip.

The US Naval Sea Cadet Corps program is open to 11-17 year old males and females. Unit growth is now our priority and we are actively recruiting within the Central Maine area. If you know any young male or female students that might be interested, please have

them look at our FB page and/or our website.

Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NCB39BN/>
Website: <http://ncb39bn.sharepoint.com>

The officers and staff wish to thank the local communities, the entire Legion membership, cadet's families and

friends for their untiring support of this unit.

Respectfully,
The Officers and Staff
NCB39 Battalion



**Want to know what's going on at YOUR Legion?
Come to the meeting on April 3rd!!**

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS AND CHECK OUT OUR NEWEST SPONSORS! PLEASE SUPPORT THEM!



Happy Birthday to all members born in April!

Notes from the Service Officer

Taken from the newsletter of the Department Service Officer.

Post Service Officer Helpful Hints!

- Call the DSO Eight working days after any action submitted to the VA to see if it has been accepted by the VA (C'ested). We can tell you if the claim is being worked. Don't wait, especially if it is close to the end of the month.
- Veterans or Widow on a PENSION (not compensation or DIC) MUST notify the VA, in writing, through the VSO if possible, when receiving ANY new income from other sources, to include Social Security, or risk incurring a debt to the Government. We are seeing more and more of this and the debt can be SUBSTANTIAL!! Call if you have any questions!
- Ensure veterans understand the rules of compensation and pension; and for what they are being compensated for; disability, spouse, children. Failure to understand the "why" may result in overpayments and financial hardship for the veteran and his/her family. Example: A veteran divorces and does not remove spouse from compensation/pension this will incur a debt.
- Always dial 911 first in a medical emergency. Except in a medical emergency, eligible veterans must go through the VHA when obtaining healthcare. Do not get stuck with medical bills by not getting pre-authorization for all but true emergency healthcare. You also MUST meet VHA eligibility. (You must notify the VHA within 72 hours of release from medical emergency treatment)
- It is important to note that the VA has pretty much gone paperless, so the Department Service Office no longer gets copies of all correspondence going to veterans in regards to claims. You MUST call when receive any paperwork from the VA to ensure the best service.
- Remind your post members that it is always best to make an appointment to talk with a Service Officer at the DSO. While we may take walk-ins; appointments have first priority for service.
- Stay up to date, by checking VA.gov on a regular basis.
- Please do not make promises to veterans or their survivors regarding compensation, pensions or survivor benefits.

- Encourage the use of "E-Benefits" and "MyHealthVet" see hyperlinks on the left! These systems allow you to check on your claim status, and health-care from the privacy of your own home 24/7! If you run into problems call the DSO we can walk you through sign-up or answer questions.

Please toss out any old VA forms hanging around the post, direct veterans to us, or to the VA website to download the latest forms. They do change and the VA may not accept old forms. Go to www.va.gov to get the latest forms.

- If a member of your post filed a claim, and has not received any correspondence from the VA about their claim within 30 days, call us immediately to check on the status of their claim! Also, they should contact the DSO eight working days after they file to ensure the VA is working that claim.
- Please remind your post members that if they filed a claim in the DSO office within the last 120 days, and have heard nothing, check with the DSO on the status. Follow up on appeals with a quarterly phone call.
- PSOs, remember that you are not accredited by the American Legion or VA to counsel veterans on the validity and substance of their claims, please have them contact the DSO for assistance. Whenever possible, please make an appointment for better service.
- Help get the word out to your fellow Post Service Officers to sign-up for this newsletter and PSO training.

Remind veterans to file for travel, if eligible, within 30 days of their health care appointment to the VA or they may lose out! They should file, if eligible, before they leave Togus or the VA Community Clinic. Don't forget to file for eligible trips to VA referred health care providers as well.

PLEASE USE THE DSO TO TRANSMIT YOUR CLAIMS/EVIDENCE TO THE VA THIS ENSURES A PAPER TRAIL AND EVIDENCE IT WAS SUBMITTED!

Let us know if you submit documents through E-Benefits as well so we can ensure they were received. You can either mail it or drop it off in the office!

Respectfully submitted,

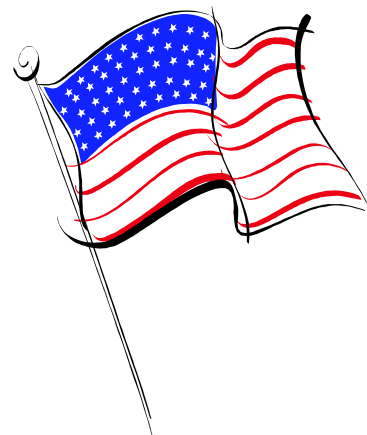
Bob Washburn,
Post Service Officer

Tardiff-Belanger Post #39
American Legion
P.O. Box 144
Madison, ME 04950-0144

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Madison, Maine
Permit No 6



April 3, 2017
6:00 PM LEGION RIDERS MEETING
6:00 PM SOCIAL HOUR
7:00 PM LEGION, AUXILIARY
& SAL MEETING



Our Email address and website are:
post 39@beeline-online.net
<http://www.mainelegionpost39.org>