



Tardiff-Belanger Post #39 Newsletter



Volume XIII, Issue III

April 2019

Happenings...

Meetings, Bingo & Cribbage

Meeting: 7:00 p.m.
Social Hr. 6:00 p.m.
April 1, 2019

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

Big Cribbage (Singles)
March 23rd
Sign up - 8am-10am
Game starts @ 10am

Bingo: 2:00 Sundays
Doors open at 12 pm

HALL HOURS:

Mon - Sat
3 pm

**The Post is
NON-SMOKING**



LEGION UPDATES.....From your Commander

Comrades,

When I became Commander 13 years ago, the roof leaked and the windows were in need of repair.

With everyone's help, Post 39 has..
1. Roof+Windows+Doors—\$50,000
This was accomplished with the help of the members and community donations.

2. New Dance Floor - \$8,000

3. A larger bar was installed and all the work volunteered by the Post members and the cost of materials was \$2,000.

4. The Post went non-smoking and a smoking room was built with the help from members. The only cost was for the materials.

5. New ceiling and lights were installed in the dance area and the bar with a cost of about \$3,000.

6. A new chair lift was installed with a cost of \$4,000 which was raised by the 120 Club proceeds. In addition, the Post started the dances up again with the help of John Bryant, Mark Long, John Ziacoma and myself.

7. Approximately 6 years ago we started the 120 Club which brought in about \$25,000-\$30,000.

8. I started selling ads for the newsletter to local businesses which made the newsletter no cost to the Post. Now it brings in \$3,000 per year.

All of the aforementioned repairs are paid in full. We also installed 3 heat pumps - 2 downstairs and 1 upstairs with a total cost of \$14,000. The balance owed is about \$6,000.

One of the things that I found most satisfying as Commander was helping the families with the military funerals.

I wish to thank my family for all the help and support they have given me.

I have enjoyed my years as your Commander and all of our accomplishments. We have a strong Post, let's keep it going.

I'd like to wish the new officers the best of luck.

God Bless,

*H. Ralph Withee
Commander*

SAL Squadron #39

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

Greetings,

We're proud to announce that Squadron 39 attained 100 percent membership for 2018-2019. Not every SAL operation can make the claim. Squadron leadership thanks one and all for their support, because active memberships make for big impact in the communities we serve. Our list of worthy causes is long and growing, and your dues make for a strong foundation in all our endeavors. Thanks for being with us.

At our March meeting, squadron leadership once again asked the question, "Who can we help?" We're always on the hunt for charitable causes, or folks who find themselves needing a helping hand. Contact any officer with your ideas.

A warm welcome to our newest SAL member, Joe Jenks. Is there a friend or neighbor you'd like to introduce to the group? Make sure he has his DD 214 and we are all set. New blood is so important.

Spring is in the air. Daylight savings time is back. The sun is higher. Can mud season be far behind? At Post 39, optimism is high for a great 2019, full of fun and service to others.

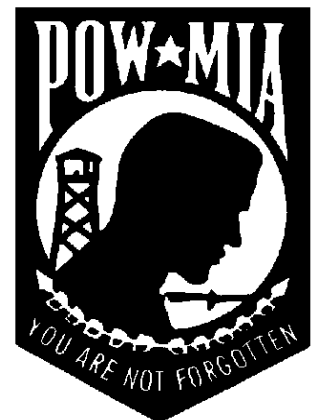
Respectfully submitted,

*Sam Whitmore,
Adjutant
Pete Graves,
SAL Commander
John Bryant,
Chairman of SAL*

**Installation of Officers
Friday, March 29th
Social Hour ~ 5:00 - 6:00 pm
Installation ~ 6:00 pm
Cake & Coffee Following Installation**

Dates to Remember!

- March 29th - Installation of Officers
- April 1st - Regular meetings @ 7pm
- April 15th - Executive meetings @ 7pm
- April 22nd - Newsletter Submissions Due
- April 29th - Put newsletter together



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

Auxiliary News...

Hello Ladies,

Congratulations ladies, we have hit the 100% members paid due mark! Job well done!



There are still a few members who have not paid for their 2019 dues. Please remember that if you have not paid your 2019 dues yet, you are not eligible for the benefits that come along with being a member! That includes meetings, voting and yes, admit-

tance to the bar! Get those dues in!

Please welcome new members Irma Fluett of Skowhegan and Tina Boudreau of Anson!

It is with great sadness that I inform you of the passing of member, Fran Bouchard. She was a wonderful woman and a huge asset to our Unit. She will be missed by many. Our sincerest condolences go out to her family.

At our March regular meeting we voted on our 2019-2020

slate of officers and they are as follows:

- President - Robin Turek
- 1st Vice - Wanda Kranz
- 2nd Vice - Nancy Misiaszek
- Secretary - Pat Santoni
- Treasurer - Harriet Bryant
- Chaplain - Sharon Ziaco
- Sgt At Arms - Lauraine Mercier
- Historian - OPEN

- Executive Committee:
- Betty Dow
 - Ann Cody
 - Tena Ireland

Installation of Officers is Friday, March 29th. Details are in this newsletter.

At our March meeting we voted to donate: \$50 to Veterans Creative Arts Festival, \$200 Madison American Legion for their birthday, \$50 to an auxiliary member's daughter who lost her house due to fire, \$50 VAVS for comfort items at Togus, \$15 Bingo

Package for LOD benefit for Skowhegan Girls Tennis Team, \$200 to a Madison High School student scholarship recipient, from our annual Turkey supper—donated \$200 worth of items to People Who Care, \$200 Center Point Community Church Food Cupboard, \$100 each to Starks, Solon and Norridgewock Food Cupboards.

Once again we are hosting our local Special Olympians for

their banquet on May 10th. We can always use volunteers to help cook and serve. It's a great time seeing all the Olympians dressed up for their dance that follows the banquet.

Maxine Dube has mailed out \$10,024.32 worth of coupons since our last newsletter. A great big **THANK YOU** to Maxine and Barbara Wyman for

their hours of gathering and cutting coupons. A special **THANK YOU** to all those who donate coupons.

Our next meeting is April 1st and our Department and District Presidents are on the agenda again....as long as Mother Nature behaves! Please plan on attending this meeting to find out the won-

derful things that are happening statewide.

****PLEASE REMEMBER****

We continue to collect aluminum tabs for Shriners Children's Hospital as well as Box Tops and Labels for Education!

Our next meeting will be Monday, April 1st at 7 pm. ~

ALL ALA MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!

Yours in Service, not self,



Robin Turek
Auxiliary President



Legion Riders ~ Chapter 39

Greetings!

The Legion Riders will hold their first meeting April 1st @ 6:00 pm. Please attend this meeting as we will have lots to discuss regarding meeting dates and times and rides! Hopefully the snow will be gone and we will be back riding again!

REMINDER: Please submit your dues of \$20 for the 2019-2020 year as well as updated information such as addresses, phone #, email, motorcycle info and emergency

contact info. We will also need a copy of your registration and insurance for our files. Your motorcycle registration is due March!

Our officers for 2019-2020 are as follows:

Director: Pete Petersen – 431-8716

Assistant Director: Gene Dube – 399-7630

Secretary/Treasurer: Sharon Mellows-Ziacoma – 696-4938

Sgt-At-Arms: Bob Washburn

Road Captain and Safety: Brad Farrin - 614-4123

Chaplain: John Ziacoma – 696-4938

Historian: None

The Installation of Officers will be March 29th at the hall.

ALR Bingo is the last Sunday of the following months: April, June, August, October, December. Please mark your calendars and call if you are available to help on those

Sundays. Doors open at noon and Bingo starts at 2:00 pm.

Our donations January-March 2019:

Coffee & Newspaper Fund @
Togus \$100
Legacy Fund \$500
Homeless Vets \$500

“A simple act of caring creates an endless ripple!”

Yours in Service, not self,

Sharon Mellows-Ziacoma
Secretary/Treasurer
Sharon.mellows@myfairpoint.net

**THANK YOU
TO OUR
SPONSORS
PLEASE
SUPPORT
THEM!!**

Sick Call

Steve Vieira - Maplecrest

Kathy Cousineau



Want to know what's going on at YOUR Legion?

Come to the meeting on

April 1st



US Naval Sea Cadet Corps - NCB 39 Battalion



Greetings from
NCB 39 Battalion

Our Annual Inspection was held during the March drill. Our 3 seniors provided the Color Guard. Petty Officer Smart was promoted to Second Class Petty Officer. NLCC Recruit Osgood was sworn in as a new cadet. LTJG Turek was also promoted last month to LT.

We had 2 recruits attend drill and will see if they join the unit. We have had a couple of other potential recruits reach

out to us as well. Let's hope this is the start of a unit growth spurt. We are all looking forward to spring and being able to get outdoors.

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: www.ncb39bn.org
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

Post Everlasting

Gerard Gagne - 11-14-18

Basil "Bud" Andrews - 3-6-19

Vincent "Butch" Lovell - 3-13-19

Frances "Fran" Bouchard 3-18-19 (AUX)

Eugene Hutchins 3-19-19



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

Happy Birthday to all members born in April!!



Notes from the Department Service Officer

Excerpts Taken From "The Maine Legionnaire"

The Court of Appeals for Veterans Appeals decided to service connect a blue water navy veteran with a presumptive condition of agent orange. The VA is in the process of trying to figure out how this is going to work. They will try to appeal the decision. Meanwhile they are setting the parameters for service connection. All claims that are still active in the system for blue water navy had been put on hold until the final decision is made.

The Appeals Modernization Act went live on the 19th of this month. I will not explain everything about the new program but here are some of the highlights. There is no more RAMP program. There will be no more opt in letters. They did keep the two lanes that made up the RAMP. There are now 3 lanes that the veteran can choice from. The choices are:

Supplemental Claim Lane
Higher Level Review lane
Appeal to the Board Lane

****A note from your Post Service Officer****

I think it's about time VA finally considered this. If you are a blue water Navy Veteran and you have not been granted service connection for presumptive conditions, get your stuff ready. If you can prove you were in Vietnam, that is best. If you can prove your ship docked and you went ashore, that is just as good (you have to tell VA that you went ashore). I encourage you to apply. It will be put on hold for a while, but I believe the more claims in the system will be more likely that VA cannot go back on the ruling (which they are trying to do). This also will assure that if service connection is granted, then you will get the earliest effective date possible. Be patient. and keep trying.

If you have generic questions about your claim, please feel free to ask me. If you have specific questions, it probably would be best to call the department service officer (if I can't answer I will refer you to Carl anyway).

*Respectfully submitted,
Bob Washburn,
Post Service Officer*

Tardiff-Belanger Post #39
American Legion
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Madison, ME 04950-0144

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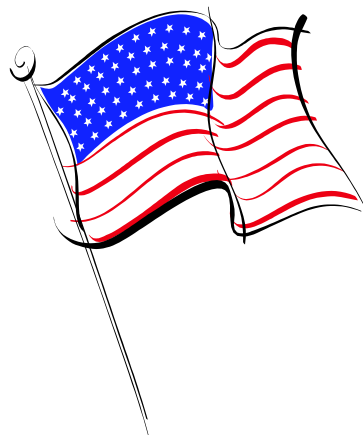


April 1, 2019

6:00 PM LEGION RIDERS MEETING

6:00 PM SOCIAL HOUR

7:00 PM MEETING



Our Email address and website are:

post 39@beeline-online.net

*****<http://www.mainelegionpost39.org>*****