



Tardiff-Belanger Post #39 Newsletter



Volume XII, Issue X

December 2017/January 2018



Happenings...

Meetings, Bingo & Cribbage

Meeting: 7:00 p.m.
Social Hr. 6:00 p.m.
Monday, Dec 4, 2017
Monday, Jan 8, 2018

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 -



LEGION UPDATES....From your Commander

Comrades,

October was a great month with the 120 Club, the Wednesday night supper, the Halloween Dance and all the regular events. I'd like to thank EVERYONE for ALL you do to make our Post successful.

The new chairlift has been installed and is working well.

Veteran's Day was cold; although the ceremony went very well. Thank you to the Boy Scouts, Sea Cadets, speakers and to Kala Drake who played the National Anthem. Thank you to Ethan Knox for his presentation on Vietnam and the Auxiliary for lunch.

November is going fast. Soon the new year will be here.

I wish everyone the best of holidays.

God Bless Us All,

H. Ralph Withee
Commander



HAPPY
HOLIDAYS

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!

THANK YOU
TO OUR
SPONSORS AND
CHECK OUT
OUR
NEWEST
SPONSORS!

SAL Squadron #39

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

Greetings!

Folks, it's time once again for the annual SAL fuel raffle. A single ticket will run you \$5, three tickets for \$10. Drawing date: Feb. 5. Grand prize: 100 gallons of heating oil courtesy of our friends at Bob's Cash Fuel in Madison. If you don't burn heating oil and you hold the winning ticket, don't worry — you'll get equal value from an alternative product. Tickets are available at the Post.

The Sons have pledged \$150 to help fund the Post's scheduled Thanksgiving dinner on Nov. 17. Perhaps you've noticed that food is fast becoming an SAL specialty. Have you been to our Wednesday suppers? Servings begin at 5pm and the price is always affordable, usually between eight and ten dollars for a great main course, veggies and all the extras.

Keep an eye on the Squadron 39's Facebook page for the latest menus. Here's how

to find the page: go to [Facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com), search for "SAL Squadron 39 Madison Maine" and you'll be there quick as a wink. It's the best way for all SAL members to keep up with what's happening with the squadron and its members.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

*** Please Note ***

The "Madison Mug Up"
senior social gathering
scheduled on the
3rd Thursday of each month
is now cancelled.



Dates to Remember!

- December 2nd – Craft Fair
- December 4th - Monthly meeting @ 7 pm
- December 8th - Adult Christmas and Wrapping Party
- December 9th - Children's Christmas Party
- December 18th – Executive Meeting
- January 8, 2018 – Regular Meeting
- January 19th – 21st – Mid-Winter Conference



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,

I usually start off by talking about membership. This time I'm going to start off by talking about MEMBERS. Without members, there isn't a membership. I am extremely proud to say that Unit 39 has the best members! We not only work as a team to help our veterans, but also come together when one of our members needs us. That held true with Kathy Doucette's Celebration of Life. Although she transferred to Florida a couple of years ago, she was a member with Unit 39

for a long time. She was still **OUR AUXILIARY SISTER!** We had a little over a week to plan and execute a buffet and **YOU DID IT!!** We had many compliments and great appreciation from the family. I can't thank you all enough for your hard work and dedication to this event and to our organization.

Now on to membership! Our November 10th membership goal was 55% paid members and we surpassed that goal. Our next goal is to be at 65% by December 10th and we're well on our way being at 60.87% as of No-

vember 15th. Remember there are three ways to renew...by phone by calling 317-569-4536, online at <https://www.alaforveterans.org>, by mailing to the Unit's address (PO Box 325, Madison, ME 04950) or dropping it off at the Legion! **Important - those who have email will have their renewal reminder sent to their email account and not through the postal service. Please make sure to check your "spam/junk" folders in**

case your renewal reminder is there!

Our 32nd Annual Craft Fair (December 2nd) is quickly approaching. We had to change the date this year because the 2nd Saturday of November falls on Veteran's Day. We will resume our normal 2nd Saturday of November next year. We still have tables available. If you're interested,

please call me (Robin) at 696-8289 to receive an application.

Since the last newsletter, Maxine Dube has mailed out \$21,605.06 worth of coupons. A great big **THANK YOU** to Maxine, Marie Wing and Barbara Wyman for their hours of gathering and cutting coupons. A special **THANK YOU** to all those who donate coupons.

At our November meeting we

voted to order 1,000 poppies; to donate \$300 to Togus Gift Shop; \$200 to Maine Veterans Home Gift Shop; \$50 to the Senior Thanksgiving Supper at Madison Junior High and 2 Christmas bags (\$20 each) for veterans in the hospital on Christmas.

Remember that December 8th will be the "Adult Christmas Party" where we

celebrate together by wrapping the children's gifts and decorate the Christmas Tree and Hall. Most importantly we enjoy the camaraderie we share.

Our next meeting will be Monday, December 4th at 7 pm. We have a lot of events coming up ~ 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*



Legion Riders ~ Chapter 39

Greetings!

Another season is coming to an end for riding our bikes except for those riders who don't mind the cold. The Riders have given their share to the Carrabec and Madison area Memorial High School Yearbook Ads for another year. We have donated four turkeys to the Auxiliary for the Annual Turkey Supper. Donation to the Veterans Creative Arts will be sent and if you have not attended this event it is a must.

Reminder to all members that November 26 is the Riders Sunday Beano. Help will be needed for calling and checking cards. Please contact our Director Bob Washburn or Sharon Mellows, Secretary/Treasurer if you are able to help. Sharon's phone 696-4938 and Bob's phone 485-1072. Remember this is only every other month and helps with our Charity Donations.

you at the December 4th meeting at 6 pm at the Hall.

Season Greetings!

Respectfully Submitted,
Sharon Mellows-Ziacoma
Secretary



Enjoy your Thanksgiving with family and friends! See

Sick Call

Yay!!
Everyone is
healthy!!!



Want to know what's
going on at YOUR Legion?
Come to the meeting on
December 4th & January 8th!!!

Post Everlasting



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PROUDLY SERVING THE COMMUNITY WITH COMPASSION,
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JEFFREY S. SPROUL FUNERAL DIRECTOR
GFHB@MYFAIRPOINT.NET

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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

November drill was busy for our unit. We took part in honoring our Veterans by attending the ceremony at Forrest Hills Cemetery. Following this, we went to the American Legion for the service and a luncheon. Just after 1pm, our unit was joined by members of the Boy Scouts and Legion members for a formal flag retirement ceremony.

During this drill, we enrolled a new cadet who is very

excited to be a part of the program. We also had a former cadet, now an adult, apply to help us as a staff member. She wants to give back to the program.

We want to say thank you to all the Veterans who have served and continue to serve. Our doors are always open to guests who would like to share their knowledge and life experiences with the cadets.

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 com-

munities, the entire Legion membership, cadet's families and friends for their untiring support of this unit.

Respectfully,

*The Officers and Staff
NCB39 Battalion*



The Post will be open New Year's Eve with open Jukebox and refreshments.

There will not be a newsletter for January. This issue is December & January combined.



**Happy Birthday
to all members
born in
December &
January!**



Notes from the Department Service Officer

*****Excerpts Taken From “The Maine Legionnaire” *****

There are 2 new faces at HQ. The first is Carl Curtis, and he is currently hot seating with Deo and will take charge as soon as training is completed. The other is Julie Kern, returning from a part time position to full time as our Administrative Assistant. Both Julie and Carl are already fully accredited by the American Legion and the VA Office of the General Counsel and can work with veterans on their claims.

Deo’s last official day as the DSO will be April 30th, 2017.

Claim for Individual Unemployability!

Individual Unemployability raises a veteran who has either one disability rated at 60% or higher, or one disability at 40% or higher; with an overall rating of 70% or higher to 100% compensation. We are getting a lot of veterans who want this benefit. Keep in mind, it is a request for an increase in compensation and subject to VBA review; comp and pen exams and Doctor’s opinions etc.

If you apply **YOU CAN HAVE YOUR DISABILITY RATING LOWERED** as they will re-examine, in some cases, the disabilities that you say make you unemployable which could result in an overall decrease in compensation. Normally, you cannot apply for this benefit if you are working full time; to include self-employment. You are always rated at your current level of disability and you can improve. File at your own risk!

VA Comp and Pen examinations!

QTC and VES are no longer doing exams as of 31 September 2017. Togus’ new contractors are Logistics Health, Incorporated (LHI) and Medical Support Los Angeles (MSLA) that will began EOM September 2017. For those with claims pending it is important to make sure that the Veterans Benefits folks and the DSO has your correct telephone number and mailing address. You must change at both DSO and the hospital when you re-locate. If you are using a cell phone your voice mail box **MUST** be set up or the VA will process your claim without an exam and more than likely deny it. If you have a voice mailbox set up you **MUST** keep it clear. If your mailbox is full you will not know when the VA or contractor calls you to make a comp and pen appointment and your claim will suffer!

This a serious issue currently and takes a lot of manpower to correct when you miss an appointment. Also, make sure your mailing address is correct and check you mail and PO Box daily!!!!

If you have a question about an exam scheduled by the VA, call the Department Service Office. We can look into it for you.

Respectfully submitted,

*Bob Washburn,
Post Service Officer*

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

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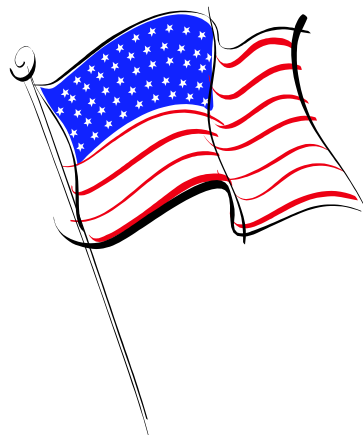
December 4, 2017

January 8, 2018

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>