



Tardiff-Belanger Post #39 Newsletter



Volume XII, Issue IX

October 2017

Happenings...

Meetings, Bingo & Cribbage

Meeting: 7:00 p.m.
Social Hr. 6:00 p.m.
Monday, Oct 2, 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,

September has been a very good month. Darts has started up again. Beano and cribbage have been steady.

The weather has been wonderful. Get out and see the fall foliage. Maine is very beautiful. We all are lucky that we live here.

Let's start getting ready for winter. It will be here soon.

We voted to donate \$150 to Boy Scout Troop 481, \$150 to Dutch Soccer, \$75 to Channel 11 and \$100 to sponsor 2 POW/MIA bricks for the memorial at Department Headquarters.

At our October meeting, the young people we sponsored for Girls & Boys State will be here to tell us of their experiences.

Remember school is in session. Please drive carefully.

God Bless Us All,

H. Ralph Withee
Commander



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!

The Sons were in their typically generous mood in our September meeting. A \$100 donation went to the Somerset Residential Care Center, to help fund activities for the good folks who live there. Another \$100 went to the family of Zachary Harrington to help during difficult times.

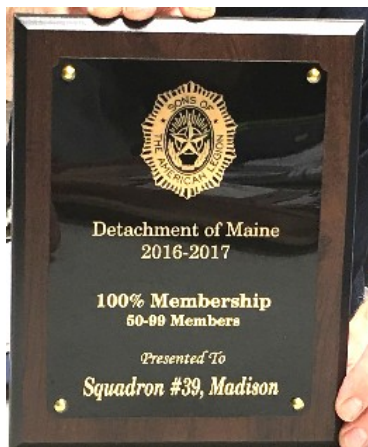
The Sons donated \$50 to help construct a monument being built at the American Legion district headquarters in Winslow.

There were so many new members at our September meeting! When many SAL posts struggle to maintain membership, it's so exciting to have all new blood. Welcome Barry DeLong, Dave Ray-

mond, Kevin Johnson, Bob Graves and James Tucci Sr.

Respectfully Submitted,

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



120 CLUB WINNERS

(Since last newsletter)

- 9/1 - Tom Dillon
- 9/8 - Karen Smith
- 9/15 - Kathy Lightbody
- 9/22 - Lisa Turner



Dates to Remember!

- September 30th - ALA Quarter Auction 9am-2pm
- October 2nd - Regular Meeting @ 7 pm
- October 7th - 120 Club Dinner
- October 16th - Executive Meetings
- **October 18th - NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS DUE!**
- October 28th - UBM Halloween Dance - Dirty McCurdy
- October 29th - Auxiliary 4th District meeting - Richmond Post 132
- October 30th - Put newsletter together



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,

We still have some members who have not paid their 2017 renewals. Please get them in so you don't lose your continuous years! We are off and running on 2018 membership. Our next goal is 45% paid by October 10th. To date we have 55 renewals which puts us at 40%. 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!

Merrilyn Vieira and I attended Fall Conference at the Grey Post. In attendance was our National President, Diane Duscheck. She stressed the importance of the ALA Foundation, which is her cause this year. The Foundation provides grants that can be used for

Creative Arts Festival as well as grants for emergent needs for veterans. All in all, the conference was enlightening and fun. We came up with suggestions for the Long Range Planning Committee to brainstorm ideas to help the Unit's improve and grow.

We're trying a new fundraiser on September 30th called a Quarter Auction/Vendor Event. Customers/Participants will purchase auction paddles. The more paddles purchased, the

more chances they have to win. Auction items will fit into 4 categories based on value - \$1-\$25, \$26-\$50, \$51-\$75, \$76-\$100. When the auction starts participants who want to BID will do with quarters. For example, if the item is in the first value group then bids are \$0.25, 2nd group bids are \$0.50, etc. If someone has 2 paddles then they can bid twice. Then a number will be pulled corresponding with the number on the paddles. The

person who has the same number on their paddle wins the item! Come on down to the Post and have some fun!

Since the last newsletter, Maxine Dube has mailed out \$20,059.50 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 September meeting we voted to donate -- \$100 to sponsor 2 POW/MIA bricks for the Memorial at Legion Headquarters, 2-\$15 Bingo Packages for Luck of the Draw for Special Olympics, 1-\$15 Bingo Pkg. for LOD for Solon Fire Department, 1-\$15 Bingo Pkg. for LOD for the Benefit for Marshia Bishop Harrington family, \$31.90 worth of children's books for Military

kids, \$50 for the National President's Project--American Legion Auxiliary Foundation, \$25 to Somerset Residential Center for the Residents Council/Activities.

Our next meeting will be Monday, October 2nd 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*



Happy Birthday to all members born in October!



Legion Riders ~ Chapter 39

Greetings!

Bob Washburn, Director, said he has had some join him on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 5 pm for the Ride & Dine! They will continue as long as the weather permits! If you don't have a bike you can join in with your vehicle and it is rain or shine – Hope you can make a few!

We would like to welcome new members; Steve Taylor, Matthew Pratt, and Jack Lord to the Riders! Just a reminder our meetings are the 1st Monday of each month at 6 pm.

We would like to see all our members attending.

We had another successful year at the New Portland Fair for Beano. This is our only large fund raiser for our Charities and expenses. The Riders would like to thank everyone who helped with set up, break down and for the three days working Beano this is greatly appreciated! Would not be a success without you. You know who you are and we really appreciate the help! We

have a Legion that pulls together when needed!

Riders Lead the Way!

*Respectfully Submitted,
Sharon Mellows-Ziacoma
Secretary*



Sick Call

John Ziacoma



**Want to know what's going on at YOUR Legion?
Come to the meeting on October 2nd!!**

Post Everlasting

Merton Parlin

9-11-17



GIBERSON FUNERAL HOMES
PROUDLY SERVING THE COMMUNITY WITH COMPASSION,
CARING AND RESPECT.
JEFFREY S. SPROUL FUNERAL DIRECTOR
GFHB@MYFAIRPOINT.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,

In August, our unit joined CG Group Portland and a NH unit at the Blue Angels air show. This was an intense weekend for all, but also a good time for fundraising and recruiting. I made contact with a retired Navy Chief., who will be visiting our unit during October drill. September drill included a visit by the Army National Guard from Skowhegan. They spoke to the cadets about career opportunities with the Guard. After-

wards, the cadets were allowed to have fun on the inflatable obstacle course brought by the Guard. This was fun for cadets and Guardsmen alike.

Recruiting is going well. We had a new recruit come to drill to check out the unit. He was very excited and is looking forward to joining. The possibility of an open house was also discussed. There are several things in the works for cadets for the upcoming winter. Thoughts are also being tossed around for a

spring training. We welcome offers of help from the community and from Veterans. If you have a skill or can teach a craft or trade, we would like to have you schedule a visit. Come share your knowledge with us.

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 communi-

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

Respectfully,
The Officers and Staff
NCB39 Battalion



Editor's
Note....



In the September newsletter issue, we inadvertently left out the sponsor pages. Please accept our sincerest apologies for any inconvenience this may have caused.

120 CLUB MEMBERS

DON'T FORGET...

**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 7TH**

**5 PM - 6 PM SOCIAL HOUR
6 PM SUPPER**

PRIME RIB OR LOBSTER

**DRAWING AFTER DINNER
MUSIC BY JUKE BOX**



Notes from the Department Service Officer

*****Excerpts Taken From “The Maine Legionnaire” February 2017 Edition.*****

Requests for Increased Compensation!

Keep in mind that you receive compensation for your **CURRENT** level of disability. The level of compensation is based on the comp and pen exam and the law as outlined under CFR 38.

You should always talk with your service officer before filing a claim for an increase (to include IU) to avoid a problem. The decision is yours to make.

While CFR 38 is objective in most cases, there is subjectivity when you are seen by a VA examiner and we have no control over that.

You can ask for a hearing to appeal a proposed reduction, however, you must do so within 30 days of the notification letter to place the reduction on hold until due process is conducted. Read the letter!

VA Comp and Pen examinations!

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!!!!

The VA is now using contractors QTC and VES, those might be changing soon; but you must answer their phone calls as well.

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

VA Correspondence!

If you are 100% due to Individual Unemployability (IU), or have a spouse or dependents on your compensation, VA periodically asks for verification of status. **Do not ignore those letters.** Confirmation is sent:

Every year for IU employment status until age 65.

Every 8 years for dependent status.

Failure to respond to a query will cause the VA to reduce your benefits. If you have any questions when you receive mail from the VA, call us immediately! An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure!

Always respond to the VA through the Department Service Office as we transmit and record your response.

If you fail to transmit through us we are unable to fight a decision based on failure to respond in a timely manner.

Periodic VA Comp and Pen examinations!

For some disabilities and illnesses for which the VA thinks you might improve over time, the VA schedules future exams, failure to attend those exams may result in a reduction/elimination of your compensation benefits until you are seen and evaluated!

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

VA Contract Comp and Pen Exams (Rating Exams)!

Let your folks who have claims pending that comp and pen (rating) exams are now being done by contractors.

The companies being used are QTC and VES. If they get calls from these organizations trying to schedule an exam. They should be legitimate.

Please let us know if you have any issues regarding the providers. On the other hand, if you had a good experience passes that on as well.

This is a new program for Maine; the intent is to speed up the processing of your claim.

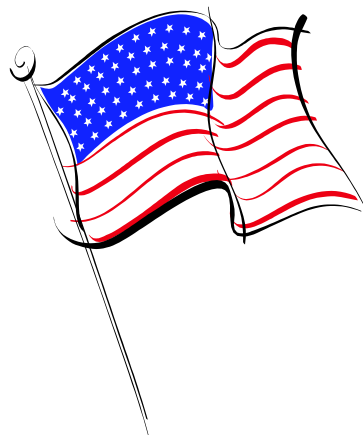
The purpose of the comp and pen exam is not to provide medical care but to provide information to assist the rater in determining your level of disability and in some cases an opinion as to whether or not your condition is service connected. They use a form called the DBQ, which can be viewed on line! It might be more appropriately called a rating exam.

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

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
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October 2, 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>