



Tardiff-Belanger Post #39 Newsletter



Volume XI, Issue X

December 2016

Happenings...

Meetings, Bingo & Cribbage

Meeting: 7:00 p.m.
Social Hr. 6:00 p.m.
Monday, Dec 5, 2016

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,

The Madison Junior High School 8th grade students put on a Veterans Day program on November 10th for the veterans and student body. A copy of the program is included with this newsletter. They did a wonderful job! Thank you!

We did the Forrest Hill Cemetery ceremony at the Canadian & American Monument. After that we proceeded to the Legion hall for the rest of the program. We did not do the Flag Retirement ceremony as in the past due to the high winds. It is rescheduled for December 4th at 12 pm. Thanks to the Auxiliary for the luncheon and thanks to everyone involved.

At our November meeting we voted to donate \$50 to the Senior Citizens Thanksgiving Dinner and \$200 to VAVS at Togus.

The Legislative Breakfast was held on November 16th. We had a small turnout - about 40 people. Again, thank you to the Auxiliary for their part in cooking the breakfast. We collected \$182.80 in donations and gave it to the Family Violence House of Madison.

The Thanksgiving basket raffle was a huge success. We made over \$1200 to go to our local food cupboards.

The bus stop/smoking room is now completed. Again, many thanks go to the many hands that worked on this project. Job well done!

Because we all work together,
we do a lot for our community!

Drive carefully and safely.
Merry Christmas to all!

H. Ralph Withee
Commander



**Flag Retirement
Ceremony
is now
scheduled for
December 4th
12 pm**

SAL Squadron #39

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

Hello Squadron 39 members!

This is the time of year folks tend to look at the big picture. What kind of year was it, for me and for the people who mean a lot to me? How can next year be better?

As you may know, the Sons of the American Legion celebrates its 85th anniversary next year. Back in 1932, as our parents used to tell us over the dinner table, America was in the grip of The Great Depression. Jobs were scarce. Things looked bleak. Then we elected a new President -- we got our confidence

back -- and things started to turn around.

The Sons were part of that turnaround in a lot of ways. Chiefly, our organization learned the value of service, not just to itself, but to all Americans in need. Together we moved ahead.

You may know that the national organization of the Sons of the American Legion has its own Facebook page, and it's a great reflection of how the Sons operates across America today. If you've got a computer and some time to spare, visit the page here: [https://](https://www.facebook.com/americanlegionsons/)

www.facebook.com/americanlegionsons/

Atop the page is this post from national chaplain Michael Lawler, who reminds us of what Sons membership truly means.

"The impact of the Sons of The American Legion can be measured by millions of dollars donated and the millions of hours volunteered. Sometimes, however, overlooked is the impact on the people we come in contact with, how a simple act on our part can have a ripple effect across our communities.

"It may be the person you escorted at the Oratorical Contest, the Boys and Girls Staters who you spoke with, the Junior Shooting Sports contestant you mentored or the Legion Baseball Team you sponsored. Perhaps it was the veteran you visited in the hospital, maybe you raked their leaves or featured them in your community parade, it may have been that moment when you said "Thank you for

your Service, I am proud of what you have done for me."

Happy holidays!

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

**If anyone wants to
book
the hall,
you MUST contact
Sheila Moody
at the Legion
696-5848
after 3:00 pm
on Wed and Thurs.**

Dates to Remember!

- December 2nd – 7th – Veterans Homes Gift Shops
- December 5th – Regular Monthly Meeting @ 7 pm
- December 9th - Adult Christmas Party - Social Hour 5 - 6pm
Dinner @ 6pm
- December 10th - Children's Christmas Party @ 10 a.m
- December 19th – Put Newsletter together
- Decenber 19th - Executive Meeting



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,

Lots and lots of news this month, ladies! First of all let's talk about membership. As of this article we have 102 members out of 134 paid. That puts us at 76.11% of our membership paid. It also means we've surpassed the December & January membership goals! We only need 32 renewals to be at 100%! If we reach that goal by December 31st our Unit will receive special recognition. Please keep the dues coming in!! Your dues can now be paid by phone by calling 317-569-4536, online at <https://www.alaforveterans.org>, by mail-

ing to the Unit's address (PO Box 325, Madison, ME 04950) or dropping it off at the Legion! Please note that in order to pay online you will have to create an account. If you see another member, ask her if she's paid her dues yet. We can all work together in achieving 100% membership! In addition, if any members have daughters, granddaughters or great granddaughters - sign them up! We are diligently trying to reactivate our Junior membership.

Speaking of the Juniors, we have a new Junior member - Alexandria Parker. It will be a few years before we see her joining in

the activities, but what fun we'll have watching her grow up!

Did you pay your 2017 dues by October 15th? Then you've been entered into a drawing to have your 2018 dues paid!! **The winner is Melissa Flanagin of Anson. Congratulations Melissa, your 2018 dues will be paid for by the Unit!**

Our Craft Fair on November 12th was a success. We had 17 different crafters this year which purchased 28 tables and of course we had a waiting list of crafters want-

ing to participate. I started nonchalantly keeping track of attendees @ 10:30 am (an hour and a half after the fair opened) and as of close of the fair I estimate over 120 people walking through the front door. We had some coming through the back door as well. Next year I plan on having a system in place to get a more accurate count. After expenses we made a profit of \$805.18 which will go towards local High School scholarships.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this a success.

Our Annual Turkey Supper & Raffle hosted by the Legion and Auxiliary was a huge success as well! A lot of work goes in to preparing for this event. A HUGE THANK YOU to the Legion, SAL, Legion Riders and Auxiliary members for their donations. In addition, Thank you to all those who helped out!! After expenses we made a profit of \$1,200.66 which benefits our area food cupboards!

At our November meeting we voted on the following donations: \$100 to the Skowhegan Giving Tree, \$25 to the Department President's Lobster Dip, \$300 Maine Veterans Home, \$50 to the Senior Citizen's Thanksgiving Dinner, \$50 to the Somerset Residential Activities Fund, \$25 to the Creative Arts Festival and \$20 for the Veterans Christmas Bag.

Since the last newsletter, Maxine Dube has mailed

out over \$20,000 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.

Remember our Adult Christmas Party is on December 9th. Social Hour is from 5-6 pm and dinner is at 6 pm. This is where we get together to wrap the children's gifts and decorate the

tree. A wonderful night of camaraderie and fun!

Our next meeting will be Monday, December 5th at 7 pm. ALL ALA MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!

Remember to check out our Facebook page for upcoming events and information! [https://](https://www.facebook.com/groups/ALAUNIT39/)

www.facebook.com/groups/ALAUNIT39/.

Happy Holidays!

Yours in Service, not self,



Robin Turek
Auxiliary President

Legion Riders ~ Chapter 39

Greetings All,

Well by now most (but not all: me for one) of us have put up their motorcycles for the winter. If you didn't yet, I hope you got a chance to ride in the middle of November when it was so nice. If you are still riding, please pay extra attention to the other vehicles on the road. Most drivers are not looking for motorcycles any more (for that matter many don't look for motorcycles anyway). They are not expecting to see motorcycles still on the road (just because they are cold, they figure we must be too).

I personally am hoping for a few

more warm afternoons so I can get a few more miles.

On Vinnie's suggestion, to keep us looking uniform during ceremonies in colder weather, we agreed to wear black sweatshirts under our vests when doing rifle detail. All present had a Legion sweatshirt with POW/MIA on back, so we thought that was a good idea. Stay safe on bikes or in cars. Watch out for others.

Respectfully submitted,



Bob Washburn
Secretary



THE RIDERS CREED

- R**ider dedicate themselves to the success of the American Legion. I know that through my efforts I can make a difference.
- I** Alone am responsible for myself and to my fellow riders. I will conduct myself with the highest degree of integrity and honor.
- D**eeds not words create change. I will persevere against any and all things that prevent my success. My resolve and strength will overcome all obstacles.
- E**ach rider is first a member of the American Legion family. I will actively participate in and willingly support their endeavors.
- R**eally will join other riders in activities and events which support missions. I will do so gladly knowing I volunteered to be an American Legion Rider.
- S**uccess is the only acceptable conclusion. I will allow nothing to dissuade me or impede me from service to my family community country and especially to our Veterans.

Riders Lead The Way !

**Want to know what's going on at
YOUR Legion?
Come to the meeting on
December 5th!!**



Sick Call



*Deborah Ashby
(Aux)*



Post Everlasting

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,

Drill weekend of 10-12 Nov , started as planned with the preparation for and participation in the Veterans Day ceremonies at the Forest Hill Cemetery and the American Legion Post 39. After lunch, high winds forced the cancellation of the planned Legion Formal Flag Retirement ceremony and the implementation of Plan B – studying manuals and taking the written exams required for rank advancement. The evening was filled with discussion concerning the events planned for the trip to and training to be accomplished at the US Coast

Guard Station, Jonesport, Maine.

Saturday started with a 3-hour drive to Jonesport. Upon arrival, we were greeted by our unit's Training Officer, LtJG Horvat, NSCC who is also an active duty US Coast Guard Petty Officer. There was a full day of training planned for the cadets that included going aboard 47 and 87-foot Coast Guard boats, touring the different operations activities, classroom training on nautical navigation, hands-on emergency water pump operation and discussions with on-duty US Coast

Guard personnel. The highlight of the day was going out into the harbor aboard the 47-foot boat. Each cadet got to maneuver the boat from the helm. The final event for the cadets was participation in the Coast Guard Station's evening colors activities and the folding of the colors. Photo albums are posted to the unit's Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/NCB39BN/photos/>

Updates on our graduated cadets that joined the US Army; Seaman Edes graduated from Boot Camp at Fort Jackson,

SC and is headed for Airborne Assault training at Fort Benning, GA; PO2 Jackson graduated from Airborne Assault School at Fort Benning, GA and has orders for Ft. Campbell, KY with the 101st Airborne.

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

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NCB39BN/>

Website:

<http://ncb39bn.sharepoint.com>



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



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

Notes from the Service Officer

Taken from the newsletter of the Department Service Officer.

How to Apply for VA Health Care

You can apply for VA Healthcare in three ways:

- Online: Health care application on www.vets.gov.
- Paper: VA Form 10-10EZ, then submit to the VHA or submit to your VSO for transmittal. (I can help you fill it out
- Telephone: 877-222-VETS (8387) (8:00 am – 8:pm EST).

When you apply make sure you have your (DD 214) Separation Document and last year's Income Tax filing nearby as you will need information from those documents during the application process.

P.S. Reapply if you were "Group 8 in the past and your income has changed; have retired and are just living on Social Security (Call me for income limits)

NOTE: Assets are NO LONGER counted toward VHA eligibility.

To learn more about applying for health benefits, please visit VA's Health Benefits [webpage](#).



Respectfully submitted,

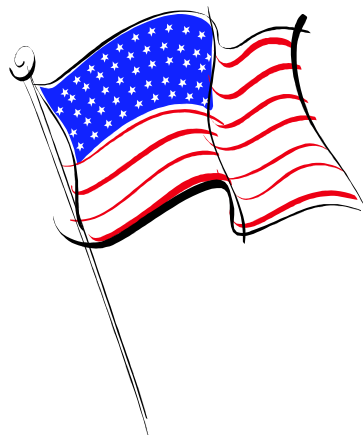
*Bob Washburn,
Post Service Officer*

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



December 5, 2016
6:00 PM LEGION RIDERS MEETING
6:00 PM SOCIAL HOUR
7:00 PM LEGION & AUXILIARY MEETING



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