



Tardiff-Belanger Post #39 Newsletter



Volume XII, Issue III

March 2017

Happenings...

Meetings, Bingo & Cribbage

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

Gene Dube
1 Position Open

I want to thank 1st Vice, Vinnie Santoni for doing the February meeting. I was in Portland and unable to attend.

First nominations were held and are as follows:

- Commander - H. Ralph Withee
John Bryant
- 1st Vice - Vinnie Santoni, Jr.
- Adjutant - Leroy Welch
- Chaplain - John Ziacoma
Richard Robinson
- Service Officer - Bob Washburn
- Historian - Eli Moore
- Finance Officer - John Bryant
Vinnie Santoni, Jr.
- Americanism - Brad Farrin
- Sgt at Arms - Phil Daigle
- Executive Committee:
Robert Demchak

During our meeting on March 6th we will have 2nd nominations and then vote for the officers and delegates.

We bought 25 smoke detectors to be donated to Madison Fire Department to be given away free.

Installation of Officers will be Saturday, April 1st. More information to follow.

The 120 Club Dinner is scheduled for October 7th. Payments will start April 1st. For further information contact Ralph Withee or any bartender.

H. Ralph Withee
Commander

Free Hands Only CPR Class
Approximately 1 hour
March 15th at 10 a.m.
At the Legion Hall

Contact John Bryant @ 635-2051 by
Monday March 13th
if you plan to attend.

Sponsored by Anson-Madison-Starks
Ambulance Service and Madison
American Legion Post 39.

Please join us for
Social Hour prior to
the meeting on
March 7th for cake
and coffee to cele-
brate the
American
Legion's
Birthday.



SAL Squadron #39

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

Hello Squadron 39 members!

Come spend St. Patrick's Day with your friends at the S.A.L.. On Friday, Mar. 17, from 4p to 7p, enjoy corned beef, cabbage, potato and carrots for just \$8. Bring your friends and wear green!

That wasn't the only big news out of the Sons' February meeting. Members voted to donate \$100 to Camp Tall Pines, affiliated with Special Olympics of Maine. The beautiful summer spot on

Lower Range Pond in Poland is always in need and the Sons were happy to help.

Who won the Bob's Cash Fuel raffle? Georgette Gordon did! For the price of a ticket, the Anson resident has 100 gallons of fuel coming her way. Congratulations Georgette!

Psst... we're working on two other raffles. In one, the winner gets two cords of wood. Tickets are \$5 each, three for \$10. Ask any S.A.L. officer for details and tickets.

We're still working on this next raffle... the winner gets four Red Sox tickets, round-trip bus fare and \$200 in spending money. More on this next month... just in time for Spring Training.

Ben Nile was the recipient of a \$250 scholarship courtesy of the S.A.L. He is attending the University of Northwestern Ohio. Congratulations Ben!

The Sons of the American Legion nominations for 2017-2018 are as follows:

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

Last but not least, we're only four members short of 100 percent paid membership for the second straight

year. You know who you are — help us get to the top!

Respectfully Submitted,

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

Want to know what's going on at YOUR Legion? Come to the meeting on March 6th!!

Dates to Remember!

- March 6th – Regular Meeting @ 7 pm
- March 15th - Hands Only CPR Class @ 10 am
- March 18th – St. Patrick's Dance @ 8 pm – 12 am
- March 20th – Executive Meeting @ 7 pm
- March 22nd – Newsletter Submissions Due
- March 27th – Put newsletter together @ 12:30 pm



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 February 20th we have 121 members out of 134 paid. That puts us at 90.29% of our membership paid. It also means **we've surpassed March membership goal of 90%! We only need 13 renewals to be at 100%! Please keep the dues coming in!!** ****Remember**** Your dues can now be paid by phone by calling 317-569-4536, online at <http://www.alaforveterans.org>, by mailing 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.

The **first nominations** of Officers was held at our February meeting and are the following:

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

Executive Committee:

Betty Dow
 Lauraine Mercier
 Maxine Dube
 Kathy Cousineau

Since the last newsletter, Maxine Dube has mailed out \$30,642.25 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.

The Auxiliary would like to welcome two new members, Kadiya Ireland (Jeff & Tena's Daughter) and Frances (Fran) Bouchard. Welcome ladies!

We'd like to extend our deepest condolences to Pauline Alain on the loss of her husband, Roland. Pauline, please know that we are keeping you in our thoughts and prayers.

We've been discussing new types of fundraisers at our meetings. One that we came up with is a "Calendar Dinner" which will be held on April 29th. There will be 12 tables (one for each month) decorated in that months theme. Dinner

will consist of Chicken Cordon Bleu. For more information, please contact Sharon Mellows at 696-4938.

Our next meeting will be Monday, March 6th at 7 pm. ALL ALA MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!

Remember to check out our Facebook page for up-

coming events and information! <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ALAUNIT39/>.

Yours in Service, not self,

 *Robin Turek*
 Auxiliary President

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,

Probably not a lot of people thinking about motorcycles right now (as I am writing this, we are in the middle of the biggest snowstorm I have seen in 30 + years). But riding season is only a few short weeks away, so now is the time to be starting to think about it.

We had our election of officers for the coming year. They are:

Director: Bob Washburn
Asst Director: Gene Dube

Secretary/treasurer: Sharon Mellows

Sergeant at Arms: Pete Peterson

Road Captain/Safety: Brad Farrin

Don't forget to pay your dues for the year (due in February). It will also be helpful to Brad if you photocopy your current registration, and insurance card.

In an effort to get some more riding, spend more time with each other, and hopefully get more people in-

involved, Bob will be riding the second Wednesday from April (or May if April is bad) through October. 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 (5:00pm). No specific plan or destination. Will be determined by the people who show up. If there is enough interest, then Bob may also do the 4th Wednesday. If you have a specific destination in mind, then show up and we might let you take us

there. These are not specifically Legion Rider rides so you don't have to be a Legion Rider. Let all your friends know. Call me if you need any more info. 634-2515 (h) or 485-1072 (c).

Respectfully Submitted,



Bob Washburn
Secretary

Dances




St Patrick's Day Dance
March 18th
Band: 38 Degrees
8 pm - 12 am
Tickets: \$5

Sick Call



Sharon Holt (aux)
Tim Henderson
Philip Daigle

Post Everlasting



Robert Douin 2/4/17
Roland Allain, Jr. 2/16/17
Ralph Cullington 2/20/17

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

On February 4th, the unit held its Annual Inspection with LCDR Andrew Nash, Regional Director performing the inspection. We had six officers and seven cadets present. The audience was made up of cadet family members. We promoted both Conner Fennell and Elijah Baldinelli to Petty Officer First Class. We also had a cadet who joined the unit the night before inspection.

Results of the inspection have not been completed yet. Overall, we did very well. Our biggest weakness is in recruiting and retention. Hopefully, this area will improve for next year. We enrolled one cadet last drill, we have one enrolling at our next drill, and a new recruit coming to visit. We also have one waiting to complete a move, before he enrolls. Things are looking up.

males. 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 US Naval Sea Cadet Corps program is open to 11-17 year old males and fe-

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



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



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

Notes from the Service Officer

Taken from the newsletter of the Department Service Officer.

Update your contact information!

Every day the DSO calls veterans and Legion members to notify them of their VA decision only to find out their mailbox has not been set up or is full, or the phone does not have an answering machine attached to it or it has been disconnected and no longer in service.

Due to the volume of calls, we only call once, you need to call us back if you want the status of a VA decision, otherwise you will receive it in the mail when the VA produces a notification letter.

The best number to give us is your cell phone number, however, once again, please set up your voice mailbox or we cannot leave a message.

It would be good to provide us with your email address, so we can contact you if we can't reach you by phone.

Regarding your mailing address, if you change it you must notify both the VA Hospital, for healthcare, and the DSO or the VBA to ensure you receive any correspondence pertaining to your claim.

Please note, the VA has stopped benefits for veterans or family members when VA mail is returned and the VA cannot contact the beneficiary.

Filing an "Intent to File"

If you come in or call the DSO and are told that we are filing an "Intent to File" for you this means you must follow up to file an actual claim.

The intent to file holds your date of claim on the date it is filed; in most cases. It is NOT a claim.

Always call the DSO eight days after you file a claim to ensure it has been completed and has been accepted and is being worked by the VA. Any of the office personnel will be happy to let you know the status of your claim. You do not need to speak with a specific service officer.

Third Party Release!

We are constantly asked by spouses and children of veterans to release information about a veteran's claim. We are not allowed to do so unless the requestor has a "Third Party Release" by the Veteran on file. It can be given to only one other person. It can be limited or unlimited and can be until revoked or for a specific period of time. The VETERAN must complete a VA Form 21-0845, "Authorization to Disclose Personal Information to a Third Party" which must be filed with the VA. A power of attorney signed by the veteran is not sufficient for VA purposes.

Release of VA Files!

We are constantly asked to release documents by veterans. Here, generally, are the rules regarding document release.

- We can give you what you gave us.
- We cannot give you what you gave directly to the VA.
- We can re-print document that were sent to you.
- We can only send documents to the address of record in our Veterans Benefits Management System (VBMS).

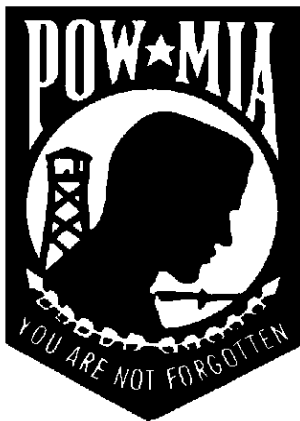
In order to get documents from your VA health or claim records, you must file a Freedom of Information Act Request with the VA. It can be done in a standard letter.

Respectfully submitted,

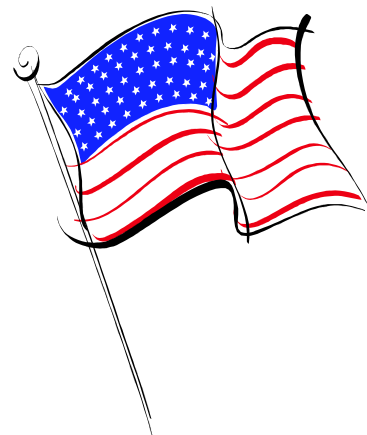
*Bob Washburn,
Post Service Officer*

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

**Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
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March 6, 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>