



Tardiff-Belanger Post #39 Newsletter



Volume XI, Issue VIII

October 2016

Happenings...

Meetings, Bingo & Cribbage

Meeting: 7:00 p.m.
Social Hr. 6:00 p.m.
Monday, OCT 3, 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 September meeting started with the Legion "family" gathered downstairs where the State Commander, Pete Johnson, presented Ashton Heald with the Legion Eagle Award along with a check for \$500. Ashton will use this toward his college expenses. In addition, Bill Benson, Boy Scout Committee Chairman presented a certificate and feather to Ashton. Afterward we went on to our perspective meetings.

Our October meeting will start off with a joint meeting with ALL members for a presentation of a ribbon that was given to Clyde Withee, who lost his life in Vietnam. This ribbon will be given to his sister, Martha Walker.

We voted at our September meeting to donate \$100 to VAVS at

Togus and \$37.50 to the Anson Fireman's Auxiliary. We have also received a donation of \$130 from the Class of 1961 for the Scholarship Fund.

The Post is doing well. Darts will start up this month.

Saturday, October 1st is the 120 Club Dinner and Dance.

The Halloween Dance will take place on October 29th. The band will be Dirty McCurdy.

Please remember that our Post consists of 4 different groups, Legionnaires, Ladies Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion and the Legion Riders. Put all four of these groups together and we equal ONE GROUP/FAMILY!

God Bless America and all our Veterans.

H. Ralph Withee
Commander

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Dances

October 29th
Dirty McCurdy
8:00 pm to 12:00am
\$8.00 per person
Costume Contest!!!

SAL Squadron #39

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

Hello Squadron 39 members!

The Labor Day holiday delayed the Sons meeting until Sept. 12. Before the meeting began, a local Eagle Scout Ashton Heald was given a \$500 award by American Legion Boy Scouts Committee chairman Bill Benson, for his many accomplishments and service to the community.

The squadron then got down to business. Treasurer Paul Turek proudly showed members a certificate that congratulated Squadron 39 on raising its membership

totals from 2015 to 2016. It was signed by the national commanders of the American Legion and the Sons of the Legion.

The current squadron membership total is 64. That's good, but we can do better. Who do you know? Bring 'em on down to any monthly meeting, held the first Monday of the month at 7pm. Renew acquaintances, meet new friends. We've added six new members so far this year.

Also during the Sept. meeting:

* Members voted to contribute \$250 to the Travis Mills Foun-

ation, a non-profit "transition house" for veterans returning home after active service. A recent burglary cost the foundation many of its tools (the home is currently under construction). Many Maine posts are contributing as well.

* Members suggested buying new kitchen tools for the post, badly needed with all the fundraising dinners being held. Discussion is continuing.

* Planning took place for the Sept. 24 pig roast, which turned out to be a big success. Thank you Eddie Cowan and team!

* Members suggested having a dinner for squadron members

only, in appreciation for all the hard work that members put in month after month. No date was chosen, though a timeframe of "early next year" was agreed upon.

And speaking of events, members of Post 39's "120 Club" will convene Oct. 1st -- if you're all paid up, see you there.

One more thing: next time you're online, visit the new

Sons page on Facebook. You can find it at <https://www.facebook.com/SAL-Squadron-39-Madison-Maine-1050371371678606/>. Recently posted, photos of the surprise birthday party thrown for squadron commander Mark Long.

We're still working on building a member list which includes your phone number and email address. If you haven't

sent yours along yet, email it to samwhitmore@gmail.com or call 696-0857.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

Sick Call

*John Haley
Olive Roberge*



Dates to Remember!

- October 1st - 120 Club Dinner
- October 17th - Executive Meetings
- October 21st - NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS DUE
- October 24th @ 12:30 pm - Put Newsletter together
- October 29th - Halloween Dance w/ Dirty McCurdy
- November 16th - Legislative Breakfast



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 have been accepting 2017 membership dues (\$20) and are already exceeding our goals! At this time we have 62 members paid...that's 46.27% of the members paid! **We have met our October 20th goal of 45% and are well on our way to the next goal of 55% by November 20th!!** 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 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 pay your 2017 membership dues by October 15th, you'll be entered in to a drawing to win your 2018 dues paid!!**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

members: Paula Davis of Mercer and Shirley Carpenter of North Anson.

At our September meeting we voted on the following donations: to pay our portion of an ad in both the Carrabec and Madison Memorial High School yearbooks, \$50 to Stand Down, \$25 to Department President's Project (Veterans Emergency Assistance), \$50 to Betsy Ross House of Hope \$50 to the Madison Christmas Celebration, and to renew a \$25 membership for the Madison Business Alliance.

Please welcome our newest

Since June 2016, Maxine Dube has mailed out approximately \$56,424.69 worth of coupons. Thank you to Maxine and all who donate coupons and help to cut them for shipping.

Harriet Bryant, Merrilyn Vieira and I attended Fall Conference at the Waterville Post #5 last weekend. As I stated last month, our membership theme is Super Hero's and our District is Wonder Woman.

Thankfully, Department Secretary wrote up a synopsis (which is too long to put here) and I've posted it on our Facebook page.

As our Commander pointed out on page 1 of this newsletter, we are four groups, but put us together and we equal ONE BIG FAMILY! We're all here for the same purpose. Remember our Mission and Vision Statements:

Mission Statement

In the spirit of Service, Not Self,

the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security.

Vision Statement

The vision of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion while becoming the premier service organization and foundation of every community providing support for our veterans, our military, and their families by shaping a positive future in an atmosphere of fellowship, patriotism, peace and security.

****PLEASE REMEBER****

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, October 3rd at 7 pm. 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 All,

What a great summer we have had. Riding has been awesome because of the dry weather. Our first meeting since May was September 12. It was good to see everyone as we get back from summer wanderings.

We had a good turnout for bingo at the North New Portland fair. Thanks for all who helped. It also didn't hurt that Saturday was a beautiful dry day. Not too hot, not to cold. Rough guess, we will do better

than last year.

Don't forget we are doing bingo on the 25th.

We are selling POW/MIA sweatshirts. Black Cotton with American Legion Post 39 on the front. All sizes \$20. Please see Sharon if you want one (or five).

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 October 3rd!**

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS PLEASE SUPPORT THEM!!

If anyone wants to book the hall, you MUST contact Sheila Moody at the Legion 696-5848 after 3:00 pm



Post Everlasting

Donald Beane 6/24/16
Raymond Wacome, Sr. 9/12/16
Alfred Dyer, Jr. 9/15/16

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,

It has been relatively quiet since our last newsletter input. With the start of the school year and Fall sports, the cadets have been extremely busy. For the September drill weekend, we had Lance Corporal Rick West, USMC as a guest military drill instructor. Other classroom activities included the Eleven General Orders, Customs & Courtesies, knot-tying and Core Values.

On Wednesday, 14 September, we provided the Color Guard to support the Post 39 activities at the re-dedication of the Blue

Star Highway ceremony at the Rt2 Rest Area in Skowhegan.

Plans are in the works for the unit to spend a day at the Coast Guard Station, Jonesport where they will experience all of the activities of that station, including going aboard a Coast Guard Cutter underway for training.

We are doing a recruiting push and have three individuals indicating their intent to spend time with us at our next drill, 30 Sep thru 02 Oct. With this in mind, we are looking for adult volunteers to join the unit. Do you have a hidden talent such as

knowledge of small engines, "how things work", electricity or plumbing? If so, come share your talent with our cadets!

Two of our graduating cadets have joined the US Army; Seaman Edes is at Fort Jackson, SC attending Boot Camp and PO2 Jackson is fast tracking through Boot Camp into Airborne Ranger School at Fort Benning, GA.

We, on behalf of the entire battalion, wish to thank the local communities, the entire Legion membership, cadet's

families and friends for their untiring support of this unit.

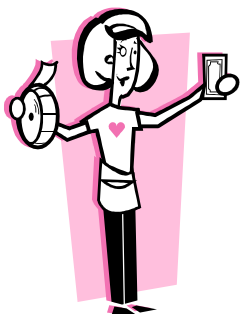
The US Naval Sea Cadet Corps program is open to 11-17 year old males and females. Please visit our website: <http://ncb39bn.sharepoint.com> for more information.

Respectfully,

The Officers and Staff
NCB39 Battalion



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



**120 CLUB WINNERS
(Since last newsletter)**

- 9/2 Clara Washburn**
- 9/9 Barbara Wyman**
- 9/16 Clara Washburn**

120 CLUB DINNER DANCE

October 1st
Social Hour: 5-6 pm
Dinner: 6 pm
Drawings following dinner
****Dance****
Band - Midnight Rose

Notes from the Service Officer

Taken from the newsletter of the Department Service Officer.

Debt Letters from the VA

Why did I get this debt letter from St Paul VA? We hear this question quite often when a veteran receives a collection letter for an overpayment of benefits.

There are some of the many reasons this happens:

- Failure to notify the VA of change in Dependents
- Failure to return validation documents regarding income or dependents.
- Removal of dependents; it takes a month or so to kick in and you owe them for the months they paid you.
- Veterans on a pension who start to draw Social Security (Income) and fail to report it.
- Failure to attend class or notify the VA when you drop out if you are receiving VA Educational Benefits.
- Selling your VA Loan Guaranteed house at a loss.
- Etc...

The debt collections can be small or amazingly large. It is your responsibility to know what you are getting compensation/pension for; and if that changes you must notify the VA immediately, hopefully through the DSO, and put aside the difference in benefits as they WILL come to collect it.

Changes in mailing address without notifying the "VBA" can compound this problem and cause you to lose your appeal time. It is not sufficient to just notify the VA Hospital you must notify Benefits.

The normal process is for the VA to notify you of a pending collection. You are given a time-

frame to reply. If you don't reply or you are in fact over receiving, the debt will be forwarded to VA in St. Paul to collect the overpayment.

If you ignore the collection letter from St. Paul, they will collect the overpayment from your compensation/pension. If that is not available they will try to collect from your Social Security and Pension. Contact the DSO immediately when you are told of an overpayment and we will help you proceed.

Every day you delay is one day less to attempt to request a waiver or payment plan.

P.S. You will not normally be charged due to VA error in an award of compensation or benefits.

Sign Up for VA Healthcare

Online VA Health Care Application (In lieu of VA Form 10-10ez)

Beginning June 30, 2016, Veterans applying for VA health care will be directed to the health care application on www.vets.gov.

Veterans will still have access to VA Form 10-10EZ, which was originally available through the Veterans On-line Application.

Those applying for health care eligibility can use the online application or call 877-222-VETS (8387) and sign up telephonically!

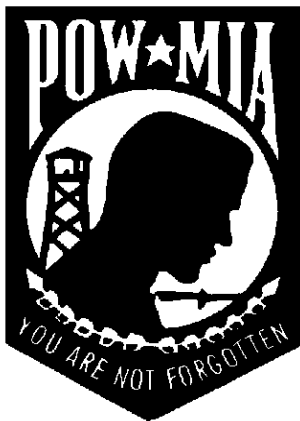
Respectfully submitted,

*Bob Washburn,
Post Service Officer*

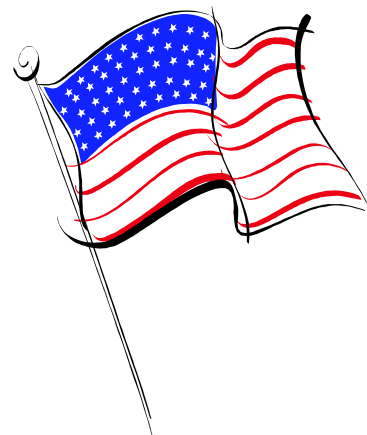


Tardiff-Belanger Post #39
American Legion
P.O. Box 144
Madison, ME 04950-0144

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Madison, Maine
Permit No 6



October 3, 2016
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>