

Veterans of Foreign Wars of The United States

HARVELL–BISHOP ARNOLD TRAIL POST #7865



April, 2024

Madison, ME 04950

Telephone (207) 696-3806

POST COMMANDERS REPORT

Greetings Comrades,

Hope everyone had a safe and happy St. Patrick's Day. Congratulations to Craig Finnerty, winner of the Henry 30/30 Lever action Drawn in March. We now have a Bear Cross Bow hunting package, tickets available at the bar, \$20.00 each, only 100 tickets to be sold. Money goes to the building fund.

As soon at the weather breaks, temps above 50 degrees we will have the roof finished. Then we are siding the building and new digital sign will be installed out front. We have price on siding from Ware Butler and we are getting the price for labor out to bid. We have a deposit on the digital sign. It takes about 4 weeks to be delivered.

Just a reminder that Texas Holdem are the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month. Doors open at 12:00 noon and games starts at 1:00 pm. Come on down and bring a friend. Lunch will start serving at noon.

Mark your calendar for April 20th's spring fling dance. Introducing new band, Night Shift from 7-11 pm. \$10.00 for singles, \$15.00 for couples. Drink specials will be available. Come on down and check them out

I want to thank Mike Carter and Lee Raymond for all the work they are doing to the inside of the post and for the snow removal on the roof. Other's who have also been helping with keeping the roof cleaned off are Chad Steward and myself.

Nominations for officers were made at our last post meeting, they are the following:

- Commander—Mike Carter
- Service officer—Lee Raymond
- Jr Vice—Dave Foss and Everett Rodgers
- Quarter Master—Chad Steward
- Trustee's
 - Phil Dagel was nominated
 - Nomination needed for other vacant slot

Next months meeting we will have nominations and election. District 5 meeting is April 14th at the Fairfield Post at 1:00pm. We will have nominations and election of officers there for district. Most of the nominations will be members of our post. We are in the top 3 posts in the division, Madison post 7865 which is #1 at 120.71%, #2 is Hampden post at 98.19%. We are in the Top 10 posts by %, Madison being #1 with 120.71%, with Washington post 9437 #2 at 108.82%. District Standings, District #5 is #1 at 105.26% with District #7 Harmon coming in at #2 at 100.58% out of 11 districts.

Shop Local and support our sponsors. Still looking for new members. Come on in and support your VFW.

Respectfully,

Louis Padula, Commander



P.S. We are working on some kind of smoking room outside

News letter will now be available at the below website

Website: www.vfwpost7865.com Email: vfwpost7865@outlook.com

Facebook page: Madison VFW 7865



HARVELL–BISHOP ARNOLD TRAIL POST #7865

58 Preble Avenue

Po Box 67, Madison ME 04950

APRIL 2024

Happy Spring to all my Auxiliary Sisters and Brothers;

I am looking forward to seeing you at the Auxiliary Meet & Greet on Sunday, April 28, at 11am at the Post. We will share brunch together, take some time to get to know one another, and play a game to learn a bit about the Auxiliary. Come join the fun. Prizes and give-a-ways! Please **RSVP** and let us know you are coming, thank you. <u>vfwauxpost7865@gmail.com</u>

The Auxiliary continues to provide care and comfort items to veterans at Togus. We appreciate all the help from others, those who place items in the care and comfort item box in the bar and those who donate cash for the purpose. Special thanks to member Dan Pomerleau for the donation of beef jerky packets that was placed in the bar for donation. The money collected will be used to continue to provide for our veterans.

The Auxiliary continues to provide lunch once a month at the Post's Texas Hold-em games (1st & 3rd Sundays). Funds raised from the lunch are earmarked to the Auxiliary's Relief Fund.

Our next Paint Night is April 18, 6pm at the Post. 25\$ each includes all supplies. Cash bar available.

Sending special thanks to Brenda Flanagin and Eleanor Jo Leblanc for the hours they spent at the Polls.

YOUTH SCOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The Auxiliary to Post 7865 is currently accepting scholarship applications. If you have a son, daughter, grandson, granddaughter going on to college, please be sure to remind them to apply for an Auxiliary Scholarship. Applications are available at our local high schools, or one may be obtained by contacting Sue LeHay at 207-634-2425. Deadline for applications is April 30th.

Voice of Democracy (VOD) Scholarship - Established in 1947, the Voice of Democra-

cy audio-essay program provides high school students with the unique opportunity to express themselves in regards to a democratic and patriotic-themed recorded essay. Each year, nearly 25,000 ninth through 12th grade students from across the country enter to win their share of more than \$1 million in educational scholarships and incentives awarded through the program. The 2024-25 theme is: "Is America Today Our Forefathers' Vision?"

The national first place winner receives a \$35,000 scholarship paid directly to the recipient's American university, college or vocational/technical school.

Patriot's Pen (PP) Scholarship - Conducted nationwide, this VFW-sponsored youth essay competition gives students an opportunity to write essays expressing their views on an annual patriotic theme. The 2024-25 theme is: "My Voice in America's Democracy?" Each year, nearly 68,800 students in sixth through eighth grades enter the VFW's Patriot's Pen youth essay contest for a chance to win their share of nearly \$1 million in state and national awards. Each first-place state winner receives a minimum of \$500 at the national level, and the national first place winner wins \$5,000! Please encourage the young people in your life to participate. Find entry forms at the following website: https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships VOD and PP scholarship entries competing at the Post level must be in the hands of VFW Post by midnight, Oct. 31, 2024.

Please continue to do your good works, your selfless focus on others is commended. Our veterans and community are better that you exist!

Be well!

Eula

Our **April Regular Monthly Auxiliary** Meeting is Tues. **April 9, 7pm**, at the Post!

NOMINATIONS WILL BE HELD



THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2024 AT 6PM Paint Night with Gretchen Washburn 58 Preble Ave, Madison, ME

18

Are you a Veteran in crisis or concerned about one?



Sunday, April 28, 11am

The "Auxiliary Meet & Greet". Come have brunch, receive some goodies, and enjoy some camaraderie!



According to new.va.gov...

- Beginning March 5, VA is making three new groups of Veterans eligible for VA health care years earlier than called for by the PACT Act: Veterans who were exposed to toxins or other hazards during military service;
- Veterans who were assigned to certain duty stations in Southwest Asia or parts of Africa; and
- Veterans who deployed in support of certain operations after 9/11.

If you served in Vietnam, the Gulf War, Iraq or Afghanistan, you can enroll.

If you deployed to any combat zone after 9/11, you can enroll.

If you deployed in support of the Global War on Terror, you can enroll.

And even if you never deployed but were exposed to toxins or hazards while training or serving on active duty here at home—by working with chemicals, pesticides, lead, asbestos, certain paints, nuclear weapons, x-rays, and more—you can enroll, too.

Bottom line: all Veterans who meet the basic service and discharge requirements and were exposed to toxins and other hazards—at home or abroad—are eligible to enroll in VA care beginning March 5.

This is the biggest expansion of care in generations, and VA wants you to apply as soon as possible.

It's quick and easy to enroll. You don't need to be sick or file a claim to become eligible; all you have to do is show that you served in one of those locations or operations, or participated in one of the activities that could have exposed you to toxins or hazards. VA health care is proven to be the best, most affordable care in America for Veterans, and Veterans who come to VA have better health outcomes.

Even if you don't think you need this care today, you might need it tomorrow, or the next day, or 30 years from now. All you have to do is enroll; then you have access for life.

Don't miss this opportunity: better, more affordable health care is waiting for you. Go to VA.gov/PACT and get it.

Other VFW news:

- 1. Kids Christmas Dinners 2nd & 4th Saturday's each month, all proceeds to Kids Christmas
- 2. April 20th Spring Fling with Night Shift, come on down and join us 7-11pm \$10 single, \$15 Couple
- 3. All kinds of changes going on at the post. Come check out the updates to the Kitchen and check out the new store room now located in the old Smoking room. A New outdoor smoking area will be constructed outside this summer. Thanks Mike, Lee and Lou for all your hard work. More to come......





Other Auxiliary news:

- 1. Don't forget RSVP for our Auxiliary meet and greet coming April 28th. RSVP @ vfwauxpost7865@gmail.com
- 2. National Presidents Visit April 9 2:30, 175 Veteran Drive, Winslow Post All are welcome, RSVP 207-426-8423
- 3. Paint Night Thursday April 18th at 6 pm, come have some fun and join us \$25 per person.

Here's what that means for Veterans:

TAKE ACTION

- Dial 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1 to talk to someone
- Start a confidential online chat session at www. VeteransCrisisLine.net/chat
- Send a text message to 838255 to connect to a VA responder
- Take a self-check quiz at www. VeteransCrisisLine.net/quiz
- If you or a Veteran you know is in crisis, find a facility near you
- Visit www.MilitaryCrisisLine.net if you are Active
 Duty, Reserve, or Guard
- Connect through chat, text, or TTY if you are deaf or hard of hearing

Veterans Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255 PRESSO

Veteran suicide prevention

If you're a Veteran in a mental health crisis and you're thinking about hurting yourself—or you know a Veteran who's considering this—get help right away. You're not alone.

How do I talk to someone right now?

If you're a Veteran in crisis or concerned about one, connect with our caring, qualified Veterans Crisis Line responders for confidential help. Many of them are Veterans themselves. This service is private, free, and available 24/7.

Here's how you can connect with a Veterans Crisis Line responder, anytime day or night:

Call <u>988</u> and select 1.

Text: <u>838255</u>.

Start a confidential chat. www.veteranscrisisline.net/get-help-now/chat/

If you have hearing loss, call TTY: 800-799-4889.

You can also take these actions:

Call <u>911</u>.

Go to the nearest emergency room.

Go directly to your nearest VA medical center. It doesn't matter what your discharge status is or if you're enrolled in VA health care.

Find your nearest VA medical center





American Red Cross Northern New England Region

The Veterans History Project of the American Folk life Center at the Library of Congress collects, preserves, and makes accessible the personal accounts of American war veterans so that future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand the realities of war. The American Red Cross assists the Library in these efforts by video recording veterans' oral histories across Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont. While the Library is specifically seeking histories of American wartime veterans, the American Red Cross will interview any veteran for personal preservation.

If you are a veteran that is interested in being interviewed, or would like to become an interviewer, please contact the American Read Cross of Northern New England

Contact us: By email: <u>SAFNNE@REDCROSS.ORG</u>, By Phone: 800-464-6628 or Sign up online: <u>https://tinyurl.com/mwyr5hva</u>

Harvell-Bishop-Arnold Trail Post 7865 58 Preble Ave, Madison 207-696-3806

TEXAS HOLDEM

- First & Third Sunday of each month
- \$50 Buy In
- High Hand & Top Four Payouts
- Buy In and Kitchen Start/Open at 1200
- Tournament starts at 1:00
- Guests Welcome

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VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

Harvell – Bishop - Arnold Trail Post 7865 Officers:



Post Commander: Louis Padula - Senior Vice: Mike Carter Junior Vice : Everett Rogers- Adjutant: Rick Petersen - Quarter Master: Chad Steward

Judge Advocate: Bill Lytle - Surgeon: Jess Carter - Chaplain: Gary Kucipak

Service Officer: Dale Bickford - Trustees: Phil Daigle, Sandy Seymore, Vincent Santoni

Post Bar Manager: Jessica Carter



Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary

Auxiliary Officers: President: Eula DeRocle - Sr. Vice President: Sue LeHay -Jr. Vice President: Lorie Swift – Conductress: Anne Drawdy – Guard - Yvonne Brooker

Chaplain: Linda Jo Andrews - Treasurer: Brenda Flanagan - Patriotic Instructor - Sue LeHay - Secretary Michelle Steward - Trustee # 1 Linda Jo Andrews - Trustee # 2 Yvonne Brooker - Trustee # 3 Lorie Swift

APPY Appril 2024

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1	2	3	4 Post Meeting 7 pm	5	6
7 Texas Hold'em 1200	8	9 Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm	10	11 Kennebec Valley Quilters 5:30 Pm	12	13 Monthly Veteran Nursing Home visit
14 VFW/AUX District 5 Meeting 1PM Fairfield Nominations for District officers and Elections to be held	15 HAPPY Patriot's DAY DAY	16 Honor Guard Training 7 pm	17	18 Marine Corps Meeting 6 pm Paint night 6pm at the Post. 25\$ each	19	20 Spring Fling Night Shift 7–11 pm \$10 Single \$15 Couples
21 Texas Hold'em 1200	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Auxiliary Meet and Greet Brunch 11–2	29	30				

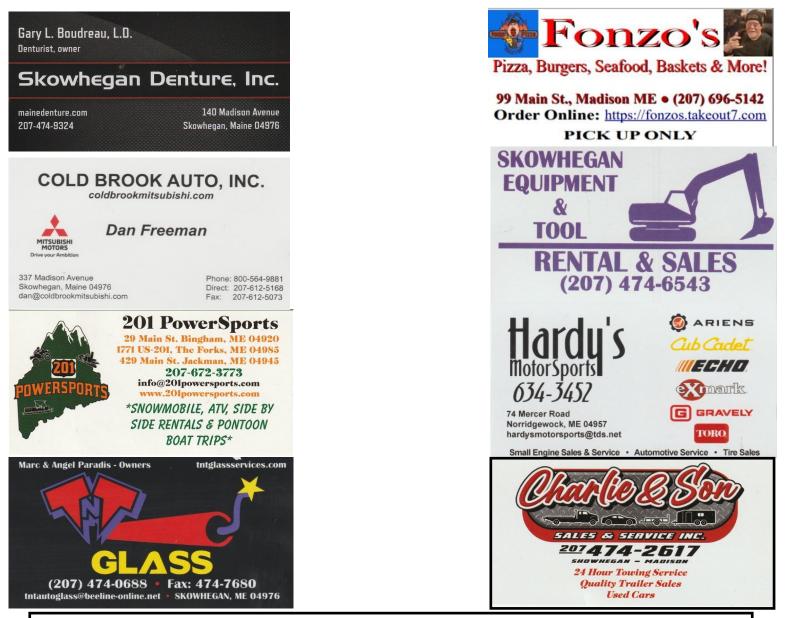


Do you have one or more unserviceable American flags?

If so, we invite you to drop it off at the VFW Post. Unserviceable flags will be delivered to the American Legion – Tardiff Belanger Post for proper retiring.

Camp Lejeune Justice Act Litigation

If you have questions about eligibility and how to pursue a federal lawsuit under the Camp Lejeune Justice Act, the VFW encourages you to contact one of our entrusted law firms: B&M Bergmann & Moore, LLC (800-898-9450) or Baird Mandalas Brockstedt & Federico (410.421.7777)







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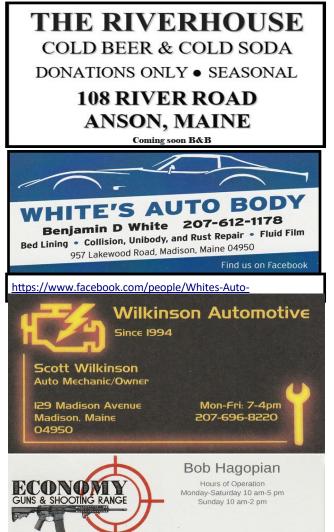
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VETERANS of FOREIGN WARS

Harvell-Bishop-Arnold Trail Post #7865 58 Preble Avenue **PO Box 67 Madison, Maine 04950** Telephone (207) 696-3806



Volume 7 APR 2024

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Monthly Meetings: First Thursday (a) Post 7pm Auxiliary Meetings: The Tuesday Following 1st Thursday @ 7pm Marine Corps League Monthly Meetings: Third Thursday @ 6pm Post Bar Opened @ 2pm Monday-Saturday And Sunday @ Noon Texas Holdem 1st & 3rd Sunday – Lunch & Buy In Start @ Noon ests come **Never Forgotten Telephone (207) 696-3806 Forever Grateful** Website: www.vfwpost7865.com - Email: vfwpost7865@outlook.com Thank You For Your Support Volume 7 April 2024