



# ***Veterans of Foreign Wars of The United States***

## **HARVELL-BISHOP ARNOLD TRAIL POST #7865**



**Dec 2025**

**Madison, ME 04950**

**Telephone (207) 696-3806**

## **POST COMMANDERS REPORT**

### **Greetings Comrades,**

The snow is here! I hope everyone is ready for the snow and winter weather. November was a great month for us and the community. We had a great Veterans Day ceremony, with a former Governor of Maine as our guest speaker. We also prepared 66 meals for Veterans, members and community for this event. Our Thanksgiving meal was a huge hit for us and the local community. We were able to serve around 100 meals to Veterans and the local community, and we delivered around 16 meals in the local community to Veterans, and community members who could not make it out to celebrate with us.

We have a few events coming up in December. Our Post Christmas party will be on Saturday, December 20th starting at 3pm. We will do our traditional "Yankee swap" with the Christmas presents. If you would like to participate, please bring a wrapped gift and our gift limit is \$20.

We are also doing our annual "Pre-Game" New Year's eve party again. This is an event we have gotten a lot of great comments on. The event starts at 3pm, and we celebrate midnight at 6pm. This event lets people celebrate with others who cannot make it to midnight. At 5:59:50pm we will start out 10 second count-down, with us toasting champagne right at 6pm.

Come out and celebrate the Holidays with us!

BIG Canteen news: We will be starting the "Queen of Hearts" game in the Canteen starting in January. It will officially start on Thursday January 1st, with the first drawing being held on January 9th, and every Friday after that. Come try your luck with us. Stop by the see out rules.

Keep a lookout for the next raffle! We are only selling 100 tickets for \$20 each ticket. Our next raffle will start immediately after this raffle is drawn. All proceeds go to our Building Fund so we can make repairs to the Post.

Please, if you know of a Veteran in need or their family, please have them reach out to us, or please reach out for them. We can't do anything huge for jobs, but if we can help, we will.

### **Veterans serving Veterans**

**Respectfully,**

**Mike Carter**

**Post Commander Madison VFW 7865**

**Newsletter will now be available at the below website**

Website: [www.vfwpost7865.com](http://www.vfwpost7865.com) Email: [vfwpost7865@outlook.com](mailto:vfwpost7865@outlook.com)

Facebook page: [Madison VFW 7865](https://www.facebook.com/MadisonVFW7865)





# VFW AUXILIARY

UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

HARVELL-BISHOP ARNOLD TRAIL  
POST #7865

58 Preble Avenue

Po Box 67, Madison ME 04950

Dec 2025

Greetings Auxiliary Sisters and Brothers;

Well Christmas is just about here. As many of you know we usually support 20-30 Local children during the Christmas season. Post has raised money and I have the lists to go shopping. I will have Mike post on the VFW Facebook page when we can all come in and get the wrapping done. We have 24 children ranging in ages of 1 to 15. They should have a very good Christmas once I am done with the shopping. Thank you all who have donated and participated in the efforts to raise money for this great program. Auxiliary usually always finds another special family to support as well. We will talk about this at our December meeting.

Veterans Day was a great day from what I heard. Mike was able to have Governor LePage come and speak and they had a good turn out. I was unable to attend as I was doing community outreach to the Athens Victory Club to put on they annual Veterans day Turkey Dinner. Thank you to all that participated and helped out.

Thanksgiving was a great success. Auxiliary members got together the night before and prepared as much as we could to make the morning routine a bit easier. The girls scouts came and helped decorate and they came on Thanksgiving morning and helped us get the to go meals out the door. It was super busy at noon time as we had quite a few people show up all at once and we were right out straight but it went very well and we served, I believe, over 100 people including deliveries, take outs and obviously those who helped put it all together. It was great to have so many auxiliary members helping out. I do plan to take some notes for next year to help make it smoother. Thank you all, who helped, from prep to serve to clean up crew! You guys are great!

As always, if you know of a veteran in need, especially around the holiday's, please reach out to the Auxiliary or the Post and we will see what we can do. If you are a member and you have volunteered your time helping a veteran, let us know. We know so many of you out there are doing your part, please let us know so we can give you credit for the things you do. Thank you for all you do.

Time is running out to Pay your dues for the 2025/2026 year. We encourage you to pay them before December 31st, or you might want to consider getting your lifetime membership.

Hoping you all have a wonderful Christmas and New years.

Sincerely yours,

Michelle Steward  
Auxiliary President



**Our Next Regular Monthly Auxiliary Meeting is Tues. Dec 9th, 7pm, at the Post!** Pennies for cancer bucket is located in the

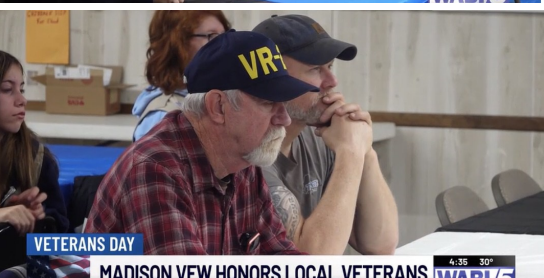
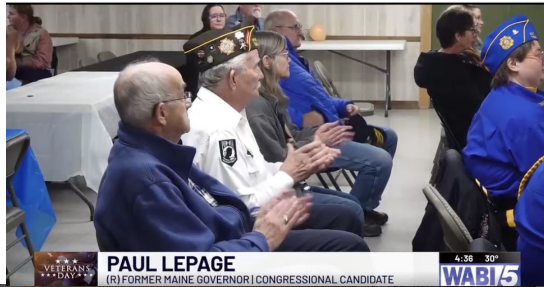
Hall, please consider dropping in your extra change as you walk by. All proceeds go to the Jackson Lab here in Maine. Care and comfort items are always welcome. Can tabs are also being collected in the Hall.

Other going's on at the Post :

- Cribbage every Wednesday, stop in an play, also try your luck at the Yahtzee game.
- Queen Of Hearts game to start in January—Dice game to continue in January as well.
- There is a Senior meal every Tuesday at 11am at the VFW. It is free to all seniors, so stop by for some good food and company. I believe they will continue thru end of January.
- Post Christmas Party—Yankee Swap—Saturday Dec 20th 3-6 —New years Eve Party starting at 3, Toast at 5:59.
- Last Tailgate Party—Dec 21st— Come out and join us— all Donations go to Children's Christmas gifts.

Veterans Day at the Post—Madison VFW Post Welcomed Former Governor Lepage to speak to our Veterans on Veterans Day.

## Madison VFW hosts Veterans Day celebration for community



If you know of a veteran in need this holiday season, please reach out to the Post. They would like to help in anyway that they can and the Auxiliary will do whatever they can do to help out as well

Merry Christmas and Happy New year to you all!





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## Thanksgiving

We were able to serve around 100 meals to Veterans and the local community, and we delivered around 16 meals in the local community to Veterans, and community members who could not make it out to celebrate with us.



### Patriot Pen Winners

6th, Keltee Linkletter, 7th Abram Haynie, 8th Haylee Shepardson

Haylee is overall winner for the Post and will be honored at January COA

### Post Visit to Nursing Home to visit Vets

VFW POST 7865 members presented some veterans at a local nursing home with some patriotic items, in recognition of their service to our country.



### Auxiliary—Veterans and Family Support and Community outreach over last few months

6 hrs driving a veteran to store, 22 hrs driving to and from Togus

4 hrs stacking wood for a veteran

4 hours for funerals

3 hrs assembling carport for a veteran

4 hrs Helping Veteran Move and 4 hrs helping vetran with House Modifications

8 hours Helping Athens Victory Club with Veteran's Day Dinner



# Deceased Roll Call

"May Our Comrades Rest In Eternal Peace In Post Eternity?"

**Frederick Shaeffer Life Member**



**Jack Greenhalge**

## HOMELESS VETERANS MOBILE STAND DOWNS

Connecting homeless & at-risk veterans to:

Housing resources, benefits, healthcare services, employment & training opportunities, personal care items, winter clothing, haircuts, food, & other community resources!

**OCT. 8**  
10 A.M. - 2 P.M.

**TRI COUNTY CAREER CENTER**  
45 OAK STREET, BANGOR

**OCT. 15**  
10 A.M. - 2 P.M.

**VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK**  
2-20 MAIN STREET, LEWISTON

**OCT. 29**  
10 A.M. - 2 P.M.

**HANNAFORD**  
295 FOREST AVENUE, PORTLAND

**NOV. 5**  
10 A.M. - 2 P.M.

**MILL PARK**  
2-32 ME-104, AUGUSTA

Thank you to our participating resources & sponsors:

Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services, VA Maine Healthcare System, VA Maine Homeless Veterans Program, Veterans Benefits Administration, Vet Center, Maine Veterans in Need, Veterans Forward / Fedcap Veterans, Veterans Inc., VFW, Elks Lodge, Maine DOL CareerCenters, Sport Clips, Peble Street, Boothbay VETS Trailers, American Red Cross, Veterans Upward Bound, Health Initiatives of Maine, Massena, Charitable Foundation, Hannaford, Wabanaki Public Health & Wellness, Volunteers of America NNE, Operation Brotherhood, and more!

Maine Bureau of  
Veterans' Services  
207-287-7019  
HVC.MaineSVS@maine.gov



Maine Bureau of  
Veterans' Services

Maine Veterans' Benefits  
and Resource Guide  
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PTSD Information Voice Mail: (802) 296-6300

Email: [ncptsd@va.gov](mailto:ncptsd@va.gov)

Also see: [VA Mental Health](#)

## VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

**Harvell – Bishop - Arnold Trail Post 7865 Officers:  
Elected VFW Officer's for 2024-2025**



Post Commander: Mike Carter - Senior Vice: Joe Conlon

Junior Vice : Dave Foss - Adjutant: Rick Petersen - Quarter Master: Chad Steward

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

Service Officer: Dale Bickford - Trustees: Phil Daigle, Everett Rodgers, David V Trask



**Post Bar Manager: Pam Dicky**

## ***Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary***

**Elected Auxiliary Officer's for 2024-2025**


**Auxiliary Officers:** President: Michelle Steward - Sr. Vice President: Sue LeHay -

Jr. Vice President: Lorie Swift – Conductress: Lisa Switzer – Guard - Diane Pinkham

Chaplain: Karen Lytle - Treasurer: Brenda Flanagan - Patriotic Instructor - Sue LeHay - Secretary Anne

Drawdy-Kucipak - - Trustee # 1 Lorie Swift - Trustee # 2 Lisa Switzer Trustee # 3 Yvonne Brooker



|                        | Mon   | Tue   | Wed                                 | Thu   | Fri                                | Sat   |
|------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|---|
|                        | 1<br>Girl Scout Troop<br>meets at 5:30                        | 2   | 3<br>Cribbage<br>Tournament<br>6-8  | 4<br>Post Meeting<br>7pm<br>House committee<br>meeting 6pm  | 5<br><b>Legion Adult<br/>Party</b> | 6<br><b>Legion Kids<br/>Christmas<br/>Party<br/>1-4</b> |
| 7<br>Hall Rental 12-8  | 8<br>Girl Scout Troop<br>meets at 5:30                        | 9<br>Senior Meals 9:30-12<br>Post Auxiliary<br>Meet 7PM   | 10<br>Cribbage<br>Tournament<br>6-8 | 11<br>Corn Hole<br>7 Pm   | 12                                 | 13<br>Hall Rental                                       |
| 14<br>Hall Rental 12-8 | 15<br>Girl Scout Troop<br>meets at 5:30<br>UBM Meeting<br>6pm | 16<br>Senior Meals 9:30-12<br>Honor Guard<br>7pm  | 17<br>Cribbage<br>Tournament<br>6-8 | 18<br>Corn Hole<br>7 Pm   | 19                                 | 20<br>Post Christmas<br>Yankee Swap                     |
| 21                     | 22<br>Girl Scout<br>Troop<br>meets at 5:30                    | 23<br>Senior Meals<br>9:30-12   | 24<br>Cribbage Tour-<br>nament 6-8  | 25<br>Merry Christmas<br> | 26                                 | 27<br>Birthday Party                                    |
| 28                     | 29<br>Girl Scout Troop<br>meets at 5:30                       | 30<br>Senior Meals 9:30-12<br>Marine Corp<br>League<br>Meeting 6PM  | 31<br>New Years<br>Eve Party<br>3-6 | 1<br>                     | 2                                  | 3   |
| 30                     |   | <b>Notes:</b><br>1. Troop 351 meets Every Monday 5:30-7<br>2. Cribbage Tournament Wednesdays at 6pm<br>3. Cornhole Tournament Thursdays 7-9pm No<br>Tournaments on the 1st Thursday of the month<br>4. Post meeting 1st Thursday of the month<br>5. Aux Meeting 2nd Tuesday of the month<br>6. Marine Corp League Last Thursday at 6 PM<br>7. Honor Guard Practice 3rd Tuesday at 7PM<br>8. UBM 2nd Monday of the month |                                     |   |                                    |   |



## Cribbage Tournament

**Every Wednesday**  
Sign in at 5:30

**Tournament starts at 6PM**



## Corn Hole Tournament

**Every 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month**

Tournament starts at 7PM

~Draft Beer Specials~



## Days to Remember in December and other Services and Events

December 1, 2024 - Civil Air Patrol (USAF Auxiliary) Birthday  
December 7, 2024 - Pearl Harbor Day  
December 13, 2024 - National Guard Birthday  
December 14, 2024- National Wreaths Across America  
December 20, 2024 - Space Force Birthday  
December 28, 2024 - Anniversary of the Army Chaplain Assistant/Religious Affairs Specialist

### Heating Fuel

Disabled Maine Veterans with a valid ID card, a financial need, and an account with RH Foster. To establish an account, please call 947-3835 and tell them you are setting up an account for the MVP heating fuel program. **Who is eligible:** Any veteran in need of assistance with a valid DD214 or ID card.



## Events and Raffles happening at Post and around area



### American Red Cross

#### Blood Drive dates for 2026

Jan 5

Feb 2

**Mar-No drive**

April 6

May 4

June 1

July 6

Aug 3

**Sept 14\***

**- second Monday due to Labor Day holiday**

**Oct-No drive**

Nov 2

Dec 7

**Hours of blood drive: 12pm - 4pm**

#### Events from House in the Woods

### Christmas for the Vets Open House

Sun, 21 Dec, 2025 at 02:00 pm

#### Date & Location

Sun, 21 Dec, 2025 at 02:00 pm to 05:00 pm (EST)

55 W Broadway, Maine 04457

55 W Broadway, Lincoln, ME 04457-1319, United States

#### Christmas for the Vets Open House

\*\* Christmas for the Vets - Open House \*\*

\*\*December 21, 2025\*\*

\*\*2:00-5:00 PM\*\*

\*\*Our Heroes Military Museum\*\*

Join us as we celebrate the holiday season with the veterans in our community. This special open house is dedicated to veterans and their families in appreciation of their service. Enjoy a warm, festive afternoon surrounded by gratitude, camaraderie, and Christmas spirit.

#### \*\*Volunteers & Donations:\*\*

If you'd like to volunteer or make a donation, please contact \*\*Amber Duval at 207-403-3030\*\*.

#### \*\*Veterans Angel Trees:\*\*

Veterans Angel Trees will be located around town. Amber is organizing these trees to support local veterans this Christmas. To donate or to sign up, please call \*\*403-3030\*\*.

You may also like the following events from Our Heroes Military Museum:

- Next Saturday, 13th December, 04:00 pm, Christmas BBQ at the Museum! in Lincoln
- This month, 20th December, 05:00 pm, Honor Our Heroes Benefit Dinner in Lincoln

Raffle Link: <https://hitw.maineonlineraffles.com/>



### American Legion Tardiff-Belanger Post 39 \$100 Meat Package Raffle

#### PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- 5 lbs Hamburger, 2 Ribeye Steaks, 1 Stew Beef
- 1 Chuck Roast, 1 Package Shaved Beef,
- 1 Package Boneless Chops,
- 1 Package Chicken Thighs
- 1 Package Bratwurst Sausage Links

**\$5**

Drawing - December 28th

Tickets can be obtained:

in the Canteen at the VFW Harvell-Bishop Arnold Trail Post 7865 58 Preble Ave in Madison or at Sunday Bingo at Northern Star Masonic lodge#28 173 N Main Street in North Anson.

Come out and watch football with us on Dec 21! This will be our last tailgate party. All food donations goes toward our Kids Christmas presents fund.

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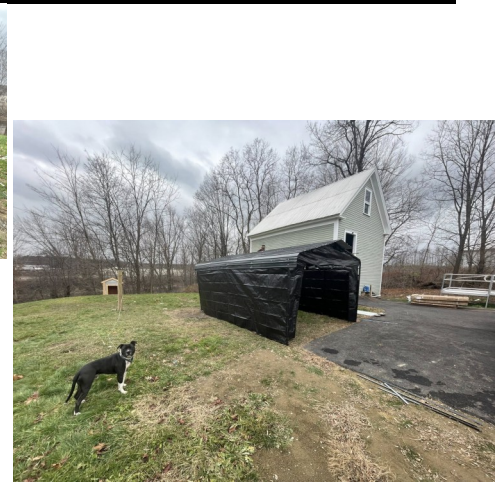
**Community Service Outreach  
Auxiliary President helping Athens  
Victory Club with Veterans Day Meal**



# Helping Veterans

November was a good month for us,  
we were able to help a few Veterans through rides  
to Togus VA.

We were able to recently build a Portable Garage.



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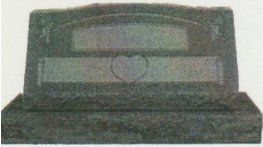
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Volume 27

Dec 2025

CHANGE SERVICE  
REQUESTED

**Post Monthly Meetings: First Thursday @ 7pm**

**Auxiliary Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of each Month @ 7 pm**

**Marine Corps League Meetings: Last Tues of Month 6 pm**

**Post Bar Opened Sunday – Saturday @ 2pm to Close**

**Cribbage Tournament Every Wednesday @ 6 - 8 pm**

**Cornhole Tournament Thursdays @ 7 - 9 pm Except 1st Thursday**

**Guests Welcome**



Never Forgotten



Forever Grateful

Telephone (207) 696-3806

Website: [www.vfwpost7865.com](http://www.vfwpost7865.com) – Email: [vfwpost7865@outlook.com](mailto:vfwpost7865@outlook.com)



**Thank You For Your Support**



Volume 27

Dec 2025