



Veterans of Foreign Wars of The United States

HARVELL-BISHOP ARNOLD TRAIL POST #7865



January 2025

Madison, ME 04950

Telephone (207) 696-3806

POST COMMANDERS REPORT

Greetings Comrades,

Winter is in high gear here!

We have had a busy December at the Post. The Christmas party was a big hit, thanks to everyone that came and helped. Uncle Eddies chili was a big hit. We were also able to give a few local kids a good Christmas. This year we sponsored 28 kids altogether between Madison, Anson and Bingham. A huge thank you to our Auxiliary and our local Girl Scout troop 351 for wrapping all the gifts.

PRE-GAME NEW YEARS EVE party on December 31 at the Post! The doors will open at 2PM, and we will count down to a Champaign toast at 5:59:50 with 6PM being our Pre-game New Years Eve party! Please come out and party with us before your nighttime News Years party.

Construction Updates:

The 2025 Post projects have already begun. On the schedule this year is a remodel of the women's restroom, and new flooring in the Post kitchen. So far, we have been able to complete the flooring in our kitchen, and we are 75% finished with the women's restroom. We have plans for a third project, but have not confirmed it yet, more to come.

Our Gun raffles have starting back up and are going very successful. Our gun raffle money is what funds all our building projects, so THANK YOU to all the people that buy tickets and support 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.

If you haven't already, stop by the Post and check out what we are doing. We have several opportunities to help support Veterans and the great community of Madison each month.

Respectfully,

Mike Carter

Post Commander Madison VFW 7865

Newsletter will now be available at the below website

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

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





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HARVELL-BISHOP ARNOLD TRAIL
POST #7865

58 Preble Avenue

Po Box 67, Madison ME 04950

Dec 2024

Greetings Auxiliary Sisters and Brothers;

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and that your New Year has started off to a good start.

December was a busy month. Shopping for Kids Christmas was completed, this was a joint effort by both Post and Auxiliary. We ended up in total 23 Kids, 14 from Madison and 9 from Anson for the Post and the Auxiliary helped a family of 5 from Bingham, for a total of 28 children. Girl scout members and Auxiliary got together and wrapped all the gifts and Commander Mike distributed these back to the town offices for delivery and the Auxiliary members distributed the ones from Bingham. Was so much fun to buy and wrap these gifts for families in need and I think the children will be so pleased with their gifts, they all got pretty much everything on their lists plus a little extra.

Members donated Diaper's and wipes for National President Brenda Blair's project Operation Bottom Cover. I worked with Pam Manter from the Jay post, she is also the Chairperson for Department of Maine Veterans and Family Services, to get these distributed. Was so great for us to participate in this great project and these items will be distributed to Maine service members in need. Thank you all for donating.

Membership due's collected for 24-25 year as of 12/19/2024, is at 94.73% paid. Hoping we have 100% by December 31st. By the time you get this it will be after 12/31/2024, so if you have not paid yet, please consider paying as soon as you can, you may also consider going Lifetime as well. Also, please think of us when going thru your loose change and consider donating to Our Pennies for Cancer collection. All monies collected go directly to Jackson Laboratory here in Maine for Cancer research. Every little bit helps.

December meeting was canceled due to icy weather so hope to see you on January 7th. COA will be held on January 18th at the Waterville Post and the Banquet to follow will be at the Winslow Post. They will be honoring the Voice of Democracy, the Patriot Pen and the Teacher of the Year winners at the Banquet. Patriots Pen Post winners are: Adalyn Linkletter, 7th Grade from Athens. The Voice of Democracy winner Emma Anton 10th grade Athens/Madison. Teacher of the Year: Lee Harper, Madison High school. Overall District winners are: Patriots Pen: Adalyn Linkletter, 7th Grade from Athens, and Voice of Democracy: Bryn Clauson, From Jackman. Congratulations to all the winners. Nice to see some young people participating in these great scholarships.

Post is no longer running the Texas Holdum tournaments on Sundays. This will stop as of January 1st. They will be hosting the Cribbage Tournaments on Wednesdays and the Bulldog Baggerz will be hosting Corn Hole tournaments on every Thursday except the 1st Thursday of each month, so if you are interested in participating, come on down to the post and sign up. Hope you have a great start of the new year and I will see you soon.

Sincerely yours,

Michelle Steward

**Our Next Regular Monthly Auxiliary Meeting is Tues.
January 7th, 7pm, at the Post!**

Goings on at the VFW

- Christmas party at the Post, members and Auxiliary members were welcome to attend. Pot Luck and a Yankee swap was done. Good time by those who attened



- New Years EVE: 2nd annual Pre-game New Years Eve party. Doors will open at 2 pm. We will count down to 5:59:50 pm, with 6 pm being our Pre-Game New Years Eve Party. We had a ball last year, so please come and join us.

Patriot Pen, Voice of Democracy and Teacher of the Year awards

Please join us in Congratulating the winners

Post winners

District winners

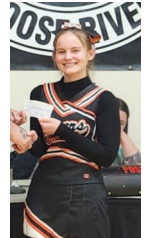
Patriot Pen: Adalyn Linkletter



Patriot Pen Adalyn Linkletter



Voice of Democracy Bryn Clauson



Voice of Democracy: Emma Anton



Teacher of the Year: Lee Harper from Madison High School



Operation Bottom Cover—Post 7865 Auxiliary's Donation to National Presidents Special Project



NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT

OPERATION BOTTOM COVER

Natl President Brenda Bryant's 2024-25 Special Project



We have discovered there is a need for diapers for the babies of our military and our veterans. So, we are partnering with Operation Showers of Appreciation.

They distribute diapers all over the world to active-duty military and veteran families. They have been in business for more than 15 years.

Did you know that in Japan it costs twice as much for active-duty service members to purchase diapers then it does in the states?





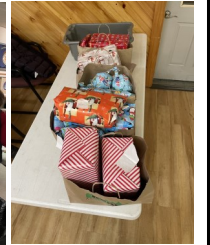
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Outreach Programs Approved for December:

- Members of Auxiliary helped the Kennebec County Quilters to pass out Gloves, Hats and Rice bag hand warmers during the Madison/Anson Christmas parade.
- Member participated and helped Stuff stockings with goodies for Athens Victory Club that were delivered to older folks in town who do get out as much, also to 20 residents of Tissue's Boarding home in Athens.



Children's Christmas



Cribbage Tournament

Every Wednesday
Sign in at 5:30

Tournament starts at 6PM



Corn Hole Tournament

Every 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Thursdays of the month

Tournament starts at 7PM

~Draft Beer Specials~



Jackie Pollis - Auxiliary Lifetime member - She will be sadly missed



None

New Monument



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

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



Post Commander: Mike Carter - Senior Vice: Lee Raymond

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

Judge Advocate: Bill Lytle - Surgeon: Everett Rodgers - Chaplain: Gary Kucipak

Service Officer: Dale Bickford - Trustees: Phil Daigle, John Greenhalge, David V Trask

Post Bar Manager: Jessica Carter



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: Anne Drawdy – Guard - Diane Pinkham

Chaplain: Linda Jo Andrews - Treasurer: Brenda Flanagan - Patriotic Instructor - Sue LeHay - Secretary

Eleanor LeBlanc- Trustee # 1 Yvonne Brooker - Trustee # 2 Lorie Swift - Trustee # 3 Lisa Switzer



January 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		31 New Years Eve Party 6pm Count down starts at 3pm	1 Cribbage Tournament 6-8 New Years Day	2 Bar Committee Meeting 6 pm Post Meeting 7pm	3	4
5	6 Girl Scout Troop meets at 5:30	7 Auxiliary Meeting 7 PM	8 Cribbage Tournament 6-8	9 7pm Corn hole Tournament	10	11
12	13 Girl Scout Troop meets at 5:30	14	15 Cribbage Tournament 6-8	16 Marine Corps Meeting 6 pm 7pm Corn hole Tournament	17 6 PM State Color Guard Training	18 COA 1pm Waterville Banquet 7pm Winslow
19	20 Girl Scout Troop meets at 5:30	21 6:00 Bar Committee Meeting 7 pm Honor	22 Cribbage Tournament 6-8	23 7pm Corn hole Tournament	24	25
26	27 Girl Scout Troop meets at 5:30	28	29 Cribbage Tournament 6-8	30 7pm Corn hole Tournament	31	

- ⇒ Don't forget to get your Dues in for 2025 or buy your life membership. Both the VFW and Auxiliary welcome new members—If you know someone who might be eligible to join, bring them in to meet our members and to find out what benefits they can enjoy along with helping other veterans at the same time. We would like to welcome you to our family.
- ⇒ Auxiliary continues to collect Care and comfort items in the Bar, please consider donating, this is such a worthy cause and the veterans at Togus really appreciate it.

Council of Administration meeting will be January 18th 2025

1pm at Waterville Post 1285

Banquet will be hosted by the Winslow Post 8835

We will be honoring our Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen and Teach of the Year winners at the Banquet.



Thank You
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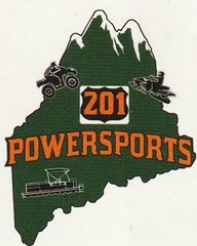
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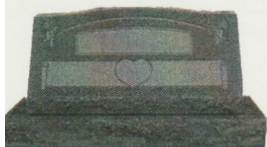
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VETERANS of FOREIGN WARS
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Volume 16

Jan 2025

CHANGE SERVICE
REQUESTED

Post Monthly Meetings: First Thursday @ 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
Cribbage Tournament Every Wednesday @ 6 - 8 pm
Cornhole Tournament Thursdays @ 7 - 9 pm Except 1st Thursday

Guests Welcome



Never Forgotten



Forever Grateful

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Volume 16

Jan 2025