



Veterans of Foreign Wars of The United States

HARVELL-BISHOP ARNOLD TRAIL POST #7865



July, 2024

Madison, ME 04950

Telephone (207) 696-3806

POST COMMANDERS REPORT

Greetings Comrades,

I want to start off by saying welcome to the new 2024-2025 Post Officers. My name is Mike Carter, and I am the new Post Commander for 7865. I have been a Post member and Madison resident for the past seven years. My positions so far have been Trustee and Senior Vice Commander. I have some big shoes to fill with Past Commander Padula stepping down, but it's a challenge I welcome.

We hope everyone is having a good summer and staying as cool as you can. June was another busy month for us. We have completed installing the new digital sign. This new sign will greatly assist us with getting veteran information out and keeping everyone updated with events. The new vinyl siding is currently being installed and should be finished by the end of June. I encourage everyone to stop by and check out the new look of the Post.

Our Post Honor Guard is in full swing. We have had the privilege to Honor four Veterans so far this year. Our members practice year around and try to give the absolute best send off we can for our fallen comrades. We are always looking for volunteers for the main body and backups. We practice every third Tuesday of the month.

Texas Holdem poker game is still going strong, with players reaching 40+ consistently. The Post kitchen is open on poker days as well, stop by and get a good meal (dine in or take out) even if you don't play poker.

We are starting to go to the local nursing homes to visit the Veterans monthly now. We will have the date of the visits on the newsletter calendar and will post it on our Facebook page as well. If anyone would like to go with us, the Veterans really appreciate us stopping by and shooting the breeze with them. Any donations for blankets, walking sticks, and items to help keep warm are always appreciated.

Congratulations to our own Quartermaster Chad Steward for winning the "Recruiter of the Year" for the State!

Respectfully,

Mike Carter

Post Commander Madison VFW 7865

News letter 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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UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

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POST #7865

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July 2024

Greetings Auxiliary Sisters and Brothers;

As some of you may know Eula has stepped down as your Auxiliary President and I was voted in to take her place. It is a great honor to start this chapter in my life as your new Auxiliary President. Thank you Eula for all you have done and I hope I can fill your shoes. My father was a Korean War veteran and the VFW was a big part of my life as a child. I joined the Auxiliary a few years ago to help support my husband and other veterans like him. I am still learning the ins and outs of being President, so please bear with me as I work thru all my new responsibilities. Please let me know and I will do my best to answer any questions or concerns you might have.

FYI, we will not be having an Auxiliary meeting in July, first meeting of the New Fiscal Year will be Tuesday August 6th at 7 pm at the Post. I hope to see you there and hope to see some of our new and old members attend.

This Past weekend, June 22nd, new VFW Commander Mike Carter, Quartermaster Chad Steward, Trustee Yvonne Brooker (*one of her many hats*) and I attended the State convention in Bangor. It was a very good ceremony and a great way to see what all the other VFW's and Auxiliaries are doing around the state. We did receive the following awards: Certificate of Appreciation for Mentoring for Leadership +\$20, Good Job Award, Certificate of Appreciation for Extension and revitalization and a Certificate of Appreciation for submitting membership reports. Great job everyone. As always, please let me know of anything you do as an auxiliary member to help veterans or your community so that you and the Auxiliary can get credit. Reporting hours spent and mileage to Department helps us keep our charter and shows how much our Auxiliary cares. Congratulations to New Department VFW Commander Anthony Kimble and Auxiliary President Lonwood Keller.

The Auxiliary is beginning to plan our Annual Car Show fundraiser. Rob and Carol Shibley have again agreed to host our event on Saturday September 21st. Hopefully, there will be more information posted by the time you see this newsletter, on our Car show page as we meet Monday June 24th. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Sue LeHay, Yvonne Brooker or myself. This is a great event and one of our major fundraisers of the year.

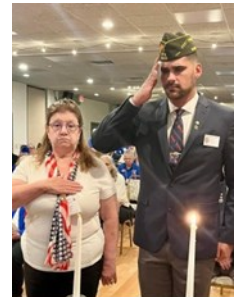
Hope you all had a great time at the VFW's Meet and Greet BBQ on June 30th. This newsletter will probably come after this event, so I hope you had a great time.

Don't forget that the Auxiliary helps support the VFW's Texas Holdem on the 3rd Sunday of the month by providing a meal to participants. Post also provides a meal on the 1st Sunday of the month. You don't need to be a participant to come on down and have a meal. Come join us.

I will be attending the National convention in Kentucky at the end of July with Post Quartermaster and hope I have some great information to bring back and share with you at our August meeting. Hope to see you there.

Take care and have a great July

Sincerely yours,
Michelle Steward



**Our Next Regular Monthly Auxiliary Meeting is Tues.
August 6th, 7pm, at the Post! Enjoy your summer**

Goings on at the VFW.....

- ◆ New Pool table Cover
- ◆ Commander Lou working hard
- ◆ New Siding going up
- ◆ New sign being installed
- ◆ New sign completed
- ◆ New flooring in Kitchen and bathrooms is planned for later this summer.....



Other VFW Post News:

1. **Committee Meetings** will be held twice a month at 6 pm, first one prior to Post monthly meeting and second one prior to Honor guard meeting.
2. Next Red Cross Blood drive Aug 6th 11-4, please consider donating if you could.
3. Need a smoke detector, [visit redcross.org/EndHomeFiresNNE](http://visit.redcross.org/EndHomeFiresNNE) or call 1-800-464-6692 (option 4) Red cross will install for Free and provide free home safety checks.
4. Senior Meals will be starting back up every Tuesday at 9 am for games and 11 for lunch
5. Wild Women Benefit will be held here at the Post July 14th from 11-4. Come on down and support there cause.



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Car show Update, we heard your feedback last year.....

New Categories & Voting by YOU!

We are looking for Sponsors and Vendors

Contact Sue Leahy 207-634-2425, Yvonne Brooker 207-399-6118 or Michelle Steward 207-431-1132

Other Auxiliary news:

Past president Eula DeRocle received a Life Membership to National Home and a 100th Commemorative pin at her last meeting as President.



3rd Annual VFW Auxiliary Car Show Saturday Sept 21, from 10-3

Location: Bob's Cash Fuel

424 Main Street, Madison ME 04950

Car Registration from 8 to 10

Trophy Categories:

**Classic - Modern 1990 + - Muscle - Modified - Jeep - Truck
People's Overall Choice**

Vehicle Registration at gate \$ **10.00**

Judging by Participants and Spectators

Trophies awarded at 2 pm

Admission \$5 Adult – Children 17 and under are free

Various Food, Fun and Great Prizes

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



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 [988](tel:988) and select 1.

Text: [838255](tel:838255).

Start a confidential chat.

www.veteranscrisisline.net/get-help-now/chat/

If you have hearing loss, call TTY: [800-799-4889](tel:800-799-4889).

You can also take these actions:

Call [911](tel:911).

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

For assistance With Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Exemption, please contact MBVS @ 207-287-7020 or email at: mainebvs@maine.gov

Exemption of Excise Tax for 100% Disabled Veterans



DID YOU KNOW?

100% disabled veterans qualify for an excise tax exemption for vehicles registered in their name.

Veterans meeting the criteria for a disabled veteran plate **do not have to be issued the disabled veteran plate to qualify for the excise tax exemption.**

If the veteran chooses another class of plate, they must pay the registration fee.



Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services

Veterans' Emergency Financial Assistance Program (VEFAP)

The Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services have created VEFAP for veterans who suffer an emergency and do not have sufficient savings or access to other financial assistance to resolve it. Examples of grant assistance (up to a \$2,000) for veterans who are Maine residents include - To prevent or resolve the veteran from being homeless; vehicle repair to maintain employment; illness of the veteran or family member that results in hardship; damage to the veterans home due to fire, flood, or hurricane that is not covered by insurance, up to \$500 for a dental emergency (suffering pain and/or infection), and any other condition that puts the veteran at risk of not having the basic necessities of food, shelter, or safety. For more information, or to request financial assistance, please contact one of our vendors below:

• Fedcap – Veterans Forward

844-653-0316

<http://www.maineveteransforward.org/>

VEFAP application: <http://maineveteransforward.org/financial-assistance/>



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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 Overview

Veterans Headstones

Veterans Burial Flags



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

Harvell – Bishop - Arnold Trail Post 7865 Officers: Newly 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

Newly 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

July 2024

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Senior Meals Every Tuesday Games @9 am Lunch 11am	1	2	3		Honor Guard Service	6
7 Texas Hold'em 1200	8	9 NO Auxiliary Meeting VFW-Legion Officer Meeting 7 pm	10	11 Kennebec Valley Quilters 5:30 Pm Committee Meeting 6 pm Post Meeting 7 pm	12	13 Hall Rented 11-2
14 Wild Women Benefit 11-4	15	16 Committee Meeting 6 pm Honor Guard Training 7 pm	17	18 Honor Guard Service Marine Corps Meeting 6 pm	19	20 Honor Guard Service Hall Rented
21 Texas Hold'em 1200	22	23	24	25	26 VFW National Convention starts in Louisville KY July 26th thru Aug 2nd	27 Monthly Nursing Home Visit
28	29	30	31			

- ⇒ July starts the VFW & Auxiliaries new fiscal year—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.
- ⇒ Post is also looking for donations to bring to the veterans at the nursing home: blankets, walking canes, or whatever else you might want to donate that you think a veteran might appreciate. All members welcome to join us at our visits.

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 Mandallas Brockstedt & Federico (410.421.7777)

Important Numbers

Readjustment Counseling Service Combat Call Center:
1-877-927-8387

Veterans Crisis Line:
Dial 988 then Press 1

Homeless Veterans:
1-877-424-3838

Maine Military Members and Families Assistance Hotline:
1-888-365-9287

MyVA411:
1-800-MyVA411 / 1-800-698-2411

White House Veteran Complaint Line:
1-855-MyVA311 / 1-855-948-2311

Women Veterans Call Center:
1-855-829-6636

Non-VA Emergency Care Information
1-207-623-5390
1-207-623-8411 ext. 5523 (after-hours)

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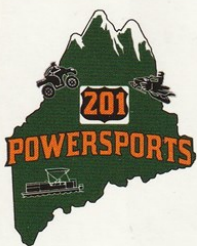
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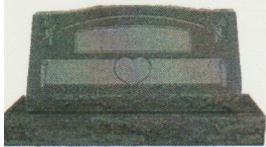
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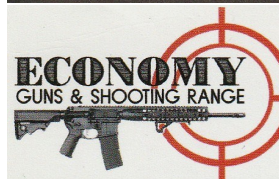
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CHANGE SERVICE
REQUESTED

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
Texas Holdem 1st & 3rd Sunday – Lunch & Buy In Start @ Noon

Guests Welcome



Never Forgotten



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