



*Reverend Joseph
Lamarre Memorial
Post 2197
Topsham, Maine*

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

Post Trumpeter

December 2024 - Pg #1

Volume VIII, Issue #6

Member Participation

A few thoughts from your Post Commander: I joined Post 2197 in 1993. At that time, there was less than \$100 in our accounts & we averaged 6 people to a meeting. Those of us attending decided that Post 2197 should survive. We focused on communicating to members what the post was doing & started doing suppers at the American Legion to fund raise. Today, we have a post that has been recognized as the top post in Maine for community support for the past 2 years. We have also achieved 100% or better membership for 12 years in a row. Our November membership meeting had 21 members attend. I know & respect that everybody's ability to contribute is different. If you can't be active, membership numbers are still important in Washington. I do ask you to consider attending a meeting if you can, they aren't painful. We usually keep them to 1 hour. In comradeship, Roger Stevens, Commander.

We do make a difference!

Friday Dinners

We moved our dinners to December in hopes the Legion Hall would be open downstairs.

It's going to be close, but they are making progress. Anyway, we will be there.

Dec 6th: Lobster Roll or Pulled Pork sandwich

13th: Fried Haddock or Steak

20th: Baked Scallops or Steak

27th: Spaghetti with red or white sauce



Volume VIII, Issue #6

Post Activities



Trunk or Treat



At the Rock

Your post has been busy since the last newsletter. We participated in a Community Service Day at Tractor Supply. At Halloween, we participated in Topsham's Trunk or Treat event handing out candy, coloring books, & crayons to the kids, as well as Child Emergency ID Kits to parents. We attended the Maine Paws for Veterans graduation ceremony to respect fellow veterans re-engaging to society. On Veterans Day, Judge Advocate Frank Slinger did a presentation at the Memorial Rock, at Brunswick High School. He provided a history of two students killed in Vietnam. We also placed a wreath at the rock. Members then proceeded to the Brunswick Veterans Plaza & placed a wreath there

Salvation Army

Post members will be doing a "Day of Service" on Saturday, Dec 14th bell ringing for the Salvation Army, at Market Basket. We will be filling out our roster to man at our meeting on the 12th. Let us know if you can spend a couple of hours, or stop by & make a donation. There is a lot of need in our area.

Volume VIII, Issue #6

Membership



Membership is at 93% with 7 members needed to reach 100%. We have 14 members whose dues come up between now & June so we should be in good shape for making our 12th year in a row of hitting 100% or better, Since our last newsletter we are pleased to welcome new members Dexter Honnors, Armand Marcouillier, Gary Ouelette, & Bruce Soule. You all know eligible veter-ans, one member each & we help make a difference in Washington.

Veteran Appreciation Day



We will be assisting the Bowdoin College Hockey Team again this year as they put on their 2nd annual Veteran Appreciation Day. It will be on Saturday, January 25th @ 3pm against Williams College. We will have a table there along with several other veteran support groups. We're planning to have a ceremonial puck drop by our Post Chaplain Archie Pelley. There will be a "chuck a puck" fund raiser, with proceeds going to the Maine Paws for Veterans service dog program headquartered here in Brunswick. Last year over \$1200 was raised for Maine Paws. Admission is free. Bring the whole family, college hockey is a truly exciting sport to watch. Bowdoin's Watson Arena is one of the finest college hockey arenas in the country. It's comfortable, relatively warm, there are no bad seats, & it's just small enough that everyone is close to the action. Don't miss it!

Volume VIII, Issue #6

Safety & Wellbeing

It's time for our annual reminder to be aware of slippery conditions when walking or driving. Black ice can be virtually invisible, & can occur when the thermometer says it's above freezing. Just because the air temperature is above 32^o, doesn't mean the ground temperature is. Obviously, fresh snow can cover ice. When driving, turn your front wheels slightly to see if they grip. Tap your brakes to see if the car slides. Many of us have 4 wheel or all wheel drive. These vehicles do great in a straight line, but can be worse in a turn. That's because if the front wheels are under power, they won't grip as they turn. When it comes to braking, all vehicles are the same no matter how many wheels are driving. For walking, take slow deliberate steps & firmly plant your front foot before taking the next step. If you do slip, & fall backwards, try to remember to tuck your chin to your chest to help prevent a potentially serious concussion. One last thing, remember that wet leaves can be very slippery to.



Post Giving

During October & November our members volunteering at V. E. T. S. Inc. have put in 1732hrs & logged 3872mi building & transporting mobile homeless shelters. Other members have volunteered 170hrs at local community programs. For our fellow veterans, we donated \$500 for veterans at Togus, \$200 to Maine Paws for Veterans service dog program, \$200 to help a local veteran with financial problems, & purchased 12 pillows for the Vets Inc Rehab facility in Lewiston. Locally we donated \$1000 to Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program, & \$500 to Tedford Housing,