



Connecticut

District 3 Newsletter #5

April 2022

Welcome to the next edition of the District 3 newsletter with a reminder about our next District meeting, **Saturday, April 9 at 10:00am at VFW Post 9544, 972 Sheldon St., West Suffield. Come early at 9:30am for coffee.**

As many of you know, I am a veteran of Desert Storm in 1991. Since 2014 there have been plans to build a National Desert Storm War Memorial in Washington, DC. The most recent news about this project is that “the State of Kuwait will be the lead financial donor for the construction of the National Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial.” This news reminds us all of the tremendous effort by dozens of nations, under the direction of the United States, to free Kuwait from the aggression of Saddam Hussein. That collective effort should never be forgotten. And their very generous donation to build the memorial is testament to those of us who served.

Lee Wilson, District 3 Commander – 860-798-3562 cmd@vfwctdist3.org

GENERAL NEWS:

- April 24 – State VOD/PP Awards Lunch in Rocky Hill starting promptly at 12:45pm at Rocky Hill Sheraton Hotel.
- May 4 – Inaugural of the national VFW’s **Day of Service** to promote and showcase the volunteer and community service efforts of all VFW members around the world.
- May 14 – District 3 convention – Joint memorial with Auxiliary, elections and installation of officers held at Rocky Hill Post beginning at 10:00am.
- June 10-12 – State Convention – Saturday, June 11 Awards Breakfast at 8:30am and Convention Banquet that night at 7:00pm at Rocky Hill Sheraton Hotel.
- PLEASE work on bringing back your expired and unpaid members! And don’t forget to purchase your Buddy Poppies this year! Let’s make District 3 a model for all others!
- Post Commanders and Post Quartermasters are reminded to send AUDITS and PROGRAM REPORTS in a timely manner.

Below are two reports.
 The first is the District and Post Program Report.
 The second is the All-American Dashboard as of 4-3-2022.
 Use these to refer to how your Post is doing in the District.
 Please let me know if you have any questions.

DISTRICT 3 AND POSTS
 COMMUNITY ACTIVITY/ADMINISTRATION/AUDIT REPORT

PRINT DATE: 4/3/2022 11

NEEDED FOR ALL-	YES	YES		YES		YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NEEDED FOR ALL-STATE			
	***** SEE DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM FOR SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL-STATE *****																						
	COMMUNITY ACTIVITY													ADMINISTRATION			AUDITS			NEEDED FOR ALL-STATE			
DISTRICT AND POSTS	VOICE OF DEMOCRACY	PATRIOTS PEN	SCOUT OF THE YEAR	OTHER YOUTH ACTIVITIES	TEACHER OF THE YEAR	CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION	SAFETY	BUDDY POPPY	HOSPITAL / NURSING HOME	AMERICANISM	COMMANDER'S SPECIAL PROJECT	OTHER COMMUNITY SERVICE And VMS	POPPY PURCHASED	BOND	CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY	DISTRICT MEETING ATTENDANCE	INSPECTION REPORT	JUNE AUDIT	SEPTEMBER AUDIT	DECEMBER AUDIT	MARCH AUDIT	CATEGORIES COMPLETED	% OF CATEGORIES COMPLETED
D3																							
254				1			1						1	1	1							4	20%
511	1	1	1	2	2	5		1		7	1	12		1								14	70%
574				1			1		4	2		3		1								9	45%
938				2						1		5	1	1								8	40%
1009	1	1												1								3	15%
1926	2	2	7	5	1	3	2	4	2	14	1	10	1	1	1							18	90%
2046	1	1		1		1				6		47		1								10	50%
2083	1	1		1		8	2	2	8	7	1	31	1	1								15	75%
2138													1	1								3	15%
3272	1	1		1	1	7			7	5	1	5	1	1								14	70%
4740				2						3		2		1	1							8	40%
6123	1	1		3	1	1	4		1	11		7	1	1								12	60%
8776														1								4	20%
9544	1	1		2		2	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	1							15	75%
9929														1								4	20%
9990														1								4	20%
10589														1								2	10%
10689														1								4	20%
10732														1								3	15%
GRAND	9	9	8	21	5	27	11	8	24	58	5	125	8	20	3	0	0	19	16	14	0		
UNITS ACTIV	8	8	2	11	4	7	6	4	6	10	5	11	8	20	3	0	0	19	16	14	0		
% ACTIV	30%	30%	7%	41%	15%	26%	###	15%	22%	37%	19%	41%	30%	74%	11%	0%	0%	70%	59%	52%	0%		

Please check the Back of The Form

All American 2021-2022 Eligible Dashboard Report

Department	District	Post	Veterans & Military Support Donation	Voice of Democracy	Patriot's Pen	Teacher Award	Membership	National Legislative Service	National Veterans Services	Social Media	Partnering Events	Action Corps Program	Community Service
Connecticut	3	254	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	N/A	Unmet	N/A	N/A	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Ineligible
Connecticut	3	511	Met	Unmet	Unmet	N/A	Unmet	N/A	N/A	Met	Unmet	Met	Met
Connecticut	3	574	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	N/A	Unmet	N/A	N/A	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Ineligible
Connecticut	3	938	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	N/A	Unmet	N/A	N/A	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Ineligible
Connecticut	3	1009	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	N/A	Unmet	N/A	N/A	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
Connecticut	3	1926	Met	Unmet	Unmet	N/A	Met	N/A	N/A	Met	Met	Met	Met
Connecticut	3	2046	Met	Unmet	Unmet	N/A	Unmet	N/A	N/A	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
Connecticut	3	2083	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	N/A	Unmet	N/A	N/A	Met	Met	Met	Met
Connecticut	3	2138	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	N/A	Unmet	N/A	N/A	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
Connecticut	3	3272	Met	Unmet	Unmet	N/A	Unmet	N/A	N/A	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
Connecticut	3	4740	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	N/A	Unmet	N/A	N/A	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Ineligible
Connecticut	3	6123	Met	Unmet	Unmet	N/A	Unmet	N/A	N/A	Met	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
Connecticut	3	8776	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	N/A	Unmet	N/A	N/A	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
Connecticut	3	9544	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	N/A	Met	N/A	N/A	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Ineligible
Connecticut	3	9990	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	N/A	Unmet	N/A	N/A	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
Connecticut	3	10589	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	N/A	Unmet	N/A	N/A	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
Connecticut	3	10689	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	N/A	Unmet	N/A	N/A	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
Connecticut	3	10732	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	N/A	Unmet	N/A	N/A	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet

- REMINDER: Post Commander Frank Forrest of Rochambeau-Elms Post 2083, East Hartford, announces that SOS Connecticut (Support our Soldiers-Connecticut) will continue to send care packages to men and women who serve around the world. They do this FIVE times a year. They are asking for donations toward the postage they have to purchase to send over 100 packages abroad each time. Please help by sending a generous donation to: SOS Connecticut, 165 Maple Street, East Hartford, CT 06118. You will receive acknowledgement of your donation. Thanks.
- VFW Auxiliary National President Jean Hamil will be in Connecticut April 7-9 on a New England tour. After a visit to Rhode Island, CT officers will escort her on Thursday, April 7 on a drive through the state. First stop will be a wine tasting at Brignole Vineyards in East Granby at 3pm (\$16pp) then dinner at 6:00pm (dutch treat) at Skyline Restaurant in Windsor Locks for a Meet & Greet for all auxiliary members. On Friday she will tour the New England Air Museum at Bradley Airport at 11:30am (\$16pp). That evening she will be the guest of honor at an open meeting and dinner at Smalley Brothers Windsor Locks Post 6123. Cost is \$20pp and open to all VFW and Auxiliary members. RSVP soon to Deb Breault 860-803-3481 or debbro@cox.net

- On March 5th, members of the CT VFW traveled to Massachusetts for a Meet & Greet with Commander-in-Chief Matthew “Fritz” Mihelcic. This event was open to New England and New York State.



Meeting with the Chief are L-R: MA State Commander Doug Wood; NY State Commander Mike Hoag, CT 4th Dist. Commander Tony Rendon, CT 3rd Dist. Commander Lee Wilson; Chief Mihelcic; CT State Commander Dominick Cortese; CT Jr. Vice Commander Ken Tracy, and Past CT State Commander Stan Borusiewicz.



On April 2, Lee Wilson, District 3 Commander; Sherry Wozniak, National Veterans & Military Service Chairman from CT and Dominik Cortese, State Commander participated in the 103 Airlift Wing Pre & Post Deployment Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program at the Sheraton Hotel at Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks.

POST NEWS:

Post 9544, Suffield, submitted by Commander Bill Moryto

Commander Moryto is pleased to host the upcoming District 3 meeting on April 9th. He encourages all Post members to attend and bring their membership cards with them! Also the next monthly Post meeting is Tuesday, April 19 when nominations will be made for Post officers for the election in May.

Post 3272, Avon, submitted by Commander Bob Nardiello

The Post will have its annual six-day Buddy Poppy Drive in May over the course of two weekends just before Memorial Day.

The Post has been actively working identifying more names to add to the Veterans Memorial on the Avon Town Green. This project started many years ago and stones are in place for engraving. The Post recently ran several ads in the local print and social media and have 83 names to add, hopefully, by Memorial Day.

After a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic, the Post will continue their traditional Memorial Day activities – early morning visits to five cemeteries to lay a wreath, have the annual parade in the town center and ceremony on the town green followed by a picnic.

Post 254, Hartford, submitted by Commander Edward Mullarkey

This winter the Post made very generous donations to the following organizations in recognition for what they do for inner city residents and the homeless:

- Boys & Girls Club of Hartford
- Hartford Police Athletic League
- House of Bread

Post 6123, Windsor Locks Auxiliary, submitted by President Cheryl Costello-Pelkey

The Auxiliary made and distributed 30 homemade Valentines for Veterans with a Buddy Poppy to veteran residents of Stonebrook Retirement Community.

Our first Chili Cook Off was a success! We had 13 crockpots entered in the contest and about 45 people attended the event. The judges were Post Commander Dave McKemie, 3rd District President Candy Shepard and friend to our post, Phil Garrity. All winners received a wooden spoon. They winners were:

- First Place: Ann Marie Falso who was awarded \$25
- Honorable Mention: Shannon Pease
- Spicy Chili: Aaron Dallaire

Post 2083, East Hartford, submitted by Jr. Vice Commander Tim Gleason

On March 20th the Post presented a plaque to Jersey Mike's Subs in Glastonbury. This plaque is awarded in recognition of their support for all Veterans, and especially for their support of our Post. Jersey Mike's permits our Post to set up a table inside the store in order to conduct poppy drives. These drives afford us a way to raise funds for the support of Veterans in need--all proceeds from these drives go to our Veterans Relief Fund. In addition, Jersey Mike's discount to Veterans is probably the best in the fast food industry. General Manager Lien Corley said the plaque will be displayed by next week in a prominent location at the store.

On March 15th, Senior Citizen-Soldiers met at the East Hartford Senior Center for free coffee, pastries and conversation. Representing the Post were Chaplain Dan Lareau, who organized the event, Commander Frank Forrest, Quartermaster Rich Bates and Jr. Vice Commander Timothy Gleason. Representatives of the East Hartford Veteran's Commission also attended. The Coffee hour will be held on the third Tuesday of each month, from 10 to 11 AM. All Senior Citizen Veterans, 55 and over, are welcome.

On February 5th and 12th the Post took part in the Hartford Harley-Davidson Pancake Breakfast and Raffle event by having members with a table for the public to learn more about the VFW. Post members, district and state officers attended the Feb. 12 event as seen below. The raffle is promoted through VFW National which is holding these events at various Harley-Davidson's to win an autographed guitar from Jesse James Dupree, an American musician, television personality and businessman.



VFW members who attended the Harley-Davidson events in February

Post 1926, Simsbury, submitted by Commander Lee Wilson

In preparation for Memorial Day, the Post will be joining the Simsbury American Legion Post 84 in placing flags on veteran's graves in two cemeteries in early May. In addition, the Post will hold a three-day Buddy Poppy Drive outside Fitzgerald's Food Store in the center of town. There will be a return of the two Memorial Day parades – the Tariffville parade and cemetery ceremony in the morning followed by a Simsbury parade and veteran memorial ceremony in the afternoon.

The Post is hoping to complete the flag retirement platform at the Weatogue Fire Station and have it's first ceremony this summer. Flag collection boxes have been built and are in various town buildings for use by the public.

The Post is submitting one Scout of the Year nomination for Kate A. Hollister of Troop 1175. She is a senior at Granby Memorial High School. She is the first and only female to earn an Eagle Scout in Troop 1175.

Post 574, Plainville, submitted by Commander Dave Dudek

The commander of Post 574 is the Chairman of the Plainville Memorial Day Parade Association. The Post will participate in the parade. Members of the Post, along with Plainville Police, will also be firing a 21-gun salute during the Memorial Day ceremony with the playing of Taps after that. Post 574 will also hold a service at each cemetery prior to the parade. Cemetery ceremonies will begin on Monday, May 30, at 6:30 am at Post 574. The parade steps off at 9:00am. The Post will hold a Buddy Poppy Drive on Memorial Day during the Open House that begins at Noon.

The Post replaced all old heating and air conditioning units. We also had an energy audit, and as a result, upgraded all our lighting to LED. The Post donates their hall for use by the Plainville Rotary monthly meetings. They also donated the hall twice over the winter for memorial services for deceased individuals. And we donate the hall for the Cancer Society's 2022 Kick Off Dinner.

FINAL REMINDER

The District 3 Convention, Election and Installation will be held on Saturday, May 14 beginning at 10:00am – Blue and Gray dress required. It will be held at Post 2138 Rocky Hill. If you are interested in running for a District Officer or Chairman position, please email or call Lee as soon as possible. There will be a joint installation of the District Auxiliary and the District Officers that same day. We expect to have a joint memorial service for deceased members as well. Members of all Post and Auxiliaries are encouraged to attend.