



Connecticut

## District 3 Newsletter #3

November 2023

Happy Veterans Day! I hope you are able to participate in your local events and be humbled to be honored in such a way. Every year it is amazing how much we are recognized for our service and hear stories about service from others. We are a unique group of people and I know you appreciate that as much as I do.

The next District 3 meeting will be next Saturday, November 18 at Landry-Sic post 9544, 972 Sheldon St., West Suffield. Coffee at 9:30am. If you saw the recent email, the Auxiliary is asking that everyone bring any non-perishable food or sundry item you can for the local food pantry. Of course, there is need year-round, but this is the time of year we try to remember those less fortunate. So please be generous. If you would like to make a monetary donation by check, please bring your check to the meeting and Post Commander Moryto will tell you who to make it out to for donation.

Thank you to the VERY FEW who sent in VOD/PP essays. To be honest, this is the least amount this District has ever received; a total of 5 were submitted.

Lee Wilson, District 3 Commander – 860-798-3562 [cmd@vfwctdist3.org](mailto:cmd@vfwctdist3.org)

### GENERAL NEWS:

- PLEASE work on bringing back your expired and unpaid members. There are many ideas on how to do this in any of the VFW Magazines or check in with any of the officers of District 3 who are happy to help.
- **Post Commanders and Quartermasters are reminded to send AUDITS & PROGRAM REPORTS on time.**
- You are invited to attend the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen Awards Dinner, Sunday, January 14 beginning at 12:45pm, Rocky Hill Sheraton Hotel. \$25.00 per person. Keynote representing the Commander-in-Chief will be Peter Mascetti, VFW Inspector General.

- On Saturday, October 14, the newly built U.S. Flag Retirement Platform in Simsbury was inaugurated. THANK YOU to members of District 3 who attended and/or participated in the ceremony. The platform, built by Lee Wilson, is located behind the Weatogue Fire Station, 251 Hopmeadow Street (Route 10) in Simsbury. Special thanks to Tuff Shed®, through Home Depot Foundation, for donating an 8' x 8' shed to be placed near the platform for the storage of flags and other VFW and American Legion equipment. Monetary donations for building materials were provided by UNICO National – Avon, CT Chapter, Abigail Phelps Chapter DAR in Simsbury, Aquarion Water Company and the VFW Metacomet Post 1926 and American Legion Tomalonis-Hall Post 84, both of Simsbury. The Retirement of Old Colors ceremony from the Officer's Guide and Manual of Ceremonies of The American Legion was used. Hundreds of flags were honorably retired that day, some coming from attendees. This platform is available to be used by any service organization in the region wishing to perform a US flag retirement ceremony of their own. Contact Lee Wilson for more details. *Below are photos from the event courtesy of Deb Key Imagery, Avon.*



Lee Wilson hosted for the event.



The Simsbury VFW and American Legion participated.



Sr. Vice Cmdr. Paul Vicinus, Plainville, donated a flag.



Sharon and Bruce Messenger watched as flags were retired.



Joe Haney, VFW and American Legion, provided the invocation and benediction.



Sterling Quimby, VFW Simsbury, helped and fold and hand over flags for retirement.



Jon Blume, Simsbury VFW and American Legion retired the flags.



Lee Wilson and Jon Blume, Simsbury VFW and American Legion, retired a flag for retirement.

## POST NEWS:

**Post 2138, Rocky Hill** – Everyone is welcome to this weekly event; bring the family!



**Post 2083, East Hartford**, submitted by Howard Satalino, Senior Vice Commander

- November is a busy month for this Post:
  - Saturday, 11/4 @ 8am - Flag placement at Center Cemetery
  - Sunday, 11/5 @ noon - the Commanders' SOS packing event at the Hillstown Grange
  - Thursday, 11/9 @ 10-11:30am - Veterans Day Program at Goodwin University
  - Friday, 11/10 @ TBD - Buddy Poppy Drive at Jersey Mike's
  - Saturday, 11/11 @ 10:30am - Veterans Day ceremony at WWI statue in front of Raymond Library
- In addition, they hope to be speaking at the East Hartford Middle and High Schools this month. If any veteran would like to join them in speaking to students, please let Howard know and he will give you the schedule.

**Post 1926, Simsbury**, submitted by Jon Blume, Quartermaster

- The Post participated in the US Flag Retirement ceremony previously mentioned.
- The Post will participate in the annual Veterans Day event in Simsbury at their memorial.
- They held another successful Buddy Poppy Drive on Nov. 3-5 outside a local grocery store.
- The Post will participate in the annual Wreaths Across America event on Saturday, Dec. 16, 12 noon, that is organized by the Abigail Phelps Chapter of the DAR. It is held at Simsbury Center Cemetery and is open to the public.
- The Post will run its annual NEW clothing collection from Nov. 10-Dec. 10 at various locations in Simsbury. All donations go to the Veterans Home and Hospital.

