



Connecticut

District 3 Newsletter #4

January 2024

Happy New Year! I hope you had a safe and healthy holiday season.

The next District 3 meeting will be next Saturday, January 13 at the Mandeley-Roberts Post 574, 7 Northwest Drive, Plainville. This will be the Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen District 3 Awards event. As usual the Plainville Post provides a wonderful hot breakfast buffet. Please plan to arrive by 8:30am. The meeting will be called to order at 9:00am. We will then suspend it for breakfast and the awards. The winners have been notified and are sending in their RSVPs this week. We expect a good crowd and I know you will welcome them all graciously.

Lee Wilson, District 3 Commander – 860-798-3562 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. If your Post has not yet been inspected, please be prepared to do so.**
- You are invited to attend the 53rd 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 from Europe. Deadline to buy tickets is next Wednesday, January 10th through the Department.
- **FUN FACT** - According to the most recent VFW Auxiliary Magazine, one of the sponsors of the National VOD/PP is Twisted X, a sustainable western footwear company. Why? Back in 1980 when Mr. Prasad Reddy, an immigrant from India, was sworn in as a U.S. citizen in Michigan, a few Auxiliary members greeted him and said, "Welcome to America," and gave him a US Flag and US Constitution booklet. That SIMPLE act made him realize that he had the responsibility to be a good citizen and it inspired him to learn more about the VFW and Auxiliary. Fast forward to 2013 when Reddy, the new President of Twisted X, made a commitment to be one of the main sponsors of the national VOD/PP contest. And he still is today!

POST NEWS:

Post 2138, Rocky Hill, submitted by Felix Ortiz, Quartermaster



SETBACK TOURNAMENT
V.F.W. Located at 3272 Main St Rocky Hill, CT 06067
SUNDAY JANUARY 14th at 1 pm
Doors open at 12, must be signed up by 12:45pm.
Games start at 1.
\$20, of that \$5 goes towards food.

- No partner needed!
- 10 games to 11. seating will change each game.
- Must be registered by 12:45pm to play in tournament.
- Cash prizes.
- 50/50 raffle.
- Bring a snack for yourself or one to share with others.



STEAK NIGHT
EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT
AT THE VFW - ROCKY HILL CT POST - 2138
PREMIUM QUALITY SIRLOIN STEAK
BAKED POTATO, SALAD, DINNER ROLL.
FROM 6PM

ONLY \$20

SUPPORT YOUR VETERANS

THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

COLES ROAD BREWING
WEST SIDE Marketplace
All-GAS

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

- On December 3rd Support Our Soldiers-Connecticut held a "cookie swap" at the Hillstown Grange Hall in East Hartford. These kinds of events are held for the purpose of shipping various items, such as snacks, toiletries, cards and the like to servicemen and women deployed overseas. Special boxes are packed for holidays. These events are organized and managed by the VFW Post 2083, East Hartford Post Commander, Frank Forrest.

At this event, 26 boxes were shipped at a cost of \$603.00. Shipping costs are paid using donations from individuals and groups. Participating in the event were representatives of the following organizations.

- VFW Post 2083
- Glastonbury Senior Crafters
- The East Hartford High School Iron Hornets
- The D.A.R.
- The Knights of Columbus, who also donated 50 boxes

In addition, over a dozen individuals also participated in the sorting, packing, and loading of cookies, candy, and cards. Cookies were donated by Bloomfield High School, East Hartford High School, a group from South Windsor Schools and Marsha MacDonald (who is a podiatrist and world-class swimmer from Manchester. Candy came from Smiles for the Future (the children's dentist group) and East Catholic High School. Several women brought in over 2000 cards and two boxes of blank cards. These events are held periodically throughout the year.

Post 3272, Avon, excerpted from the *Valley Press*, Jan. 5, 2024

- The Post launched a project in August 2023 to help resettle an Afghan family whose member had assisted U.S. and Coalition forces during the recent Afghanistan conflict. Since the launch, over 40 volunteers have come forward and roughly \$20,000 has been raised to cover rent, clothing, food and other necessities. On Dec. 26, the Post received preliminary approval for their application. They have identified a place in West Hartford that will be convenient for the family in terms of being close to shopping, schools and public transportation. The Post is holding a public meeting for anyone interested in helping on Friday, Jan. 12 at 6:30pm at the Avon Free Public Library, 281 Country Club Road, Avon. A fundraiser for the family will be held on Sunday, Jan. 21 from 2-4pm at the Avon Senior Center, 635 West Avon Road, Avon, to enjoy the jazz and swing music of Silk City Band (\$10 per person donation). All are welcome. For more information, please contact Tim Healy, Commander of Post 3272, at 860-693-9744.

Post 9544, West Suffield, submitted by Bill Moryto, Commander

- The Post is holding a generous Veterans Breakfast the first Saturday of every month from 9:00-11:00am in their lower dining hall, 972 Sheldon Street, West Suffield. It is FREE for all to attend – join us!!!
- Duke's Canteen offers food on Thursday and Fridays from 4:00 – 9:00pm every week.

Post 1926, Simsbury, submitted by Jon Blume, Quartermaster

- Post members participated in the annual Wreaths Across America event on Saturday, Dec. 16, organized by the Abigail Phelps Chapter of the DAR at the Simsbury Center Cemetery.
- The Post ran its annual NEW clothing collection from Nov.10-Dec. 10 at various locations. Approximately 400 lbs. of clothing valued at \$1,000 was donated by local residents. All donations were delivered to the Rocky Hill Veterans Home and Hospital.

Post 2046, Manchester Auxiliary, submitted by Shirley McBride, Auxiliary President

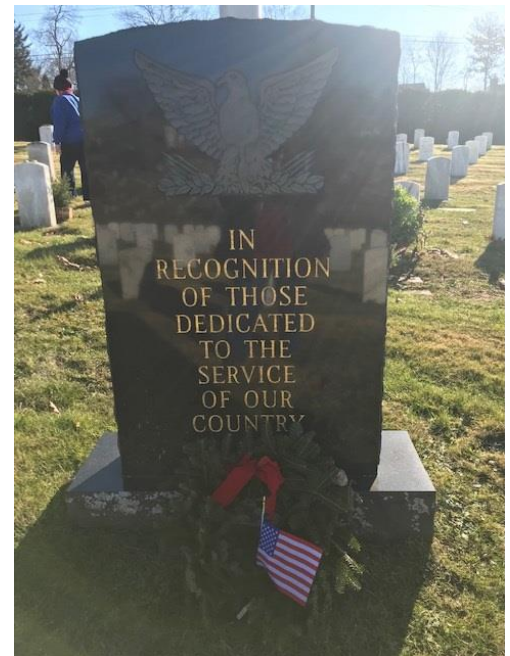
- Post members and Auxiliary participated in the Veterans Day Tribute March from the American Legion to Manchester Memorial Hospital. A wreath was laid on the monument by the 2046 Auxiliary at the hospital in memory of all Veterans. There was a wonderful ceremony with several speakers and awards. The ceremony was followed by

a lovely brunch put on by the hospital and favors of Forget Me Nots were passed out to all who attended.

- Post members and Auxiliary participated in the Wreaths Across America ceremony at the Hillstown Road Veterans Cemetery in Manchester. With other volunteers, we laid wreaths on all the veterans' graves. Additional wreaths were laid at three main memorials in East Cemetery veteran's sections also in Manchester.



Doris Robotto placed a wreath at her husband's grave.



Post 10689, Ellington, submitted by Bruce Warkentin, Commander

- The Wreaths Across America Ceremony on Dec.16th was another successful event. We were involved with the planning, fund-raising and participation in the Ceremony.
- Several of us attended the Veteran's Day Ceremony at Ellington High School on Nov. 10th. It was a good program, but the students ran the show, so no veterans spoke.
- On Nov 11, we held a Veterans Day ceremony at Ellington Center Cemetery.

Post 6123, Windsor Locks, submitted by Kevin Mockalis, Quartermaster

- The VFW and American Legion Posts and their Auxiliaries entered a patriotic Christmas Tree for a contest. We did not win but the tree was on display in the Windsor Locks Town Hall for the holiday season. We will do another one next year with photos of local veterans on ornaments.



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

Post 6123 held Sunday/Funday during the month of November and sold hot dogs and bowls of chili(made by Auxiliary members) to raise money for local Veterans. Also in November, we promoted Veterans by selling Honor Cards at our post home to patrons and members. Cards cost \$1 and names of their veteran and their military service were written in and displayed throughout our canteen. Proceeds were donated to Wreaths Across America.



Post 574, Plainville, submitted by Bob Beveridge, Commander

DAVE REILLY

SECOND ANNUAL COMEDY SHOW

Saturday, JAN 27, 2024 (snow date Feb. 3)

DOORS OPEN 6PM SHOW AT 8PM 50/50 RAFFLE

\$40.00 PER PERSON - \$30.00 PER VETERAN

\$300.00 FOR ROUND TABLE OF TEN

BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS FOR A GREAT NIGHT OF FUN

BRING ALL YOUR SNACKS, CASH BAR, NO OUTSIDE ALCOHOL ALLOWED

THIS IS A SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER EVENT

VFW POST 574, 7 NORTHWEST DR. PLAINVILLE, CT

Tickets Call: 860-747-2993

Reservations for Table of Ten call:

Bob Beveridge 860-620-3178

Shirley Osle 860-256-7813

Post 511, New Britain, submitted by John Chan, Post member

- John Chan will be inducted into the 2023 Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame, on Thursday January 25th at 6:00pm. The ceremony will be at the Gold Star Families Auditorium on the CT. Dept. of Veterans Affairs Campus, 287 West St., Rocky Hill. John is a Life Member of the VFW and a member of Post 511 in New Britain. He is a 20-year Air Force Veteran, enlisting in 1966 and retiring as a Captain in 1988. Since his retirement from the Air Force, he has devoted his time and efforts to veterans throughout the State of Connecticut in restoring their mobility and quality of life with donations of Durable Medical Equipment. The induction is a public event, however the State would like a headcount. If you can attend, please notify John Chan at: jmchan1@sbcglobal.net

DECEMBER Monthly Bulletin – Department of CT

Military Assistance Program – MAP

We had (2) military units supported by VFW Posts and an Auxiliary for their holiday party. Total financial assistance \$2,460. Your Post can help too! Military units are looking to be adopted. Up to \$5000/year to provide food to units not only for holiday parties, but for continental breakfast during training, and unit picnics. Post/Auxiliary must have an approved Form 990 submitted for 501(c)(19.)

Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship

The 2024 Fall Semester opens Jan. 1, 2024 and will be available online at vfw.org/Scholarship with a deadline date of Apr. 30, 2024.

All-American VMS Donation

Donating to the VMS Program can be done on the VFW Dashboard by going to the link “**VMS Donation**” at the upper right-hand corner of the screen. Your \$100 or more donation meets the criteria for All-American.

Unmet Needs

Available for active-duty service members and their families to include activated Guard/Reserves. Amount has increased to \$2,500 non-repayment grant.

VMS Pins.

Members can participate with the VMS program by purchasing a pin. Gold pins \$20, Silver \$10, Bronze \$5. I purchased more pins than ever and will have them available at my visits to Posts, Districts and at the Department convention.

VMS Program Report

Connecticut	VMS Total Donations	VFW Donations	AUX Donations	Other	HELP-A-HERO Scholarship	UNMET Needs	MAP
NOVEMBER	\$575	\$500	\$75	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,460.00
YTD FY 23-24	\$600	\$500	\$100	\$0	\$0	\$1,150.68	\$2,460.00
Grants						1	2

D5, Auxiliary 7330 donated \$25, D2 Auxiliary 8075 \$50, D2 Auxiliary 201 \$25.

Loyally,
Sherry Wozniak
Veterans & Military Support Chairman 860-377-8475 / sawoz1130@gmail.com