

My Fellow Legionnaires,

I am honored to provide my first message as Department Commander to the membership of the Department of Connecticut. As I stated in my address at the 102nd Department Convention, I want to thank each of you for providing me the opportunity to serve you for the 2021-2022 membership year. I assure you that I do not take this responsibility lightly and pledge that I will give my full effort to retain the confidence that you have placed in me. With the continued cooperation and support of our mission towards the goals of our Four Pillars that each of you provides, WE can make the Department of Connecticut the model and standard of the entire National organization.

There are many individuals that have had a great impact on me as a member of this great organization, making this opportunity possible for me and I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your friendship and mentorship.

I would also like to congratulate and thank our outgoing Department Commander, Dennis Beauregard for his dedicated two year term as our Commander. Your leadership, dedication and commitment to The American Legion while leading the Department of Connecticut through the shutdown and subsequent restrictions as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic is commendable and has set the bar for years to come. You will be a tough act to follow.

I look forward to meeting each of you as I travel the State and remain available at any time. As we go forward, I will share my goals and plans that will position the Department to lay the foundation for our next 100 years. I share with you my theme for the year "*Tomorrow's American Legion is Today's Responsibility*".

GO TEAM CONNECTICUT!!!

For God and Country,

Jeff DeClerck
Commander
Department of Connecticut
jadcmd@sbcglobal.net

Sr Vice Commander Message

Post-Convention

A Message From The New Sr. Vice Commander

My fellow Legionnaires

Thank you for electing me as your Sr Vice Commander,

I am looking forward to putting the pandemic behind us and working together to reach our Membership goals, (ALL HANDS-ON DECK) I am asking all Members to play a role in recruitment of new Members and retention of Members, just think if every one of us brought in one or more new Members into our Department where we would be? We will make sure all Members have the tools they need, we can do this if we try, so please, we encourage all Members to step up and give it your best shot!

The Foundation for our Four Pillars are our Posts, so let's do this and make the foundation for the American Legion Department of Connecticut Strong for Today and into the future!

Richard Linnon
Dept of CT
Senior Vice Commander

ADJUTANT'S Notes

Tel: 860-436-9986

E-mail: ctadj@ctlegion.org

Website: www.ctlegion.org

Fax: 860-436-9491

Volume 20-21

August 2021

Post Convention

****NO SMOKING IN POST BARS****

As of October 1, 2021, you will no longer be allowed to smoke in any public building, restaurant, or bar, this includes Veteran organizations. Senate Bill 1201 (An Act Concerning Responsible and Equitable Regulation of Adult-Use Cannabis) passed in a June Special Session and was signed by Governor Lamont. This bill closes all the loopholes that previously allowed our Posts to remain smoking if they so choose and now due to the legalization of Cannabis this is no longer an option.

All Posts needs to prepare to become non-smoking by October 1, 2021, which will include posting signs to let people know they cannot smoke within 25 feet of your building. Whether your Post has a bar or not you will have to figure out where you can set up a smoking area for those who wish to smoke, or you can ban smoking all together.

For those Posts who were already thinking about going non-smoking and were meeting resistance from your members, this is your opportunity to move your Post forward and hopefully encourage those members who didn't want to come around because of the smoke environment. This is an opportunity to let those Veterans in your town who are not members because you were a smoking Post and encourage them to join.

If you have questions, please contact our office to make sure you are getting the correct information!!

Post Officer Forms

Please ensure that you send in your Post election forms in a timely manner as these along with the Commander/Adjutant form are still required, regardless if you are keeping the same officers for the upcoming year. We use these to update our Post contact information on the Department Website.

Post Data Forms

We still have several Posts that have not turned in their Post Data forms, these are important to both the Department and National as the information is used to set your Post dues, change contact information, and update any other changes that you submit.

Please copy and share all Bulletin information as widely as possible!

Consolidated Post Reports & Consolidated Squadron Reports

CPR's for Posts and Squadrons have been sent and many of you have sent them back, but we are still lacking any reports from numerous Posts. If you prefer, you may download a fillable version from our website or request it via email, which you then may save on your computer. Electronic versions must be returned to Department HQ (NOT National) via email (or snail mail).

Membership Cards

All Posts should have their 2021 Legion membership cards and your SAL membership cards, if this is not the case, please contact our office immediately.

PUFL & Online Credits

PUFL and Online credits should be available by September 1, 2020, once we have the breakdown of how much each Post will get you can then start to use the monies for membership processing. For those Posts who process their own membership we will send you a check.

Department Raffle Drawing

Please see flyer inside the bulletin for the winners.

Potpourri

Department Convention was a great success this year, it was great to see so many familiar faces and meet many new faces. We look forward to the new year and seeing everyone out and about.

Please remember to call or send an email to keep Department informed as to the status of our Legion family members.

Please copy and share all Bulletin information as widely as possible!

The American Legion
Department Dinner
Honoring



Jeffrey DeClerck
Commander

Lake of Isles

1 Clubhouse Dr, North Stonington, CT 06359

Saturday, November 13, 2021

Cash Bar Social 5:00 PM Dinner 6:00 PM \$45.00 pp

DRESS CODE IS LEGION CASUAL (POLO SHIRT & DRESS PANTS)

Sliced Strip Loin Au Jus or Roasted Breast of Chicken filled with Spinach and Brie Cheese
with Port Wine Demi-Glace
Served with Chef's choice of Starch, Fresh Vegetable of the Season, and an assortment of
Warm Rolls & Sweet Butter
Classic Caesar Salad, New York Style Cheesecake w/ fresh berries
Freshly brewed regular and decaffeinated coffees and tea

Make checks payable to: The American Legion Dept. of CT

No Reservations Accepted After Deadline of November 1, 2021

Dinner Reservations to: The American Legion, Dept. of Connecticut
864 Wethersfield Avenue
Hartford, CT 06114

Department Testimonial

Check enclosed in the amount of \$ _____ for _____ reservations. (\$ 450.00 for table of 10)

Name _____ District # _____

Address _____ Post # _____

City/Town _____ Unit # _____

Phone: (___) ___ - _____



THE AMERICAN LEGION
2021 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION
DOOR PRIZE WINNERS

Grand Prize Winner: \$5,000.00

William Schiel of New Milford, CT

\$ 1,000.00 Winner:

Robert L. Ball of Enfield, CT



\$ 500.00 Winner: Plus \$250 for being Present

Judith M Burke of Ansonia, CT



\$ 250.00 Winners

1. George C. Fatsy of Trumbull, CT
2. John Sobczak of Middletown, CT

Membership

is a year-round program and one that is very important to the survival of your Post.

What can we do to get veterans and their families to our door?

Once they are there then what?

These are two good questions and I have suggestions.

GET THEM THERE!



Take advantage of the nice weather and schedule a summer picnic open house. Nothing over the top but something family friendly, hamburgers, hotdogs, soft drinks, etc. Maybe have some kid games, face painting or inflatables. Advertise that it is a FREE event open to all veterans and their families as a thank you for their service.

PROMOTE YOUR POST!

Now that they are there the next step is to promote your post. What do I mean by promoting your post? Promote the American Legion and its programs. This is where those darn Consolidated Post Reports come in handy. Make up a informational sheet outlining all of the programs that your post offered and participated in, including the number served, hours committed and monies involved. Always include information on Children and Youth programs, this is especially important to our younger veterans with families. Outline the community events that you sponsor such as summer lunch programs, blood drives, food distribution, etc. If you have partnerships with local businesses and organizations let that be known. Have information available which show the benefits of belonging to the American Legion.

Make sure that your post is clean and organized as appearance is a big factor. Remember you want this to be a family friendly and safe environment. Make sure that you have members present that know about your post and the programs offered. Pre-planning is a plus. Set up membership tables inside and outside and make sure that they are highly visible! Ensure that you have plenty of applications and additional information available.

DO NOT promote the canteen (bar)! This area is not the American Legion. It is a business which generates revenue which assists the post in providing the programs and to keep the lights on and explain it as such.



Join Our Family
and
Become Part of Our
Story!



*Department of Connecticut
Commander's Testimonial Golf Outing
Lake of Isles*

Saturday, November 13, 2021

Reverse Shotgun start at 10:00

\$50.00 per player – includes cart (paid in Pro Shop)

Scramble format (double bogey pickup)

Foursome competition

2-man teams

Team will be paired with a different Department team

Names/Contact number:

Return completed forms by November 5, 2021

Mail to: The American Legion Department of Connecticut

269 Main Street, Cromwell, CT 06416

Showers available in the locker room

******Weather permitting******

Golf Sponsors – 2021 Tournament

Diamond Sponsor (or Commander's Sponsor) - \$5000

1. Large banner with diamond sponsor's name only
2. Sponsorship of three (3) cadets to SPYW
4. 4 tee/green signs

Platinum Sponsor - \$2500

1. Name and logo on sponsor banner
2. Sponsorship of two (2) cadets to SPYW
4. 3 tee/green signs

Special Sponsorship opportunities :

1. Cart Sponsor (\$250.00) – Sign in each cart with sponsors name and/or logo. Can also include a letter of support to Legion from sponsor. Can include a give-away from sponsor to each golfer.
2. Air Cannon Sponsor (\$350.00) - Receives printed advertisement/recognition sign at the Hole.
3. Hole-in-One Sponsor (\$200.00) – Receives printed advertisement/recognition sign on all Par 3 holes.

Gold Sponsor - \$1500

1. Name and logo on sponsor banner
2. Sponsorship of one (1) cadet to SPYW
3. 2 tee/green signs

Silver Sponsor - \$750

1. Name and logo on sponsor banner
3. 2 tee/green signs

Bronze Sponsor - \$250

1. Name and logo on sponsor banner
2. 1 tee/green signs



**City of New London
New London Veterans Affairs—Committee
Management of Ocean Beach Park**

**4th Annual
Military Appreciation Day
August 14, 2021**

You are invited to set up your booth/tent/table on the boardwalk

Space is FREE

98 Neptune Ave, New London, CT 06320

BOOTHS MUST BE NON-COMPETITION WITH BEACH CONCESSIONS

Registration is required to ensure your space—Deadline July 15, 2021

FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS

Access and parking at Ocean Beach Park will be by permit

Set-up is between 10:30 and Noon

Booth take-down will be after the 4:00 PM program

Equipment Unloading is next to boardwalk

Once unloaded, move you vehicle to a spot in the parking lot.

To Registration

Contact New London Veterans Affairs Committee

dva@newlondonct.org

860-440-6691





**City of New London
New London Veterans Affairs
Ocean Beach Park**

**4th Annual Military Appreciation Day
Saturday, August 14, 2021**



**All military, Active Duty, Retirees, Veterans and families
are invited to a day of FUN IN THE SUN at New London Ocean Beach Park.**

Admission and parking are free

**Access requires Active Duty Military ID card, a Military or Veterans Medical ID card,
a Retired Military ID card, a Military or Veterans Disability ID card, your DD-214,
or your Military Discharge Certificate.**

**Come join the fun—Beach Concessions available for food and beverages,
Pool, Rides for the kids, lay in the sand and work on your tan, evening entertainment**

**It's our way of thanking our military community for their service
and all they do in the communities of the Greater New London Area**

Time: 10:00AM to Closing

Meet your military community, Visit the Vendor booths/tables

Program and Presentations starts at 3:00PM

**Featuring Veterans Service Medal Award Presentations
Veteran Volunteer of the Year Presentations**

For more Information

Contact New London Veterans Affairs Committee

dva@newlondonct.org

860-440-6691





1st Annual Children's Fishing Derby



Hosted
By



3rd District of the American Legion

At

Great Hollow Lake, Monroe, Connecticut

When

Saturday, September 25th 2021

From

9 A.M. to Noon

Admission is Free



Prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place in each of 3 Groups

Ages:

5 & Under ~ 6 to 10 ~ 11 to 15 ~ Plus Largest Fish

Rules:

- 1.) Parents may help children cast, but child must reel in the fish.**
- 2.) Fish should be brought to the measuring table as soon as caught; in case of a tie, fish with the earliest time will win.**
- 3.) Only 2 trout per angler may be kept (state rules). Do not return trout to lake. All other species may be catch & release.**

Sponsors:

Shelton Post 16

Shelton Unit 16

Stratford Post 42

Ridgefield Post 78

Wilton Post 86

Monroe Post 176

Newtown Post 202



129 S. Main St. - Newtown

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40,000 Step Challenge



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FOR THE
BRAVE



Sat, 8/7 to Sun, 8/15

REGISTRATION

\$40

INCLUDES: EVENT SHIRT, PRINTABLE
BIB, AND FINISHER'S CERTIFICATE

[HOMESFORTHEBRAVE.ORG/
STPEOUT2021](https://HOMESFORTHEBRAVE.ORG/STPEOUT2021)



Every step you take helps a homeless Veteran.

Your choice. Your time. Your challenge.

HomesForTheBrave.org

(203) 338-0669

info@homesforthebrave.org

COVID VACCINE CLINIC



CT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
MOBILE VACCINATION UNIT

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, INC.
WINDHAM REGION

Eastern CT Veterans Community Center
1320 Main St, Suite 27, Willimantic

Mondays & Tuesdays

11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

July 26-Sept 14

No appointment needed!

Vaccination is the best protection against the COVID-19 virus, and that is why everyone 16 and older is strongly encouraged to receive this truly lifesaving vaccine.

This free vaccination clinic is coming to our community to make the COVID-19 vaccine more accessible to our residents.





The American Legion Tanguay-Magill Post 80

Is hosting a custom designed trip to

ITALY

MAY 7 to MAY 20, 2022

For information

Text, call or email Jim Dooley, Jr Vice Commander at

860-202-1664

jim@jamtravelplanners.com

Space limited to the first 40 people



GIVE YOUR BAR & RESTAURANT A COMPETITIVE EDGE!



- ✓ No Application or License Fees
- ✓ No Charge for Equipment
- ✓ No Termination Fees
- ✓ Commissions Paid Weekly
- ✓ Can Help Increase Food & Beverage Sales
- ✓ Earn Bonuses When You Sell Winning Tickets

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BecomeARetailer@ctlottery.org



“ *Our customers really enjoy KENO and in particular, our regulars. I enjoy interacting with customers, and I really enjoy the extra tips.* ”

Michelle Loiler, Bartender
Roma Pizza & Restaurant, Middletown



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PLEASE PLAY RESPONSIBLY.
Purchasers must be 18 or older.