

Welcoming Veterans
Since 1964

American Legion Post 196



East Shore American Legion Post 196 – 25 Merwin Ave. – Milford, CT 06460 – www.milfordctvets.org – October/November 2024



Post 196 Commander Colleen Weatherspoon

Hi Legion Family

It's been a whirlwind summer and I hope you've been able to enjoy some time here at Post 196. I'd like to take the opportunity to remind us all that we are part of one big family here and we should always speak respectfully to one another and value our differences.

Recent highlights:

- Our annual picnic was last week and it was a huge success and a ton of fun.
- Our baseball team won their championship.
- Membership continues to increase for all of our groups. Typically, it happens when someone walks in for the first time, takes a look around and speaks to a few people. The next thing you hear is "how can I join this place?" Two people joined the SAL after a Monday shuffleboard game and two people joined the legion after the First Responder Breakfast – so keep it up everyone.
- Our love of shuffleboard is contagious, and we now have two leagues – 1 on Monday and 1 on Thursday. Come down and support our players.




THANK YOU

- Norm Lansing for always ensuring we are current on our social media and uploading the many pics from events we hold throughout each month.

- Larry Carter for keeping our apparel cabinet filled with many options for sale.
 - Guest Danny Salvatore who has been cleaning and maintaining the inside and outside and making our post as beautiful as ever.
- Some things always worth repeating**
- Join our FB page and keep up to date with events and volunteer opportunities. <https://www.facebook.com/AmericanLegionPost196>
 - Shirts, sweatshirts and hats all for sale – see the bartender.



- Parking in the lot adjacent to the building is for Post 196 Legion Veteran Members only. The only exception is the first spot which is for the bartender on duty, and the second spot *only on music night* for the musicians. All others – park in the lot across the street.

- Access behind the bar is strictly for bar staff – or if they ask for your assistance. This extends to the entry to the kitchen as well.  These areas are off limits.



"We Don't Talk About Jr Vice" – but we should.

This is currently a vacant spot on the E-Board. It is a great role and you get to be very involved in all the fun events we plan. And, it offers an opportunity to serve on the E-Board where you can be involved in decisions on policies and other things we implement to improve our post and make it so great. The primary responsibility is to coordinate and plan events throughout the year. This is not a one-person show – you merely get a date and then get yourself a good committee to help. Secondary responsibilities are booking music, managing the calendar, and coordinating the hall rental. If this is something you are interested in – let me know. You may even want to try it temporarily to see if you like it.

Looking forward to seeing you soon.

Commander Colleen

- **KITCHEN** open Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun. Mike's weekly specials. Occasionally shut down on dates surrounding events. Watch for posts.
- **MUSIC** each Friday – occasionally Saturday. See the calendar as well as our FB page for the specific groups scheduled.
- **10/12** - Riders **Pig Roast**. Everything is in place for this great event. Usually includes Sonia's world-famous pudding cups – IYKYK.
- **10/26** - Auxiliary **Halloween Party**. Always spectacular! DJ: our own Garrett Stack, monthly music guy and editor of this Newsletter.

>>>>>>See bartender for tickets for 10/12 & 10/26 events<<<<<<



CHAPLAINS
CORNER



As we are in October looking at fall, my focus is on the love of our heavenly Father. In this life some days can be rough. It feels like the weight of the world is against us and nothing is going right.

Do you sometimes feel this way? Like some days we get up and we feel like “I just want to go back to bed.” I would like to share a story with you from Coach Tony Dungy. Tony shares from his book “Uncommon Life Daily Challenge” of a story of a family that found itself in the midst of an earthquake in Turkey. After the quake there was panic in the village as a father rushes to the school where he knew his little boy Armand was at the time of the earthquake.



Turkey Earthquake – 2023

When the father arrived the building was nothing but rubble. The father worked as quickly as he could digging his way down through the large pile of wreckage, cutting his hands on shards of rock and brick as he dug. People around him tried to stop him saying his work was futile to try and

save his son. The father replied “just leave me alone.” For 47 hours he uttered the same response every time some one tried to get him to stop, “Join me or leave me alone.”

For days, hour after hour, in relentless pursuit of his child, the father heard a small still voice, “Daddy is that you?” Beneath the pile of rubble that had been a school house, he had reached his son with his classmates. Armand was safe. When his father pulled the final bricks away to free all the children, Armand’s face was beaming with joy as he said to his classmates, “Didn’t I tell you? I told you my Daddy would come. I told you my Daddy would come.”

This story reminds me that in our time of need, often we look for answers from the world but we should never forget we have a Heavenly Father who is there for us, even when things seem out of control, in chaos or just plain hopeless. Sometimes life can be hard and we all have our daily challenges and struggles we deal with. When these times come remember your Heavenly Father cares for you and your chaplains are there to serve you to help and encourage you through life’s challenges. When the challenge comes, remember to pray as, “I told you our father would come!”

May god bless you and your family as we enter the fall season. If you have a life challenge and would like to speak with a chaplain please reach out at ChaplainsCornerPost196@gmail.com. Post 196 Chaplains are happy to have a conversation with you and help you through your life difficulties.

Chris Kiley – Assistant Chaplain

IN ADDITION TO THE E-BOARD, THESE MEMBERS ALSO SERVE OUR POST	
Permittee:	Norm Lansing
Auxiliary:	Mary-Ellen Breen, Pres.
Sons of AL:	Ken Crepeau, Commander
Legion Riders:	Dave Woodmanse, Director
Newsletter Editor:	Garrett Stack

MEMBERSHIP

Thanks to all of you who have joined The American Legion, the country’s largest Veterans group. All of you have made life easier for someone else because of your membership through our programs.

Our current membership is 332 paid members for membership **year 2025**. Our state-set goal is 540. We are at approximately 60% of our goal. Everyone on this team should be looking for additional members within your family, friends, and neighbors.

We also have another initiative called revitalization. We have 92 inactive Legion members in the Connecticut Post 200 pool who live within our local community. Our goal is to contact all of them and encourage a transfer to Post 196. I would like to have a session on 5 October from 0900-1200 hrs. All who are interested please reach out to me through email, text, or phone.

We will also work on Retention by the end of the year and I will advise when.

Thank you for your service and commitment to this post.

My contact info: 203 257 2855 email: jackson.west@att.net

Respectfully,

Tom Jackson – Senior Vice Commander

American Legion **A**uxiliary **O**ff to a great start, We collected \$330 worth of school supplies, delivered by Marilyn Deptula and Sally Carter to Harborside Middle School.

Note: Our **dues** are \$33 per year. Membership for Juniors is \$8.00. Send your dues to Post 196 ATTN: Patty Paris.

Great news! With the proper paperwork, **great granddaughters** and great-great granddaughters are now eligible to join.

We will be initiating new members at our Oct 8th meeting, 7:00 Please contact Patty Paris if you need to be initiated and get your pin.

Summer Luau was a great success! Events like these allow us to continually donate to charity and to special programs.

September Auxiliary Donations:

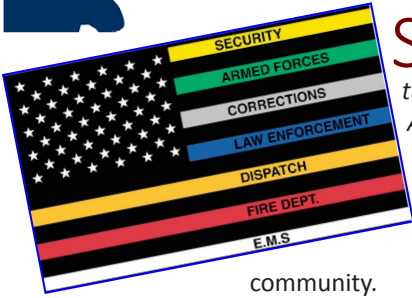
- \$500 to “The Wall that Heals,” the traveling Vietnam Wall that is a duplicate of the one in Washington, DC.
- \$600 to Milford Food 2 Kids. This will feed two children on weekends for one year.
- \$200 Amazon gift card to Mark Russell family who are stationed at Ft. Riley, KS. They are having a baby in November.

Awards:

Our Auxiliary received 7 awards for units **with 101 or more** members at the summer Department of Connecticut Convention:

- Citation: first unit to reach Department goal of 217 in March
- Certificates: 1] sending in the highest member average to Penny-A-Point; 2] Recognition for Active Participation in the Project of the Month
- Helen McFarland Award to unit making the greatest numerical gain this year.
- C. Theresa Shanahan Award showing the greatest accomplishment in Community Service.
- Cash Award to the unit of 71 members or more having the greatest numerical gain in Junior members.
- E. Verena Dolan Award for greatest accomplishments in furthering the Americanism Program.

Our **Halloween Party** is Oct. 26 and will feature the DJ music of Garrett Stack. \$20.00 per person. Get tickets from the bartender.



Sons of the American Legion (SAL) had a great turnout for its 4th annual Appreciation Breakfast for Police, Fire, EMS & Retirees on Sept. 17. Many thanks to all of you for your service to our Milford

community.

Sponsored by SAL, the breakfast was catered by **The Plate** in Milford with additional donations from **Adams Home-town Market**. Our thanks to all who attended including Milford's mayor Tony Giannattasio and radio personality Brian Smith of WOW Radio, Wallingford for helping to emcee the event.

SAL NOTES

- Donated \$500 to the traveling Viet Nam Wall Exhibit at Port 5 in Bridgeport on Sept. 26
- Held the Thimble Islands Trip for disabled veterans Sept. 12
- Noted 14 renewals and 9 new members thus far



Remember Everyone Deployed –(R.E.D.) is a national campaign that aims to raise awareness and show support for US troops and veterans. The campaign encourages people to wear red on Fridays, known as R.E.D. Friday, to remind people of those who are deployed and to show that they are being

thought of. The campaign also aims to highlight the importance of keeping troops in people's minds.

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS PIG ROAST & BARBECUE
SATURDAY
 October 12, 2024
 12:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.
\$25.00 P/P
\$1.00 DRAFT BEER
 AMERICAN LEGION POST 196
 25 MERWIN AVE. MILFORD CT.
 203-874-9822

Roll up your sleeves, put on your bib, chow down, drink up. Get tickets from the bartender.



Friday Music At The Post



- Oct 4: Steve Bettencourt 5-7
- Oct 11: The Modifieds 6-8
- Oct 18: Garrett Stack's American Jukebox® Live 5-7 - [Final]
- Oct 25: The Elwoods 5-7
- Nov 8: Steve Bettencourt 5-7
- Nov 15: Take Two 5-7
- Nov 29: The Modifieds 6-8

AMERICAN JUKEBOX® LIVE
 Garrett Stack PRESENTS BABY BOOMER CLASSICS
 Rock'n'Roll
 Folk - Folk Rock - Pop
 Country - Soft Rock
 American Jukebox. Live is available for your next event.

Last Show until next May. Come on Down! Thanks for a great year. Garrett



For a full calendar of POST 196 events, go to

<https://milfordctvets.org/site/eventscalendar.php>

OCTOBER

- 12 - Riders Pig Roast Barbecue
- 15 - General Veterans Meeting - 7:00
- 26 - Auxiliary Halloween Party

NOVEMBER

- 10 - SAL Vets Day Post-Parade BBQ
- 15 - General Veterans Meeting - 7:00

DECEMBER

- 14 - Auxiliary Ugly Sweater Christmas Party
- 15 - Auxiliary Kids Christmas Party

POST 196



Marilyn Deptula and Sally Carter arrive at Harborside Middle School in Milford with \$330 worth of school supplies for kids that might not be able to get them otherwise. The school supplies – compliments of Post 196 Auxiliary.