



American Legion - Post 196
25 Merwin Ave, Milford CT 06460
www.milfordctvets.org
Facebook: [Legion](#), [Aux](#), [Riders](#)

Commander's Corner – October 2023



Greetings Post 196 Legion Family

As we say farewell to summer and welcome in autumn, I'd like to say "Thanks" to all who have visited our post, to join or enjoy the music, food or various events. This is how we are continually growing the memberships in all the legion families (Legion, Auxiliary and SAL). We will continue with the regularly scheduled events, as well as planning some new events so stay tuned and join us. Legion Family Picnic.

Congratulations to Jr. Vice Justin Pacelli for managing the picnic which was no easy task this year more than ever before. Luckily the weather held out and he recruited a fantastic group of volunteers and along with the planning by our wonderful committee members - it was a resounding success. See more on the picnic in the Jr. Vice section of the Newsletter and on our FB page. 50+ years of membership

Listed below are members with over 50 years of membership in the American Legion. Please join me in congratulating them.

- William Aquillino, Milford CT – 56 years
- Larry Carter, Stratford CT – 55 years
- Louis Matteo, Bradenton FL – 66 years

- Charles Noonan, Naugatuck CT – 52 years
- Arthur Paras, Old Lyme CT – 63 years
- Richard Smith, Milford CT – 53 years
- Tom Smith, Milford CT – 52 years
- William Wright, Hudson FL – 57 years

REMINDERS– please share with any guests you bring into Post 196:

- Access to the 2nd level deck is only via inside the building. The outside stairs are solely for emergency access and must not be used. We are installing a camera for visibility there.
- Parking in the lot adjacent to the building is only for veteran members and this will be strictly enforced. Specifically – folks coming in for Friday night music – if you are not a veteran member of this post - do not park here.
- Please be mindful of how you are speaking to others – we will not tolerate disrespect from or to any members or guests.

Colleen Weatherspoon - Commander East Shore American Legion Post 196.

Commander@milfordctvets.org

Important Dates:

October 28 - Aux Halloween Party

November 11 – Veterans Day

November 12 – Veterans Day Parade

Membership:

MEMBERSHIP the state of belonging to or being a part of a group or an organization.

This is the Webster's definition of membership; we all have our own definition and reasons for joining and renewing our memberships in different groups or clubs.

What does your membership do? What do American Legion Posts do? The American Legion's mission far surpasses commemorative events, organized veteran volunteer opportunities, and fundraising. The Legion actively lobbies in Washington D.C. on behalf of the interests of veterans and service members and provides assistance at VA hospitals. Your post supports American Legion baseball, in total, three teams last year as well as an Oratorical contest for high school students. We also aid the VA, Toys for Tots, Children's Christmas party, annual picnic, and many other activities and benefits for our members and our community.

We currently have 265 members who have NOT renewed their membership for 2024. We also have three hundred members who HAVE renewed for 2024. Thank you for your renewal, if you have not renewed, please help us reach our early goal.

***Tom Jackson Senior Vice
American Legion Post 196***

Thank You To All The Picnic Volunteers

I wanted to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for your invaluable contributions in making this year's annual picnic an outstanding success. Your dedication, hard work, and selfless commitment to Post 196 has not gone unnoticed.

Without your tireless efforts, the picnic wouldn't have been possible. From setting up the venue, preparing delicious food, to ensuring everything ran smoothly throughout the day, you all played pivotal roles that contributed to the joy of everyone who attended.

Thank you,

Justin Pacelli - Junior Vice Post 196



Enough is Enough?

When we were small, having enough candy and ice cream was really at the top of our "important things" list. Then as we grew older other very important needs replaced them: A car, a better car, a new car. A house, a family trip to Disney. Tuition for a good school for our kids. Then, of course, building our retirement fund. It seems there is never enough.

When do we have enough to start thinking about others who really don't have enough? I don't mean people who are lazy or don't seem to work hard for the things they need. No, not them, but those folks who, through no fault of their own, just can't make it. Even working two jobs they can barely put food on the table. Yes, those people.

Do you have enough so you can help them out? How do we know? Here's an idea. For a little while today you're going to be God! Pretty cool, huh? As God you can look down at you and give you a good answer to that question. There are many places that provide help to people who really need it. You can check out a charity online to see just what percentage of your donations go to folks that need it. Go For It!

There's always the possibility, of course, that you really and truly don't have enough yourself. In that case you can say a little prayer for those folks. That's right, just a little prayer. God would really like that. It will make us all feel good: You, God and those folks you're praying for.

Pretty soon we will be raking all those leaves from the yard, then we can wonder, "Why do all the leaves in the neighborhood seem to fall in my yard?" Hmmmm , Enjoy the season.

*Lou Eden
Chaplain*

Unit 196 Auxiliary

We're off to a great start to the new year by collecting \$450.00 worth of school supplies. Marilyn Deptula was kind enough to volunteer to deliver the school supplies to Harborside Middle School.

As a reminder, our dues were increased to \$33 per year. Membership for Juniors is \$8.00. Please send your dues to Post 196 ATTN: Patty Paris

- The Auxiliary will donate \$150 to Keep Milford Warm which is a Kiwanis fundraiser that helps those in need with their heating bills.
- The Auxiliary will donate \$280 to Milford Food 2 Kids. This will feed one child on weekends for one year.
- Jennifer Schmidtke said: So that we can get the deployment boxes delivered on time, we

will be putting them together earlier this year than we did last year. If anyone has a loved one deployed and they would like them to receive a deployment box, to please contact her by Oct. 15.

- Cathy Rose presented a Building Homes for Heros project. This started after 9/11. They just completed their 334th house which is located in East Haven. She will invite Tony Sigilito a Building Homes for Heros representative to our November meeting to present. Please join us!
- The Auxiliary member's Christmas dinner will be held on Dec. 5th at Biagetti's at 6PM, dinner will be served promptly at 6:30. The cost is \$40. Please make the check out to ALA Unit 196 and give it to Rose Plank by November 27 by mailing it to her at the Post, leaving it in an envelope with attention Rose Plank at the bar or put the envelope in the Aux mail slot which is located on the office door. We will also collect at the October and November meetings. In order for Biagetti's to be prepared, Rose will have to know by Nov. 27 if you will order Prime Rib.

Awards:

Our Auxiliary received 7 awards at the Department of Connecticut Convention held in July!! They are as follows...

- Citation to the first unit of 101 members or more to reach Department goal on December 31, 2022.
- Marion M Sullivan Award to the unit of 71 members or more with the largest donation to Penny-A-Point.
- Virginia S Burns Award to the unit of 71 members or more having the best Public Relations Program, including Newspaper, Radio & TV publicity and covering the greatest number of programs of the American Legion Auxiliary.
- Certificate to the unit of 101 members or more sending in the highest average per member to Penny-A-Point.

- Certificate of Appreciation and recognition for Active Participation in the Project of the Month.
- Helen McFarland Award to the unit having a previous membership of 101 or more making the greatest numerical gain in membership for the current year. Gain of 44.
- C. Theresa Shanahan Award to the unit of 101 members or more showing the greatest accomplishment in Community Service.

Congratulations for a job well done!

Auxiliary Events:

- Halloween party 10/28/2023
- Ugly Sweater-TBD
- Meat O-TBD

SCOUTING

Were you in the Boy Scouts?
 Did you want to be in the Boy Scouts?
 Well, here is your chance to help our nation’s youth.
 Troop 196, our scout troop needs adult leaders to keep our program active.
 Even if you were never a scout, we need you and can train you in any position. Please contact Chris Sweetwood at the post or email info@milfordctvets.org.

VETERANS DAY CEREMONIES

November 11, 2023: Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony will be held on Saturday November 11, at 11am (11/11/11) in front of City Hall and will then move to the monuments on The Green
November 12, 2023: Veterans Day Parade
 The Milford Veterans Day Parade will be held on Sunday November 12, 2023, at 2pm.
 All units and marchers are asked to assemble at the Daniel Wasson Field parking lot at 1pm. 70 West River Street, Milford, Connecticut 06460. We will have line up instructions when you arrive.

Valuable Links

Our Website	Milfordctvets.org
	Officers
	Veteran Solutions
	Events Calendar
Facebook	Legion Post 196
	Auxiliary
	Riders

[Visit our website](#) and our [Facebook](#) pages for all upcoming events. Remember that this is your post - please support and help this Post grow! The goal of Post 196 is to be here for our future generations of patriots. Thank you and God Bless America.

Monthly Meetings held at Post 196:
Legion: Third Tuesday: 7pm
Riders: First Wednesday: 7pm
Auxiliary: Second Tuesday: 7pm
S.A.L.: Fourth Tuesday: 7pm

Current Lounge Hours

Monday	2pm to 10pm
Tuesday	2pm to 10pm
Wednesday	2pm to 10pm
Thursday	2pm to 10pm
Friday	1pm to Midnight
Saturday	11am to Midnight
Sunday	11am to 10pm

Our Memorial/Honor/Legacy Wall at the American Legion Post 196 to honor and celebrate our heroes and loved ones is growing strong.



Click on the brick to visit our website for more information on this program. A great holiday gift for a loved one.