



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES
AND ITS AUXILIARIES DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT



CONVENTION BANQUET

SATURDAY JUNE 15, 2024 with dinner at 7:00 pm

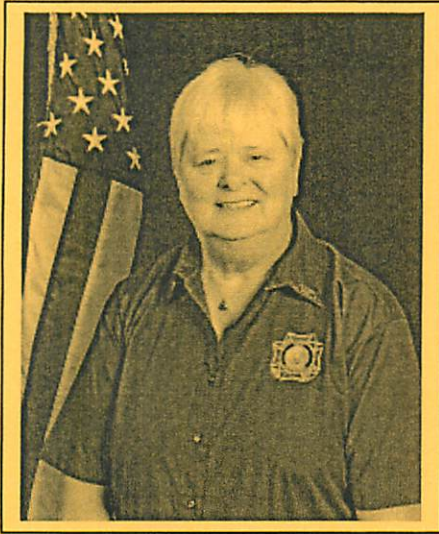
Cash Bar Cocktail Hour 6pm

In the Grand Ballroom of the

ROCKY HILL SHERATON HOTEL

100 CAPITAL BLVD

ROCKY HILL, CONNECTICUT



Special Guest
Sandi Onstwedder, AUX
Past National President

Menu

Fresh Garden Salad & House Dressings

Your Choice of:

- *Prime Rib of Beef
- *Seared Sea Bass
- *Chicken Marsala or
- *Cheese Ravioli w/ Roasted Tomato
and Wild Mushroom Marinara

Accompanied With

- Scalloped Potatoes
- Chef's Cauliflower Puree
- Fresh Baked Rolls w/Sweet Butter

Dessert: Blueberry Cheesecake

Freshly Brewed Coffee, Decaffeinated
Coffee and Specialty Teas

Bon Appetit



Special Guest
Carey Pritchett, VFW
National Chief of Staff

Price per person \$55.00 (Cheese Ravioli PRICE IS \$45.00pp) Price per person \$55.00

BE SURE TO GET YOUR TICKETS EARLY. DEAD LINE FOR TICKETS IS TUESDAY JUNE 11th, 2024. PLEASE USE THE FORM BELOW AND MAKE YOUR CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

THE DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT VFW AND MAIL TO:

Stanley Borusiewicz, SSVC Chairman

P.O. Box 429

Rocky Hill, Conn. 06067

Please reserve me _____ Tickets for the Departments 103rd Convention Banquet to be held on Saturday, June 10, 2023 at 7:00pm in the Grand Ballroom of the Rocky Hill Sheraton Hotel.

Meal Choice/s: Prime Rib _____ Seared Sea Bass _____ Chicken Marsalla _____ Cheese Ravioli _____
 \$55.00 \$55.00 \$55.00 \$45.00

Please make my meal selection a Gluten Free Meal _____

NAME: _____ POST#: _____

STREET: _____ TOWN: _____ ZIP: _____

Check / Money Order for \$ _____ is enclosed.



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT



103rd ANNUAL AWARDS BREAKFAST

SATURDAY JUNE 15, 2024 AT 8:00 am
ROCKY HILL SHERATON HOTEL
100 CAPITAL BLVD
ROCKY HILL, CONNECTICUT

\$25.00 Per Person

This breakfast is by ticket only and none will be sold at the door.

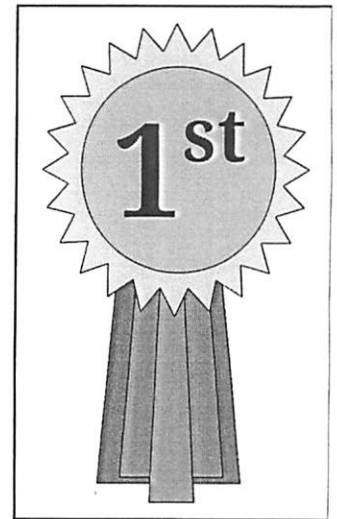


gg58418642 www.gograph.com

BUFFET BREAKFAST MEN

Scrambled Eggs with Cheddar Cheese
Bacon
French Toast
Hash Brown Patties
Muffins, Croissants, Coffee Cakes
Fruit Carving Station
Fruit Preserves
Sweet Cream Butter
Orange and Cranberry Juices
Coffee: Regular - Decaf and Tea

ENJOY



ALL OF THE MAJOR CONVENTION AWARDS WILL BE PRESENTED AT THIS BREAKFAST.
FOR THE 2023-24 ADMINISTRATIVE YEAR. BE SURE TO ORDER YOUR TICKETS EARLY
Teacher and Eagle Scout awards will also be presented.

Mail To:
Charles Pickett, Chairman
VFW Awards Breakfast
P.O. Box 429
Rocky Hill, Conn. 06067

Please reserve _____ tickets for the Departments 103rd Annual Convention Awards Breakfast at \$25.00 each.

Please mail tickets to: Name _____ Post/Auxiliary _____ Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code _____

City	Post	Dist	Total	Prior Year	Percent	Div	Need	Need for 102%
Division 10			51 to 67 Members					
EAST KILLINGLY	4908	4	56	56	100.00%	10	0	58
NEW CANAAN	653	1	50	55	90.90%	10	5	57
CLINTON	9918	6	47	53	88.67%	10	6	55
NORWALK	603	1	54	61	88.52%	10	7	63
LEDYARD	4608	4	46	54	85.18%	10	8	56
MADISON	2096	2	46	57	80.70%	10	11	59
WINDSOR	4740	3	48	62	77.41%	10	14	64
Division 11 (Upper)			10 to 50 Members (31 to 50)					
SOUTHBURY	1607	2	44	45	97.77%	11	1	46
CHESHIRE	10052	2	31	32	96.87%	11	1	33
HEBRON	8776	3	40	42	95.23%	11	2	43
EAST HADDAM	3336	6	35	37	94.59%	11	2	38
THOMPSON	10088	4	45	48	93.75%	11	3	49
SALEM	2774	4	32	35	91.42%	11	3	36
PORTLAND	6121	6	31	34	91.17%	11	3	35
STAMFORD	9617	1	39	43	90.69%	11	4	49
ANSONIA	597	2	36	40	90.00%	11	4	41
STAFFORD SPRINGS	9990	3	45	50	90.00%	11	5	51
SEYMOUR	12084	2	32	36	88.88%	11	4	37
WEST HAVEN	9422	2	32	37	86.48%	11	5	38
HARTFORD	254	3	32	37	86.48%	11	5	38
HAMDEN	10321	2	42	49	85.71%	11	7	50
Division 11 (Lower)			10 to 50 Members (10 to 30)					
LAKEVILLE	9243	5	21	21	100.00%	11	0	22
ESSEX	6726	6	28	28	100.00%	11	0	29
DURHAM	10169	6	10	10	100.00%	11	0	11
WEST WILLINGTON	938	3	26	27	96.29%	11	1	28
COS COB	10112	1	23	25	92.00%	11	2	26
BRIDGEPORT	10273	1	27	30	90.00%	11	3	31
TAFTVILLE	2212	4	27	30	90.00%	11	3	31
COLCHESTER	6990	4	18	20	90.00%	11	2	21
THOMASTON	572	5	24	27	88.88%	11	3	28
COVENTRY	10589	3	22	25	88.00%	11	3	26
HIGGANUM	10690	6	24	28	85.71%	11	4	29
FAIRFIELD	9427	1	23	29	79.31%	11	6	30
Members at Large	15007	99	1301	1407	92.46%	5	106	1436
State Total			9357	10044	93.16%		687	10245
Connecticut as of Monday, April 1, 2024								
State	Post	Dst	Total	Prior Year	Percent	Div	Need	Need for 102%
District Totals		6	584	609	95.89%	6	25	622
District Totals		5	1057	1107	95.48%	5	50	1130
District Totals		2	1544	1641	94.08%	4	97	1674
District Totals		4	2080	2241	92.81%	3	161	2286
District Totals		1	1333	1440	92.56%	5	107	1469
District Totals		3	1458	1599	91.18%	4	141	1631
District Totals		99	1301	1407	92.46%	5	106	1436
State Totals			9357	10044	93.16%		687	10,245

District Commander: District 6: Sheldon Potesak

- Division Commander: 3. Post 7330 Erich Ruman
- Division Commander: 4. Post 9460 Steve Evangelista
- Division Commander: 5. Post 1946 John LeBlanc
- Division Commander: 6. Post 201 Jocelyn M Lillis
- Division Commander: 7. Post 1979 Thomas Griffin
- Division Commander: 8. Post 5849 Robert Farrior
- Division Commander: 9. Post 10688 William D'Appollonio
- Division Commander: 10. Post 4908 Brian Simmons
- Division Commander (U): 11. Post 1607 Kenneth Korsu
- Division Commander (L): 11. Post 9243 Christopher Ohmen

Congratulations to the Division Commanders of the Month!!

The Membership Meeting Saturday turned out great for those that attended, and I thank them for doing so. We jumped up 4 slots in membership since the meeting. We still have a few posts that are way behind in membership totals, and need them to move up and out of the 70% range. I hope all of you that attended now have a new sense of the membership program, and how important it is for your post and the VFW. It brings in NEW leadership when the time comes to pass on the torch. As we head down to the wire, please give it your all to get Connecticut to the top. Thanks Rich DiFederico
Commander
I will be calling those Commanders that failed to attend or send a representative to see if we can help. Rich

OVER

Connecticut as of Monday, April 1, 2024

City	Post	Dist	Total	Prior Year	Percent	Div	Need	Need for 102%
Division 3			356 to 749 Members					
OAKVILLE	7330	5	507	497	102.01%	3	+10	507
Division 4			246 to 355 Members					
STRATFORD	9460	1	320	323	99.07%	4	3	330
NEW BRITAIN	511	3	302	315	95.87%	4	13	322
JEWETT CITY	10004	4	234	251	93.22%	4	17	257
Division 5			185 to 245 Members					
NAUGATUCK	1946	2	256	233	109.87%	5	+23	238
EAST HAMPTON	5095	6	203	195	104.10%	5	+8	199
DANBURY	149	1	227	233	97.42%	5	6	238
WALLINGFORD	591	2	170	188	90.42%	5	18	192
PAWCATUCK	1265	4	165	187	88.23%	5	22	191
DEVON	7788	2	169	192	88.02%	5	23	196
NEW MILFORD	1672	5	154	187	82.35%	5	33	191
Division 6			143 to 184 Members					
WATERBURY	201	2	186	180	103.33%	6	+6	184
CANAAN	6851	5	175	177	98.87%	6	2	181
PLAINFIELD	5446	4	144	147	97.95%	6	3	150
MONTVILLE	10060	4	153	158	96.83%	6	5	162
WILLIMANTIC	1724	4	169	175	96.57%	6	6	179
MANCHESTER	2046	3	151	157	96.17%	6	6	161
WINDSOR LOCKS	6123	3	140	146	95.89%	6	6	149
NORWICH	594	4	159	168	94.64%	6	9	70
MYSTIC	3263	4	141	154	91.55%	6	13	158
WESTPORT	399	1	143	162	88.27%	6	19	166
PUTNAM	1523	4	155	176	88.06%	6	21	180
BROOKFIELD	10201	1	144	169	85.20%	6	25	173
PRESTON	9452	4	137	162	84.56%	6	25	166
Division 7			112 to 142 Members					
WOLCOTT	1979	2	119	123	96.74%	7	4	126
OLD SAYBROOK	10153	6	128	137	93.43%	7	9	140
YALESVILLE	9965	2	106	119	89.07%	7	13	122
ROCKY HILL	2138	3	122	137	89.05%	7	15	140
PLAINVILLE	574	3	101	117	86.32%	7	16	120
NEW LONDON	189	4	92	113	81.41%	7	21	116
Division 8			88 to 111 Members					
NIANTIC	5849	4	94	89	105.61%	8	+5	91
AVON	3272	3	90	95	94.73%	8	5	97
NOROTON HEIGHTS	6933	1	97	103	94.17%	8	6	106
WATERTOWN	5157	5	91	97	93.81%	8	6	99
TRUMBULL	10059	1	94	101	93.06%	8	7	104
BERLIN	10732	3	81	93	87.09%	8	12	95
NEWTOWN	308	1	92	106	86.79%	8	14	109
WINSTED	296	5	85	101	84.15%	8	16	104
NEW HAVEN	12150	2	67	88	76.13%	8	21	90
Division 9			68 to 87 Members					
CANTERBURY	10688	4	78	78	100.00%	9	0	80
OLD LYME	1467	4	68	69	98.55%	9	1	71
GUILFORD	7666	2	67	68	98.52%	9	1	70
PROSPECT	8075	2	76	80	95.00%	9	4	82
WATERFORD	6573	4	67	71	94.36%	9	4	73
ELLINGTON	10689	3	64	68	94.11%	9	4	70
SUFFIELD	9544	3	66	71	92.95%	9	5	73
MIDDLETOWN	583	6	78	87	89.65%	9	9	89
BRANFORD	12106	2	65	74	87.83%	9	9	76
EAST HARTFORD	2083	3	63	73	86.30%	9	10	75
SIMSBURY	1926	3	65	84	77.38%	9	19	86

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT AND ITS AUXILIARY

103RD ANNUAL CONVENTION BOOK

TO: ALL UNITS

FROM: RON RUSKO, CHAIRMAN
CONVENTION PROGRAM BOOK

ALL POSTS AND AUXILIARIES ARE ASKED TO PLEASE PURCHASE ADVERTISING SPACE IN THE *ANNUAL CONVENTION PROGRAM BOOK*. ONLY VFWs AND AUXILIARIES CAN RECEIVE THESE PRICES. ANY ADS FOR BUSINESSES MUST BE PURCHASED THROUGH OUR AD BOOK SOLICITORS *Consult Communications*.

Please present this to the membership at your next meeting, to have your post or auxiliary represented with an ad in our State Convention ad book.

THE RATES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

\$150.00 FULL PAGE

\$75.00 HALF PAGE

\$50.00 QUARTER PAGE

\$25.00 BUSINESS CARD AD

PLEASE SUBMIT ADVERTISING ON REVERSE SIDE OF THIS FORM AND SEND TO :

RON RUSKO, CHAIRMAN
VFW HEADQUARTERS
P.O. BOX 429
ROCKY HILL, CONNECTICUT 06067

TOGETHER WITH A CHECK PAYABLE TO: DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT - VFW

Thank you!

DEADLINE FOR ADS IS WEDNESDAY MAY 8, 2024

OVER

FULL PAGE
\$150

HALF PAGE
\$75.00

QUARTER PAGE
\$50.00

BUSINESS CARD
\$25.00

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT
CONVENTION BUDDY POPPY DISPLAY
OPEN TO ALL VFW POSTS AND AUXILIARIES



RULES

Displays must be brought to the main ballroom prior to the opening of the banquet, and removed after the judging has been completed after the banquet.

Displays will be presented and judged in Three categories:

- CATEGORY 1. Public Promotion of Poppy Campaign.** (Window, booth, parade, poster displays, campaign promotions, etc.)
- (a) Displays must be designed for public exposure and must bear a message soliciting a donation for and wearing of the VFW Buddy Poppy.
 - (b) At least one (1) of the Poppies used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.
- CATEGORY 2. Memorial or Inspirational Displays.** (Wreaths, memorial tablets or plaques, patriotic or devotional themes)
- (a) Displays must be designed to honor the dead, to inspire devotion to God and Country, or to dramatize the activities supported by the Buddy Poppy.
 - (b) At least one (1) of the Poppies used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.
- CATEGORY 3. Artistic or Decorative Use of Poppies.** (Post Home displays, table center-pieces, corsages, pictures, plaques, models, scenes, hats, novelty pieces, etc.)
- (a) Any display not meeting the qualifications for Categories 1 or 2 shall automatically be entered in Category 3.
 - (b) At least one (1) of the Poppies used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

Post or Auxiliary name, number or city may not be visible on the displays. Failure to comply will result in disqualification.



Sheraton Hartford South Hotel
100 Capital Blvd, Rocky Hill, CT 06067
860-257-6000

Reservations can be made by mailing the following to Gina Molde (Sales) at the Sheraton

Name: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Email Address: _____

Check in Date: _____ Checkout Date: _____

Room Type: (Circle One) King Two Double Beds

Any Special Requests: _____

Payment Method: (Circle One) Credit Card / Debit Card Check

*** Hotel will Call you to Confirm Credit Card Information ****

Rate: \$124 Plus 15% Tax = \$142.60



TO: All Members
FROM: Richard DiFederico State Commander
RE: Council of Administration Meeting

The Final scheduled Department Council of Administration Meeting of the 2023 - 2024 VFW administrative year, will be held on THURSDAY APRIL 25, 2024 at 7:00pm.

The meeting will be held at the OAKVILLE VFW Post 7330 - 85 Davis St, Oakville Connecticut. Phone (860) 274-5225

All Post Commanders are invited to attend this meeting and bring any Post Officer or Member who may wish to attend. Every VFW Member is welcome.

If any State Officer, District Commander or State Chairman is unable to attend this meeting, please notify the State Adjutant at Department Headquarters at: (860) 616-2363 or stct@vfw.necoxmail.com

Food will be available prior to the meeting starting at 6:00 pm.

Dress is State Commander's Blue shirt, casual slacks, (or with 3 button down sport shirt if you do not have a Cmdrs. Shirt) and VFW cap. NO Dungarees or shorts Please.

Looking forward to seeing you on the 25th of April 2024 in Oakville.

Richard DiFederico

State Commander

OFFICIAL: For the Commander

Ronald (Rusko) Rusakiewicz

Ronald (Rusko) Rusakiewicz State Adjutant/Quartermaster



OVER

A little dragonfly told me, we will be having someone running for National Guard. It is an honor for the State of Connecticut Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary.

KATHRINE FLEISCHAUER (AUX. 7666)

2016-17 CT VFW Aux. Past Department President (Circle of Excellence recipient), 2023-24 Eastern Conference Chaplain, 2023-24 CT Auxiliary Sr. Vice President, Past District 2 President, Auxiliary 7666 President

WE NEED EVERYONES HELP! EVERYTHING WORTH ACHIEVING COSTS MONEY! ONE PERSON CANNOT DO IT ALONE. KATHRINE HAS WORKED VERY HARD OVER THE YEARS SUPPORTING THE STATE, DISTRICT AND AUXILIARY. SHE HAS SPENT HOURS AT THE VA HOSPITALS WORKING THE COFFEE CART THEN GOES TO WORK.

WHAT I AM ASKING IS IF DEPARTMENT, DISTRICT, AUXILIARY, AND MEMBERS COULD FIND IT IN YOUR HEARTS TO HAVE ONE FUNDRAISER OR RAFFLE OR DONATION WHATEVER BIG OR SMALL. EVERYTHING WOULD HELP. I THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING YOU CAN DO TO HELP KATHRINE'S DREAM TO COME TRUE

DEBBIE MACDONALD PDP 

SEND DONATIONS TO: Anne Philippon 12 Baldwin Drive, Bristol, CT 06010



**Check made
(memo – National Guard Fund)**

payable to: Dept of CT VFW Auxiliary

**Any questions – contact Campaign Manager – Carolyn Grusse –
Carolyngrusse@yahoo.com Kathie's biography available upon request**