



Commanders Message

My fellow Legionnaires,

As we begin a new year together, I want to first extend my sincere appreciation and best wishes to outgoing Department Commander Mike Kellet. Mike has served our department with dedication and commitment, and I thank him for his leadership and the time he has given to the American Legion. Please join me in wishing Mike all the best as he begins his next chapter.

Our Department Convention was an outstanding success. It was a reminder of what makes this organization so special, the dedication of Legionnaires who continue to show up, step forward, and serve. I congratulate all our newly elected and appointed officers. Your willingness to accept a leadership role is more than an honor; it is a commitment to the future of this organization.

As your New Department Commander, I am proud to introduce our theme for the year:

ONE VISION. ONE LEGION. ONE FUTURE.

One Vision means looking beyond where we are today and believing in what we can become tomorrow.

One Legion means standing together—across generations, Posts, Districts, and differences—with one purpose: serving veterans, their families, and our communities.

One Future means having the courage to grow, to welcome new members, to develop new leaders, to communicate in new ways, and to make sure the American Legion remains strong and relevant for the next generation.

This year, I challenge every Post and every Legionnaire to be part of that future. Let's communicate better, welcome new members, involve them immediately, encourage them to lead, and make our Posts places where every veteran knows they belong. We can honor our traditions while still finding new and better ways to serve.

The year ahead is full of opportunity. Let's make the most of it—not as individual Posts or separate groups, but as **One Legion**, united by our service to veterans, our communities, and our country.

One Vision. One Legion. One Future.

Thank you for your continued service, your dedication, and your belief in the American Legion. I am honored to serve as your Department Commander, and I look forward to what we will accomplish together.

Mike Mitchell
Department Commander
American Legion of Connecticut
mitchellmike970@gmail.com



Vice Commanders Message

My fellow Legionnaires,

Well, it is almost a month already since I was elected and installed as the Department of CT Senior Vice Commander on July 11th at our Department Convention.

I am truly humbled & honored that you have placed your confidence in me by election to the Department Senior Vice Commander position.

I want to thank all of you for what you have done and are still doing for our organization, our Nation, our State, our communities & our veterans.

I look forward to working with all of you in the coming year. I am not a Miracle Worker but will do the best which I can possibly do in the position that I have been put into. We will work together to move our organization, the American Legion Department of CT, forward into the future.

Let me end with this – Hindsight is the ability to see an opportunity but only after you have missed it. I missed the opportunity many years ago but decided to grasp this opportunity now while I was still upright. Please do not let your opportunity go by. Our Department, Districts and Posts need more of you to step forward. Do not let your opportunity go by, even if you think you may be too young and not experienced enough. We will work with you and help you get that experience.

With that, I thank you again!

Always in your service,

Dennis F. Lisee

Adjutant Notes

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I hope everyone has had a safe and enjoyable summer. I am back in the office following family leave and am working through emails, phone messages, and other Department business. Thank you for your patience as I get caught up.

If you have any questions, need assistance, or have information to share, please don't hesitate to contact the Department Office. The best way to reach me is by email at ctadj@ctlegion.org, or you can call the office at **860-436-9986**.

As we begin this new Legion year, I look forward to working with all of our Posts, Districts, and members. Thank you for everything you do to support veterans, their families, and our communities. Together, we will continue moving the Department forward.

Boys State Program

The 2026 Connecticut Boys State Program was another successful year, thanks to the dedication of our staff, counselors, sponsoring Posts, schools, and volunteers. Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's program a success.

Planning for the 2027 Boys State Program will begin soon. We encourage Posts to start thinking about identifying and sponsoring qualified young men from their local high schools. Additional information will be shared in the coming months. Please continue to visit www.ctboysstate.org for updates.

National Convention

The National Convention is just around the corner, and we wish safe travels to everyone attending and representing the Department of Connecticut. We look forward to hearing about the Convention and sharing updates in next month's Bulletin.

Potpourri Promote Your Post Events

Is your Post planning an upcoming event? We'd be happy to help spread the word. Send your event flyer to the Department Office at ctadj@ctlegion.org by the **27th of the month before your event**, and we'll include it on the Department's online calendar and in the next Monthly Bulletin.

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

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

ELECTED AT THE 106th Annual Department Convention

Trumbull, CT 06067

July 12, 2026

Commander	Mike Mitchell	Post 14
Sr. Vice Commander	Dennis Lisee	Post 104
Historian	Dr. Popeye C.G. Whittingham	Post 201
Chaplain	Thomas Honyotski	Post 17
Judge Advocate	Brett Connolly	Post 80

DEPARTMENT VICE-COMMANDERS RATIFIED AT THE CONVENTION

1st District Commander	Peter Lund	Post 102
2nd District Commander	Bruce Carlson	Post 25
3rd District Commander	John Hart	Post 100
4th District Commander	Johnathon Whetton	Post 26
5th District Commander	Vincent Adamski	Post 128
6th District Commander	Tim Sweeney	Post 159
7th District Commander	Vincent Bystrek	Post 192

APPOINTED BY COMMANDER Mike Mitchell and Ratified by D.E.C.

SGT-AT-ARMS	Dawn Applegate	Post 17
ASS'T SGT-AT-ARMS	John Hart	Post 100

National Convention Delegation

Mike Kellett	Post 16
Michael Wright	Post 92
Jim LaCoursiere	Post 91
Harry Hansen	Post 165
John DeBisschop III	Post 17
Robert Murry	Post 196
Dr. Popeye C.G. Whittingham	Post 201

Congrats!

★ *TO OUR DEPARTMENT* ★
CONVENTION
PRIZE WINNERS!

1ST

DAVID G ELLSWORTH

\$5,000

2ND

CRAIG COLMAN

\$1,000

3RD

DENNIS J BONENFANT

\$500

4TH

JOHN T FURNESS, JR

\$250

5TH

RICHARD GEE

\$250

Thank you

TO EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED!



METROPOLITAN

YOUR NEXT MISSION BEGINS HERE...

MET PGA HOPE

Instructional Sessions

Where: Rolling Hills Country Club
333 Hurlbutt Street
Wilton, CT 06897

Dates: Thursdays; Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 10, 17, 24

Time: 10:00AM - 12:00PM

Cost: FREE

Graduation Day

Thursday, October 15th
at Woodside Club



FOUNDATION

METROPOLITAN SECTION

Met PGA Hope (Helping Our Patriots Everywhere) is a six week adaptive golf program offered to Veterans free of charge by PGA Professionals. The program is designed to introduce Veterans to the game of golf in an effort to enhance their overall quality of life. Whether you are a brand new golfer, or have some experience we hope that you will join us for this special program.

This program is open to all Veterans, but is geared specifically for those suffering with disabilities to assist them with the assimilation back into their local community.

Each session will focus on the various golf skills you will use while playing. In addition to learning the basics, you will be guided onto the golf course at the last session to put your skills into action in a casual, friendly setting.

Veterans who demonstrate a commitment to golf as a form of therapy by attending at least four weeks of the program are eligible for a set of golf clubs to aid their recovery. Companions are always welcome to attend.

Space is limited so please act fast!
To Register please visit:
www.metpgahope.com



APPTS ONLY, 1-ON-1 INTAKES & INTERVIEW

Free Wednesday
between 10 AM - 2 PM

**Veteran Service Officers offer assistance for Veteran
Claims (Compensation,
Insurance, Pensions,
VA Medical Records, etc.). etc.).**

Help you navigate the process.

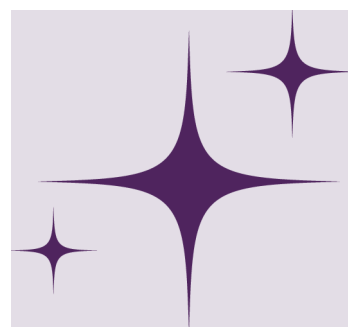
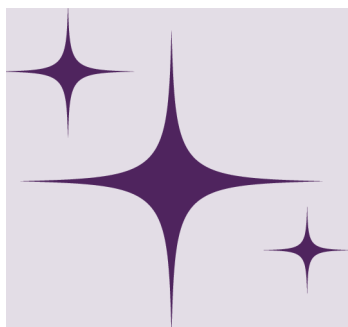
Review your records!

(Medical Records, etc.)



**AMERICAN LEGION
HEADQUARTERS - Cromwell, CT**





BINGO NIGHT



To Benefit:

The May-Davis-Stotzer American
Legion Post 117

PRIZES | FOOD | FUN

Raymour & Flanigan
FURNITURE | MATTRESSES

FRIDAY, September 25th | AT 5:30PM

3375 Berlin Turnpike
Newington, CT 06111

RSVP 860-606-0216 chiefzeman@gmail.com

