



## St. Michael's Post 1562 and Auxiliary

### Catholic War Veterans of the USA

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WebSite: [www.CWV-Post1562.org](http://www.CWV-Post1562.org)

#### Letter from the Post Commander:

This year's newsletter is going to be very different than those of the past few years. Many changes which are necessary for our survival are in the works. Some of you may agree with me and others may not.

Before I begin addressing these issues, I need to tell everyone that due to my recent illness and hospitalization, I will be stepping down in October as your Post Commander. After eighteen years as Commander, it is time for someone else to step up and fill this position. I am very proud of all of the things we, as an organization has accomplished over these years and there are many, far too many to list here. But, these couldn't have been done without the great Veteran and Auxiliary officers who served under me, along with our entire group of Veteran, Auxiliary and Social members I hope our Post tradition of serving God, Veterans and local Community will continue.

The Executive Board recently reviewed our business expenses for the period of 2020 thru 2024. During that time our annual income has decreased by approximately \$30,000. During this same period, expenses rose by over 20%. Much of this is due to the utility and insurance rate increases, but also the lack of our hall rentals and declining membership. An example of this to ponder is: if **one person** who spends \$50 a week at our bar either stops coming to our post or dies, how do we make up \$50 X 52 weeks= \$2,600. The lost revenue increases even more if family and friends who frequented the Post or events with this individual also stopped attending. We have had several occurrences like this over the past five years.

Bringing in new members and supporting our functions is the only way the Post can raise money to keep our C.W.V. programs and business operations going.

If you want Post 1562 and its Auxiliary to continue, you all need to get involved, volunteer some of your time, attend our events and meetings and help us recruit new members. The Auxiliary slate of officer is full but there are vacancies on the Veterans side for individuals to step forward to take the responsibility and accountability of an Officer.

A few weeks ago, I called a meeting of all members to come to our annual planning meeting. We had a very aggressive agenda and have added a few new events which we believe will help our Post and Auxiliary to raise funds. We also eliminated past events which were not too successful.

Our 2025 calendar of events is contained in this newsletter. Because all of details of these events are not known (time and prices) I encourage everyone to periodically check our website: [www.CWV-Post1562.org](http://www.CWV-Post1562.org) and to provide the Post or Auxiliary a valid Email so you can receive periodic "MAILCHIMP" messages with updates for Post and Auxiliary meetings and events.

The Executive Board has authorized a FIFTY cents increase for **All** drink prices at the bar effective February 1, 2025. In addition, the Blue, Yellow, Orange, Black and White colored drink tokens (Bar chips) which have been in use for many years ***will no longer be accepted*** effective on January 1, 2026. New drink tokens, respective to the price increase, are on back-order and will be used once they arrive.

The Executive Board also authorized Hall Rental price increases effective February 1, 2025. Non-Member rental is \$400; Member rental is \$150. The rental agreement will be strictly enforced as stated: Members who are renting on behalf of relatives who are NOT the Immediate Family will be charged the Non-Member rate of \$400.

It is important to attend the monthly business meetings. There has been misinformation being spread in the bar from people who do not attend meetings and think they know everything because they hear others tell half-truths.

The truth is that we have four key fund raisers throughout the year of which any money raised (profit wise) will go to them. Those are for House of Heroes – Connecticut in March, the Naval Sea Cadets Barque Eagle Division in June, and Tunnel to Towers in September and for the youth sports programs at St. Mary / St. Michael School in October. All other proceeds from raffles, dinners, 50/50, donations, jukebox, game machine and pool table and the like are used for general expenses, and the High School Scholarship Fund. Beginning in 2025 we will be earmarking some funds to pay down additional principal on the commercial load taken out to build the outdoor patio. We also put \$50 aside each week to help members who may attend the CWV National Convention (capped at a re-imburement up to \$500). We will be having a dinner this year to help raise funds to purchase new instruments for the St. Mary / St. Michael Fife & Drum Band. Our Veteran 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander Maureen McDonald introduced this at the school, and it has nurtured the excitement of many students who wish to take part in this patriotic musical experience.

As mentioned above, there are several Veteran (Post) officer positions which remain vacant and need to be filled so others are not dual hatted where things slip through the cracks – or worse case is that the responsibilities of the office are not being carried out at all. Having all of these officer positions filled allows each officer to properly do their own jobs; because others are not multi-tasking trying to accomplish everything. Most positions only take about an hour or two of your time per month, so please step forward and help out. Specific vacancies and opportunities include: maintaining the [www.CWV-Post1562.org](http://www.CWV-Post1562.org) website, photographing events for publicity, Post Welfare Officer, Post Historian, Director and back-up for the Post Treasurer. There are also several officer positions open within the CWV Department of Connecticut echelon which meets four times per year here at Post 1562.

With over 400 members between the Veterans, Auxiliary and Social member rosters, there are plenty of individuals in our ranks to become actively involved. More volunteers are needed to help with the events we hold during the year. There will be a sign-up sheet on the post bulletin board to volunteer for a committee / event. Examples would be: setting up and breakdown of events, building and decorating the parade float, volunteering to work at MEATO's, planned BBQs, Dinners, the Outing and general maintenance.

One of our primary responsibilities as Catholics is to practice our faith. Please consider attending our Annual Corporate Communion Mass at St. Michael's Church across the street from the Post on Sunday, April 6, 2025. The church changed the time of its Sunday morning Mass to 9:00 AM so it's an hour earlier than usual – so please make a sacrifice to change your daily routine (if you're not an early bird) to attend. → ***IF YOU HAVE*** a CWV / CWVA dress uniform or any Post 1562 or Auxiliary attire please wear it so our group is recognized at the church. If not – that's okay - it's your attendance that counts. Per tradition - there will be a delicious brunch cooked by the Paugy firemen and others, served in the Post Hall followed by a short speaking and recognitions program. *Social members are welcomed to Mass & Brunch.*

**My 2025 Commander Award recipient is JAMIE PURO who has been a great asset to me during the past year given my physical limitations. Congratulations JAMO!**

If you have not provided us with your email, please send to our Email shown in the letterhead. We like to email because postage, envelopes, paper and labels is expensive. And although we do not have a dedicated Webmaster, there is one individual who tries to keep the website current. Bookmark it!

The bottom line is; if we all don't get involved, take things seriously and start bringing in new members or outsiders to our events, it's just a few years before we too will fold. This post is only as good as the people who support it and what we stand for. Please try to find some time to get involved.

Yours in the C.W.V. *Thomas M. Voytek*  
Post Commander

A Note from Auxiliary President Loretta Budd.

I hope everyone had a Happy and Healthy Christmas and New Years. I am excited about the upcoming New Year and all the events we are planning throughout the year. I want to give a Special Thanks to all of you that have helped in the past year and looking forward to working with you all in this coming year.

*Loretta.*

HAVE YOU HEARD WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN TO THE VETERANS' CEMETERY IN MIDDLETOWN?

NEW HAVEN, CONN. (Jan. 26, 2025):

A growing number of Connecticut Veteran Service Organizations are adopting a resolution urging state lawmakers to save the state veterans cemetery in Middletown from closing.

**SAVE OUR CEMETERY:** is a growing grassroots campaign of Connecticut veterans, advocating for the expansion and salvation of the Middletown State Veterans Cemetery (MSVC).

Learn more at <https://soc.vfwnewhaven.org>

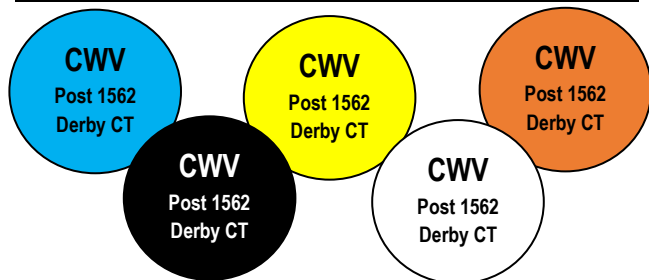
Post 1562 E-mail is CWV@Post1562.ComcastBiz.net

Please add this email to your contact list so incoming emails are not flagged as Junk or Spam. If you have an email but not receiving Post 1562 emails, check your SPAM / JUNK folder and mark them as 'not Spam.' Send your email to us if you have a new or recently changed email so we can update our distribution list. We use Mailchimp so please do not unsubscribe. Thank you.

**BAR TOKENS WILL NOT BE HONORED IN 2026!**

Due to price increases, the Blue, Yellow, Orange, Black and White colored drink tokens which have been in use for many years

**Will NOT BE accepted effective January 1, 2026**



Reminder to FAMILY of our Members

Please notify the Post or Auxiliary when a member is hospitalized. We also ask the family to notify us in a timely manner when a member passes, so proper respects can be rendered.

**Post 1562 Gratefully Appreciates the Patronage of All its Members, Family and Friends, for whom, without their support, our Post would not be able to live our Motto:**

**For God, For Country and For Home**

Your helps enabled us to continue involvement in our National CWV Programs which care for Veterans and Family, Americanism, Catholic Action, Youth and more. Listed below are some of the donations made by Post 1562 from proceeds of Pasta Dinners, MEATOs, raffles and other events held during the 2024 calendar year.

\* combined with Auxiliary donations

**THANK YOU.**

VA HOSPITAL (MORALE WELFARE RECREATION FUND)	\$ 630
* VA PICNIC	750
* HOUSE OF HEROES – CONNECTICUT	2,812
ST MARY / ST MICHAEL SCHOOL:	
YOUTH SPORTS PROGRAMS	1,000
* YOUTH COLOR / ESSAY CONTESTS	600
OUR LADY QUEEN OF APOSTLES (ST. MARY CHURCH)	100
CITY OF DERBY	
STUFF THE CRUISER FOOD DRIVE	101
HOLIDAY FUND FOR ACTIVE DUTY TROOPS	100
SEYMOUR – OXFORD FOOD BANK	500
* DERBY – SHELTON ROTARY CLUB FLAG PROGRAM	250
PORT 5 FLAG DISPLAY	100
LOWER NAUGATUCK BOYS & GIRLS CLUB	125
WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA	170
SUB-VETS (DINNER SPONSORSHIP FOR TWO SAILORS)	120
NAVAL SEA CADETS (SUPER-MEATO & DONATIONS)	2,000
HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS (4)	1,700
HOLY FAMILY RETREAT (MASS CARDS – YOUTH RETREAT)	320
ARCHDIOCESE FOR MILITARY SERVICES	100
KOFC ASSEMBLY 2459 GOLF FOR VETS SPONSOR	150

\*Our Tunnel 2 Towers **“Target CT for T2T”** campaign, kicked off in August 2024 - SURPASSED its \$10,000 goal.

With the help of many members soliciting donations and/or making donations and supporting the fundraising events, the grand total raised was **\$16,010**. Donors who made checks payable directly to T2T are not listed online. View donors from T2T page on [www.CWV-Post1562.org](http://www.CWV-Post1562.org)



**All Planned Meetings and Events are subject to change.**

Visit our website periodically to check on changes to scheduled events or additional details not known in February 2025 when this newsletter was published.

Meetings and Events and/or Events Elsewhere pages  
[www.CWV-Post1562.org](http://www.CWV-Post1562.org)  
or call Post after 1:00 PM (203) 734 – 9748

**Auxiliary Meetings.**

First Monday of the Month at 6:30 PM with some exceptions as noted.

- March 3<sup>rd</sup> April 7<sup>th</sup>
- May 5<sup>th</sup> Recess June - July - August
- Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> (Wednesday)
- Oct 6<sup>th</sup> Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>

**INSTALLATION OF VETERAN & AUXILIARY OFFICERS**  
Monday, October 20, 2025 at 6:40 PM

**VETERAN Meetings.**

SECOND Monday of the Month at 6:30 PM

- March 10<sup>th</sup> April 14 May 12<sup>th</sup>
- Recess June - July - August Sept 8<sup>th</sup>
- Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>



**MEATO**

**GAMES BEGIN AT 7:00 PM.**

Friday - February 28<sup>th</sup> Auxiliary Fundraiser for  
House of Heroes - Connecticut

Friday - May 2<sup>nd</sup> Auxiliary Fundraiser

Friday - June 20<sup>th</sup> Veterans Fundraiser for  
Naval Sea Cadets -Barque Eagle Div.  
June 20<sup>th</sup> is "SUPER MEATO" 2 Winners per game!

Friday - September 26<sup>th</sup> Auxiliary Fundraiser for  
Tunnel 2 Towers

Friday - November 7<sup>th</sup> Veterans Fundraiser for  
St. Mary / St. Michael's Student  
Fife & Drum Corp Band

**Pasta Dinner \$10**

THIRD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH – SERVING AT 6:30 PM.  
PLEASE RSVP AT LEAST THREE DAYS PRIOR SO PROPER  
AMOUNT OF SEATING CAN BE ARRANGED AND PROPER  
AMOUNT OF FOOD PURCHASED.

👉	Feb. 18 <sup>th</sup>	-	March 18 <sup>th</sup>
👉	April 15 <sup>th</sup>	-	May 20 <sup>th</sup>
👉	June 17 <sup>th</sup>	~	June 17 <sup>th</sup>
👉	July 15 <sup>th</sup>	~	August 19 <sup>th</sup>
👉	Sept. 16 <sup>th</sup>	~	October 21 <sup>st</sup>
👉	Nov. 18 <sup>th</sup>	~	December 16 <sup>th</sup>

**MARCH 2025**

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> Mardi Gras Specials in the bar.

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> approx. 2 PM

Happy St. Patrick's Day

Corned Beef Sandwiches in the Bar

Free will donation to cover cost of food is appreciated.

Saturday, March 22, 2025

Dinner and BINGO at the Post hosted by  
the Shelton Exchange Club

**APRIL 2025**

March 32<sup>nd</sup> Ha Ha April Fool's Day is April 1<sup>st</sup>

Saturday April 5<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM  
Children's Easter Bunny Brunch  
This event begins at 11:00 AM.

Sunday April 6<sup>th</sup> -  
Annual Post & Auxiliary  
Corporate Communion 9 AM Mass  
St. Michael Church, followed by our  
Recognition & Awards Brunch.

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>  
Auxiliary's Indoor / Outdoor Craft Fair  
This event runs from 10 AM to 3 PM each day.

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> Good Friday about 1:30 PM  
Traditional Meatless / Meat Buffet  
Free will donation to cover cost of food is appreciated.



**APRIL 2025 continued.**

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> Holy Saturday** about **1:30 PM**  
**Traditional Easter Foods Buffet**

*Free will donation to cover cost of food is appreciated.*

**"Veterans Appreciation Concert"**

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM**

**Seymour Middle School.**

**Tickets available at the Post**

**MAY 2025**

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> Department of Connecticut**  
**C.W.V. and C.W.V.A Convention at Post 1562**

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> & Saturday. 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**Mother's Day Auxiliary Flower Sales**

**Celebrating Armed Forces Day**

**Saturday May 17<sup>th</sup> 2025**

**Auxiliary Unit 1562 will host a Dinner for**  
**Active Duty and Veterans in the Post Hall.**

**Wednesday – Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> 22<sup>nd</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup> 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**Memorial Day Float. Construction & Decorating**  
**Skilled volunteers needed!**

**Saturday, May 24, 2025**

**Dinner and BINGO at the Post hosted by**  
**the Shelton Exchange Club**

**Memorial Day Weekend Events**

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> 11: AM** Muster at the Post for float transportation to Ansonia Memorial Day Parade

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> 7:00 AM** Muster at the Post for ceremony at East Derby Veteran Monument with Paugassett Ladder Co #4 and transportation to the Derby/Shelton Memorial Day Parade.

**Memorial Day - Monday 26<sup>th</sup>** events also include:  
Following Derby/Shelton Parade at 12:00 Noon the Sea Cadets will conduct the annual Flag Retirement Ceremony in the Post 1562 parking lot.  
Hotdogs and Burgers served after the conclusion of Flag Retirement Ceremony.

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> – Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> CWV / CWVA**  
**National Board Meeting in Astoria, New York**

**JUNE 2025**



**Friday, June 6, 2025** is our annual  
**Venison / Elk / Wild Boar Dinner.**  
**Cost is \$40.00.** Arrive early to socialize and buy raffles. Serving 7:00 PM

**Sunday June 8<sup>th</sup> at VA Hospital.**

**CWV & CWVA Host a Picnic**

*For patients at West Haven VA Hospital.*  
Details will be published for anyone interested to help in this major event enjoyed by the hospitalized veterans and their family.



*Now is a good time to look at our*  
*Event Calendar on the Post Web Site:*

**[www.CWV-Post1562.org](http://www.CWV-Post1562.org)**

*or call the Post for details on events scheduled later this year. Some events require an RSVP and payment in advance. Remember, if you cannot attend, please pass the word to other Veterans, members, family and friends who may want to attend or support these important events.*



**RSVP & Pre-Pay for the**

**Overnight Bus Trip to Annapolis, MD:**  
**Naval Academy, Casino, Shopping, &**  
**Navy vs Air Force Football Game.**

**Depart Friday Oct. 3<sup>th</sup> – Return Saturday Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Your Seat is guaranteed when paid in full.**



**JULY 2025**

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> Derby-Shelton Fireworks –**  
**Post will have Hot Dogs at 7:00 PM**

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> of July Patriotic Citizens Awards**  
**on the Derby Green at 10:00 AM**

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> MUST SEE EVENT –**

**Deep River Fife & Drum Corps Parade**  
**Muster 8:15 AM at Post or travel on your own.**

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> Auxiliary BBQ at the Post.**

## **AUGUST 2025**

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> through Thursday night 7th  
Catholic War Veterans National Convention  
in Astoria, New York.

Info at [www.TheCWV.org](http://www.TheCWV.org) on the News & Events Page  
under Member Resources.

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> Auxiliary BBQ at the Post.

## **SEPTEMBER 2025**

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> **RAGING KNIGHTS** host a  
"Steak – Cigar – Bourbon Night !

Friday \* Saturday \* Sunday  
September 12<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>  
CWV Auxiliary  
Combined Tag Sale & Bake Sale

Saturday, September 20, 2025

**Annual Post 1562**

**Family Post Outing.**

Enjoyment for all ages from  
11 AM to 5 PM.

Ticket Prices Sales will be published in August

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> CWV / CWVA Dept CT meetings

## **OCTOBER 2025**

*For those who signed up....  
Friday Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> – Saturday Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>  
Overnight Bus Trip to Annapolis, MD: Naval Academy,  
Casino, Navy vs Air Force Football Game.*

**Annual Membership Dues for Veteran, Auxiliary  
and Social Members are due  
during the month of October for the year  
Oct 1, 2025 to September 30, 2026.**

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> at 12 Noon**

Kids' Halloween Party  
RSVP required.

Kids up to age 8 FREE - Adults \$5.00

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>  
Auxiliary Craft Fair**



## **NOVEMBER 2025**

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> Veteran's Day**

Ceremony at Derby Green begins at 10:30 AM.

**Auxiliary's Annual "Food & Toy Drive"**

**Saturday Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> & Sunday Nov.16<sup>th</sup>**

**From 11 AM to 2 PM each day.**

**Saturday, Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> Thanksgiving Buffet**

Turkey & Ham sandwiches for our patrons at  
approximately 1:30 PM. Free will donation to  
cover costs of food is appreciated.

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Traditional Thanksgiving Dinner**

Hosted by the Auxiliary.

\*Eat In Only. Nominal cost. RSVP required.

## **DECEMBER 2025**

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> ARMY vs NAVY Football Game –  
*Enjoy the game at your Post with comrades and friends!*

**Saturday December 13<sup>th</sup> 2025  
WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA  
Arrive by 11:30 AM  
at St. Michael Cemetery in Derby.**

**Sunday December 14<sup>th</sup> 2025  
Annual Children's Christmas Party  
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm. RSVP required.  
Registration will be mailed in November**

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve gathering at  
the bar for Members & Patrons.



**Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup>  
Merry Christmas**

Post 1562 is Closed.

*Wednesday, Dec.31<sup>st</sup> 2025  
Celebrate New Year's  
at Post 1562.*

*Happy New Year! Thursday, January 1, 2026*



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