



# VFW DEVON POST 7788

Volume 2, Issue 2

WWW.VFW7788.ORG

MARCH / APRIL 2008

## COMMANDERS CORNER

### Commander's Message

Well, we're off to a great start in 2008. Our membership continues to grow, our building renovations (including handicapped accessibility) continue on pace, and our support of our troops and hospitalized veterans should be a source of pride for each member of the VFW Post 7788 family. In addition to the packages we send our overseas troops, and the visits we make to our hospitalized veterans, we have begun to plan our annual "Day for a Vet" program for April 27<sup>th</sup>. Last year was a terrific success and this year promises to be just as good or better. Please join me in supporting this wonderful program.

**Tim Mead** is reorganizing our Post honor guard. It would be great if we could put together a big team for Memorial Day (on May 26<sup>th</sup>) and the State Convention in June. If you are a VFW or VFW Auxiliary member who can participate in one or more parades or events this year, please give Tim your support. Please continue to make our newest members welcome. Many of these young men and women have served several tours of duty in recent years. Many of them are deployed today or will soon deploy again. Remember, it's for and with them that we are building our future. Let's keep them in our prayers. I'll see you at our VA Hospital visits on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wed of every month. For more information, contact **Jan Mead**.

Respectfully,

**Greg Smith**  
 Commander VFW Post 7788  
 VFW National Deputy Chief of Staff  
 VFW National Youth Education Committee

## UP COMING EVENTS

### NOMINATIONS OF POST OFFICERS

Monday March 17, 2008 at Membership Mtg.

### ELECTION OF POST OFFICERS

Monday April 21, 2008 at Membership Mtg.

### DAY FOR A VET

Sunday April 27, 2008 12:00 p.m. in our upstairs Hall. Come Help.

### MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Sunday May 25, 2008 line up 1:00 pm, step off 2:00 pm

## DEPLOYED TROOPS

The following VFW Post 7788 Family members are deployed overseas.

**IORELLA, John**  
**LOEFFLER, Jim**  
**MARCUM, Jr. Jim**  
**REYES, Karen**  
**RASEMAN, Sebastien**  
 Please say a Prayer for their safety

- RETURNED -  
**HERKNER, Steve**  
**MURRY, Jay**  
**DAWID, Kevin**

Welcome Home



## OFFICIAL NOTICE

**NOMINATIONS OF POST OFFICERS**  
 Monday March 17, 2008 7:00 pm

**ELECTION OF POST OFFICERS**  
 Monday April 21, 2008 7:00 pm

**INSTALLATION OF POST OFFICERS**  
 Monday May 19, 2008 7:00 pm

To be Nominated and Elected to Office you must be a member of VFW Devon Post 7788 in good standing, (Dues Paid), for 2008. Elected Officers are: Commander, Sr. Vice Commander, Jr. Vice Commander, Quartermaster, Advocate and Chaplain

## MEN'S AUXILIARY

Meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 7:00 pm

Due to a mix-up, our monthly meeting was held on January 29<sup>th</sup> this month instead of the regularly scheduled 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month. I apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused our members. For those of you who were not in attendance, I made an announcement that the nominations for our Officers will be in April, with elections in May. New Officers will be installed at the May Meeting. This period follows the VFW guidelines. Tim Mead asked if any of our members would like to be a member of our Post Color Guard. If you are interested, please contact Tim, myself, or one of the Aux. Officers. Just a reminder, the Aux. dues are now due for the year 2008. Please contact one of the officers for payment.

Sincerely,  
**Jim Shea**, President Men's Auxiliary

## VFW 7788 LIFE MEMBER IS DEPLOYED AGAIN



Sgt. Sebastien Raseman 1st Armored Div.

## CANTEEN NEWS

Canteen Opens at 2:00 pm Weekdays  
12:00 pm Weekends & National Holidays  
(203) 874- 9982

### ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY

Saturday March 8, 2008 starting at 6:00 pm in our Canteen and Lounge. There will be a Bagpiper playing traditional Irish tunes and a DJ playing your requested songs and some Irish music. Food will be served 6 pm to 8 pm with dancing starting at 8 pm. Tickets are \$15.00 per person, no tickets will be sold at the door. See the Bartender before Monday March 3, 2008 to purchase your tickets.

### SANDWICHES AT THE CANTEEN

Every Saturday afternoon from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm we have heaping portions of Roast Beef served on a hard roll, at the Canteen, with a side of macaroni salad and hot peppers, \$2.50 per sandwich. Come on down and enjoy one with a cold beer.

**Bring your friends and enjoy your Canteen**

## DAY FOR A VET A Day of Sharing and Caring

Sunday April 27, 2008 starting at 12:00 pm in our Upstairs Hall. We will host Veterans from the West Haven VA Hospital for a day away from the Hospital, treating them to a Lunch and some entertainment.

Lunch will be cooked by resident Chef, **Dick Tomasco**, and members of VFW Devon Post 7788 and served to the Veterans by local and state dignitaries. If you can help on this day please call Senior Vice Commander **Bob Paddock** at (203) 878-8527 or e-mail him at [skipmy1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:skipmy1@sbcglobal.net) and let him know you can help.

We will need Greeters to escort the Veterans from the bus to their tables, Coffee and Soda servers, Kitchen help and people to sit with the Veterans and just listen to them and make them feel at home in our Post. You can be that person.

**Please Help!**

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

### Greg Smith

Post Commander  
[gmsmith@snet.net](mailto:gmsmith@snet.net)  
(203) 876-2451

### Jim Shea

President Men's Auxiliary  
[jimjo@optonline.net](mailto:jimjo@optonline.net)  
(203) 378-5522

### Joan Rousseau

President Ladies Auxiliary  
[jr111155@aol.com](mailto:jr111155@aol.com)  
(203) 877-0584

### Eric Rousseau

Post Quartermaster  
[jr111155@aol.com](mailto:jr111155@aol.com)  
(203) 877-0854

### Karen Reyes Benzi -Deployed

Post Service Officer  
[kmreyes18@hotmail.com](mailto:kmreyes18@hotmail.com)  
(203) 521-3633

### Tim Mead

Post Adjutant  
[k9hdlr69@msn.com](mailto:k9hdlr69@msn.com)  
(203) 878-0794

### Janet Mead

VA Bingo Chairperson  
203-878-0794  
[janetm48@msn.com](mailto:janetm48@msn.com)



## SICK CALL

**Bill Gambino** –  
Recovering from his  
operation at home

**Al Carlson** – Out of the  
Hospital and back to work

**Archie Fogler** –  
Recovering at home with  
his wrist in a cast and  
Mary-Lee bird dogging him

## RENOVATIONS IN OUR CANTEEN LOUNGE

We have put new  
wallpaper in our Canteen  
Lounge to make it more  
appealing to our members  
and guests. The wallpaper  
is commercial grade, is a  
nice light tan in color, and  
goes well with the wood  
trim we have in the  
Lounge. Next time you are  
at the Canteen look into the  
Lounge and see the  
improvements.

## DO YOU HAVE E- MAIL?

If you have, the ability to  
receive e-mail, you can help  
save VFW Post 7788 some  
money. We currently mail out  
approximately 500 Newsletters  
every other month to Members  
and Auxiliary members and  
friends of VFW Post 7788, this  
cost money. If we had your e-  
mail address, it would save us  
the cost of mailing and printing  
you the Newsletter. You would  
be able to receive not only the  
bi-monthly Newsletter faster but  
also any special notices or  
bulletins from the Post, or State  
and National VFW.

Your e-mail address  
would remain confidential and  
would only be used to send you  
information about our Post and  
the VFW, it would not be sold or  
given to third parties and would  
be placed on a CD not  
accessible via the WEB. Please  
contact **Jim Goldstein** at  
[jhgolds@optonline.net](mailto:jhgolds@optonline.net) and give  
him your e-mail address to help  
your Post save some money.

**RED CROSS  
BLOOD DRIVE**  
MARCH 11, 2008  
1:00 pm to 7:00 pm  
VFW upstairs hall

And MAY 13  
1:45 pm to 7:00 pm  
VFW upstairs hall



## THANK YOU FOR HELPING US TO SUPPORT THE TROOPS

**These Organizations have  
contributed to supporting  
our Troops**

Milford Young Women's Club  
Milford Masons  
Girl Scout Troop 38304  
Aurora Products  
Melisi Foods  
Corporate Express

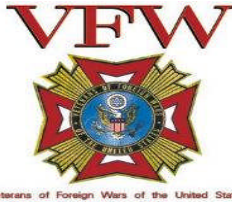
**THANK YOU**

## WEST HAVEN VA HOSPITAL VISITS

Every fourth Wednesday of  
the Month members of our Post  
and its Auxiliary units host a Bingo  
game for the disabled Veterans at  
the VA West Haven Hospital. **We  
can use your help.**

We meet at the Canteen  
and leave by 6:30 pm, spend two  
hours with the Vets and return  
home. If you can help, sign up in  
the Canteen or e-mail Janet Mead  
[janetm48@msn.com](mailto:janetm48@msn.com) and help us  
bring some comradeship to our  
Hospitalized Veterans.

**Janet Mead - Chairperson**



Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

422 Naugatuck Avenue  
Devon, Connecticut  
06460

Phone: 203-874-9982

Web Site: [www.vfw7788.org](http://www.vfw7788.org)

E-mail: [info@vfw7788.org](mailto:info@vfw7788.org)  
[webmaster@vfw7788.org](mailto:webmaster@vfw7788.org)

**WERE ON THE WEB**

**[www.VFW7788.ORG](http://www.VFW7788.ORG)**

**"The Price of Freedom  
is Never Free"**

**To Advertise here  
contact**

**Jim Goldstein at  
[jhgolds@optonline.net](mailto:jhgolds@optonline.net)**

VFW DEVON POST  
7788 Publishes the  
Newsletter six times a  
year every other month.

It is not the price of the  
dues you pay to be a  
Member of the VFW.  
It is the Price You Paid

**Welcome Home**

**PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR  
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They Support the VFW  
We Support Them**



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*Christopher Godek - Manager*

**P.O. Box 5395, Milford, CT 06460 • E-Mail: [NEYC@aol.com](mailto:NEYC@aol.com)**

**Steamatic of Central Connecticut**

11 Leonardo Dr  
North Haven, CT 06473

**(203) 907-4016**

**THANK YOU GEORGE**

Thank You to Men's Auxiliary member,  
**George Balzek** for using his valuable  
talents to upgrade our Canteen Lounge.  
George has spent the past several weeks,  
caulking, painting, staining, and using his  
carpenter skills to help make our Canteen  
Lounge look better for all our Members and  
their guests. The Canteen Committee  
appreciates all the work that George has put  
into making our Canteen look good.

**MEETINGS**

**Board of  
Directors**

1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the  
Month 7:00 pm.

**VFW Members**

3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of  
the Month 7:00  
pm, None July or  
August

**Ladies Auxiliary**

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of  
the month 7:00  
pm

**Men's Auxiliary**

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of  
the Month 7:00  
pm, None July or  
August

**VA Hospital  
Visit**

4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday  
of the month  
leaves Post at  
6:30 pm.  
Volunteers  
Welcomed

**Canteen Cmte.**

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>  
Tuesdays of the  
month 7: pm

**Commander Greg Smith Appointed to the National Youth Education Committee**

The members of VFW Post 7788 are very pleased to announce that VFW National Commander George Lisicki has appointed our Post Commander, Greg Smith, to the National Youth Education and Community Service Committee. Commander Smith was nominated by VFW State Commander John Bernier.

Commander Greg Smith has been asked to attend the 2008 National Community Service Conference and the National Legislative Conference March 2-5, 2008, in Washington D.C. This is quite an honor for Greg, our VFW Post, and our community. Let's continue to work together to serve our community, our troops, and our veterans.

Respectfully,  
Robert Paddock


Senior Vice Commander, VFW Post 7788

[www.vfw7788.org](http://www.vfw7788.org)



# VFW 7788 MARCH 2008 EVENTS

**Sun                      Mon                      Tue                      Wed                      Thu                      Fri                      Sat**

<b>GET YOUR TICKETS FOR SAINT PATRICK'S DAY PARTY</b>							<b>1 Sandwiches Dart League 7pm</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>3 B.O.D. MEETING 7:00 PM</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6 BINGO 5:30 PM</b>	<b>7</b> 	<b>8 ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY 6 PM</b>	
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11 Red Cross Blood Drive 1 pm Canteen Mtg. 7PM</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13 BINGO 5:30 PM</b>	<b>14 Family Picnic Mtg 7pm</b>	<b>15 Sandwiches Dart League 7pm</b>	
<b>16</b>	<b>17 Nominations VFW MEETING 7:00PM</b>	<b>18 Ladies Auxiliary Meeting 7pm</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20 BINGO 5:30 PM</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22 Sandwiches 12 pm – 3 pm Dart League 7p</b>	
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25 Men's Auxiliary Meeting 7:00 pm Canteen Mtg. 7PM</b>	<b>26 VA Hosp. Visit</b>	<b>27 BINGO 5:30 PM</b>	<b>28 Family Picnic Mtg 7pm</b>	<b>29 Sandwiches 12 pm – 3 pm</b>	
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>						

# VFW 7788 APRIL 2008 EVENTS

**Sun                      Mon                      Tue                      Wed                      Thu                      Fri                      Sat**

		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3 BINGO 5:30 PM</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5 Sandwiches 12 pm – 3 pm</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>7 B.O.D. MEETING 7:00 PM</b>	<b>8 Canteen Mtg. 7 pm</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10 BINGO 5:30 PM</b>	<b>11 Family Picnic Mtg 7pm</b>	<b>12 Sandwiches 12 pm – 3 pm</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15 Ladies Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17 BINGO 5:30 PM</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19 Sandwiches 12 pm – 3 pm</b>
<b>20</b> 	<b>21 Elections VFW MEETING 7:00PM</b>	<b>22 Canteen Mtg. 7 pm</b>	<b>23 VA Hospital Visit 6:30 pm</b>	<b>24 BINGO 5:30 PM</b>	<b>25 Family Picnic Mtg 7pm</b>	<b>26 Sandwiches 12 pm – 3 pm</b>
<b>27 DAY FOR A VET LUNCH 12 PM</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29 Men's Auxiliary Meeting 7:00 pm</b>	<b>30</b>			

## SAINT PATRICK'S DAY

This year we are celebrating Saint Patrick's Day on Saturday March 08, 2008 in our Canteen Lounge starting at 6:00 pm

Tickets are limited and they go fast, tables may be reserved for six or more people, all tickets must be paid for in advance due to the demand for tickets for this event. First come, first served. Get your tickets while the supply lasts. Tickets will go on sale in the Canteen on February 1, 2008. See the on duty Bartender to purchase your tickets and to reserve your table.

We will serve tender and juicy thin sliced Corn Beef with Red Potatoes, Cabbage and Carrots all you can eat.

There will be a **Bagpiper Mr. Tom Dalton** from 6 pm to 7 pm & a DJ playing old favorites and today's hit songs for your listening and dancing pleasure starting at 7 pm to celebrate Saint Patrick's Day Bring your family and fiends and enjoy the party at the Canteen

**TICKETS: \$15.00 per person**

NO TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR

## VFW 7788 FAMILY PICNIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Our Post is gearing up for a planned VFW Family Picnic in early September; we need your help in planning for this Post event. We are looking for Members, Auxiliary member and friends of VFW Devon Post 7788 to help on a planning committee. The committee would meet twice a month on Friday evening at 7:00 pm in the Canteen Lounge. The meeting would last approximately one hour. If you can help your Post plan this Family friendly event, please contact Jim Goldstein by leaving a message at the Post Canteen, (203-874-9982) for him or e-mail him at [jhgolds@optonline.net](mailto:jhgolds@optonline.net) for more information.

**First meeting to be held on Friday March 14, 2008 7:00 pm**



Everybody is  
IRISH on this day  
**TICKETS GO ON  
SALE FEB. 1<sup>st</sup> 2008**

**COME TO THE PARTY  
AT THE CANTEEN  
SATURDAY  
MARCH 8th, 2008**

## IRISH TRIVIA QUESTIONS

Why did God invent Irish Whisky?

What Irish American wrote Yankee Doodle Dandy and She's A Grand Old Flag?

What is the nickname of the 69<sup>TH</sup> New York Infantry Regiment?

What is burnt in a traditional Irish Fireplace?

**ANSWERS AT THE CANTEEN**

## CHANGING OF THE GUARD

We would like to thank **Pam Holden** for her many years of service to our hospitalized veterans. We welcome **Janet Mead** as our new VA Hospital bingo chairperson. Jan has been doing a great job organizing our trips this year. This is one of our most important missions. Please continue to give Janet your support. Her phone number is 203-878-0794 or e-mail her at [janetm48@msn.com](mailto:janetm48@msn.com)

## MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

On Sunday May 25, 2008, our Post will be marching in the Milford Memorial Day Parade. We will line up at 1:00 pm behind the Parsons Government Complex in the Dan Wesson Field parking lot and step off at 2:00 pm. It's only a mile down hill, Show your PRIDE in your Post. **Come march with us.**

## Here & There DICK TOMASCO

Tin Can Sailor and Chef  
Article by Jim Shea

The Canteen Committee, as well as the rest of the Membership and Auxiliary owes a lot to Post lifetime Member **Dick Tomasko**. Dick unselfishly volunteers his time to provide us with sandwiches at a reasonable price each Saturday, but also comes up with excellent cuisine for our many functions, such as Saint Patty's day, Golf Tournament, Funerals, etc.

Dick is a self-taught culinary master, but surprisingly has never made a living at it. During his youth in WWII he resided at the Milford Boys Village before joining the Navy at age 16, and is a Veteran of the Korean War. He joined our Post in the year 2000 soon after he lost his beloved wife, and served as our Senior Vice Commander for a time. Dick loves playing 6-5-4 and is noted for his famous sayings of "Love ya" or "Hurry up". **Thanks for all you do Dick.**

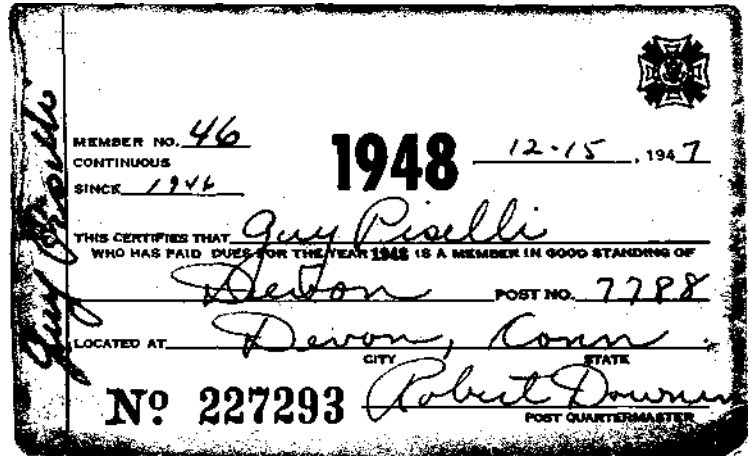


Photo by Jim Goldstein, VFW 7788

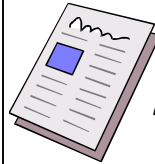
## HELLO FROM WAY UP NORTH

Between the holidays, we had a visit from **Bill Miller**, who originally was a Milford native. He stops in the Canteen when he is in town. Bill is a past Commander of Post 9785 in Alaska where he now resides. He says "Hello" to all his friends.

Do you have a VFW membership card  
as old as or older than this?



Look at the VFW member number in the upper left hand corner of the card, that's VFW 7788 Charter Member #46, Guy Pisilli found this card as he was doing some cleaning at home. He joined the VFW right after World War II and helped to establish VFW Devon Post 7788 in July of 1946. He and Travis Kitchens are the only two active VFW Charter Members left. If you can't place the face with the name, Guy is the person who operates our Beer Taps at all the Picnics.



## THANK YOU TO OUR NEWSLETTER ELVES

*'They gather at night in dark places'*

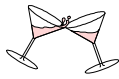
The Post would like to thank the Newsletter staff that volunteers their time to fold, paste, label, sort, and mail your bi-monthly newsletter. *George Baczek, Bob & Flo Broadly, Stella Wyland, and Jean Weitz. Thanks people.*

**Jim Goldstein & Jim Shea – Editors**



## VFW POPPY DRIVE 2008

**Jim Killeen** is requesting Volunteers to help for this years VFW Poppy drive. It will be for one weekend in May (Saturday and Sunday). The money raised will go towards paying for our Chaplains' Relief Fund, which helps pay for Wreaths, and Flowers and our Coupon Book for hospitalized Vets at the VA in West Haven. If you can help, sign up in the Canteen for the day and shift of your choice, or leave an e-mail message at [info@vfw7788.org](mailto:info@vfw7788.org), Members and Auxiliary Members are needed.



**ANNIVERSARIES:**  
**MARCH 2008**

- 4 JIM & JUDY HESSBERGER
- 19 JO & JIM SHEA



**BIRTHDAYS:**  
**APRIL 2008**

- 3 Bill Burns
- 3 AL CAPOZZIELLO
- 4 FRAN BAYE
- 8 CRAIG DUNNA
- 11 JOE SCHIETINGER
- 28 LORNA PITCHER
- 29 FRANK BUDA
- 31 GUY PISELLI



**ANNIVERSARIES:**  
**MARCH 2008**

- 9 LEFTY & MARY STEFAN
- 11 ROBERTA & LARRY CHADBOURNE
- 16 MIKE & JOAN MOENS



**BIRTHDAYS:**  
**APRIL 2008**

- 5 BOB JANES
- 11 RAY TUSKA
- 16 FLO BROADLEY
- 18 DICK TOMASKO
- 19 KIM RASEMAN
- 28 JAY SALMINI
- 28 KAY LEAHEY
- 29 JOHN BORGATTI

**HOW TO RENT OUR FACILITIES**

**Main Hall or Picnic Grounds Rental**

Contact Kevin Norman (Leave Message) (203) 877-9812 or 203-874-9775

**CANTEEN LOUNGE**

(For Parties up to 90)  
Contact Al Carlson (203) 874-9982 after 2pm

**VFW POST 7788**

**NEW MEMBERS**

**James Murcko**

**Ryan McFarland**

**Paul Decava**

**WELCOME**

**VETERANS**

290/130 = 420

**VFW DEVON POST 7788**  
**422 Naugatuck Avenue**  
**Milford, CT. 06460**

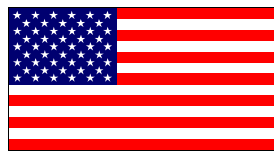
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