

# GREENBELT AMERICAN LEGION POST 136

# CONTACT



6900 Greenbelt Rd, Greenbelt, MD 20770

(301) 345-0136

<http://www.greenbeltmdpost136.org>

VOLUME LXXX

November/December 2023

ISSUE VI

## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

As we head into the final two months of 2023, I am thankful for the progress that we have made in recovering from our long COVID shutdown. Thanks to the entire Greenbelt Legion Family for your support and patience in our efforts to return to normalcy. The restaurant is back in operation on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday and due to your support, I am pleased to announce that we are making a modest amount of money on our food services. We have various activities during the week including the Horseshoe/Cornhole League, a new Pool League, and "Second Thursday" Karaoke. Our Auxiliary Unit sponsors "Shot Gun Bingo" every Tuesday and the S.A.L. sponsors "Queen of Hearts" every Wednesday night. On October 28<sup>th</sup>, we sponsored a Halloween costume party.

November and December are very busy months around the Post. As a thank you to those who have renewed their membership for 2024, we begin November with our "Early Bird Dinner" on Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 PM until 4:00 PM. (Eastern Standard Time). The Post is at 65% in renewals. Just bring your 2024 membership card or pay your 2024 dues at the door, and you will be treated to a delicious spaghetti dinner (see ad on page 5.)

The U.S. Marine Corps will be celebrating its 248<sup>th</sup> birthday on Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. Best wishes to our brothers and sisters who served in the Corps.

On Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, we will be joining the Mayor and Council at the Greenbelt War Memorial to commemorate Veterans Day. The event will begin at 11:00 AM and attendees will be invited back to the Post for a light lunch.

On Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup> we will host the Greenbelt Concert Band in Hofberg Hall at 1:00 PM for a delightful afternoon musical interlude.

Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup> we will be participating with Rolling Thunder Maryland Chapter 1, and the Greenbelt VFD&RS in the annual USO Metro Area "Thanksgiving Meal Give-Away to Local Active-Duty Families." The Greenbelt Legion Family contributes funds to provide complete Thanksgiving dinners to deserving military families. The Post parking lot serves as a distribution point from 10:00 AM. until 12:00 noon.

We will not be serving Thanksgiving Dinner, and the restaurant will be closed on Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> and Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup>. On Saturday, November 25<sup>th</sup>, the Auxiliary will sponsor their annual Craft Fair in Hofberg Hall.

*(Commander's Message continued on page 2)*

## 2023/2024

Commander:  
Greg Gigliotti

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander:  
Harold Bullock

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander:  
Butch Hicks

Judge Advocate:  
Tom Davis

Sgt. at Arms:  
David Johnson

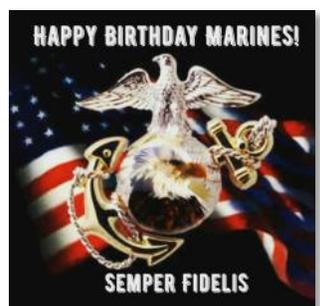
Chaplain:  
Shawn Fenstermacher

Historian:  
Bernie Zempolich

Finance Officer:  
Richard Brown

Adjutant:  
Mike Moore

Members at Large:  
Harold Schlemmer  
Larry Williams  
James Hawkins  
Bill Muffley



On Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will honor our local first responders at our annual Law Enforcement and Firefighter Recognition Ceremony and Banquet. We will be joined by the Greenbelt Mayor and Council, as well as other county and state dignitaries. The event will begin at 5:00 PM in Hofberg Hall. On Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, we will remember our nation's heroes at Pearl Harbor. We are looking forward to seeing a great turnout in the members lounge on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> for the Army-Navy Football Game. The game starts at 3:00 PM so get there early and bring a dish to share. The Post will also provide food.

We invite you to attend our annual Customer Appreciation Day on December 24<sup>th</sup> (Christmas Eve) with lots of great complimentary food and reduced drink prices. As is our tradition, we will be closed on Christmas Day to allow our staff to enjoy the holiday at home. The members lounge will be open on New Year's Eve to celebrate 2024. The "Wagon of Cheer" drawing will occur at midnight. Tickets are available at the bar - 3 for \$5.00 and 7 for \$10.00. The Past Commander's Club appreciates your support.

As a reminder, those of you who have blocks in the Super Bowl Parties should have received a call from Paul Durance advising you to pay for your spots by November 1<sup>st</sup>. Please get your money in as soon as possible.

Finally, let's not forget. The Post Management team continues to work hard to satisfy our customers menu requests. The Greenbelt American Legion restaurant has created tasty meals at reasonable prices. Please join us, the specials will be great. For more information on the Friday Night and Saturday Night specials please refer to the Greenbelt American Legion Facebook page or visit the restaurant in person to enjoy the food. We're open on Sundays for breakfast from 8:30 AM -1:00 PM and invite you to join us.

I hope you enjoy the holidays and stay healthy and safe.

God Bless America,

Greg Gigliotti,  
Commander

## **CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE**

Greetings Fellow Legionnaires,

I am honored to serve as your chaplain, here to support each of you on your spiritual journey. My purpose is to help you trust God with your concerns, offering prayers and guidance whenever you need it. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me at any time. You can contact me via email at [ShawnHope@aol.com](mailto:ShawnHope@aol.com) or by phone at (301) 641-3194. I am available for your prayer requests and spiritual needs.

Additionally, if you have any information about a member who is ill or has moved to Post Everlasting, please reach out to me or our Post Manager, Jay Mayock. Your assistance ensures we can extend our support to those in need. I am a certified and ordained minister and can facilitate marriages and memorial ceremonies. At the end of December I will have earned my master's degree in Christian Ministry.

As we move into the Holiday Season, please reach out to your loved ones that may have lost someone recently as they might be struggling without telling anyone.

We will be having Chaplain training from our Department of Maryland Chaplain, Marian James sometime in November. All members are welcome to attend if interested as it will be one evening of training at the Post. Please let me know if you would like to attend as I am still finalizing the date, location, and time.

May we all find strength and solace in faith.

Warm regards,  
Shawn Fenstermacher,  
Chaplain



# SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION SQUADRON 136



## S.A.L. COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Legion Family members, we have come to the last 2 months of 2023. As always, I hope this newsletter finds you in good health and spirits. 2024 is right around the corner and your Squadron leaders are working hard to keep our missions on track and looking for your help. During the coming months, there will be many opportunities for our Post Family and you to help various parts of our community. We will start with the Post annual [Early Bird Dinner](#) on November 5<sup>th</sup>. The Early Bird Dinner is a nice time to get together to chat and catch up with many of our Legion Family members during the afternoon. November 11<sup>th</sup> is Veterans Day, look for details on events elsewhere in the Contact. Then on November 18<sup>th</sup> we will again be working with Rolling Thunder Maryland Chapter One's Turkey for Troops Project. They coordinate with the regional USO and distribute Thanksgiving meals to a number of active duty members in the DMV. They will be distributing these meals here at Post 136. Look for information around the Post Home on times to help or just to thank the active service members and their families for their continued service. When you are at the Post Home, you will see the donation cartons for the annual Marine Corps Toys for Tots campaign. Please bring an unwrapped toy, place it in the box for collection, and support the campaign. Check the bulletin boards for information for items needed by the residents of the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, a container will be set up somewhere in the Post to collect those items to get to the groups who gather them and put in stockings to be delivered. These are just a few of the known things gearing up for the end of year.

S.A.L. 136 needs your help to continue our other core missions and engage in newer missions. The Wednesday Queen of Hearts nights is currently our primary means of financial support for our missions and projects, please consider signing up to work one of the nights a month or stop in and support us.

The easiest mission you can help with is renewing your yearly dues. Membership is vital to the Legion Family and renewing your dues triggers so many other components of our missions that strengthen the four pillars of The American Legion and for our greater community. Check your membership card. If you do not have your 2024 membership card, please stop by the Post one evening to pay your dues or mail in to the Post. S.A.L. 136 2024 Dues are \$25 for regular members and \$15 for Dual and members Under 18. You can renew online at [www.mylegion.org](http://www.mylegion.org) you will need your membership number from your 2023 membership card if you have not already set up an account. Membership cards will be mailed or left at the members lounge with in a couple weeks of receiving payment details.

Our monthly meetings are held every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 PM. It's also a great time to join our committees like the S.A.L. cook crew, membership, service and fundraising committees to name a couple. Our meetings or Queen of Hearts nights are a great time to bring up new ideas and proposals. Looking for new ideas on growing our S.A.L. programs and creating and holding activities for Children & Youth. The need is here for your service, participation and ideas.

Building a Stronger Community for Those Who Served.

Lenny Wertz,  
S.A.L. Commander

2023/2024	
Commander:	Lenny Wertz
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander:	Randy Fortwengler
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander:	Tommy Bryant
Chaplain:	Kenny Hall
Finance Officer:	Bill Cornelius
Historian:	Ray (Cory) Micallef
Sgt-At-Arms:	Steve Tippet
Adjutant:	Ray (Cory) Micallef
Advisor:	Richard Dutton

**S.A.L.  
MEETINGS**  
Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday  
7:00 PM

**DON'T FORGET TO  
JOIN OR RENEW  
YOUR MEMERSHIP  
FOR 2024**



# AUXILIARY UNIT 136



**2023/2024**

**Unit Officers**

President:

Kathy Gigliotti

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:

Elizabeth Darnell

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:

Patty Rousseau

Secretary:

Mary Fava

Treasurer:

Sandi Dutton

Chaplain:

Susan Wiener

Historian:

Rusty Beeg

Executive

Committee:

Laura Fendlay

Dora Hamm

Elizabeth Rice

## AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello,

Fall is in the air, hope all had fun this summer. Now it's time for football, leaves changing color and all the holidays to come.

Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> is the Early Bird Dinner. If you have not paid your 2024 dues please come out and pay for them and get a delicious spaghetti dinner.

The Annual Craft Bazaar will be held on November 25<sup>th</sup>, get your applications in.

We have been busy supporting our local schools and organizations. We donated to the City of Greenbelt Pink Pantry/Nursery Project. We were happy to donate to the David Craig Memorial Foundation. We helped Eleanor Roosevelt High School buy paint so the students could paint the temporary class rooms. We supported our Legion S.A.L. Crab Feast by working on it and donating some money to help make it a success. We gave out four scholarships at \$1000.00 each. We were a King Bushel sponsor for the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department (GVFD) Crab Feast, fun was had by all. 25 back packs were donated by one of our members, Sylvia Hill, which we donated to Springhill Lake Elementary School and our Past President Dana Coleman for her students. We also donated to Charlotte Hall so they could buy items for their resident's Wish Lists.

Thank you to all the members that donate their time and effort in making this Unit a great one!

Respectfully,  
Kathy Gigliotti,

President Unit 136

## AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN - MEMBERSHIP MESSAGE

Our Unit sends out a BIG welcome to our newest members: Cheryl Sliter, Silvia Hill and Constance Lehman. We also have a pair of sisters transferring in. Welcome Jackie Flanagan and Allison Halley. Vita Makle and Patricia Mumford are rejoining - welcome back.

Sympathy to the family of our deceased member Gloria Landis.

2023 dues are 382 out of the goal of 416. Our 2024 membership has started to come in. We have 60 paid members as of October 1<sup>st</sup>. So I ask all our ladies to take a minute and send a \$30.00 check and hopefully a few dollars for a Money Bunny donation. Please mail your check to P.O. Box 1063 Greenbelt Md 20768.

May the future bring us Gratitude for the people in our life, Patience to grow at our own pace and Confidence to conquer uncertainty.

Susan Wiener,  
Membership Chairman  
(301) 474-0849



### AUXILIARY MEETINGS

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays  
7:00 PM  
excluding  
July  
&  
December



Like our Juniors  
on Facebook @  
136juniorsala

### 2024 Dues

For Auxiliary Members

\$30.00 Regular (Seniors)

\$20.00 Seniors with 50 yrs. or more

\$6.00 Dual Members and  
Juniors (Members under 18)

# SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup> EARLY BIRD SPAGHETTI DINNER

Thank you to early 2024 dues payers!

Thank  
you!



Dinner served from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Please bring your 2024 Membership Card, or you can pay your dues at the door.

## THE CONTACT

The Contact is a bi-monthly newsletter published by The American Legion, Greenbelt Post 136

Publisher: Mike Moore

Editor: Bernie Zempolich

Composing: East-West Web Solutions

## GREENBELT AMERICAN LEGION POST 136 HOUSE RULES

1. The Post Home is a family-oriented facility which is open to those members of our Post 136 American Legion Family (American Legion, Sons of the American Legion and Auxiliary) who are in good standing, abide by the rules, and behave in a respectful manner that promotes the principles, goals, and values of our organization. All members and guests should be dressed in a clean and respectable manner.
2. When asked by a Post Officer, Management, or a Bartender-in-Charge, visiting Legion members will present their current membership card.
3. The Bartender-in-Charge acts as the agent of Post Management and is responsible for the smooth and efficient operation of the Members Lounge, the dining room bar, or any other Post social function. Service staff have been "TIPS" certified and are trained to not overserve patrons. The Bartender-in-Charge has been delegated full authority to resolve issues and determine if patrons should be served.
4. Further, the Bartender-in-Charge will control all entertainment media, including televisions, juke box, amusement devices and game room video machines. Sporting events will have precedence over all other programming.
5. Non-member guests must be sponsored and signed-in by a Post 136 member in good standing. Sponsors must remain with their guests for the duration of their visit and are responsible for their behavior throughout the visit.
6. Parents are responsible for the behavior of their children while at the Post. Children must be accompanied by an adult throughout their visit to our facility. Children are not allowed at the bar or the game room. No minors are allowed at the Post after 9:00 p.m.
7. Other than certified service animals, no pets are allowed in Post facilities. Exceptions for special events may be explicitly granted by the Executive Committee in advance.
8. Beverages and food consumed on Post property must be purchased from the Post or sources authorized by the Executive Committee. During times when food is not available from the Post, individuals may bring in food for personal consumption.
9. Any individual who intentionally damages Post property or facilities or causes physical harm to another person will be held financially accountable and will be subject to disciplinary action by the Commander in consultation with the Executive Committee. Profanity, annoying behavior, or antagonistic conduct have no place in this family-oriented organization. Violators will be asked to leave by the Bartender-in-Charge or a Post Officer and repeat violators may have their social privileges suspended by the Executive Committee.
10. Firearms and other lethal weapons, or illegal drugs are not permitted at any time on Post property or facilities. Violators will be reported to local law enforcement authorities.

**We Thank You for Your  
Support and Understanding**



Greenbelt Unit #136  
American Legion Auxiliary Presents  
Our Annual Craft Bazaar

Hand Made Items  
Raffles  
Refreshments  
Bake Sale

Saturday, November 25, 2023  
10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

6900 Greenbelt Road  
(MD RTE 193)

*For info: Rusty Beeg @ 301-602-7214  
or email: rbeeg5908@gmail.com*





# SHOTGUN BINGO

## Tuesday Evenings 7:00 PM

*Bring a friend,  
enjoy some food,  
friends and, maybe  
even be a **BIG** winner.*

*Sponsored by the Auxiliary Unit #136*



# MONEY BUNNY!!

YOUR CHANCE TO WIN \$300.00  
Please support our Merit Scholarship Program  
TICKETS ARE \$1.00 EACH

Drawing Date:  
November 11, 2023 - Veterans Day  
Please send your address labels and checks made payable to Greenbelt Unit #136) to:

Greenbelt Unit #136  
ATTN: Sandi Dutton  
P.O. Box 1063  
Greenbelt, MD 20768



# Queen of Hearts Wednesday Evenings



A New Drawing Will Be Held Every Wednesday Until the Queen of Hearts is Drawn

All Tickets Must Be Purchased by 7:15 PM the Night of the Drawing

Drawing Held: 8:00 PM - Tickets: \$5.00 each/3 for \$10.00 - Pot Starts at: \$1000.00

**This is a progressive raffle open to the public.**

One (1) ticket drawn every Wednesday

Your full name must be on your ticket(s) to be valid.

If your ticket is drawn, you may pick a card from the Queen of Hearts Board.  
The amount of money won depends on the card drawn.

### ATTENTION ALL QUEEN OF HEARTS PLAYERS

The Queen of Hearts will now be offering Hold' em Cards \$1.00 each on Wednesday evenings to win various cash prizes. (Up to \$100.00 prizes)

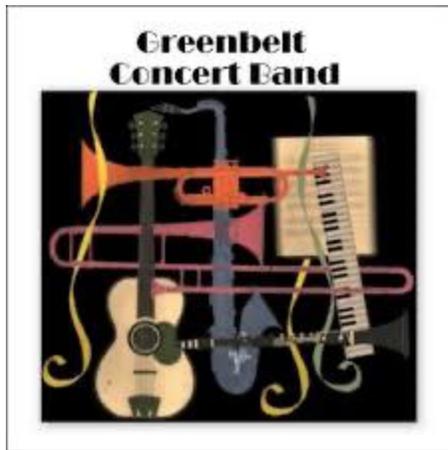
Also, when getting 10 Hold' em Cards, **ONE FREE** Queen of Hearts ticket is yours as well!

**\*\*This offer good until further notice\*\***

*Sponsored by The Sons of the American Legion Squadron 136*

## GREENBELT CONCERT BAND PERFORMANCE

Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup>  
1:00 PM in Hofberg Hall



## ARMY - NAVY FOOTBALL GAME

Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>  
Game Starts at 3:00 PM



Arrive early and bring a dish to share.  
The Post will also provide food.



## VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

Greenbelt War Memorial

11:00 AM

Attendees will be invited back to the Post after  
the event for a light luncheon.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2023

Sunday, November 5 <sup>th</sup> :	Early Bird Dinner
Monday, November 6 <sup>th</sup> :	Post 136 Executive Committee Meeting: 6:30 PM
Friday, November 10 <sup>th</sup> :	U.S. Marine Corps 248 <sup>th</sup> Birthday
Saturday, November 11 <sup>th</sup> :	Veterans Day (Observed Friday Nov. 10 <sup>th</sup> )
Sunday, November 12 <sup>th</sup> :	Greenbelt Concert Band: 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM Patriotic Songs Performance in Hofberg Hall
Thursday, November 16 <sup>th</sup> :	Post 136 General Membership Meeting: 7:00 PM
Thursday, November 23 <sup>rd</sup> :	Thanksgiving Day (No Banquet)
Friday, November 24 <sup>th</sup> :	<b>Restaurant Closed</b>
Saturday, November 25 <sup>th</sup> :	Auxiliary Annual Craft Fair (see ad on page 7)
Saturday, December 2 <sup>nd</sup> :	Law Enforcement & Firefighter Recognition Banquet
Monday, December 4 <sup>th</sup> :	Post 136 Executive Committee Meeting: 6:30 PM
Saturday December 9 <sup>th</sup> :	Navy-Army Game
Sunday December 17 <sup>th</sup> :	Employees Christmas Party
Thursday December 21 <sup>st</sup> :	Post 136 General Membership Meeting: 7:00
Sunday December 24 <sup>th</sup> :	Post 136 Customer Appreciation Day
Monday December 25 <sup>th</sup> :	Christmas Day (Post Closed)
Sunday December 31 <sup>st</sup> :	New Year's Eve <b>Please Note: Members Bar open until 2:00 AM. Last Call at 1:30 AM. MUST HAVE CURRENT MEMBERSHIP CARD</b>



**The Staff and Officers at Greenbelt American Legion Would Like to Wish all of Our Members and Patrons a Happy Holiday Season!!**

