



CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

FALL 2023



“We defeated Russia in the battle for the minds of the world ... this battle is not only for the territory ... but to define in what world our children and grandchildren will live. Ukrainian courage and American resolve must guarantee the future of our common freedom. May God forever bless the United States of America!”

PRESIDENT VOLODYMYR ZELENSKY OF UKRAINE

Addressing a Joint Meeting of Congress 21 December 2022

A WITNESS TO WAR AND PEACE!

99-Year-old Master Sgt Louis Graziano survived the third assault wave at Omaha Beach during the D-Day invasion, June 6, 1944. Less than one year later, he personally witnessed the German surrender. He is the last-known living witness to the German surrender in World War II. He is seated alongside a poster showing the cover of his memoir. "On the night before D-Day we had a prayer meeting, and that was one night everyone prayed."

At a schoolhouse in Reims, France, Gen. Alfred Jodl and the German High Command signed the terms of surrender. "General Eisenhower asked if they were satisfied with the proceedings. "They nodded their heads and clicked their heels together. He dismissed them and that was the end of that."



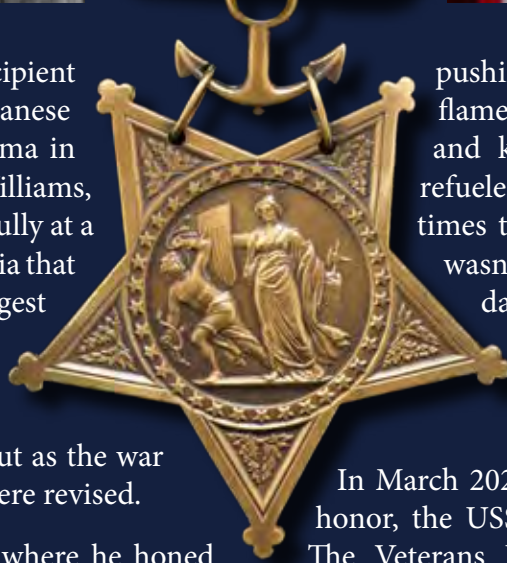
Lou Graziano displays the French Legion of Honor Medal—the highest military and civil French order of merit—which he was awarded on September 17th, 2021.

AN ERA IN HISTORY IS FAST FADING AWAY! LAST WWII MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT HAS PASSED AT AGE 99!



The last surviving Medal of Honor recipient from World War II, who fought Japanese forces with a flamethrower on Iwo Jima in 1945 has passed. Hershel "Woody" Williams, a Marine Corps Corporal, died peacefully at a Veteran Medical Center in West Virginia that bears his name. Williams, the youngest of 11 Children, was born in 1923 in Quiet Dell, West Virginia. He was initially turned away from the armed forces because he was only 5 feet 6, but as the war raged on, the physical requirements were revised.

In 1943, he enlisted in the Marines, where he honed his skills with a flamethrower. Williams, then 22, was awarded the nation's highest honor for military valor by President Harry Truman after he used a flamethrower and explosives to clear seven concrete bunkers known as pillboxes while under heavy machine gunfire. As all of the men in Williams' company perished, he kept



pushing forward, at one point shoving a flamethrower nozzle into one of the pillboxes and killing the soldiers inside. He then refueled his weapon and returned five more times to destroy the remaining bunkers. "It wasn't anything outstanding that particular day," he once said, "it was just another day of battle as far as I was concerned. I was just the guy who was trained to do the flamethrower."

In March 2020, a military vessel was named in his honor, the USS HERSHEL "WOODY" WILLIAMS. The Veterans Hospital in West Virginia was also named for him. Flags in that state were ordered lowered to half-staff to honor Williams. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin said: "I hope every American will pause to reflect on his service and that of an entire generation that sacrificed so much to defend the cause of freedom and democracy."

CWV Hosts 1st Annual Veterans Day Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral



National Director Marvin Jeffcoat (left) and New York Department Commander Bruce Lubkeman presented the memorial wreath on the altar.



Catholic War Veterans and Auxiliary members, in uniform, filled the front pews of the Cathedral during the Memorial Mass.



National Commander David Crum and Auxiliary Secretary Susan Ranno, representing National Auxiliary President Marylyn Crum, with U.S. Army Color Guard in background, gave the order to present and lay the memorial wreath.



His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of New York, recognized all Veterans during his homily.



In a poignant moment of silence in the massive cathedral, officers of the Catholic War Veterans salute, Cardinal Dolan offers a prayer, and an Army bugler blows Taps on the Main Altar in memory of all U.S. Veterans lost in all our nation's wars.



Following the Mass, Cardinal Dolan posed for photos with the Catholic War Veterans. Here he acknowledges the Flag held by Unit 1 Auxiliary President, Mario Massa, as Commander Crum looks on.

At Ceremony In New Hampshire: GRANITE STATE CWV COMMANDERS ARE MEMORIALIZED ON GRANITE!



As part of the Department of New Hampshire's 75th Anniversary celebrations, a memorial to all Past NH Department Commanders of the Catholic War Veterans was erected in the State Veterans Cemetery in Boscawen. The stone features the CWV motto and emblem, seals of the military branches and commanders names.



Assisting in unveiling the monument was Robert Desrochers (left), representing the Department of New Hampshire and the current State Commander Scott Demers.



The New Hampshire state family of the Catholic War Veterans gathers to pay tribute to their own.

CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS Department of New Hampshire In Recognition of All State Commanders Since 1947	
Edward Fitzgerald	Ernest Tanguay
John Mandziej	Robert Le Sieue
Walter Garant	Arthur Archambeault
Wilfred Vigneault	Lionel Tancrede
P. Rene Bergeron	Fernand A. Samson
Lionel Guilbert	Emile Pouliot
Henry Allard	Wilfred Carrigan
Ralph J. Lavallee	Lucien Archambeault
Cleo Beauchamp	Roger Gentes
Eugene Bellevue	Walter Zinis
Maurice Labrie	Charles Booker
Roland Martineau	Roger Major
Adrien Morency	Robert Methot
Robert Beaulieu	John Dubay
Henry Saindon	Maurice Tremblay
Maurice J. Pellerin	Russell Bilodeau
Jules Trudel	Denise DeBlais
E. Wayne Weeks	Scott Demers
Napoleon Pelletier	
Raymond J. Lussier	

75 years of Catholic War Veterans history is memorialized on a single tablet!

DEPARTMENT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMUNITY SUPPORT



A check for \$1,000 was donated in memory of the late “Mo” Desrosiers, a member of Post 1755 to the “Pease Greeters,” a non-profit organization that sends off/welcomes home service members to overseas “war zones from the former Pease Air Force Base in Newington, NH. Accepting the check was Frank Lasorsa, the current Chairman of Pease Greeters and newest member of CWV Post 1755 (3rd from right in photo.)



Alongside Elvis, in red, is Christian Demers a St. Mary Academy student in Dover NH. The Department partners with the school to support their youth and Veteran activities. At the rear right of the banner is 2021 St. Sebastian Award winner Edouard Leclerc, Treasurer of Post 1755.

New Hampshire celebrated its 75th Anniversary as a Department in 2022 at St. Joseph’s Cathedral. While chronicling their 75 years of history, it was discovered that the first NH Department convention was also held at St. Joseph’s Cathedral. The CWV donated \$500 to the Cathedral Renovation Fund in gratitude for the use of the Cathedral hall for the celebration. Making the presentation are (from left) Armand Soucy (Post 1624), Seminarian Andre Nadeua, representing the Manchester Diocese, William Biser (Post 1341), Robert Desrochers (Post 1624), Fr. Eric Delisle of St. Joseph’s and Chaplain of Post 1341, Denise Deblois (CWV National Historian), and current NH State Commander Scott Demers of Post 1755.



Featured in this photo are over 150 youths from the greater Dover NH area, along with (left to right) Maurice Cote (NH CWV Board of Directors), William Weners (Post 1955 Commander), “Coach” Jason Wisniewski who helped found the Dover Soccer Boosters, runs the camp, and coaches the Dover High School girls soccer team, and Scott Demers (NH Department Commander.)



CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS & AUXILIARY
★ NATIONAL CONVENTION ★
BALTIMORE MD

VISIT TO FORT MCHENRY



Members visited the famous flagpole in the fort that inspired Francis Scott Key to write "The Star Spangled Banner," which was to become our national anthem, as it survived a sustained attack from ships' guns during the War of 1812.



CWV National Commander Dave Crum assists in raising the Flag above Fort McHenry!



A National Parks Service guide explains the historical significance of the fort and its famous flagstaff.



That encased Flag now proudly resides in the CWV National Office in New York!



Today's Veterans and Auxiliary members experience military life in the early 1800's!

BALTIMORE ORIOLES BASEBALL GAME



CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS & AUXILIARY
★ NATIONAL CONVENTION ★
BALTIMORE MD



Camden Yards—Home of the Baltimore Orioles



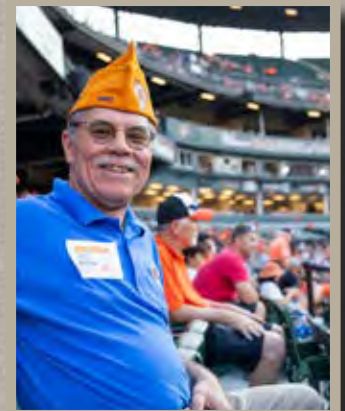
An eager fan—ready to catch a home run ball!



The Oriole Bird—the team's Mascot



National Chaplain Father John Sheehan, S.J. throws out the 1st pitch, assisted by the mascot.



Executive Director Mike Kasinskas, looking for the hot dog vendor!



Robert Garza brought his granddaughters to the game.



Bishop Protector Joseph Coffey hopes for a miracle!



Remember “Ladies Day” at the old ballparks?



National Treasurer Andy Veiga leads the cheers!



CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS & AUXILIARY
★ NATIONAL CONVENTION ★
BALTIMORE MD

CITY OF BALTIMORE HARBOR CRUISE



A dinner yacht provides a nice photo backdrop!



Irving Porter gets his "sea legs"



National Commander Dave Crum
USCG at the helm!



"Catholic War Veterans Arriving!"



Braving the chilly evening on deck!



Mercedes Robles has
"just the ticket!"



National Auxiliary Chaplain,
Father Bill McLaughlin "shepherds"
National Historian Denise Deblois
aboard.



Just Desserts!



Dancing the night away!



Representatives of the Auxiliary
included Unit 1's Guillermo
Morera and our Baltimore-based
printer Mike Collins.

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS



CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS & AUXILIARY
★ NATIONAL CONVENTION ★
BALTIMORE MD





Installation of National CWV Officers



Installation of CWVA National Officers



Officers and members gather around the Memorial Table



Table set for 11:00 Memorial Service

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS



CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS & AUXILIARY
★ NATIONAL CONVENTION ★
BALTIMORE MD



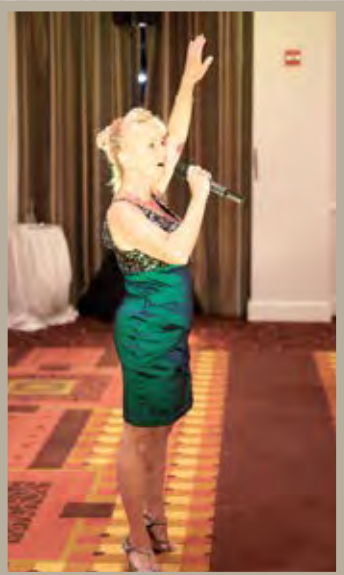
Banquet Keynote Speaker Baltimore Archbishop William Lori



Ohio State Commander Larry Wulf poses with National Commander Crum



Officer of the Day Larry Wulf officiates at the POW/MIA Ceremony



Entertainer Mary Clark belts out a song



Danny Clark of the "Singing Troupers" strikes a patriotic note



Auxiliary Chaplain Fr. Bill McLaughlin presents the Invocation



Auxiliary President Marylyn Crum welcomes guests to the banquet



Fr. Sheehan provides a laugh to those on the dais



HUDSON VALLEY
HonorFlight
★ ★ ★
HONORING AMERICAN VETERANS



CWV POST PARTICIPATES IN “HONOR FLIGHT”

Mid-Hudson Honor Flight #827 took off from, and returned to, Stewart Airport in Newburgh, New York on October 8th, 2022. Among the Veterans on board were two members of Catholic War Veterans Joseph R. Farina Post #386. Honor Flights originate from all across the United States and transport surviving World War II and more recent Korean and Vietnam War Veterans for a day trip to Washington, D.C. Each is accompanied by an assigned aide and Honor Flight volunteers consisting of medical and administrative staff.

Since the first Honor Flight, several Post #386 members have participated, including several World War II Veterans now deceased. During the trip, the Veterans are provided a bagged lunch and dinner. They are bused to the World War II, Korean and Vietnam War Memorials, Arlington National Cemetery, the Marine Corps raising of the Flag at the Iwo Jima Memorial, and cruise past the White House, Pentagon and Washington Monument before returning home.



Tom Wohlrab, Vietnam Veteran and current Commander of the New York State Disabled American Veterans, on his return from the flight.



CWV Farina Post members greet the returning Honor Flight Veterans. (From left to right): Ray Lopez, John Cassidy, Anthony D'Angelo, George Reiley, Jim McGuinness and Michael Lutz.



Korean War Veteran Paul Neugebauer gets a warm welcome on his return.



SALOON HOSTS MONUMENT TO A WORLD WAR!

Every day is Memorial Day at McSorley's Old Ale House in New York City. For more than 100 years, one of Manhattan's oldest saloons has been a reminder of the last meal enjoyed by young American men before they were killed in Europe in World War I.

As men were drafted, McSorley's would treat the guys who were regular customers to a turkey dinner before they departed for Europe. After the dinner, they would take the wishbone and hang it on a fixture, consisting of a pipe suspended between two light bulbs, which makes it a perfect hook on which to hang a turkey wishbone.



WWI soldiers enjoyed a turkey dinner before departing for Europe, leaving their wishbones above the bar. Almost two dozen remain today, a reminder of those who never returned.

Victorious soldiers and sailors found their way back to the neighborhood after the armistice ending the war was signed on November 11, 1918. These service members would, according to pub legend, remove a wishbone as a token of their safe return—and break it with the bartender. Names of the men who hung the bones above the bar were never recorded. Some were presumably killed in battlefields such as Belleau Wood, Soissons or Saint-Mihiel. People who come into the bar are really touched by the sight.

Nearly two dozen wishbones still hang in the light fixture above the bar. While customers are touched, the dust-covered wishbones are not, out of respect

for the war heroes who left them there. Unfortunately, they were recently cleaned in 2011, and only upon orders of city health inspectors. Late owner Matthew Maher did the dishonor himself. "Nobody wanted to touch them. It was like erasing our history," said his daughter Teresa who now runs the tavern.

Perhaps one of the nation's most visible WWI memorials is not far from McSorley's. Father Francis P. Duffy rose to fame for fearlessness in combat in World War I as he cared for the wounded and dying. His heroics earned citations for bravery from both the U.S. and French governments. He later became a spiritual leader in Midtown Manhattan, as Pastor of nearby Holy Cross Church. His exploits were portrayed by actor Pat O'Brien in the 1940 Hollywood production, "The Fighting 69th."



Statue of "Fightin' Father Duffy" in New York's Times Square theater District.



NATIONAL OFFICERS



DAVID CRUM
NATIONAL COMMANDER



MARYLYN CRUM
NATIONAL AUXILIARY PRESIDENT



BISHOP JOSEPH COFFEY
BISHOP PROTECTOR



FR. JOHN SHEEHAN, SJ
CHAPLAIN



FR. WILLIAM MCLAUGHLIN
AUX. CHAPLAIN

NATIONAL OFFICERS



ANTOINETTE AURIEMMA
RITUAL OFFICER



THOMAS BELL
MARYLAND REP.



REGINA BILODEAU
2ND VICE PRESIDENT
NEW HAMPSHIRE REP.



WILLIAM BOULEY
DIRECTOR, MARYLAND DC



LORETTA BUDD
1ST VICE PRESIDENT



DENNIS C. BURKE
DIRECTOR,
LEGISLATIVE OFFICER



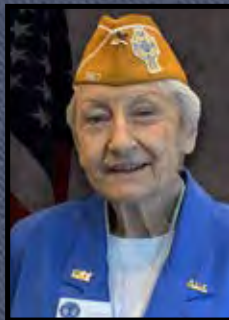
SUSAN CHAVEZ
SOUTHWEST RC



DENISE DEBLOIS
HISTORIAN



SCOTT DEMERS
NEW HAMPSHIRE DC



ELAINE DIACZUN
AUX. TREASURER, VAVS REP



DARLENE FINKEL
AUX. HISTORIAN



PNC JOSE M. GARCIA
SERVICE OFFICER



ROBERT GARZA
3RD VICE COMMANDER



ROBERT GLUSZAK
DIRECTOR



TERRANCE HOLLIDAY
VAVS OFFICER



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JAMES KIERNAN
JUDGE ADVOCATE



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MICHIGAN DC



PNC FRANK KOWALSKI
AUXILIARY LIAISON



BRUCE LUBKEMAN
*DIRECTOR
NEW YORK DC*



DANIEL MARTINEZ
TEXAS DC



MARIO MASSA
AUX. DIRECTOR



BENJAMIN NUNEZ
1ST VICE COMMANDER



MARIA PEREZ
*AUX. WELFARE
TEXAS ADP*



JOHN PETERSON
NORTHWEST RC



ANN MARIE PUCK
WELFARE OFFICER



MICHAEL RANNO
CONNECTICUT DC



PNP SUSAN RANNO
*AUX. EXEC DIR, SECRETARY
CONNECTICUT ADP*



MERCEDES ROBLES
3RD VICE PRESIDENT



DARBY SWOPE
*AUX. DIRECTOR
PENNSYLVANIA ADP*

NATIONAL OFFICERS



NICHOLAS TAYLOR
ADJUTANT
PENNSYLVANIA DC



ANDRES VEIGA
TREASURER



THOMAS VOYTEK
DIRECTOR



WILLIAM T. WRIGHT
2ND VICE COMMANDER



LARRY WULF
OFFICER OF THE DAY
OHIO DC



RITA WULF
AUX. DIRECTOR
OHIO ADP



LEGEND

- PNC Past National Commander
- PNP Past National President
- DC Department Commander
- RC Regional Commander
- ADP Auxiliary Department President
- Rep. Auxiliary State Representative



2023

CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS & AUXILIARY
NATIONAL CONVENTION
**FT. WAYNE
INDIANA**

Past National Commander Armina Crawford is the 2023 Convention Chairperson for our 88th National Convention in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Taking place between August 1 to 6, 2023, it will also mark the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of the CWV Auxiliary. We will assemble at the Hilton Grand Wayne Center at a special convention rate (see next page.)

Of course, the usual convention activities will take place: Daily Mass, joint and special meetings, the Chaplain's, Commander's and President's Lunch, the Memorial Service, awards presentations, exciting speakers and the closing Banquet. The success of the convention depends on the support of all our officers and members, especially those who have never been to a convention.

Fort Wayne is the 2nd largest city in Indiana, and special activities have been planned to take advantage of all it offers: a Minor League Baseball Game with the Fort Wayne TinCaps, a visit to the Veterans National Memorial Shrine and Museum (with a barbecue to follow!), the Auxiliary will host MEATO, a fun game and fundraiser for the Auxiliary, Closing Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and the Banquet following in the Convention Center.

Among the amenities: the hotel provides transportation to and from the airport. The local American Legion and Knights of Columbus will provide transportation to local events, the hotel rate includes parking, free WiFi and a swimming pool, meals are available in the hotel restaurant, and more restaurants and places of interest are within walking distance.

We encourage members to come and bring spouses and children. There are activities for all which will provide excitement for a summer vacation and spirit and energy to the convention. Contact our chairperson with ideas or suggestions of things we might do, change or add. For more information, you can reach Armina Crawford at acrawford@pcj.edu or (614) 738-6341. Reservations can be made at the CWV store site and www.store@cvw.org.

2023 NATIONAL CONVENTION ANNOUNCEMENT

It is time to gather for the 88th Catholic War Veterans National Convention on August 1st - 6th 2023.

Location is the **Hilton Grand Wayne Center Hotel**
1020 South Calhoun St., Ft. Wayne, IN 46802

Finalize your plans now by using this form to reserve your rooms, Commander's, President's, and Chaplains' luncheon, Convention Banquet, a Tin Caps Ball Game, Tour of the Veterans National Memorial Shrine & Museum with a Mission BBQ Dinner



PROGRAM JOURNAL & ADVERTISEMENT INFORMATION

Submission Deadline is July 1st 2023

Booklet size is 8.5" X 5.5" (landscape 8.5" x 11" paper folded in half). Please provide high quality images and please make sure images are not reduced when sending. If you are having trouble sending large files, we recommend sending via wetransfer.com; you can send up to 2GB through this free service.

Size	Color
Outside Back Cover*	\$300
Inside Back Cover*	\$250
Inside Front Cover*	\$250
Full Page	\$150
Half Page	\$100
Quarter Page	\$75
Business Card	\$50
Sponsor(Max. 75 Characters)	\$50
Supporter (Max. 50 Characters)	\$40
Booster (Max. 30 Characters)	\$30

*Equivalent Full-Page ad will be substituted if cover position is not available

Please CIRCLE the type and price of the ad you are placing. Art work and symbols can be sent electronically to: admin@cwv.org

Advertiser's Name _____

Seller's Name _____

Post# _____ Phone# _____

Sponsor / Supporter / Booster message: _____

LUNCHEON AND BANQUET INFORMATION

Submission Deadline is July 1st 2023

Commander's, President's, and Chaplains' Luncheon
Thursday, August 3rd

Qty		Total
	Buffet x \$50 each person	\$

Convention Closing Banquet - Saturday, August 5th

Qty		Total
		\$

Buffet Includes:

Classic Wedge Salad, Buttermilk Fried Chicken, Indiana Pork Cutlets in Dijon Cream Sauce, Braised Beef Short Ribs, Whipped Potatoes, Roasted Potatoes, Indian corn with red peppers and scallions
Rolls and Butter, assorted Cheesecakes & pies
Coffee, Tea, & Soft Drinks

TRIP & ACTIVITY INFORMATION

Reservation Deadline is July 1st 2023

Qty	Activity	Total
	Tin Caps Ball Game Aug 1st - \$20.00	\$
	Veterans National Memorial Shrine and Museum Trip which includes dinner by Mission BBQ Aug 2nd - \$30 ea.	\$

Total Amount for Activities \$

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Reservation Deadline is July 1st 2023

\$139 Per Night, Cash or Check made payable to the CWV Convention Corp
<http://cwvstore.org/88th-national-convention-hotel-reservations-August-1st-August-6th-2023-see-description-below-for-more-info/>

PAYMENT AND SUBMISSION OPTIONS

All Deadlines are as stated on this flyer. Mail this form and a check or money order to:

CWV Convention Corporation
237-20 92nd Rd., Bellerose, NY 11426

Or if paying by credit card thru the CWV Store, mail this form to the above address AND Go to: cwvstore.org

An additional 2% will be added to the total order for processing costs.



CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
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August 1st to August 6th is our 2023 National Convention.
Details and Reservation Form inside and at <https://cwvstore.org/convention-meetings/>



**REMEMBERING THOSE WHO
“GAVE THEIR LAST FULL MEASURE OF DEVOTION!”**

Members of CWV Post 386, New Windsor NY, pose at the conclusion of a Memorial Mass and Ceremonies. The names of 180 deceased members of the Post were read aloud and a Flag for each was placed in a holder.