



# The Old Guardian

Month 9 of our 60<sup>th</sup> year

October 2025

**“Good morning Old Guard”**

Gentlemen,

Here's what's in the Newsletter:

- The President's Corner
- Committee Chair Reports
- This Month's Storytellers
- This Month's Speakers
- Officers and Chairs

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## **The President's Corner – Clem Sayers**

September 2025 is in the Old Guard History Books. Great meetings with outstanding Speakers in September, but what is impressive are the number of first-time visitors and new member inductions in just three meetings! We are growing our base, and we need to continue that going forward.

As we move into October let's all keep the Old Guard out in front in our community. Thank you all for making our activities and personal involvement so important to so many!

We had our first Board Meeting on September 30th before our regular meeting. We made some good decisions, especially regarding contributions. Going forward instead of giving our speakers Old Guard Pens, we will make a \$50.00 contribution to the charity of their choice in their name.

Here's to a Great October!

Clem

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### **Treasurer Report – Membership - Stephen Guest**

Be on the lookout for the new directory. We started off the year with 190 members.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Membership Committee – Mike Cabrey**

Greetings Old Guard,

We are off to a great start this program year with two new members and at least 6 guests in the first month. Please continue to expand your circle of friends and acquaintances and help recruit more members. During the first meeting, we introduced that we had new Old Guard Business Cards with our web site and a QR code. We asked all members to take a few with them. Hopefully you are finding great new potential members to hand them to. If you need more or did not pick any up the first time, please let me know. The on-line application process is working great, and I encourage you to have your prospective members fill out the form on line. I also reach out to them as soon as it is completed to encourage them to attend and make sure they are fully aware of the time, location, and attire. I would ask that we attempt to recruit at least Two new members every month.

This past Month we have welcomed: Mike Rollins and Bob Hooper, A big thanks to John Mitman and Bob Schaefer for landing our first two members. Your efforts, as always are greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,

Mike.

#### **CT Foodshare - Jeff Lee**

Our first volunteer day in Wallingford was another Old Guard success story because each one of you helped make it happen!

7,392 lbs. of food processed by 7 volunteers...Over 1,000 pounds per OG member!



Simply an outstanding team effort...Thank-You!

Consider joining us next month on Friday November 7<sup>th</sup>.

Use this link to register.

[Quick Link to CT Foodshare Sign-up or Sign-in](#)

### **West Hartford Youth Food Program – Jeff Lee**

The third meeting in October on the 21st will be our next bagged food collection for the WHYFP also known as the “Backpack Program”.

Our September collection was another success with \$860 in food value!

Please watch for the flyers in the hallway and email reminders at future meetings.

This food is for distribution to local kids who are food insecure especially on weekends.

These are most needed items.

**(White rice, Oatmeal, Peanut Butter, Granola, Granola bars, and Applesauce)**

As always, thanks so very much for your continued generosity in supporting both efforts.

Jeff

## **Habitat ReStore – Ron Robinson**

Habitat ReStore – Upcoming October 8<sup>th</sup> - Restore 9:00 to 12:00

Cottage Grove Road in Bloomfield

This year's **Habitat Annual Build Day** November 12<sup>th</sup> from 7:45 to 3:00

9 Mahl Avenue in Hartford

Please consider joining us for one or both.

[Quick Link to Habitat ReStore  
Sign-up or Sign-in](#)

If you have any questions, contact me.

Ron Robinson

## **Special Events – Ray Bliss, Bill OConnor, Paul Dean Emeritus**

**October, 2025:** Football game at Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut  
Trinity at home vs. visitor Middlebury College, game time 1:00 pm, 10/18/25 (Sat.)  
Hotdogs, burgers, soft drinks, and hot coffee/tea available for purchase during the  
game from the concession stand  
Jessee/Miller Field at Tansill Muldoon Stadium, 300 Summit Street, Hartford, CT 06106

**November, 2025:** New England Air Museum, Windsor Locks, Connecticut  
Guided tour of the Museum, lunch to follow  
Time and date, TBD  
36 Perimeter Road, Windsor Locks, CT 06096

**December, 2025:** Old Guard Holiday Party at the Back Nine Tavern at the Stanley  
Golf Course  
Looking at a mid-December date commencing at noontime  
245 Hartford Road, New Britain, CT 06053

Please note that there are admission charges/tour guide fees associated with the tours  
at the N.E. Air Museum, and for the football game. We are requesting group rates  
where applicable. The Holiday Party fee per attendee will be negotiated with  
management at the Back Nine, subject to OG Board approval

Ray

## **Communications – Don Kauke –**

### **Hearing Assist**

Bob Murphy has sensitized us as to the prevalence of hearing loss in people of our age by making us aware of the issue and of useful conferences on the subject. As part of the audio-visual enhancement that the Old Guard has completed here for our meetings, we have included hearing assistance equipment in the hall.

There are a few of the traditional headphones with receivers that you will recognize. But the new technology now includes cel phone linked to active ear pieces. Our new system will now communicate with your cel phone that is linked to your ear piece, or ear buds, for those who use this system. So that device in your pocket is not only for email, driving instructions, or camera but as an aid to improved hearing. (And according to one of members who has used it, there is no noticeable delay in the sound.)

Be sure that your phone has the **WaveCast app from Williams** for either Apple or Android. When you come to the meeting and activate the app, you should select Westminster FH (Fellowship Hall). You can then control the loudness with your phone control.

Also, speaking of hearing, **if you are introducing a guest to the meeting or asking a question of a guest speaker, please wait for a microphone to reach you for your use.**

This will enable members attending on Zoom to hear as well as all the people in the room (and not make it necessary to ask the speaker to repeat the question).

Don

### **Historian – Tew DuBois**

Should you learn of a member of the Old Guard who passed away—perhaps in the Courant, by word of mouth, or however, let me know.

Thanks,

Tew

### **University of Connecticut Hospital Volunteers – Bill OConnor**

Time for Service, Time for Commitment.

This is an excellent opportunity to serve the community.

Volunteers serve a 4-hour shift (8 to noon) or (noon to 4 PM) Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, or Fridays. Some training is required and is accomplished on line.

Contact Bill OConnor for details:

## **Meals on Wheels – Dale Richter**

Delivering meals since 1966.

Over 30 members volunteer for this important program.

Contact Dale Richter if you would like to join a team –

Calendar

<https://ctoldguard.org/meals-on-wheels/>

## **Foodbank – Lou Aiello, Mike Feehan**

Lou and Mike keep an accounting of donation made to the listed charities by Old Guard members. Please let them know of your generosity.

During October we will be asking for your updated donations to the following charities:

- CT Foodshare
- Loaves & Fishes
- West Hartford Foodbank
- House of Bread
- West Hartford Youth

There was a \$161 gift made after September 5. That donation doubled via 1-1 matching that applied for all donations in September.

Based on the 1-1 match, and because of the 5Xs multiplier for all Foodshare donations, the ultimate impact of the \$161 is \$1,610 ( $\$161 \times 2 \times 5$ ) x 5. Recall the 5Xs multiplier applies because Foodshare buys food at a discount of 80% - meaning each donated dollar has a value of \$5 to Foodshare.

Other September donations made before Sep 5 totaled \$2,550 which by the same logic produced a donation impact of \$25,500.

The West Hartford food donation of \$860 is Jeff Lee's determination of the dollar value of food donated by OG members in September. to the West Hartford Food Bank.

The total is **\$27,970.**

That total is the cumulative amount for this Program Year through Sep 29.

Mike Feehan

Contact Lou or Mike to record your charitable donations.

### **Bowling - Tom Goodrum**

Come and join us for Fellowship and Fun.

Bowling will start on Thursday, October 16, 2025 at 9:30 am and continue every Thursday morning.

Bowling will be at Callahan's Bowl-O-Rama, 2143 Berlin Turnpike in Newington.

No experience necessary.

The price is the same (no inflation) at \$8.25 which includes shoes and balls if you need them. And free coffee is available also.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Tom

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### **Storytellers – Bernie Weiss**

**October 7th – John Sanzone – “Rest in Peace”**

**October 14th - Clem Sayers - “What’s Happened to the Beer Business?”**

**October 21<sup>st</sup> - Sandy Hight - “History and music of the great highland pipes: A instrument like no other.”**

**October 30<sup>th</sup> - Parker Simonds -**

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## **October Speakers – Bob Cave**

**Oct 7, 2025 - Mark Scheinberg, President Goodwin University –**

**“Finding Opportunities in a Chaotic World”**



Mark E. Scheinberg is the founding President of Goodwin University, where he has provided the foresight, inspiration, and leadership that have transformed a small, career-focused business school into a nationally recognized, community-based, nonprofit organization of higher education, dedicated to serving those whom he calls “the undiscovered students” — working adults, first-generation college students, and learners from various backgrounds pursuing emerging careers.

Mark has dedicated himself to enriching the broader community through several leadership roles and assistance to: Accrediting Commission of Independent Colleges and Schools, Capital Region Workforce Development Board; CT Employment and Training Commission; Metro Hartford Alliance; and CT Board of Governors for Higher Education.

Mark’s work has been recognized by a wide range of community, educational, and entrepreneurial organizations and has received many awards and recognitions. Mark has five children and 12 grandchildren, who together form the center of his life.

**Oct 14, 2025 - Akhil Johni - “Breaking up is Hard to do–The UTC Story”**



Akhil Johri retired from United Technologies Corporation (UTC) after 32 years of service across multiple divisions and Corporate Headquarters. As the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer from January 2015 through November 2019, Akhil was one of the key executives driving the strategic transformation of UTC from a conglomerate into three focused global leaders in aerospace & defense (RTX), elevator (Otis), and HVAC & fire and security (Carrier) industries.

Akhil currently serves as a Director on the Boards of Cardinal Health and the Boeing Company. He is also an Operating Advisor at CD&R, a private equity firm based in New York City and London. He serves on the Board of Hartford Promise, a non-profit organization with large-scale college scholarship and college success program for Hartford, CT public school students.

Akhil's wife of 40 years, Shashi, is the Director of Library Services at Westminster School, Simsbury, CT and they have two children and two grandchildren.

**Oct 21, 2025 - Michael Cantor, President CT Innovations  
"CI-The State's Very Own Venture Capital Fund"**



Michael Cantor is a force for economic growth and development in Connecticut and a champion of innovation. As Founder of Cantor Colburn LLP, Michael grew a three-person patent law firm into one of the largest and most productive full-service intellectual property law firms in America. Cantor Colburn's global clients include multinational corporations, mid-size companies, high tech start-ups, university technology transfer offices, and government research. Michael has represented

companies in a broad range of industries, including manufacturing, pharmaceutical, medical devices, energy, consumer products, entertainment, and many more. He is a thoughtful leader and frequently invited to speak on intellectual property, innovation, and economic development.

Michael actively supports economic development and innovation in Connecticut. He is the Chair of Connecticut Innovations, the quasi-public agency charged with growing Connecticut's economy by making strategic capital and other investments that encourage the development of high-tech industries within the state. He is the Chair of the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Museum of Culture and History and a member of the Board of Directors for the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford. He is a member of the Advisory Boards of the University of Connecticut School of Law and School of Engineering. Michael has received numerous honors, awards and recognitions from American Bar Foundation, UConn and other groups.

His wife Shari, the Mayor of West Hartford, is a UConn trustee. They have four sons and two granddaughters.

### **Oct 28, 2025 - Allison Hild - "Local Meals Programs have to Adjust"**



Allison Hild became Executive Director of Loaves and Fishes Ministries in 2018, after serving in the Assistant Director role since 2001. Allison came to Loaves and Fishes during her time as a graduate student at UConn, where she received her M.A. and completed coursework and exams for her Ph.D. in English Literature. Before her graduate work Allison spent in the People's Republic of China teaching English as a second language. It is her good working knowledge of Spanish, however, that she often finds useful at work to communicate effectively with Latino/a clients.

Allison loves to read, spend time at the beach, walk in the woods, and do jigsaw puzzles, preferably all with family. She is married with two adult children.

Loaves & Fishes Ministries, a tax-exempt charitable organization, addresses food insecurity issues in Hartford, CT. Basic programs revolve around the soup kitchen, started over forty years ago on Asylum Hill. The organization serves an average of 100

meals each day, Monday through Friday. Loaves and Fishes has grown from its original food service program to also include a sandwich / lunch bag program, fresh produce and market items offered weekly, pantry program, backpack program, jobs counselor, and our new Client Advisory Board.

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**Your officers for 2025-2026**

**Clem Sayers, President**

**Bob Cave, Vice-President**

**Arthur Greene, Secretary**

**Mike Dore, Asst. Secretary**

**Jim Palma, Corresponding Secretary**

**Stephen Guest, Treasurer**

**William OConnor, Asst. Treasurer**

**Tew DuBois, Historian**

**John Mitman, Chaplain**

**John Keleher – Past President**

**Committee Chairs 2025-2026**

**Mike Cabrey, Membership**

**Don Kauke, Communications**

**Ed Turbert, Nominating Committee**

**Bernie Weiss, Storytellers**

**Gary Banks, Information & Technology**  
**Bernie Weiss, Senior Job Bank**  
**Ray Bliss, Bill OConnor, Paul Dean (Emeritus), Special Events**  
**David Mangs, Music**  
**Parker Simonds, Hospitality**  
**Jeff Lee, CT Foodshare, West Hartford Youth Food Program**  
**Lou Aiello and Mike Feehan, Foodbank**  
**Ron Robinson, Habitat for Humanity**  
**Dale Richter, Meals on Wheels**  
**Larry Carr, Salvation Army**  
**Bill OConnor, UCONN Health Center**  
**Chuck Hasbrouck, Golf**  
**Tom Goodrum, Bowling**  
**Dan Tracy, Audit**

Art Greene, Secretary

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