



The Old Guardian

Month 8 of our 59th year

September 2024

“Good morning Old Guard”

Gentlemen,

Here what's in the Newsletter:

- The President's Corner
 - A word from our Chaplain
 - Committee Chair reports
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-

The President's Corner – John Keleher

Welcome back from what I hope was a great summer and looking forward to a great year of:

- Storytellers
- Speakers
- Bell ringers
- Meal deliveries
- Food sorting
- Habitat ReStore and Build Day
- Hospital guiding

- Job banking
- Golfing and bowling,

Man, I am tired already!

Special thanks to Bob Hoffman for hosting another great August kickoff luncheon

My objectives for the year are to continue:

- The growth of Old Guard membership.
- To continue the outstanding leadership tradition of past presidents.
- To conduct our meetings well and eat lunch 😊!

Chaplain – John Mitman

On Tuesday, September 3rd, we will be offered a rich menu of opportunities for fellowship, intellectual enrichment, and service to our wider community, all the while enjoying the company of some of the most terrific guys around. For all these gifts, we give thanks and praise to God for our life together as the Old Guard.

(The Rev. Canon) John Mitman, Chaplain

Committee Reports

CT Foodshare – Jeff Lee

The Old Guard Foodshare volunteers came out in droves this summer with a full turnout in each month. A couple times we “exceeded capacity” and one Friday saw us unpack, weigh, and repackage 7,000lbs of frozen meats!

Our upcoming First Friday volunteer dates are: Sept 6th (Full), Oct. 4th, Nov. 1st, and Dec. 6th.

Use this link to register for CT Foodshare volunteering and to sign up for one of the dates.

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

Additionally, at our third meeting of the month we will again be collecting food for “**The WH Youth Food Program...**” Just fill up a bag or two with nonperishable foods and I’ll get them over to the Universalist Church for distribution to those in need.

As always, thanks for your ongoing loyal support of these critically important efforts!

Habitat for Humanity – Ron Robinson

Habitat ReStore - Thanks to a dedicated team of volunteers, we completed many, varied activities during the summer months. Our next opportunity is 9:00-12:00 on the second Wednesday of September, 9/11, at Habitat ReStore on Cottage Grove Road in Bloomfield. You are welcome to join us and bring a friend. Old Guard membership is not required. The link to register is included here.

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

If you have any questions, please contact me. Thank you.

Ron Robinson

Special Events – Paul Dean, Ray Bliss

Our Special Events committee is chaired by Paul Dean and I serve as the events coordinator. OG members who have expressed an interest in joining the committee are Hank Boulton, Pete Tiernan, and Frank Virnelli, Jr.

In August, Ed Turbert and I made a field trip to the recently reopened Yale Peabody Museum in New Haven. Awesome place. We (Ed and I) think it is undergoing a “shakedown” cruise at this point and although a possible venue for an OG field trip, it probably makes sense to wait a year, at least until spring 2025 to set up a trip for interested members and spouses/companions. Parking can be tricky in New Haven, so this likely calls for bus transportation.

Football: maybe a local NESCAC game at Trinity or Wesleyan on a Saturday afternoon. Good football, nothing over the top. Seats are usually available, but bring a cushion for seating on the bleachers!

We have wonderful nearby museum venues and the arts to explore and/or revisit.

Look forward to coming up with some good trips and hearing what our fellow members might like to do.

UCONN Hospital - Bill O'Connor

The Old Guard has a longstanding history of volunteer service to the community. Set your plans for the 2024-25 season and consider volunteering your service at the University of Connecticut Hospital in Farmington This volunteering opportunity is rewarding and we can use a few more volunteers to support this important assistance to patients. Patients at the University Muscular Skeleton Institute frequently need assistance with directions to their appointments sometimes requiring the need of a wheelchair. Volunteers serve a 4-hour shift 8 to noon or noon to 4 Monday, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Some training is required.

Thanks to Richard Hughes for being member of the group of volunteers.

For the most part, patients know where they are going and are on time. A woman came in last week for an appointment for her mother, who was in a wheelchair. When she went to radiation, they could not take her because they have a 15-minute rule. She was in some pain. We suggested she go to the emergency room. Since she was set up to have the procedure, she needed at MSI, the Emergency Room called Radiation and solved her problem.

Not often, patients or caregivers leave important papers or wallets in a wheelchair. We go through the materials looking for a phone number or address or some kind of contact. We contact the individual and hold the material for them to pick up.

Contact me if you would like to join us in this gratifying work.

Thanks, Bill

Historian – Tew DuBois

As Historian I maintain a list of Old Guard members who pass away between 5/1/24-4/30/25.

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

Thanks, Tew

Foodbank – Lou Aiello, Mike Feehan

For September we will be asking for donations of money for the West Hartford Foodbank, CT Foodshare, Loaves & Fishes, and/or House of Bread. Also, donations of food for West Hartford Foodbank.

We have received, during the summer, CT Foodshare \$100 plus Dollars Marching Gifts #100 (total CT Foodshare with food value of 5 times donations and Marching Gifts equals \$1,000).

So many of neighbor's food needs in Connecticut, for example: These days, it takes just one stroke of misfortune to put someone's livelihood at risk. For Jessica, it was a car crash that led to a stay in the hospital and months of physical therapy.

Jessica's back on her feet - and at work- but cannot recall the last day she ate three square meals. For years, she has been overwhelmed by rent, medical bills, and now the rising cost of her everyday needs. So, she cuts back where she can to ensure her kids will not go hungry. A contribution of \$30.00 would feed one person for 30 days based on the CT Foodshare cost.

Please give to put food onto the tables of families facing hunger.

For information to donate, go to Old Guard Website, ctoldguard.org

If you donate to food charity of your choice, please remember to:

- Advise the Food Charity that you are an Old Guard member.
- Let Lou Aiello, or Mike Feehan know about your donation

Donations are tax deductible.

BOWLING - Tom Goodrum

Come and join us for Fellowship and Fun.

Bowling plans to start on Thursday, October 24, 2024 at 9:30am and continue every Thursday morning through the winter.

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

No experience is necessary. More specifics will be coming later.

Salvation Army – Larry Carr - Chairmen

A word from Mike Cabrey,

Greetings Old Guard,

As the outgoing Salvation Army chair, I wanted to tell you all what an honor it was to work with so many of you these past two years. During these two years, we have accomplished much. Between the Virtual Red Kettle, the hours we manned the actual kettle with our host of professional bell ringers, we have raised close to \$14,000 dollars for the Salvation Army in the Greater Hartford area. You all certainly earned a nice vacation for your work and support. I hope you enjoyed your summer.

As we kick off the new year for the Old Guard, our colleague, Larry Carr, has volunteered to assume the reins of our efforts in support of the Salvation Army. We will still be manning the Kettle at the Post Office on LaSalle in West Hartford beginning Saturday, November 30th and the three following Saturdays ending Saturday, December 21st. We will also look to continue to support the Holiday Store with a few members participating in live radio interviews as in the past, Also, like last year, we may have an opportunity to support the Hartford Marathon on behalf of the Salvation Army by assembling lunch boxes for the runners.

As our leadership has stated so many times, this year will be filled with many opportunities for the Old Guard to continue to support our community and those in need. Thank you again for all you have done and what you will continue to do in the

interest of Fellowship and Service.
Respectfully, Mike Cabrey

September Storytellers

9/3 – Duke Reed – “A Golf Story”

9/10 – Clem Sayers – “Being a Helper”

0/17 – Bob Burnett – “Growing Up – Random History and Memories”

9/24 – John Sanzone – “Heads or Tails”

September Speakers

9/3 – Bill Malitsky – Principle, Lobbyist



Bill began his government affairs career by working directly for two Democratic Speakers of the House of Representatives, learning the intricacies of the legislative process from inside this key leadership office. Following service on behalf of the Speaker, Bill entered the private sector and served as the Director of Government Relations for the Connecticut State Dental Society, one of Connecticut's largest health related associations, and thereafter became associated with a large Hartford lobbying group. During his extensive career as a lobbyist Bill established a strong reputation for being able to accomplish the legislative and administrative goals of his clients. He believes in a bipartisan, leave no stone unturned approach to advocacy in Hartford.

Bill has a wealth of experience within state government and brings these talents to the team at FOCUS Government Affairs. During his five years on the staff of the Speaker, Bill developed strong ties to both parties and learned how to navigate the legislative process in order to achieve the goals of adopting legislation. He served on the staff of Speaker Richard. J Balducci during the fiscal crisis of the early 90's providing him with a keen understanding of how government can best operate in challenging times.

Mr. Malitsky brings his drive for success and commitment to excellence to the forefront of any challenge. He has a great deal of experience and expertise in crisis management for the clients he represents. Bill has worked on a variety of complex issues such as: insurance, health care, environmental and tax issues, as well as, energy, pharmaceutical, business, education and construction and development issues. Knowledge of the people involved in decision making is a vital role in any lobbying activity. Bill is uniquely able to combine his knowledge of the people involved in State Government with his understanding of the legislative process and provide his clients with a seamless approach to achieving results. He is also a frequent speaker before client groups, providing them insight into the lawmaking process and best preparing them to advocate for their positions.

9-10 – Norma Martinez HoSang, Constanza Segovia – CT for All

Discussing Civic and Faith based tax structure for residents living under the poverty level \$25,000

Connecticut For All is a statewide coalition of labor, community, and faith organizations representing hundreds of thousands of people—black, brown, and white. WE STAND

UNITED in a long-term mission to eliminate systemic inequalities and rebuild a better Connecticut.

Norma Martinez HoSang – Director



Norma has been a labor and community organizer for over 20 years in California, Oregon and Connecticut. She has organized and bargained in public sector unions with membership in higher education, health care and other Public State Services. As a community organizer she has led campaigns on issues affecting immigrants, youth and other communities that have been left behind.

She is a CIWO fellow and believes that the only way to win the kind of structural change we need is by uniting labor and community members in building people power to win and developing Common Good Campaigns.

Constanza Segovia - Organizing Director



Since 2016, Constanza has been the co-founder and lead organizer of Hartford Deportation Defense (HDD), an immigrant-led immigrant rights organization that

organizes neighbors to build a just and dignified future for their families and communities in the Hartford region. Their current focus is access to health care, quality public schools, renters' rights, and workers' rights. Constanza has represented HDD and helped lead statewide social justice coalitions like the CT Immigrant Rights Alliance, HUSKY 4 Immigrants, the CT Coalition for Immigrant Freedom, and Connecticut for All. During the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, she helped start the CT UndocuFund and the Mutual Aid Hartford network. Since 2024, she has been the organizing director for the statewide community-labor-faith coalition Connecticut For All.

Among Constanza's proudest accomplishments is the establishment of the Families Facing Deportation Fund at the City of Hartford, the expansion of the HUSKY program to include undocumented kids up to age 15 and undocumented pregnant people, and the recognition of Connecticut pardons by ICE, resulting in people avoiding deportation because of their criminal record once they obtain a pardon in our state.

Constanza grew up in Mendoza, Argentina, and moved to the US at the age of 17. She is formerly undocumented and part of a mixed status family. She lives in Hartford, CT, with her family.

Jeff Mainville – Executive Director Noah Webster House



With extensive experience in museum programming and project management, Mainville has also worked in museum exhibitions and collections, education, development, visitor experience, and nonprofit administration. He is passionate about American history, the arts, and historic preservation.

A lifelong Connecticut resident, Mainville attended Eastern Connecticut State University (B.A. English) and Trinity College (M.A. American Studies), and served as

an adjunct instructor at Goodwin University from 2013-2021, teaching United States history and English composition.

9-24 - Stephanie Abrams, President and CEO, New England Air Museum.



Stephanie attended Boston University from 2006 to 2007, studying Journalism. And then went on to receive a BA in English from the University at Albany, SUNY.

Stephanie has a long and varied work experience. In 1988, they began working as a freelance writer, director, and line producer for networks, cable, and production companies. In 2000, they were the Managing Producer for Offroad Capital. From 1998-2002, they were the Show Producer at Edelman Productions, the Executive Vice President at Communications Four (a start up with former Orbis CEO) from 2003-2006, Writer at the American Museum of Natural History in 2005, Field Producer at Page Productions in 2009, Executive Producer at @ Media Connections from 2006-2015, and Principal at Abrams Media Works from 2015-2021. Most recently, they were appointed President & CEO of the New England Air Museum in 2021.

Your officers for 2024-2025

John Keleher, President

Clem Sayers, Vice-President
Arthur Greene, Secretary
Stephen Schneeberger, Asst. Secretary
Peter Tiernan, Corresponding Sec.
Stephen Guest, Treasurer
William O'Connor, Asst. Treasurer
Tew DuBois, Historian
John Mitman, Chaplain

Committee Chairs 2024-2025

Don Kauke, Communications
Bernie Weiss and Jim Doran, Storytellers
Gary Banks, Information & Technology
Bernie Weiss, Senior Job Bank
Paul Dean & Ray Bliss, Special Events
David Mangs, Music
Parker Simonds, Hospitality
Mike Cabrey, Membership
Dan Tracy, Audit
Jeff Lee, Foodshare
Lou Aiello and Mike Feehan, Foodbank
Ron Robinson, Habitat for Humanity
Dale Richter, Meals on Wheels
Larry Carr, Salvation Army
Bill O'Connor, UCONN Health Center
Tom Goodrum, Bowling

Art Greene, Secretary

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