



# GREENBELT AMERICAN LEGION POST 136

# CONTACT



6900 Greenbelt Rd, Greenbelt, MD 20770

(301) 345-0136

<http://www.greenbeltmdpost136.org>

VOLUME LXXXII

May/June 2025

ISSUE III

## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

The rain we had in April gave the lawn at the Post a healthy rich green look. Our annual Easter Egg Hunt, held on Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup> on the front lawn was a great success. We can thank Post Assistant Manager Julie Patterson for coordinating the effort among the Volunteers, which involved folks from the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department & Ladies Auxiliary, the Greenbelt Legion, the S.A.L., and our Legion Auxiliary. The team hosted over 100 guests, which included kids and adults. In addition to providing an enthusiastic group of volunteers, the S.A.L., Legion Auxiliary and the GVFD generously donated money to support the event. They provided free hot dogs, chips and fruit drinks for our guests at the Easter Egg Hunt. Volunteers made sure that every child went home with a gift from the Easter Bunny, which consisted of Easter Eggs filled with candy or a small toy. Again, another job well done. It's great to see how the Greenbelt American Legion Family and our friends at the GVFRS support the Greenbelt community.

Let's hope that all that rain that fell in April results in a bunch of May flowers to beautify our grounds. May not only brings the warm weather, but it's also a busy time at the Post. It is the unofficial start the summer season. On Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, we will conduct the election of our 2025 -2026 Post Officers at our General Membership meeting at 7:00 PM in Hofberg Hall. We have a full slate of highly qualified members who were duly nominated at our April meeting. We invite current members to attend and vote.

Please note that on Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, the Auxiliary will sponsor a Shrimp Feast. Details are elsewhere in the Contact. On Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, the nation will celebrate Armed Forces Day. On Sunday morning, May 25<sup>th</sup>, our friends from Rolling Thunder Maryland Chapter One will be remembering our fallen comrades with a ride around the Washington DC area. On Sunday afternoon, the Greenbelt Legion will host a cookout for the riders and our Legion family. The Greenbelt Memorial Day Ceremony is scheduled on Monday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at the Roosevelt Center in Old Greenbelt. Attendees are invited back to the Post for a lite buffet. The U.S. Army's 250<sup>th</sup> birthday will be celebrated on Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup>. The official first day of summer is Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup>. This year the Greenbelt Legion family will be hosting the Joint Installation of Officers Dinner, for the newly elected Legionnaires, Sons of the Legion and Auxiliary Officers on Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>. We end the month with Super Shotgun Bingo on Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup>.

With the cost of food going up, the Post will be adjusting the prices to the restaurant menu. We will still keep the prices reasonable. You'll have to come in and try some new appetizers and dinner items. Remember the Back Lounge opens at 12 noon on Fridays and Saturdays for lunch.

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

2024/2025
Commander: Greg Gigliotti
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander: James Hawkins
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander: Butch Hicks
Judge Advocate: Tom Davis
Sgt. at Arms: Bill Muffley
Chaplain: Shawn Fenstermacher
Historian: Bernie Zempolich
Finance Officer: Harold Schlemmer
Members at Large: Richard Brown John Hardwick Timothy Meade Larry Williams
Adjutant: Mike Moore



As we transition into the new 2025 -2026 Administrative Year, I want to thank our dedicated staff and managers, elected and appointed officers and our enthusiastic volunteers for another successful year. Special thanks to Butch Hicks, who is retiring from the Executive Committee, for his wonderful stories about "Legion Life" that appear in the News-Review and other media outlets. To members of our Legion Family, I appreciate your commitment to support our community activities and to provide help to our Veterans and their families. I am honored to serve as your Commander. You all make us proud of Greenbelt American Legion Post 136.

God Bless America and Our Legion Families,  
Greg Gigliotti,  
Commander

**POST 136 ELECTION FOR THE 2025 - 2026 ADMINISTRATIVE YEAR  
THURSDAY, MAY 16<sup>TH</sup>, 7:00 PM**

At the April General Membership meeting, held on Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, prospective candidates for all elected positions were nominated using the prescribed process. Since we have only one nominee for each office (see below) and nominations are now final, we will conduct an election at the May 15<sup>th</sup> General Membership Meeting, which will be held in Hofberg Hall at 7:00 PM. A motion will be offered to elect the nominees by acclamation. Please try to attend the meeting as a show of support for those willing to serve.

Respectfully,  
Mike Moore  
Post 136 Adjutant



**List of Nominees for Post Offices**

Commander	Gregory V. Gigliotti
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander	James Hawkins
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander	Timothy E. Meade
Judge Advocate	Blaine "Tom" Davis
Sergeant-at-Arms	William Muffley
Chaplain	Shawn Fenstermacher
Historian	Bernard A. Zempolich
Finance Officer	Harold Schlemmer
At-Large Member	Richard Brown
At-Large Member	Larry Williams
At-Large Member	John C. Hardwick
At-Large Member	Kenneth Voigt
Adjutant	Michael G. Moore

**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

## CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

Dear American Legion Family,

As we move through the months of May and June, we are surrounded by reminders of our sacred duty to honor both **God and Country**. These months hold deep historical significance, with pivotal moments in our nation's history that remind us of the faith, sacrifice, and perseverance that have shaped our freedoms.

In May, we reflect on **Memorial Day**, born out of the post-Civil War years as a solemn day of remembrance. Originally called Decoration Day, families would gather to adorn the graves of fallen soldiers, often beginning with a prayer service to God, entrusting the souls of the brave to His eternal care. Even today, our Memorial Day observances are a sacred blend of patriotism and prayer, testifying to the deep spiritual roots of our national conscience.

On **June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1944**, we remember **D-Day**, the Allied invasion of Normandy. Before the largest amphibious assault in history, President Franklin D. Roosevelt addressed the nation in a radio broadcast—not with commands, but with a prayer. He called on all Americans to join him in asking Almighty God for strength and protection for our troops. Roosevelt's "D-Day Prayer" echoes the heart of "God and Country," showing how even in the fiercest battles, our leaders turned to divine help.

In June 1775, the **Battle of Bunker Hill** reminded the early colonies that the pursuit of liberty would be costly. Even then, pastors and chaplains stood beside soldiers, urging them to lean not only on their muskets but also on their Maker. It was a struggle born of conviction that liberty was not merely a human endeavor, but a gift to be defended under the watchful eye of Providence.

As your Chaplain, I am reminded that the legacy of faith and patriotism is not a thing of the past—it is a calling for each of us today. Whether through prayer, service, or remembrance, we honor those who have laid down their lives, and we recommit ourselves to the cause of a nation that acknowledges "**One Nation Under God.**"

This May and June, let us:

- **Pray** for the men and women currently serving.
- **Remember** the sacrifices made by those who have gone before us.
- **Live** in a way that upholds both our faith in God and our duty to our beloved country.

On a personal note, on Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM, there will be a Pastor Installation Service where I will be Confirmed and Installed as the Senior Pastor at New Carrollton Bible Church at 7600 Good Luck Road, in Lanham. Everyone is welcome to join in my installation and celebration at the church!

May God bless each of you, and may God bless America.

For God and Country,  
**Shawn Fenstermacher**  
Chaplain, American Legion



## **MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY, 2025**

Monday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 AM  
At the War Memorial  
in Roosevelt Center

A Lite Buffet Will Be Served at  
the Post Afterwards for  
Attendees



# SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION SQUADRON 136



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

Dear Legion Family,

Your Squadron Officers are looking forward to wrapping up this administrative year and look ahead to the next administrative year. As we transition, I would like to thank the officers and members of the Post 136 Family for your support this past year. On behalf of the Squadron Officers, we thank our Squadron members for your support as well. We also would like to encourage all of members to join us as we find ways to bring light to many of the Legion programs that need your support. The Sons of American Legion is more than just membership here at the Post. For example, your S.A.L. members have provided support to the American Legion programs here at the Post and across the state and county. This year among our donations to promote children and youth programs, including the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation (CWF), Toys for Tots, Scouting USA and Youth Baseball. We supported the National Emergency Fund (NEF) that provides direct, immediate cash grants for veterans in the aftermath of major catastrophes, such as tornadoes, floods, wildfires or hurricanes. Provided support to all the Veteran's facilities in Maryland such as Charlotte Hall. We invite you to advocate any organization or group that provides support or programs to help our Veterans or Active-Duty Families in the future.

Advocacy comes in many forms; a very simple way is joining VoterVOICE. By joining you'll get updates from the Legion Legislative team, and they will encourage and assist you to reach out to your representatives asking for you to let them know you wish them to support pieces of legislation being presented during the current session. Go to VoterVOICE at: [www.votervoices.net/americanlegion/home](http://www.votervoices.net/americanlegion/home) This can be completed at your convenience and allows you to hold our elected leaders accountable to our Veterans, their families and Voters. Another way to let our active-duty members know we support them is to participate in Remember Everyone Deployed Fridays by wearing RED on Fridays.

Before the end of June your squadron leaders will attend the S.A.L. convention, where we will select new officers who will share project details for the coming year. They will also share information on any upcoming administrative changes. We can share that information later in the summer. The Squadron will have a better idea of what we will focus our efforts on after we have had a chance to review any new information.

Remember we need your help and ideas, please bring them to any of our monthly meetings and share them with our leadership team. The what's that come with a who will get to the how and a when faster. The S.A.L. monthly meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of every month at 7:00 PM.

If you haven't renewed your 2025 dues, it's not too late, otherwise the Early Bird period for 2026 begins July 1<sup>st</sup>. Stop by the Post or renew online.

Lastly, I want to share so that you can plan to attend the Crab Feast on September 13, 2025. Flyers and tickets available later in the Summer.

Stronger Together because of those that served,

Lenny Wertz,

SAL Commander 2024/2025

### 2024/2025

Commander:  
Lenny Wertz

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander:  
Vacant

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander:  
Dave Fendlay

Chaplain:  
Kenny Hall

Finance Officer:  
Kevin Foster

Historian:  
Ray (Cory) Micallef

Sgt-At-Arms:  
Marty Rousseau

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 MEMBERSHIP  
FOR 2025**

**Dues: \$25  
\$15 Junior & Dual**





# 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 7:45 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

Hold 'em cards are available for additional prizes.

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

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



## SUPER SHOTGUN BINGO

Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup>

The S.A.L. and Auxiliary Unit 136 are again teaming up  
to bring you a Super Shotgun Bingo Night at the Post.

Lots of Cash Prizes to Win

Amazing Food

Door Prizes

50/50 Raffles...

and Much More!

It could be your lucky night.

Bring a friend and join us for the festivities.



# AUXILIARY UNIT 136



**2024/2025**

**Unit Officers**

President:

Kathy Gigliotti  
(Dec. 20, 1961 -  
Feb. 12, 2025)

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

Elizabeth Darnell

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

Elizabeth Rice

Secretary:

Mary Fava

Treasurer:

Sandi Dutton

Chaplain:

Susan Wiener

Historian:

Rusty Beeg

Sgt.at Arms:

Dana Coleman

Executive

Committee:

Laura Fendlay  
Dora Hamm  
Patty Rousseau

## AUXILIARY 1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Spring is here; flowers are blooming and the temperature is on the rise. I pray all our members are staying safe and healthy.

National Poppy Day is May 23<sup>rd</sup>. From the battlefields of World War I, weary soldiers brought home the memory of a barren landscape transformed by wild poppies, red as the blood that had soaked the soil. By that miracle of nature, the spirit of their lost comrades lived on. The poppy became a symbol of the sacrifice of lives in war and represented the hope that none had died in vain. The American Legion Auxiliary poppy has continued to bloom for the casualties of wars. The crepe paper poppies distributed by the American Legion Auxiliary are assembled by veterans as a way of earning a little money and donations received can only be used to benefit veterans. Poppies are featured on the Friday before Memorial Day which has been designated National Poppy Day but can be worn throughout the year to honor those who gave their lives in service to our country. The men and women who have served and died for their country deserve to be remembered.

Teacher Appreciation Week starts May 5<sup>th</sup>. If you know a teacher, please let her/him know they are appreciated!

Shrimp! Shrimp! Shrimp! The Auxiliary will be having a Shrimp Feast on Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$35 in advance and \$40 at the door. In addition, we will also have multiple 50/50 boards and hold 'ems. Tickets can be purchased from the Auxiliary on Tuesdays from 7-9 pm or at the Back Bar. Bring the family, invite your friends and let's kick off the summer together!!

Election of Officers for the upcoming year will be held at our meeting on Thursday, June 5<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in discussing the duties of our officers or would like to have a more active role, feel free to come to one of our meetings the first or third Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. We would love to have more members around the Post getting involved.

Maryland Girls State is scheduled for June 15-20, 2025 at Salisbury University in Salisbury, MD. High school students who have completed their junior year, have this amazing week of learning focused on responsible citizenship, leadership, and love for the ALA's mission of serving veterans, military, and their families. We will be sponsoring girls for this very worthwhile event.

Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, we are again teaming up with the S.A.L. to bring you a Super Shotgun Bingo Night at the Post. There will be lots of cash prizes to win, amazing food, door prizes, 50/50 raffles and so much more. It could be your lucky night!! So bring a friend and join us for the festivities. ( See ad on page 5.)

We continue to support our programs and community by donating to the City of Greenbelt Kids to Camp Fund, sponsoring two boys to Boys State, donating to Perry Point and Baltimore VAs as well as dropping off items at the Baltimore VA, donating to the Arthritis Walk-a-thon, school supplies to Springhill Lake Elementary School, Joint Base Andrews for the Military Child month, Maryland Gold Star Legacy Run and participating in the Easter Egg Hunt held at the Post. We were represented at the Annual Day for God and Country held at the Southern Maryland Youth Camp.

*(Auxiliary President's Message continued on page 7)*



**NATIONAL POPPY DAY**

**Friday, May 23, 2025**

Thank you to all our Auxiliary members who have helped us at bingo, volunteering, serving at functions and supporting in any way around the Post. We appreciate you and are glad you are here!

For God and Country,  
Elizabeth Darnell,  
Auxiliary President

**AUXILIARY MEETINGS**  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays  
7:00 PM

### MEMBERSHIP CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Hey Members,

It's getting warm and that puts a smile on everyone's face! Our paid membership is at 90% so we are almost there. Goal is 360 (boy, I can remember when it was over 500). If you don't have a 2025 membership card, please take a minute and write your \$30.00 check to ALA 136 and mail it to:

ALA 136  
P. O. Box 1063  
Greenbelt, MD 20768.

We have a Shrimp Feast coming up you won't want to miss! A big welcome to our newest member Debby Davis. She just transferred in from Post 275. Enjoy your summer and stay safe.

Please call me with any questions: (301) 474-0849

Susan Weiner,  
Membership Chair/Chaplain

**2025 Dues For Auxiliary Members**  
\$30.00 Regular (Sr. with 50 years or more \$26.00)  
Dual Members \$26.00, Juniors (under 18) \$6.00  
**PLEASE MAIL YOUR DUES TO:**  
ALA 136  
PO Box 1063  
Greenbelt, MD 20768  
Please make checks payable to ALA 136 and include your phone number on your payment.

Like our Juniors  
on Facebook @  
136juniorsala



## 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

*\*(NO SHOTGUN BINGO IN JULY OR DECEMBER)\**



## MONEY BUNNY!!

YOUR CHANCE TO WIN \$300.00

Please support our Merit  
Scholarship Program

TICKETS ARE \$1.00 EACH

Drawing Date:

November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025 - 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





# SHRIMP FEAST

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2025 | 6-9 PM

FOOD SERVED 6-8:30 PM

**GREENBELT POST #136  
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
6900 GREENBELT ROAD  
(301) 345-0136**

**ALL YOU CARE TO EAT ON PREMISES!**

- SPICED SHRIMP
- CORN/POTATO SALAD
- DRAFT BEER
- ROAST BEEF
- BAKED BEANS
- FOUNTAIN SODAS

**GET YOUR TICKETS ON TUESDAY NIGHTS.**

\$35 PER PERSON IN ADVANCE

\$40 PER PERSON AT DOOR

**SPONSORED BY: GREENBELT UNIT #136  
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY**

# ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT - SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 2025

Co-sponsored by the Greenbelt American Legion Post and The Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Dept.



The team hosted over 100 guests, which included kids and adults. Thank you to Post Assistant Manager, Julie Patterson for coordinating the effort among the volunteers. In addition to providing an enthusiastic group of volunteers, the S.A.L., Legion Auxiliary and the GVFD generously donated money to support the event. They provided free hot dogs, chips and fruit drinks for our guests at the Easter Egg Hunt. Volunteers made sure that every child went home with a gift from the Easter Bunny, which consisted of Easter Eggs filled with candy or a small toy. Again, another job well done. It's great to see how the Greenbelt American Legion Family and our friends at the GVFD support the Greenbelt community.



*(More Photos on the Following Page)*

**ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT - SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 2025**

The first picture is of our enthusiastic volunteers and the photos that follow are of our fire truck display and pictures with the Easter Bunny and Sparky the Fire Dog.



**THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE VOLUNTEERS, SUPPORTERS AND GUESTS FOR MAKING THIS SUCH A SPECTACULAR AFTERNOON!!**

# "Mother's Day Special Dinner" Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>

In the Restaurant 4:00 to 8:00 PM

THERE WILL NOT BE A HAPPY HOUR SPECIAL FOR THIS MEAL

Featuring "Surf & Turf"  
Filet Mignon & Grilled Shrimp  
Baked Potato  
Green Beans Almondine

\$19.95

**Reservations Required**

**NOTE:** To avoid extra wait time and with a shortage of staff, to have a sufficient amount of food and time, we are asking for RESERVATIONS for this dinner. Call us with your reservation between April 25<sup>th</sup> & May 5<sup>th</sup> (301) 345-0136 ext. 1

You may request 4:00, 5:00, 6:00 or 7:00pm (Keep in mind that most people won't take an hour to eat so we could take the next group a little ahead of time) Thanks for your cooperation on this!



## UPCOMING EVENTS MAY/JUNE 2025

- |                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Monday, May 5 <sup>th</sup> :     | Post 136 Executive Committee Meeting: 6:30 PM        |
| Saturday, May 10 <sup>th</sup> :  | Restaurant - Mother's Day Dinner Special (see above) |
| Sunday, May 11 <sup>th</sup> :    | Mother's Day   |
| Thursday, May 15 <sup>th</sup> :  | Post 136 General Meeting and Elections: 7:00 PM      |
| Friday, May 16 <sup>th</sup> :    | Auxiliary Shrimp Feast (see ad on page 8)            |
| Saturday, May 17 <sup>th</sup> :  | Armed Forces Day                                     |
| Sunday, May 25 <sup>th</sup> :    | Rolling Thunder MD Chapter One - Cookout             |
| Monday, May 26 <sup>th</sup> :    | Memorial Day Ceremony and Lite Lunch                 |
| Monday, June 2 <sup>nd</sup> :    | Post 136 Executive Committee Meeting: 6:30 PM        |
| Saturday, June 14 <sup>th</sup> : | Flag Day (U.S. Army 250 <sup>th</sup> Birthday)      |
| Sunday, June 15 <sup>th</sup> :   | Father's Day   |
| Thursday, June 19 <sup>th</sup> : | Post 136 General Membership Meeting: 7:00 PM         |
| Sunday, June 22 <sup>nd</sup> :   | Post Installation of Officers and Dinner             |
| Friday, June 27 <sup>th</sup> :   | Super Shotgun Bingo Night (see ad on page 5)         |

