

THE

A Monthly Publication for the Members of VFW Post 3873



KENDALL-GRAM



Volume 17, Issue 3
March 2017

Commander Tom Parker



Every year at this time, I start to get Spring fever. As an outside sales rep, I start to yearn for warmer days, more sunlight, and less snow. Thankfully, we've had a pretty mild winter and it's been great not freezing while walking back and forth from the car while going to the many offices I travel to each day. Admittedly, there have been several occasions when I've had to scramble to find my sunglasses and worrying about whether the snow blower runs or not is something I'll deal with next year. I also know that this time of the year is when we as a Post start to gear up for another busy and rewarding year of activities in and around the community.

Our fish fries are already in full swing and they will continue into April. As many of you know, the revenue we make at these dinners is used throughout the year to help us assist veterans and promote patriotism in the community. We had a great year last year and hopefully we'll have another record turn out this year. Many of the folks that attend our fish fries do so not only because the food is great, but because they want to support us. These individuals value us and what we stand for and do in the community. If you've never attended one of these events, I encourage you to do so. It's a great opportunity to socialize with others and to experience first-hand the overwhelming support we receive from our community. If nothing else, the food is good, the price is right, and you're helping a good cause.

Also this month, we'll start putting together the slate of officers for the coming year. In addition to the key leadership positions, we will be looking for individuals to be on several of our committees. If becoming more involved in the day to day operations of the Post is something you're interested in doing, please let one of us know. We'd be happy to answer any questions you have and to discuss the various positions and responsibilities. Rest assured that asking about a position in no way commits you. Only those members who indicate that they are willing to fill a role and take on the respective responsibilities are placed on the ballot.

For those that have thought about becoming more involved in the Post, this year will continue to offer many opportunities. As additional members get involved, we gain additional insight and ideas into how we can continue to do what we do best and make appropriate changes to keep up with today's ever changing challenges. I look forward to seeing you around the Post as the weather continues to get better. And don't forget to order from the plant sale. Order form is included with this month's Kendall-gram for your convenience.

Senior Vice Commander Pablo Araya

First off, I'd like to thank all of you for your heart felt condolences and sentiments at the passing of my Step Dad, Hubert Willmann, a WWII Era Marine. Second, I'd like to mention a new member initiative: Operation Patches. Maybe you've already noticed the addition in the Canteen, but if not, next time you're there, look at the ceiling above the bar facing the display cabinet. You'll see a growing collection of patches, insignia and stickers depicting proudly a service branch, or rate/rank, or unit affiliation. We invite all of you to take those mementos out of those boxes collecting dust in a corner closet and bring them



to the Post. Whether it was your service, or your Dad's or Grandmother's or whoever, bring them in and give them to the bartender. After a number are collected, they'll be posted and an accompanying book will describe their meaning and list the contributor. We want everyone who enters Judd Kendall to know this is a Veteran's organization, and moreover, it's YOUR Veterans' organization. As the crowds pack in for the Army/Navy Game, or the Turkey Raffle, they can look up at the patches and you can proudly point to your Unit's Insignia and state, "Yea, that was best damn (fill in the blank: flying, drinking, fighting, marching, jumping, diving, etc.) Unit in the entire (fill in the blank: Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, world, universe, etc.) that ever existed!"

It's this sense of ownership, too, that gets us to our membership goals. We are getting there, folks, but at 92.2%, we have our work cut out for us. Hitting the mark is achievable, and as I've stated before, if each of us just recruits one new member, then it will be a piece of cake. Listed below are new members in our Post. If you happen to run into them, please take the opportunity to introduce yourself and to welcome them to Judd Kendall Post 3873:

Jim Skrna
Army-Korean Service

Justin Stursma
Army -OIF

Kenneth Creasman
Navy-GWOT

Jeb Elliott
Army - Afghanistan

Erik Mogelaard
Navy- Expeditionary Operations

Jorge Hernandez
Army -GWOT

Junior Vice-Commander Dave Angelus

We are nearly complete with the upgrade of the new sound system. All that remains is the mounting of the new speakers in the canteen and the running of the cables. Most likely in March then we are going to tackle the long overdue rehab of the office and front room. The current plan is to rehab the front room and make it a functional office. To save on costs we are looking for someone to donate a nice large desk. We are also going to paint, change out the carpeting, and update the lighting to give it a little more modern look.

Just to give everyone a heads up quite a few major initiatives at the VA have been put on hold with the changing of the administration. This is typical due to fact that the new administration usually appoints all new cabinet positions. Currently the VA has not named a new CIO yet so we are awaiting on this appointment before anything proceeds. The VA is quite anxious to rollout some new technologies for Veterans to continue access to medical records, appointments, medications, etc.. There is also a big push to provide care for Veterans living in rural areas that are not close to a VA care facility.

Two sites that I recommend to check out for vets are:
<https://www.myhealth.va.gov/> <https://www.va.gov/bluebutton/>

Feb 24th kicks off our annual Fish Fry season. Based upon the success of last year we took the lessons learned and applied them to this year. Since Easter is late in the calendar this year the weather should be better so we are hoping for increased attendance. We did speak to a lot of the people that attended last year and based on their feedback we made minor changes to the menu. We have not firmed up the date yet, but we will be hosting the Hines blind unit again. The members of the blind unit are so grateful to come out and have an evening out. As always each night we will have a service night. Each service is asked to come out to support the event wearing a hat or some sort of service attire. We changed the hours this year to run from 4:30 – 8:00 pm.



Judd Kendall VFW Post 3873 Veteran of the Month

Name: Nadia E Rios
Rank: Sergeant
Branch of Service: USMC
Current Age: 36
Total Years Served: 5
Served from: 1998-2003
Places Served:

- * Parris Island- South Carolina- Recruit Training
- * Camp Geiger- North Caroline-Marine Combat Training- MCT
- * Fort Lee- Virginia- Food Service School
- * School of Infantry-Camp Pendleton-California

Job or Specialty: Assistant Chief Cook- Logistical Admin Chief

Fondest memory while serving: Representing my Command at the San Clemente Clam Cooking and taking Second place for our Mess-hall.

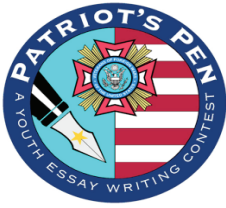
Quote: "Nobody can make you feel inferior without your permission" Eleanor Roosevelt.



Dates to Remember

- Mar 1 - Aux to visit Community Convelescent
- Mar 1 - Free Yoga for Vets, 9:30 a.m.
- Mar 2 -American Legion Meeting, 7 p.m.
- Mar 3 - Fish Fry, 4:30 - 8 p.m.
- Mar 4 - Visit Vets at Monarch Landing, 10 a.m.
- Mar 7 - Hines Mobile Unit, 9 - 2 p.m.
- Mar 8 - Free Yoga for Vets, 9:30 a.m.
- Mar 9 - VFW Meeting, 7 p.m.
- Mar 10 - Kendall-Gram Deadline
- Mar 10 - Fish Fry, 4:30- 8 p.m.
- Mar 11 - Visit Vets at Brookdale, 10 a.m.
- Mar 11 - St Paddy's Day Race/Walk and Parade
- Mar 12 - Daylight Savings Time Begins
- Mar 14 - Hines Hospital Visit, 6:15 p.m.

- Mar 15 - Free Yoga for Vets
- Mar 16 - Aux meeting, 7 p.m.
- Mar 17 - St. Patrick's Day
- Mar 17 - Fish Fry, 4:30 - 8 p.m.
- Mar 18 - Visit with Vets at Independence Village, 10 a.m.
- Mar 18 - Legion Dinner, 6 p.m.
- Mar 19 - Iraq War Began, 2003
- Mar 22 - Free Yoga for Vets, 9:30 a.m.
- Mar 24 - Fish Fry, 4:30 - 8 p.m.
- Mar 25 - National Medal of Honor Day
- Mar 25 - Visit with Vets at Harbor Chase, 10 a.m.
- Mar 28 - Taco Tuesday, 5:30 - 7 p.m.
- Mar 29 - Free Yoga for Vets, 9:30 a.m.
- Mar 31 - Fish Fry, 4:30 - 8 PM



Voice of Democracy
and
Patriot's Pen Update



Recently, we had the privilege of recognizing our Post winners from both the Voice of Democracy audio essay competition and the Patriot's Pen essay writing contest.

The Post's Voice of Democracy winner this year was Matt Canty, a senior from Waubonsie Valley High School. Matt is pictured below at the 19th District VOD Awards Banquet and with VOD Chairman Thys VanderVelde and Matt's family.



Winners of this year's Patriot's Pen competition were Jeffrey Dorn, Camryn Eickenberg, and Rakshak Shah. Patriot's Pen Chairman Hugh Boger is pictured with the Post's winners at the 19th District Awards Luncheon. Camryn was additionally selected as the District's 4th place winner.



2017 West Suburban St. Patrick Day Parade

Please mark your calendar for Saturday, March 11th as we will have our "Post Combined Color Guard" carrying our Nations Colors and Service Branch Flags in this Parade as we have done in years past. The start time is 10am sharp and I will pass along more details via email once I get them. Weather permitting we will also have our Post 43 Riders and the Jeep as part of this entourage. Please plan to come out and join us. This is not limited to the Color Guard and is open to all our Veterans. Again, as I get more details I will pass them along. Thanks and hope to see many of you all there.

DuPage Veterans Foundation: Honor Flight Chicago Fundraiser - Saturday, May 6**By Wayne Fischer**

Yes, we are going to do this for our 6th year. In the previous 5 years we have held this annual event we have raised just over \$200,000 for “Honor Flight Chicago”. This has supported many flights of WWII and Korean War Era Veterans the opportunity to see their Memorials in Washington, DC and be part of a once in a lifetime experience. From Naperville we have had many of our Veterans go for the day and we want to send even more this year.

So, mark your calendars for Saturday, May 6th to be at the Calamos Hanger at the Dupage Airport to enjoy this very special event. Doors open officially at 11 a.m. and we plan a fun filled program of patriotic events. Any and all WW II and Korean Era Veterans will be our guests. We are currently getting new flyers done to share with everyone, but we will have sponsorship opportunities; silent auction; 50/50 raffles; era airplane displays; memorabilia; and music to fill the day. Also, we will need volunteers to help out during the event. More specifics will be forthcoming in the next newsletter. Plan on coming out for the day to honor our very special guests and to help raise money to send these Veterans to Washington, DC for their very memorable day.

Our new Addition by Mike McGrath, District 8 Trustee for the VFW National Home for Children

The VFW National Home for Children has a shiny new addition to our transportation fleet. Our 7th and final van from the “Campbell’s Soup Labels for Education program.”

The van arrived in time for the recent February Board Meeting and is greatly appreciated. As the much loved Labels for Education program has ended, we are grateful to all of our VFW and auxiliary members who donated the 1.6 million labels needed to secure the vehicle. A great example of the “can do “ spirit of the VFW and auxiliary. Sincere thanks to all.

**VFW Post #3873 Auxiliary News by President Kathy Thornton**

Did you know...?

Did you know the benefits you have by being a member of the VFW Auxiliary? Besides the perk of joining a great organization which benefits our Veterans and their families and as a way to honor a relative who served on foreign soil, there are also other perks you may or may not be aware of. To check out a complete listing of those benefits, go to <https://vfwauxiliary.org/member-benefits/>. Insurance plans, travel benefits and discounts on various products and services are detailed on this site. Check this out if you are a member. If you know someone who is eligible to join the Auxiliary, direct them to our website (<http://www.napervfw3873.org/>) and click on Auxiliary for membership information.

I am sure you are all enjoying our Fish Fry Fridays. Remember our fish fry is held on **ALL** Fridays during Lent, including Good Friday (April 14). See you there!

Plant Sale by Marcy Maughan

The annual VFW plant sale order form is enclosed in this newsletter. We have changed a few flowers and grasses this year to give you more variety and options. This year we are offering one mixed flat of patriotic mix petunias and alyssum together. This is the only mixed flat we are offering. Other annuals are offered in whole flats only. (Note: our flats contain 48 flowers.) We offer you a wide variety of annuals, hanging baskets, and vegetable plant and grasses to choose from.

All the profits of the plant sale are used to fund the enhancement of the grounds of the VFW. This includes fertilization and weed control for the grass, planting the flower beds and pots, planting or replacing bushes as needed, removing dead or diseased trees, and whatever else we need to do to keep the grounds looking beautiful. The order forms must be returned by the 16th of April and the flowers arrive bright and early on the 9th of May. The plants arrive from Michigan that morning and all are use to the Midwestern weather.

I will need help the day of pickup, first to unload the truck at 7 a.m., and secondly to separate the flowers into orders from 8:30 till noon. This part is critical and last year I simply did not have enough help. So I am asking as many people as possible to volunteer. Please, even if it is just for an hour we need your help. You don't need to know one flower from another as all the flowers are clearly marked and separated by types. And hopefully we will have enough people who can assist if you have questions. Pickup of the flowers begins at 1 PM and goes to 6 PM. If you can't help in the morning, you can volunteer for an afternoon shift. For that shift you do not need to know anything about flowers. It is just a matter of helping the people find their order, which are arranged by last name, and helping them get the flowers to their cars. If you have any questions at all, or want to volunteer (please) I can be reached at 630 357 3440 or you can email me at garrdengrandma@pobox.com.

Auxiliary Trip to the Midwest Shelter

After collecting donations from Maryann Groner Bertha Novaczyk, and Dorothy Kulir took a trip on February 6, 2017, to the Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans on behalf of the Auxiliary's Veterans and Family Support Committee. Forty-four brand new item were packed into the trunk and back seat of her vehicle ranging from oven mitts to a few 12-piece sets of cookware. As always, the staff at the shelter lent a helping hand unloading and extended their appreciation for this large contribution. The picture is of Dorothy and some of the items she and others donated for the shelter.

Friends are joined heart to heart.



Ready Vet Go

The VFW Running and Walking team will be participating in the annual Naperville St. Patrick's 5K run. It will be held March 11, 2017 at 8 a.m. The race is limited to the first 3000 entries and cost is \$30 for adults and \$25 for children. Sign up at www.stpaddysday5k.org. We will meet at the flag pole near the bath house at Centennial Beach before the race for a picture. Time to get in shape!

Also present at the race will be the Winged Foot Foundation, collecting new and used running shoes and Working Bikes Chicago collecting working or repairable bikes for shipping to Lesotho, Africa.

Naperville Tradition Continues

When:

Fridays

Feb. 24 – April 14

4:30 PM – 8:00 PM



Cost:

Adults	\$12
Children (4-11)	\$7
Seniors	\$10
Children 3 & under	<u>free</u>

Judd Kendall VFW Post 3873 is pleased to announce that the Friday Fish Fries will start Friday February 24th and run through Lent. The membership realized that over the past 50 years, this has become a much loved part of the Naperville social scene. In spite of inflationary pressures, we have been able to maintain the same pricing as last year.

Menu varies each week. Visit our website for current week's menu. Tell your relatives, friends & co-workers!



www.napervfw3873.org



Fish Fry Assistance Schedule

We are asking each branch of the Service to come and assist on different Fridays during Lent. You will assist in seating the general public and bussing the tables. Everyone is invited to come to the Fish Fries even if it is not your particular service night. We are asking that on your particular service night that you lend a hand.

3/3 Air Force
3/31 Army

3/10 Navy
4/7 Navy

3/17 Army
4/14 Marines

3/24 Air Force



We all need a little help sometimes. Whether it's help with a legal issue or just a repair around the house, we often rely on the expertise and assistance of others. As former members of the military, many of us prefer to deal with other military veterans when possible. To that end, we are compiling a list of Post members who provide various services and would welcome the business of other veterans. Currently, we are planning to make this list available through our website and will publish it in other ways as time progresses.

If any of our members in good standing or one of their immediate family members works in a profession that can help others and you would like to be included on this list, please submit the following to the Commander:

1. Your name and the name of your business.
2. Contact info for your business (address and phone number).
3. The type of business you are in (real estate, banking, plumbing, home repairs, etc.).
4. Branch of the military you served in and when you served.
5. Please include one of your business cards, if you have them.

You can leave your information in the Commander's mailbox in the canteen.

Hines Hospital Visits

The Chairman of the Hospital Committee, John Shaw would like to remind everyone that the Post visits the Hines VA Hospital every second Tuesday of the month. We will not be going in July and August, but our visits resume in September. We leave the post at 6:15 in the evening and return at approximately 9:15 PM. Transportation is provided. Everyone is invited. Why not come and spend some quality time with some very appreciative Veterans?

Canteen Hours

	Open	Close
Mon-Thurs	3:00 PM	10:00 PM/Midnight
Friday	Noon	10:00 PM/2:00 AM
Saturday	Noon	10:00 PM/2:00 AM
Sunday	Noon	5:00 PM/6:00 PM

If at anytime between the first close hour and the second close hour listed above, there are no more than four customers in the Canteen, the bartender will give a last call and close the Canteen 15 minutes later.

NO ONE is allowed behind the bar, except the Bartenders. This includes any children in the bar!

Remember: THE BARTENDER IS BOSS!

Submission Policy

The Kendall Gram encourages Post members to submit articles and photos. Simply give the article or photo to the on-duty bartender. It is important that you put your name and phone number on the item in case there are any questions. Please ensure that names are legible. Your article may be edited for clarity and space considerations. All photos MUST have the following information with it: where and why the picture was taken, and who is in the picture. Photographs without captions will not be used. Please submit all articles by the tenth of the month for next month's publication.

Kendall-Gram

Editor Marcy Maughan 357-3440

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Facebook: Naperville VFW Judd Kendall 3873

Judd Kendall Post 3873 Officers

Commander	Tom Parker	280-9347
Sr. Vice Commander	Pablo Araya	312-505-4377
Jr. Vice Commander	Dave Angelus	596-3245
Quartermaster	Phil Maughan	383-1974
Ass't Quartermaster	John Shaw	961-3479
Ass't Quartermaster	Terry Jelinek	357-5366
Adjutant	Brian Byrne	901-6758
Judge Advocate	Jeff Martinez	205-9364
Surgeon	Bill Howland	369-0087
Service Officer	Mike Barbour	240-1645
Officer of the Day	Lou Kuelczo	898-8760
Guard	Tom Scott	815-577-7748
Chaplain	Mark Anderson	815-806-5590

Trustees

1 year	Nina Petru	871-9596
2 year	Lloyd McKee	922-8804
3 year	Bob Bronson	978-2143

Committee

	Chairman	Phone
Americanism		
Blood Drive	Nina Petru	871-9596
Buddy Poppy	Dick Galgano	416-9418
	Bill Wood	420-2367
Building	Mike Rechenmacher	961-1377
Color Guard		
Eighth Grade Awards	Tom Benton	579-8514
Facilities Manager	Ken Garhan	355-2493
Grounds	Phil Maughan	357-3440
Honor Guard	Jim Oftedal	357-4030
Hospital	John Shaw	961-3479
House	Ron Beata	717-9007
	Bob Talon	357-8134
	Scott Holley	708-287-5590
Membership	Pablo Araya	312-505-4377
Legislative	Frank Haynes	357-2906
National Home	Mike McGrath	357-2680
Patriot's Pen	Hugh Boger	317-417-8301
Public Relations	Mike Barbour	240-1645
Running Team	Rebecca Hirst	
Safety	Mike McGrath	357-2680
Scout Liaison	Todd Schuneman	815-791-4178
Social Media	Dave Angelus	596-3245
Voice of Democracy	Thys Vandervelde	708-927-0317

Auxiliary Officers

President	Kathy Thornton	355-6704
Sr Vice President	Tita McLaughlin	544-1061
Junior Vice President	Lucy Hoy	355-9799
Treasurer	Kathy McNally	305-8157
Secretary	Peggy Beata	717-9007
Chaplain	Berni Budny	
Guard	Mary Lou Miller	
Conductress	Dorothy Garhan	355-2493

Veterans Of Foreign Wars
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