

# THE KENDALL-GRAM



Volume 19 Issue 2  
February 2019

**A Monthly Publication for the Members of VFW Post 3873**

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## Commander Pablo Araya



There's a fresh layer of the white stuff on the ground and the forecast indicates it won't be melting anytime soon. That's why I'm whistling and smiling as I pack for our trip to the Florida Keys. T minus 72 hours, and the Griswolds will be back on the road, headed for warmer climes. And best of all, I can leave with a clear conscience, knowing that my Kendall responsibilities, at least for the next few weeks, have all been wrapped up. Driving the 21 plus hours down to the Keys, I'll have plenty of time to reflect on a great and rewarding January.

On the 11th, we celebrated our Post's 75th Anniversary and the 100th recognition of our namesake's death at the hands of the enemy in Cantigny, France. It was a military function that reflected well on the Post and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. The food was delicious, LTC Kelley's remarks were stirring and on point, and the DB Orchestra kept everyone on the dance floor until closing time. A huge thank you to Nina, Tom, Scott, Kathy, and Peggy for putting on a fantastic tribute. Earlier that same morning, Phil and I had the pleasure of awarding our Patriot's Pen local winners with their First and Second Place awards, along with several Distinguished Writer Awards. Amanda Wozniak won First Place from All Saints Academy while Vivian Pearson from St. Raphael was the Second Place recipient. Congratulations ladies! The following day, a strong contingent of Post 3873 and its Auxiliary attended the Voice of Democracy District Banquet to cheer on our very own finalist, Allison Conwell. Her moving essay garnered Allison a 3rd Place win, capping another terrific night. Congratulations Allison!

January also saw a huge face lift for our Post's administrative office. Like the shed we built a few months ago and the new lawn out front, nearly 100% of the upgrades were donated, as was *all* the labor. I'd like to thank Will Kreuzer of Tartan Realty for his generous donations of office furniture, filing cabinets, and blinds. It's folks like Will that remind us of what a great and giving community Naperville is. I would also like to thank Bob Rechenmacher for his flooring expertise and Mark Quinn's brawn for helping move thousands of pounds of heavy bank furniture.

Which brings me back to volunteering and what you can do for the Post. In a few weeks, past Post Commander Tom Parker will be heading up the planning for our biggest perennial fundraising event of the year, the famous Kendall Fish Fries. Please check with Tom and ask him if there's something you can do to lighten his load. We are a can-do Post with a vibrant membership and I'm honored to be its Commander.

Fly Navy!

**Senior Vice Commander**

**Brian Byrne**

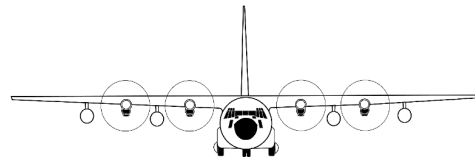


As we power through another frigid winter, one warming thought is that from a membership standpoint, the Post is in decent shape. The Post is at 93% toward our annual membership goal which means we still need to recruit 29 new members. While we still have a few months to work on this, please remember to keep an eye out for any potential new members. There is a big box hardware store that has made this process easier by designating “Veteran Parking” spaces. Also, when you see a person with a veteran related T-shirt, see someone with a military ball cap or a veteran license plate, please don’t be shy about talking to them and letting them know who we are and what the Post is all about. For all of our yearly members, please consider converting to a Life membership when it’s time to renew your membership. The Post can work with you on a payment plan to make this happen.

While February is usually a good time to take care of some of those things that you may have been putting off through the Holidays and end of year, it’s a good time to reevaluate healthcare, finances, or doing something new. If that’s the case, the Post makes it very easy to get checked out through the Hines Mobile Team visits. The Post is also involved in so many community events. From schools to senior visits, there is no shortage of opportunities to be involved.

**Junior Vice Commander**

**Todd Schuneman**



This year marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. In 1899, small groups of veterans returning from campaigns in Cuba and the Philippines organized societies based upon a spirit of comradeship known only to those who have faced the dangers of war, side by side. The similar experiences and a common language of the veteran’s drew them together. The American Veterans of Foreign Service, which is the predecessor to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, was the result of the amalgamation of several of those societies.

Lent will begin next month. Therefore, we will commence with our annual Fish Fries again. They will run for 8 weeks and as usual, each week will feature a service night. All members from that branch are urged to attend and members from other branches are welcome to help. The service night schedule is:

- March 1 - USMC
- March 8 - Army
- March 15 - Navy/CG
- March 22 - Air Force

- March 29 - Army
- April 5 - Navy/CG
- April 12 - Air Force
- April 19 - USMC

**Auxiliary Report from President Kathy McNally**

What a wonderful 75th Anniversary Gala in honor of our own Judd Kendall! We are grateful to our Sisters Peggy Beata and Kathy Briseno for joining the organizing committee. Kudos to you and the rest of the members. A great job all around!

I wonder if Judd or his family could ever imagine what his legacy has meant to Naperville's veterans and their families? We have been an award-winning Post and Auxiliary for our community efforts. We step in and assist when a member of our own is in need. This past Christmas, we made a difference in two veterans' families lives through our donations. At the end of this year, as we recall our Post's 75th Anniversary year, we hope to look back and agree that we indeed lived up to the legacy that is Judd Kendall.

Why not join us at our next meeting? Our meetings are short on boredom and long on conviviality...a warm place with Brothers and Sisters on a cold winter's evening. See you soon!

# Naperville Tradition Continues

**When:**

**Fridays**

**March 1 – April 19**  
**4:30 PM – 7:30 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 Friday Fish Fries will start Friday March 1<sup>st</sup> and will run through Lent. Our 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](http://www.napervfw3873.org)**





**Veteran of the Month**

**Name:** Todd Schuneman

**Rank:** Master Sergeant

**Current Age:** 57

**Branch of Service:** USMC/USAFR

**Total Years Served:** 20

**Job/Specialty:** Flight Engineer



**Places Served:** Okinawa, Japan, Korea, Panama, Nicaragua, Honduras, Columbia, Costa Rica, Operation Desert Shield

**Fondest Memory While Serving:** Being downrange with my crew. The austere conditions we lived in, combined with the most remote and barest airfields we operated out of, solidified an unbreakable bond of comradeship. We could, and did, do anything set before us.

**Favorite Quote:** "So the Marine Corps really did teach me to conquer fear, and then to go for higher causes, higher purposes." - Robert Kiyosaki



**Dates to Remember**

Feb 2 – Visit with Vets at Monarch Landing, 10:00 am

Feb 5 – Hines Outreach Team, 9:00 am - 1:30 pm

Feb 6 – Yoga for Veterans, 9:30 am

Feb 6 – Auxiliary visit to Mill Street, 2:00 pm

Feb 9 – Visit with Vets at Brookdale, 10:00 am

Feb 10 – Band of Brothers & Sisters Breakfast, 9:00 am

Feb 12 – Hines Hospital Visit, 6:15 pm

Feb 13 – Yoga for Veterans, 9:30 am

Feb 14 – VFW Meeting, 7:00 pm

Feb 16 – Visit with Vets at Independence Village, 10:00 am

Feb 17 – District 19 Meeting at Montgomery Post, 1:00 pm

Feb 18 – President’s Day

Feb 20 – Yoga for Veterans, 9:30 am

Feb 21 – Auxiliary Meeting, 7:00 pm

Feb 23 – Visit with Vets at Harbor Chase, 10:00 am

Feb 27 – Yoga for Veterans, 9:30 am

## Voice of Democracy Update

The 19th District held its Voice of Democracy awards dinner on Saturday, January 12th. Allison Conwell, a student at Naperville North High School, was this year's Post 3873 winner and represented the Post in the District competition. Many members of the Post and Auxiliary attended the dinner to support Allison. Of the 20 individual Post winners competing at the District level, Allison placed third overall. In doing so, she received a check for \$200. While Allison was not selected to advance to the State competition, her third place finish reflects highly on her talents and the caliber of students from Naperville that enter the Voice of Democracy competition each year.



## Patriot's Pen

As in the past, this year's Patriot's Pen competition saw many 6th through 8th graders vying for top honors at the Post level. Approximately 350 students submitted entries in the youth essay contest, which was slightly fewer than last year. The good news is that more schools, both public and private, participated in the scholarship competition this year. In addition to the five Post winners who are listed below, 14 additional students from 8 different schools were recognized as "Distinguished Writers."

This year's Post winners are:

- 1st Place: Amanda Wozniak - All Saints Academy
- 2nd Place: Vivian Pearson - St. Raphael
- 3rd Place: Anne Trompeter - Kennedy Junior High
- 4th Place: Darren Waunn - Kennedy Junior High
- 5th Place: Dylan Umbenhower - Kennedy Junior High

All five of these winners advanced to the 19th District competition, where winners will be announced in late January.



1st Place Winner Amanda Wozniak is recognized by Past Department Commander and Post Quartermaster, Phil Maughan

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## Save the Date

Mark your calendars for Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup> and plan to come to the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual DuPage Veterans Foundation fundraiser for Honor Flight Chicago. As in the past 7 years, it will be held at the John Calamos hangar at the DuPage Airport. All WWII and Korean Era Veterans will again be our guests. Last year's proceeds of \$40,000 went directly to Honor Flight Chicago and we hope to surpass that amount this year. To do that, we need more donations and volunteers. Feel free to help spread the word, especially at the company or organization you work for or with. We accept donations from anyone and yes, we are a "501c3" not-for-profit organization.

Additionally, the annual Law Enforcement Hockey Classic will be held on Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Proceeds from this event will also benefit Honor Flight Chicago. For information regarding this event, go to "honorflightchicago.org."

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## Will You Nominate Naperville's Citizen(s) of the Year?

Naperville American Legion Post 43 began naming a Citizen of the Year in 1986. Five years ago, the program was expanded to consider naming a Citizen of the Year in up to three categories— Service to the Community, Service to Youth, and Service to Veterans.

We are again asking for community assistance to identify deserving candidates in each category and we especially want input from our own Legion and VFW members.

Nominees must be Naperville residents; and their service must have been performed in a volunteer capacity, rather than as part of compensated employment.

Anyone may nominate a candidate by sending a letter or email that includes a comprehensive description of the services the nominee performed, the time frame, duration, and significance of the service to others, and the category they are being nominated for, along with the name and contact information for the nominee and the person offering the nomination. Letters from others endorsing the nominee are encouraged.

Naperville is blessed with people who serve their fellow citizens. Typically, the judges have a very difficult task. Comprehensive information-attachments and endorsements may be included-are of great help to them in selecting the winners. They may be mailed to American Legion Post 43, Citizen of the Year, Post Office Box 4, Naperville, 60566 or emailed to [vahlej@comcast.net](mailto:vahlej@comcast.net) to arrive by March 20, 2019.

Winners will be announced in the local media and honored at the Legion's Awards and Recognition Banquet on April 20, 2019.

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## Congratulations

Recently, our Post Service Officer and Past Post Commander, Mike Barbour, was sworn in as President of the DuPage County Veterans Assistance Commission (VAC). The VAC's mission is to provide emergency financial assistance to indigent veterans and their families. The VAC also provides non-financial services while seeking to identify and provide other needs that veterans and their families may have.

Congratulations, Mike, on being elected to this noteworthy position!



**75th Anniversary Celebration**

On Friday, January 11th, the Post held a formal dinner to commemorate two milestone events. January 9th marked 75 years since the Post received its charter, making it an official Veterans of Foreign Wars Post. And just over 100 years ago, on May 25, 1918, 1LT Oliver “Judd” Kendall lost his life in the service of our country. The focus of the evening was on celebrating 75 years of assisting veterans, promoting patriotism, and providing an environment that allows veterans with shared bonds to come together. Additionally, those in attendance were able to reflect on the selfless sacrifice of Judd Kendall as he served with the 1st Infantry Division on the eve of the Battle of Cantigny during World War I. To help commemorate this sacrifice, LTC Terence Kelley of the 1st Infantry Division attended the event and gave an inspirational talk that not only recognized Judd Kendall’s service, but also provided insight into what today’s military is accomplishing. The evening’s highlights included a moving tribute to 1LT Oliver “Judd” Kendall, the acknowledgement of the Post’s long and accomplished past, the swearing in of our newest Life Member - LTC Kelley, and dinner and dancing that lasted well into the night. (Photos by Jim Hoch)



Past National Commander George Cramer presents the Diamond Jubilee Proclamation to Commander Araya



LTC Kelley presents a commemorative certificate from the 1st Infantry Division to Commander Araya





**Hines Hospital Visits**

The Chairman of the Hospital Committee would like to remind everyone that the Post visits the Hines VA Hospital every second Tuesday of the month. Visits are not made in July and August. We leave the Post at 6:15 p.m. and return at approximately 9:15 p.m. Transportation is provided. Everyone is invited to attend, so why not come out to spend quality time with some very appreciative Veterans?

**Canteen Hours**

|          | Open      | Close             |
|----------|-----------|-------------------|
| Mon—Thur | 3:00 p.m. | 10:00 pm/Midnight |
| Fri—Sat  | Noon      | 10:00 pm/2:00 am  |
| Sunday   | Noon      | 5:00 pm/6:00 pm   |

If at any time between the first close hour and the second, 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.

**THE BARTENDER IS BOSS**

**Kendall-Gram Submission Policy**

Post members are encouraged to submit articles and photos. Give the article and/or your photo to the on-duty bartender. It is important to put your name and phone number on the item in case there are any questions. All photos MUST include where and why it was taken and the names of those in the picture. Photos without captions will not be used. Please submit all articles by the 10th of the month. Items submitted after the 10th will be considered for the following month.

**Kendall-Gram Editor:** Tom Parker (630) 280-9347

**Post Information**

Mailing Address: Judd Kendall VFW Post 3873  
908 W. Jackson  
Naperville, IL 60540

Phone Number: **(630) 420-9820**

Website Address: [napervfw3873.org](http://napervfw3873.org)

Facebook: Naperville VFW Judd Kendall 3873

**Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm in the upstairs hall of the Post.**

**Judd Kendall Post 3873 Officers**

|                     |                    |                |
|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Commander           | Pablo Araya        | (312) 505-4377 |
| Sr. Vice Commander  | Brian Byrne        | (630) 901-6758 |
| Jr. Vice Commander  | Todd Schuneman     | (815) 791-4178 |
| Quartermaster       | Phil Maughan       | (630) 383-1974 |
| Ass't Quartermaster | John Shaw          | (630) 961-3479 |
| Ass't Quartermaster | Terry Jelinek      | (630) 357-5366 |
| Adjutant            | Marvin Haines, Jr. | (312) 780-9610 |
| Judge Advocate      | Jeff Martinez      | (630) 205-9364 |
| Surgeon             | Bill Howland       | (630) 369-0087 |
| Service Officer     | Mike Barbour       | (630) 240-1645 |
| Officer of the Day  | Lou Kuelto         | (630) 898-8760 |
| Guard               | Tom Scott          | (815) 577-7748 |
| Chaplain            | Jim Oftedal        | (630) 357-4030 |
| 1-Year Trustee      | Bob Bronson        | (630) 978-2143 |
| 2-Year Trustee      | Lloyd McKee        | (630) 922-8804 |
| 3-Year Trustee      | Tom Parker         | (630) 280-9347 |

**Committees**

|                     |                   |                |
|---------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Americanism         |                   |                |
| Blood Drive         | Nina Petru        | (630) 871-9596 |
| Buddy Poppy         | Bob Colby         | (630) 301-2664 |
| Building            | Mike Rechenmacher | (630) 961-1377 |
| Color Guard         | Jim Sarns         | (630) 234-6292 |
| Eighth Grade Awards | Tom Benton        | (630) 579-8514 |
| Facilities Manager  |                   |                |
| Grounds             | Phil Maughan      | (630) 357-3440 |
| Honor Guard         | Jim Oftedal       | (630) 357-4030 |
| Hospital            | John Shaw         | (630) 961-3479 |
| House               | Ron Beata         | (630) 717-9007 |
| House               | Bob Colby         | (630) 301-2664 |
| House               | Scott Holley      | (708) 287-5590 |
| Membership          | Brian Byrne       | (630) 901-6758 |
| Legislative         | Frank Haynes      | (630) 357-2906 |
| National Home       | Mike McGrath      | (630) 357-2680 |
| Patriot's Pen       | Hugh Boger        | (317) 417-8301 |
| Public Relations    | Mike Barbour      | (630) 240-1645 |
| Safety              | Mike McGrath      | (630) 357-2680 |
| Scout Liaison       | Todd Schuneman    | (815) 791-4178 |
| Social Media        | Dave Angelus      | (630) 596-3245 |
| Voice of Democracy  | Thys Vandervelde  | (708) 927-0317 |

**Auxiliary Officers**

|                    |                  |                |
|--------------------|------------------|----------------|
| President          | Kathy McNally    | (708) 642-5986 |
| Sr. Vice President | Kristen Jungles  | (630) 816-6841 |
| Jr. Vice President | Lucy Hoy         | (630) 854-6627 |
| Treasurer          | Kathy Thornton   | (630) 355-6704 |
| Secretary          | Peggy Beata      | (630) 717-9007 |
| Chaplain           | Berni Budny      | (630) 717-9471 |
| Guard              | Margaret Linnert | (630) 596-9930 |
| Conductress        | Bertha Novacyk   | (630) 998-6186 |

Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Judd Kendall Post 3873  
908 W. Jackson  
Naperville, IL 60540

PRESORT STANDARD  
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