

# THE KENDALL-GRAM



Volume 19 Issue 7

July 2019

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

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**FLY NAVY**

## Commander Pablo Araya



A couple of weeks after our successful Memorial Day events and remembrances, I had the privilege of attending the Salute to the Medal of Honor Gala at the Union League, in Chicago. Of the 70 living Medal of Honor (MOH) Recipients, 21 were in attendance. Post 3873 was well represented also, with Phil and Marcy Maughan, Bruce Kannry, and Lew Breese dressed up for the black-tie affair. The Gala, which came on the heels of the 75th Anniversary of the D-Day Invasion, was an amazing tribute to not just the recipients, but our veterans from all wars. We were honored to have MOH Recipient Hershel Williams attend the event, as well. Hershel is a WWII Iwo Jima Marine that is the last surviving MOH Recipient from WWII. And like our own Judd Kendall WWII vets, he was spry, sharp and hasn't lost a step!

I know Memorial Day is behind us for another year, but I would be remiss if I did not thank all the volunteers that made the week's events so memorable. From feeding 300 hungry parade attendees to herding cats and cars at the start of the parade. From decorating thousands of grave sites with American flags to collecting, cleaning, and storing those flags for another year. From taking time for all the planning meetings to attending all of the flag laying ceremonies. For all of the many events that transpired to make Memorial Day such a success, the list of volunteers is voluminous. Please know that I sincerely thank each of you from the bottom of my heart.

If today, yesterday, and the past couple of months are any indication, it will probably be a wet 4th of July. But that doesn't mean we won't be holding our usual BBQ and fireworks viewing get-together in our Post backyard. So, bring some meat to cook, a blanket to sit on, and come celebrate the birthday of the greatest experiment the world has ever witnessed. Happy 243rd Birthday, USA!

Fly Navy!

**Senior Vice Commander****Brian Byrne**

As our nation celebrates its 243rd birthday, we should all take a second to celebrate as well. Whether it's some sort of personal milestone, a family event, or just the fact that it finally looks like summer is here to stay, we all have something to celebrate. With that said, this past membership year was a successful one. We achieved our membership goal and then some. I would personally like to thank everyone for their efforts in seeking out and asking fellow veterans to be a part of our organization. Not only did we achieve our membership goal, but we welcomed many terrific people into our Post. This was a team effort all around.

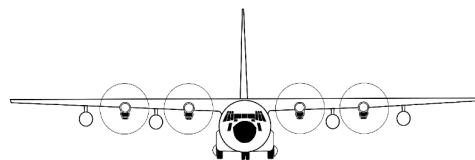
As with any great team or organization, the greatest challenge is to repeat a championship season. It's never too early to make sure we actively look for new members. You never know where someone will pop up. The ongoing challenge is to find new members who will join our Post and are willing to help with the many events we participate in each year. While we hope they decide to call Naperville home for years to come, those who join for even a few years are just as welcome. I am looking forward to the new membership year and hope to make it the Post's best year yet!

I also had the opportunity to present one of the 8th grade Citizenship Awards to a student at Scullen Middle School. Here's a message I received from her father. I think it validates that what we do within our community has an impact on others and is appreciated.

*"Thank you again for honoring Maddie at Scullen's 8th grade promotion ceremony. We know how special Maddie is and it was truly an honor to see her recognized for her character, participation, citizenship and scholarship. In addition to proudly watching our daughter walk across the stage, the honor you provided was a special one for our family. Maddie's grandfather proudly served in Vietnam, and all four of Maddie's great-grandfathers were members of the US military and served in World War II. The timing of the honor, given to Maddie on June 6th, was also special as it is the 75th anniversary of D-Day.*

*Maddie's great grandfather was in one of the first few waves of D-Day.*

*Thank you again for honoring Maddie, and thank you and all of our service members for your commitment to our great country!"*

**Junior Vice Commander****Todd Schuneman**

It was my distinct pleasure to recognize two fine young people with the Veterans of Foreign Wars Citizenship Award during their 8th Grade Graduation ceremony at Still Middle School on the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day. The criteria for this award are a combination of citizenship, academics, and attendance. The Veterans of Foreign Wars believe very strongly that these qualities are important for success not only in their academic life, but throughout life. The Citizenship Award recognizes this unique combination of achievement and dedication. The students are recommended for this award by the school's faculty, staff, and in some instances their peers. This is just one of the many activities we participate in each year within our schools and community. If you are looking to become more active in the Post and want to start with something that does not require a lot of time, consider volunteering for events like this one.

Also, consider joining your fellow Post members on July 4th for "Fireworks at the Post." Not only will you get to hang out with some pretty incredible people, but you will have a front row seat for the fireworks that night.

## Auxiliary Report from President Kathy McNally

As of press time, we haven't yet added up all the awards earned at Convention this year. We will celebrate anyway and say congratulations to all our Auxiliary Sisters and Brothers for helping to make this Post shine all year!

Last month's Flag Day and this month's celebration of independence are two holidays which honor our flag. As an Auxiliary, we promise to be "ever mindful of our duties as members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary, to see that our flag is never desecrated, and to teach the people of our land what this means, and to see that all are instructed in the pledge to the Flag."

Never is this more poignant than at a veteran's funeral. I have just returned from the memorial celebration of life for my Uncle Al Mampre, the last surviving medic from Easy Company, known as the Band of Brothers, 101st Airborne Division. His military escort vehicles had flags flying from their hoods during the funeral procession. The Skokie Fire Department flew the flag from a hook and ladder which greeted mourners at the cemetery. Rows of veterans held fast at attention with flags at their sides at the entrance to honor my uncle. The flag that draped his casket throughout the church service, in the hearse, and on the funeral bier was lovingly and honorably folded in a very solemn ceremony by soldiers from the 101st. Airborne Division. It was then presented to my cousin Ginny, Al's daughter. As the casket was lowered into the ground, Ginny clutched the folded flag to her chest and waved goodbye to her father.

I never knew Uncle Al was a military rock star until I grew up. That flag is the one for which he fought, along with many of his comrades - many of whom never made it back with him from Normandy (Omaha Beach), Bastogne (the Battle of the Bulge), and Operation Market Garden (the Netherlands).

That flag is the one our military men and women are fighting for today. Because my Uncle Al was such a rock star, many young military soldiers, sailors, and marines attended the memorial. It was so touching to see these "Millennials" honor this World War II veteran. These young people - they know what this means. Our living veterans know what this means. Let us take up this cause and continue to teach the people of our land, the true meaning of our flag.

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## National Home for Children by Mike McGrath

The Board of Trustees of the VFW National Home for Children has announced a changing of the guard as long time Executive Director Patrice Green is retiring after more than 30 years of service to military and veteran families. Replacing Patrice is Frederick Puffenberger, a native of Eaton Rapids, Michigan. Mr. Puffenberger has great experience both as an administrator and as an advocate for children and families. The Board looks forward to continuing the mission of our National Home and welcomes Fred Puffenberger to his new role.

Also, congratulations to Post 3873 and Commander Pablo Araya for winning this year's award for most dollars donated to the National Home. Without a doubt, this is due to the annual Judd-a-Thon. Thanks to our many volunteers, sponsors, and participants who helped raise another record amount of money. And don't forget, our next Judd-a-Thon will be here before you know it.

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## Golfers . . . Save the Date

**JUDD KENDALL'S 2019 GOLF OUTING**

**SATURDAY, SEPT 14TH**

**AT SPRINGBROOK GOLF COURSE**

**... DETAILS COMING SOON ...**



**Salute to the Medal of Honor Gala**

As Commander Araya mentioned in his column, the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation held its Salute to the Medal of Honor Gala in Chicago on June 7th. 21 of the 70 living Medal of Honor Recipients attended the event, including Mike Thornton (U.S. Navy, Vietnam) and Sal Giunta (U.S. Army, Afghanistan). Members of Judd Kendall VFW Post 3873 represented the Post well among this group of distinguished military heroes.



Left: Pablo and Renae Araya, MOH Recipient Mike Thornton and wife, Phil and Marcy Maughan



Right: Phil Maughan, MOH Recipient Sal Giunta, Bruce Kannry, Lew Breese, Pablo Araya

**Dates to Remember**

Jul 3 – Yoga for Veterans, 9:30 am

Jul 4 – Independence Day

Jul 4 – Fireworks at the Post

Jul 4 – Thursday night band concerts continue

Jul 6 – Visit Vets at Monarch Landing, 10:00 am

Jul 10 – Yoga for Veterans, 9:30 am

Jul 11 – VFW Meeting, 7:00 pm

Jul 13 – Visit with Vets at Brookdale, 10:00 am

Jul 17 – Yoga for Veterans, 9:30 am

Jul 18 – Auxiliary Meeting, 7:00 pm

Jul 20 – Visit with Vets at Independence Village, 10:00 am

Jul 24 – Yoga for Veterans, 9:30 am

Jul 27 – Visit with Vets at Tabor Hills, 10:00 am

Jul 31 – Yoga for Veterans, 9:30 am

**Notes:** There is NO Hines Hospital visit this month.

There is NO visit from Hines Outreach Team this month.

There is NO Auxiliary visit to Mill Street this month.

## Need a Dinner Idea? Try the Portillo's Fundraiser

When you dine at either of the two Portillo's Naperville locations on **Tuesday, July 16th between 5:00 pm and 8:00 pm**, the restaurant will donate 20% of the proceeds from your meal to Judd Kendall VFW Post 3873. All of the money raised during this time will go directly into our Veterans Assistance fund that is used to help needy veterans.

To participate in this event, simply go to the Portillo's at 950 E. Ogden Avenue or 1992 W. Jefferson Avenue (Rt. 59) during the times mentioned above. When you talk to the first order taker, show them the flyer contained in this Kendall-Gram, display it on your smartphone, or simply mention the VFW Fundraiser. The Post will receive credit for dine-in, to go, and drive-thru orders.

We are not allowed to promote this on the premises of either location, so getting the word out early to as many people as possible will help us raise a greater amount of money. So, share the flyer with your friends, family, coworkers, social media buddies, and anyone else that would like to help us raise money while enjoying a nice meal.

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## Congratulations

Congratulations to our very own Phil Maughan and Nina Petru for their achievements at the State Convention.

Phil was elected as the National Council Representative for the State of Illinois. In this role, he will represent Illinois on the National Council of Administration. This Council is responsible for administering the affairs and transacting the business of the VFW in the intervals between annual VFW National Conventions. Phil is also the Vice-President of the VFW Foundation, which is responsible for providing financial resources to the vital assistance programs of the VFW.

Nina was elected to her second term as Department of Illinois Surgeon. In this role, she will continue to champion programs and activities that benefit the health of veterans throughout the organization and in Illinois.

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## Fireworks at the Post

Bring a few lawn chairs or a blanket and join your fellow friends and veterans at the Post on Thursday, July 4th for an evening of patriotic fun. The Post Canteen will open at 3:00 pm and the grill will be available for those that would like to bring food to cook. This year, live patriotic music will be performed at 6:00 pm and again at 7:00 pm. Naperville's 4th of July fireworks show is scheduled to begin at 9:30 pm and you will have a front row seat on the back lawn of the Post.

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## Veteran ID Card

Did you know the Veterans Administration offers Veteran ID Cards that can be used to verify your military service so you can receive discounts from many restaurants, hotels, stores, and other businesses? You may be eligible for one of these cards if you served on active duty, in the Reserves, or in the National Guard (including the Coast Guard) and received an honorable or general discharge (under honorable conditions). This card does not replace other VA cards you may have and it is not a card for VA benefits.

If you would like to apply for one of these cards, simply go to the following website:

<https://www.va.gov/records/get-veteran-id-cards/vic/>



# Post 3873 Calendar of Events July 2019



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
			9:30 am - Yoga for Vets	Fireworks at the Post Independence Day		10:00 am - Visit Vets at Monarch Landing
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
			9:30 am - Yoga for Vets	7:00 pm - VFW Meeting		10:00 am - Visit Vets at Brookdale
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
			9:30 am - Yoga for Vets	7:00 pm - Auxiliary Meeting		10:00 am - Visit Vets at Independence Village
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
			9:30 am - Yoga for Vets			10:00 am - Visit Vets at Tabor Hills
28	29	30	31			
			9:30 am - Yoga for Vets			



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## VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

July 16, 2019

5:00pm - 8:00pm

at the Portillo's located at:

1992 W. Jefferson  
Naperville, IL 60540

950 E. Ogden Avenue  
Naperville, IL 60563

**We look forward to seeing you there!**

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Not valid with online orders. Promoting on Portillo's premises is strictly prohibited.

**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		
Adjutant	Marvin Haines, Jr.	(312) 780-9610
Judge Advocate	Leo Jaime	(773) 441-3887
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	Lloyd McKee	(630) 922-8804
2-Year Trustee	Tom Parker	(630) 280-9347
3-Year Trustee	Bob Bronson	(630) 978-2143

**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	Wick Kirby	(630) 864-7574
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	Bernadette Budny	(630) 717-9471
Treasurer	Peggy Beata	(630) 717-9007
Secretary	Peggy Beata	(630) 717-9007
Chaplain	Nancy Marinello	(630) 464-3696
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

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