

THE KENDALL-GRAM



Volume 19 Issue 10
October 2019

A Monthly Publication for the Members of VFW Post 3873



Commander Pablo Araya



I'm not sure where to start with the thank you's for this year's Judd-A-Thon. There are the sponsors, the pilots, the fantastic participants, the volunteers, and of course, the weather! This year we had some big donations which put us on track for a record year. But there were also dozens of smaller gifts, that when handed to me, were always followed with, "I don't need a t-shirt or any recognition. Just give it to the kids." I heard that more than a few times! And this year, we had a new gift in the goodie bags that caused as much of a stir as the oval stickers did the first year we handed them out. Thanks to Annette and the Naperville Trolley for buying all those cool koozies. The Auxiliary came through again, and I believe for the first time, we had 100% customer satisfaction throughout the registration and packet pick-up process. Not one single complaint (that I heard). Bob Rechenmacher has the pre-race set-up routine down to a science, while Phil, our Quartermaster, feverishly crunches the numbers in the weeks leading up to Judd-A-Thon like a CPA during tax season! Then there's Carey, who came in and ran the bar, despite some very tough circumstances. As in years past, she was helped by Chris and Bear. We saw some great costumes, a few VFW VIP's running in their first Judd-A-Thon, as well as our Mayor lending his support for the cause. The weather was touch and go there for a bit, but even with a low ceiling and poor visibility, the Lima Lima two bird formation wowed everyone at the start line. And was it just me, or did it seem as though there were more adorable little runners taking part this year? Which would only be appropriate, of course, as it's the children at the National Home that we conduct this event for every year and why it keeps growing every year. I'm pleased to report that through all of your efforts, we raised almost \$27,000 for the VFW National Home for Children located in Eaton Rapids, Michigan! Thanks, one and all.

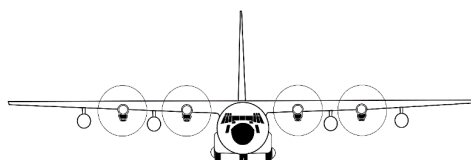
You can view all of Jim Hoch's photos from this year's event at <https://jameshochphotography.smugmug.com/Military/VFW-Events/Judd-A-Thon-2019/>

Fly Navy!

Senior Vice Commander**Brian Byrne**

October is a special month for me. It represents coming home from Iraq in 2008 after living in a tent at Baghdad International Airport and being able to see the sign for “Flying Carpet Airways” at the terminal – 100% true story. It represents having my last few sips of Turkish coffee before flying to Kuwait where we waited 5 more days before we could board the plane that brought us back to Fort Riley, Kansas. There was a Starbucks on the airbase in Kuwait, so it made waiting a little bit easier and because it was an Air Force Base, you know the facilities were among the best. Going from the middle of a dry desert to fall in the Midwest will always be a fond memory for me, along with seeing green grass and needing to don a Gore-Tex parka due to the chilly 58 degree weather in Kansas – it was 98 degrees in Kuwait when we departed to come home.

I remember how excited I was to reunite with my family, but coming home was also bittersweet. After our out-processing was done, my teammates and I hugged each other goodbye and that was it. We all went our separate ways. Many went on to other units, but for me, it was a trip to the Transition Office where I separated from the military and became a civilian. It was the last time I felt the bond of comradeship that only those of us who have deployed will truly ever know. That brings me to my favorite topic – membership. We are trending in a positive direction, but remember, it’s still early in the membership year and there’s still lots of work to do to reach our goal this year. Regardless of where you are while out enjoying the fall weather, keep your eyes peeled. There may be another veteran out there looking for a way to renew their comradeship with other veterans just as we’ve been able to do as members of the Post.

Junior Vice Commander**Todd Schuneman**

On September 14th, I had the honor of representing the Post and the Veterans of Foreign Wars at the “Over the Edge” event sponsored by Operation Support Our Troops (OSOT) – America. The event was held at the Hotel Arista in Naperville. Over the Edge is an exhilarating and innovative way to come together as a community, to bring awareness to the mission of OSOT, and to raise funds to support all of those who sacrifice so much for our freedom. It is an event in which participants face their fear or apprehension of heights and rappel down the face of a tall building. The Arista was a great location for this as it is at least one hundred feet tall.

Over the Edge has raised more than seventy million dollars over the past nine years through 700 plus successful rappelling events. To raise these funds, they partner with non-profit organizations primarily in Canada, the United States, and in the United Kingdom. The mission of OSOT is to support the morale and well-being of American forces by providing comfort, resources, and education to both themselves and their families while they are deployed in harm’s way and after their return. They accomplish this by providing a link between the citizens and military personnel so that everyone has the opportunity to express their support.

I would strongly encourage anyone who has an opportunity to support OSOT through an Over the Edge event do so. It was exhilarating!

Auxiliary Report from President Kathy McNally

If you didn't train and run in the 0.5 K Judd-a-Thon, you missed a good time on a lovely summer morning! And mixed with fun were the funds raised to support our National Home. As an organization, we often combine fun with fundraising - such as the fun painting night we are planning for Wednesday, October 16th at the Post. Your \$39 registration fee will include a donation to our cause. Our mission remains the same: Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes.

But all play and no work wouldn't meet our goals. So, we share the burdens in stepping up to help lead committees and in volunteering to help in small ways for events during our VFW Auxiliary and Post year. Many hands make light work! If you are interested in stepping up to lead or join a committee, we have the following openings:

- Chief of Staff - Extension
- Historian, Media Relations
- Legislative
- Scholarship: Continuing Education

If you haven't attended a meeting in a while, I encourage you to join us any **third Thursday** of the month at 7:00 pm. Our business meetings are short and to the point and end on a pleasant note (with the conviviality shared in the Canteen after each meeting)!

Our next opportunity for many hands will be our Turkey Raffle on Saturday, **November 17th**. Join us! Attend the raffle and volunteer for an hour or two to sell raffle tickets, help in the kitchen, or help with the walkaround items. You'll have fun while we are raising funds, all to assist our veterans and their families. That is our mission.

National Home for Children by Mike McGrath

Judd-a-Thon 2019 . . . what a great shindig! Thank you to all who came out to participate and to our many sponsors. Thanks also to Commander Araya, Post Quartermaster Phil Maughan, and everyone else who helped make our 6th Annual Judd-a-Thon such a huge success. The amount of money we raised will go a long way towards helping the folks at the National Home. We truly do have a great Post located in a great community.

I hope many of you were able to make it out to Eaton Rapids, Michigan to help represent the Post as we presented our donation to the National Home for Children on Illinois Day. For those that couldn't make it, you missed an exciting time and we hope you can plan to join us next year. You'll have a great time and won't regret making the trip.

Golf Outing Update

This year's golf outing went off without a hitch! There were a total of 29 golfers and "duffers" that came out to play and the weather could not have been more perfect. We raised \$2,356, which is the second highest amount we've raised in over a decade. Many thanks go out to everyone who came out to play and a special thank you to Dave Lucke for his support again this year in obtaining corporate sponsors. We hope to see more of you join us next September for this fun and rewarding event.





Veteran of the Month

Name: Steve Handwerker

Rank: Specialist 4/E-4

Branch of Service: U.S. Army

Total Years Served: 3 (2 Active/1 National Guard)

Job/Specialty: Patriot Missile System

Places Served: Iraq and Kuwait

Fondest Memory While Serving: Kissing the ground when I came back from Iraq. Also, standing on American soil when I got home and staring up at the American flag.

Favorite Quotes: "It's mind over matter - if you don't mind, it doesn't matter."



Dates to Remember

- Oct 1 – Hines Outreach Team, 9:00 am - 1:30 pm
- Oct 2 – Yoga for Veterans, 9:30 am
- Oct 2 – Auxiliary visit to Mill Street, 2:00 pm
- Oct 5 – Visit with Vets at Monarch Landing, 10:00 am
- Oct 8 – Hines Hospital Visit, 6:15 pm
- Oct 9 – Yoga for Veterans, 9:30 am
- Oct 10 – VFW Meeting, 7:00 pm
- Oct 12 – Visit with Vets at Brookdale, 10:00 am
- Oct 13 – U. S. Navy Birthday

- Oct 13 – Band of Brothers and Sisters Breakfast, 9:00 am
- Oct 16 – Yoga for Veterans, 9:30 am
- Oct 16 – Painting on the Porch, 7:00 pm
- Oct 17 – Auxiliary Meeting, 7:00 pm
- Oct 19 – Visit with Vets at Independence Village, 10:00 am
- Oct 19 – Legion Dinner, 6:00 pm
- Oct 23 – Yoga for Veterans, 9:30 am
- Oct 26 – Visit with Vets at Tabor Hills, 10:00 am
- Oct 30 – Yoga for Veterans, 9:30 am

Judd Kendall VFW Post 3873 Fall Blood Drive
In the upstairs hall of the Post
Saturday, November 2nd
7:30 am - 1:00 pm



Call Vitalant (formerly LifeSource) at (888) 427-4836 or log on to Vitalant.org to schedule your appointment.
 Walk-ins are always welcome.

38,000 blood donations are needed each day.
Will You Help?

244th Marine Corps Ball

This year, members of the United States Marine Corps will celebrate their 244th birthday. Naperville Marines have marked this event by hosting a Marine Corps Ball in the Naperville area for the past 46 years. This year, the Marine Corps Ball will be held on Saturday, November 9th at the Marriott-Naperville and all are welcomed to join in the celebration.

The evening will begin with a social hour at 5:00 pm. The formal program will begin at 6:30 pm with dinner to follow. The menu offering this year is Beef Bordelaise, Herb Roasted Chicken, or Stuffed Portabello Mushroom. The cost is \$75 per person, payable in advance.

If you are interested in attending this event, contact Wayne Fischer at wayne.l.fischer@gmail.com or call Wayne at (630) 240-8868. Provide your name and mailing address so that you can receive a formal invitation that will allow you to register and select your entrée choice for dinner. Additional information regarding the event will be provided with the invitation that is mailed to you.

The Naperville Marines thank you in advance for your ongoing support and hope you can join them for this very special and honored tradition.

Semper Fi

Recognition

Post Commander Pablo Araya was presented with his All-State cap at the Post's September meeting in recognition of his outstanding accomplishments during the 2018-2019 term. His "White Cap" was presented by Past Department Commander Phil Maughan, State Director and President of the National Home for Children Mike McGrath, and Past National Commander George Cramer. Congratulations to Commander Araya on this achievement.



The Post was recognized during the September meeting for its ongoing high level of support for the VFW National Home for Children. In the photo to the left, Commander Araya accepts a plaque from State Director and President of the National Home for Children Mike McGrath on behalf of the Post.

VFW Auxiliary Fundraiser
A No-Experience-Required Art Class
with Step by Step Instructions
Cocktails at 6:30pm and Painting at 7:00 pm
\$39 per painter



OCTOBER 16TH

WHO RESCUED WHOM

VFW AT 908 JACKSON AVENUE
331-457-5440 or 630-667-6704

WWW.PINOTSPALETTE.COM



Register online at pinotspalette.com/naperville/event/361710

Or call (331) 457-5440

For additional information, contact Kathy Thornton at (630) 667-6704

Deployed to Afghanistan

Post member and U.S. Army SGT Jacob Martin recently deployed to Afghanistan with his Illinois Army National Guard unit. SGT Martin played a key role in the training and Department of Defense certification of our combined Honor Guard. As an infantryman, SGT Martin's duties while deployed will include providing security for advisory personnel whenever they visit various off base locations. SGT Martin (front row - right - kneeling) is pictured with his team.



For those wishing to send letters or support packages, SGT Martin's address while deployed is:

SGT Jacob Martin
1st PLT, C Co 1-178 INF
AP Lightning
APO AE 09354

Veterans Day 2019

This year, we will be conducting flag raisings at District 203 schools on Monday, November 11th. As in the past, the day will begin with breakfast at the District 203 main office located at 203 W. Hillside Road (corner of Hillside Road and Webster Street). Immediately following breakfast, we will head out to the schools. Currently, we have not received any requests for veterans to attend District 204 schools. If we do receive a request from District 204, we obviously will not be able to send as many people to District 203 schools.

If you plan to participate in these events on Veterans Day, please contact Nina Petru at Petru1520@comcast.net or text her at (630) 871-9596 with your name and contact information. Sign-up sheets will also be available at the next monthly meeting. If you plan to attend breakfast, please tell Nina. You do not have to attend breakfast in order to assist with the flag raisings. If there is a specific school you would like to attend, please provide the name of the school. These requests will be accommodated on a first come, first serve basis. Nina will assign everyone else to schools based on the needs of District 203. Remember to bring your VFW or Legion cover.

This is usually a big day for us, so the more veterans that can assist, the better. The students and staff at the schools are very appreciative and make it a point to recognize and celebrate you, our veterans.

Please note that our Veterans Day Memorial Service will be held at Rotary Hill this year instead of Veterans Park. We will be recognizing the 100th anniversary of the ending of WWI, the 100th anniversary of the charter of American Legion Post 43, and the 75th anniversary of the charter of Judd Kendall VFW Post 3873. The program will begin at 11:00 am, so plan to arrive early.

Naperville Healing Field of Honor: "Remembering a Century of Heroes and Heritage"



HEALING FIELD OF HONOR®

Remembering a Century of Heroes & Heritage

Naperville, IL | 2019

November 1-11, 2019
Naperville Rotary Hill

healingfield.org/naperville19/

**All Proceeds Benefit
the Programs of
Operation Support Our Troops-America**



Veterans In The Community

(Left) - In early September, MG Mark Anderson provided remarks to help honor Revolutionary War veteran Charles Denny during a commemoration ceremony in Mokena, IL. MG Anderson assisted the Fox Valley Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution in recognizing Denny's military service by placing a bronze marker on his grave.



(Right) - WWII veteran Don O'Reilly participated in a ceremony with other members of the joint Honor Guard as the Westmont Post Office was officially renamed to honor Vietnam veteran James Robinson, Jr. Robinson, a native of Westmont, lost his life while serving in Vietnam in 1966.



(Left) - Junior Vice Commander Todd Schuneman represented the Post during the "Over the Edge" fundraiser to benefit Active Duty military personnel and veterans. To learn about Todd's perceptions of the event, see his column on page 2.

In Our Thoughts...

The members of Judd Kendall VFW Post 3873 and its Auxiliary would like to extend their sympathies to:

The family of George Hoegrewe, member of VFW Post 3873 and WWII veteran, on his recent passing.

Bill Dixon, member of VFW Post 3873, and his family on the recent passing of his daughter Rebecca (Dixon) Vincent.

Carey Freeman, VFW Post 3873 Canteen Manager, and her family on the recent passing of her mother.




Judd-a-Thon
2019
Photos
By
Jim Hoch





Post 3873 Calendar of Events October 2019



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 9:00 am - 1:30 pm Hines Community Outreach Team Visit	2 9:30 am - Yoga for Vets 2:00 pm - Auxiliary to Mill Street	3	4	5 10:00 am - Visit Vets at Monarch Landing
6	7	8 6:15 pm - Hines Hospital Visit	9 9:30 am - Yoga for Vets Yom Kippur	10 7:00 pm - VFW Meeting	11	12 10:00 am - Visit Vets at Brookdale
13 9:00 am - Band of Brothers and Sisters Breakfast U.S. Navy Birthday	14	15	16 9:30 am - Yoga for Vets 7:00 pm - Painting on the Porch	17 7:00 pm - Auxiliary Meeting	18	19 10:00 am - Visit Vets at Independence Village 6:00 pm - Legion Dinner
20	21	22	23 9:30 am - Yoga for Vets	24	25	26 10:00 am - Visit Vets at Tabor Hills
27	28	29	30 9:30 am - Yoga for Vets	31  Halloween		

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

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		
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	Carmen Iacullo	(708) 969-7143
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	Carmen Iacullo	(708) 969-7143

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 Novaczyk	(630) 998-6186

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

PRESORT STANDARD
US POSTAGE PAID
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