

THE KENDALL-GRAM



Volume 20 Issue 02

February 2020

A Monthly Publication for the Members of VFW Post 3873



FLY NAVY

Commander Pablo Araya



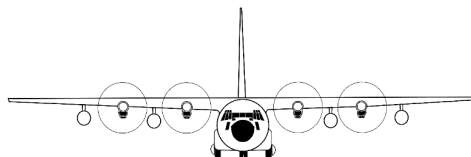
Every year I have a mini debate with myself about the January and February doldrums. Which month is really the worst? Which of the two “-ary” months deserves the title of worst for the year? In Chicago, both months are filled with dreary, cold, sunless days, interrupted by the occasional freezing, windy blizzard. Both come on the heels of the most festive time of the year, leaving us with week-long hangovers, feeling a few pounds heavier, and facing the credit card payments that never crossed our minds as we bought just the right gifts over the holidays a few months ago. And for Bears fans, well, the Superbowl is nothing to look forward to (you can only watch re-runs of the 2019 Army-Navy game just so many times). Last year Renae and I traveled to Florida in late January to escape the winter blahs, so February was the obvious "winner" in 2019. This year, though, there are no vacation plans set, making the competition for “Worst Month of the Year” a bit tighter. However, February has an edge this year: our annual All-You-Can-Eat fish fries will be kicking off early, beginning on Friday the 21st. Remember, these fish fries are an “All Hands On Deck - Full Court Press” (how's that for a mixed metaphor?) event. We need everyone's help during these dinners to help set-up, to keep the tables clean as people come and go, and to clean up afterwards. So, it appears I'll be giving January the Fickle Finger of Fate Award for 2020. And as if January hasn't already won hands down, how about this tidbit to ensure its ignoble nomination on the 2020 calendar. At our January Post meeting, we said goodbye to Nina Petru who has pulled the plug on the whole January versus February debate and is relocating to Florida's warmer climes. Nina is a revered Past Commander, a staunch supporter of veterans, a go-to member when a volunteer is needed, and most of all, a dear friend of Judd Kendall Post 3873. Fair winds and following seas, Nina!

Now I think I'll go back to bed, pull the covers over my head and sleep. Someone please wake me up when the fish fries start.

Fly Navy!

Senior Vice Commander**Brian Byrne**

Well, it's February already and hopefully the groundhog will shorten winter by 6 weeks! We will just have to wait and see. At any rate, February is a great month to start planning what you will do when the weather finally turns warm. Whether it's knocking out some project at home, going on a road trip, or going out to play 18 holes (my personal favorite), it's a good time to remember that other veterans will be venturing out into the warmer weather, as well. Keep an application or two in your car, because you never know who you will run into as you are out and about. We are currently at 93% of our membership goal for this year, so we still have quite a way to go to hit 100%. February will also bring the start of our Friday night fish fries at the Post. There is no better place to enjoy a great meal and the camaraderie we share as veterans. An added plus is that they are open to the public, so it's also a great opportunity to interact with members of our community to let them know what our Post is all about.

Junior Vice Commander**Todd Schuneman**

This month marks the 75th anniversary of the battle for Iwo Jima. The assault began on February 19, 1945 following a horrific naval bombardment. The battle for control of Iwo Jima would last 36 days and result in approximately 26,000 American casualties of which 6,800 were killed in action.

Three Marine divisions, along with elements of the Army, Navy, and Army Air Corps totaling more than 110,000 men were the tasked with taking the island. The island is barely ten square miles and the landscape is eclipsed in the shadow of Mount Suribachi. The first wave of Marines had more trouble with the sandy volcanic terrain than enemy fire, but the Japanese responded quickly from their dug in positions and swept the beaches with concentrated fire.

On February 23, the Marines took control of Mount Suribachi. Onlookers cheered as the assault platoon fought to the summit and raised a small flag. Later that day, different troops raised a larger flag while others respectfully lowered the original. Several combat photographers captured these stirring events on film, but Joe Rosenthal's snapshot of the men struggling to raise the second flag in a stiff wind became an enduring symbol of American resolve. That iconic image remains today, a symbol of American tenacity and warrior ethos.

The fighting during the battle was so fierce that the Medal of Honor was awarded to 27 Marines and sailors, fourteen of which were posthumous, as well as numerous other decorations. It has been said, about the battle, "uncommon valor was common place".

The final toll among Marines was 5,931 killed in action, died of wounds, or missing in action and presumed dead, more than twice as many Marines than had been killed in all of World War One. Additionally, 209 Navy corpsmen and surgeons assigned to the Marines were killed. Also, sailors of the Fifth Fleet and soldiers of the Army and Army Air Corps suffered fatalities during the battle. In all, more than 800 Americans gave their lives for every square mile of Iwo Jima's black volcanic sand. Lest we never forget.

Auxiliary Report from President Kathy McNally

Everyone enjoying the weather? This time of year, "cabin fever" is a virus that quickly spreads. One cure you can take for it: Judd Kendall Fish Fry! Our famous Friday fish fries begin on the Friday BEFORE Lent (so we can iron out any bugs) - February 21st. Yes, Easter is early this year. Fish fries are an important fundraiser for our Post. Our Sister Trish Krenick has once again volunteered to assist the Post and manage the committee for cashiering. You should have already received an email invitation to volunteer for cashier positions, but if you have not and wish to join us, please contact Trish at tkrenick@gmail.com or text/call (630) 215-0402. Trish is THE BOSS of this committee. Please contact her directly for all fish fry cashier concerns. Can't volunteer? We welcome you as a consumer as well! Check out the menus for all weeks here: <http://www.napervfw3873.org>

With the groundhog predicting an early or late Spring, we hope you'll leave your cabin and travel to the Post for a [Friday](#) fish fry or an Auxiliary meeting. Our Nancy Marinello is ordering poppies now and gearing up for poppy distribution in May. That's OUR indicator that Spring is around the corner!

National Home for Children by Mike McGrath

The National Home for Children will celebrate its 95th anniversary next month. On March 9, 1925, the first National Home residents arrived. The widow and family (6 children) of deceased Sergeant Edward Pollett were left destitute as SGT Pollett's benefits ended after his death. Since then, and for almost 95 years, the National Home has grown and evolved to meet the changing needs of veteran and military families. "Help, Hope, and Honor" continues to be the mission of the National Home in 2020.

Don't forget, if you know of someone out there that might need a helping hand, the National Home Hotline is (800) 313-4200.

Important: Contact Me If You Still Need a Printed Newsletter

The Post is happy to continue mailing copies of the Kendall-Gram to members who do not have internet access. Over the years our printing and postage costs have risen dramatically. To the extent possible, we much prefer to spend our money on veterans, their families, and worthy community initiatives rather than on printing and postage. The Kendall-Gram is available at the Post website (www.napervfw3873.org) and each month a link directly to the newsletter is e-mailed to members who have updated their e-mail addresses with Mike Barbour. We encourage each member with internet access to read the Kendall-Gram in that fashion. If you have internet access and are not receiving Post information from Mike Barbour, please let us know your email address so we can add you to Mike's distribution list.

And most importantly, if you currently receive a printed Kendall-Gram through the mail and would like to continue receiving it in that manner, please let me know by March 1, 2020. You may call me directly at (630) 280-9347 or you may contact me through regular mail (908 W. Jackson; Naperville, IL 60540) or e-mail (vfwpost3873@sbcglobal.net). If we don't hear from you by that date, we will assume you no longer wish to receive a copy through the mail. Thanks for your help!

Dates to Remember

Feb 1 – Visit with Vets at Monarch Landing, 10:00 am
 Feb 4 – Hines Outreach Team, 9:00 am - 1:30 pm
 Feb 5 – Yoga for Veterans, 9:30 am
 Feb 5 – Auxiliary visit to Mill Street, 2:00 pm
 Feb 8 – Visit with Vets at Brookdale, 10:00 am
 Feb 9 – Band of Brothers & Sisters Breakfast, 9:00 am
 Feb 11 – Hines Hospital Visit, 6:15 pm
 Feb 12 – Yoga for Veterans, 9:30 am
 Feb 13 – VFW Meeting, 7:00 pm
 Feb 15 – Visit with Vets at Independence Village, 10:00 am

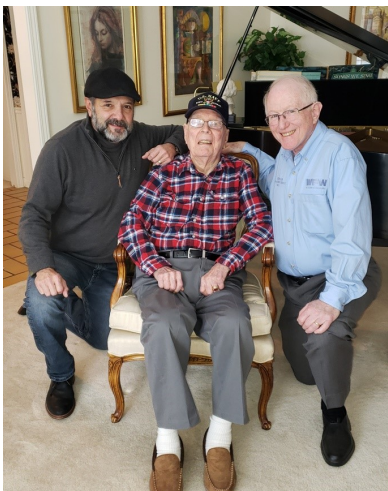
Feb 15 – Legion Dinner, 6:00 pm
 Feb 16 – District 19 Meeting, 1:00 pm
 Feb 19 – Yoga for Veterans, 9:30 am
 Feb 20 – Auxiliary Meeting, 7:00 pm
 Feb 21 – First Fish Fry, 4:30 pm
 Feb 22 – Visit with Vets at Tabor Hills, 10:00 am
 Feb 22 – Comedy Night at the Post, 6:00 pm
 Feb 26 – Yoga for Veterans, 9:30 am
 Feb 28 – Fish Fry, 4:30 pm

DuPage Veterans Foundation Fundraiser

The 9th Annual DuPage Veterans Foundation fundraiser for Honor Flight Chicago will be held on Saturday, May 2nd. As in the past, the fundraiser will be held at the Calamos Investments Hangar at the DuPage Airport. All WWII and Korean Era veterans will be honored as our guests. Last year, \$13,000 was raised, all of which went directly to Honor Flight Chicago. Our goal this year is to surpass that amount, but to do so, we need more donations. Just as importantly, we need volunteers to make this event as successful as in years past. So, mark your calendars for May 2nd and plan to come out to volunteer a few hours of your time that day. And feel free to spread the word, especially with the company or organization you work for or with. We accept donations from anyone and yes, we are a “501(c)(3)” not-for-profit organization. Thanks for your ongoing support and we look forward to seeing you on May 2nd.

Hail and Farewell

Below: Post Commander Pablo Araya and Post QM Phil Maughan recently welcomed Judd Kendall’s oldest newest member John Hardie. John is a WWII Navy veteran and Post 3873 is his first VFW Post membership.



Above: Members of the Post recently bid a fond farewell to Past Post Commander Nina Petru. In addition to being an All-American Post Commander, Nina has held numerous VFW positions and committee chairman positions over the years, significantly impacting the success of the Post and the VFW organization. Nina will maintain her membership with Post 3873 and we look forward to having her back at our future events. Good luck and safe travels, Nina!

VFW FISH FRY



Judd Kendall VFW Post 3873 is pleased to announce that our "All You Can Eat – Open to the Public" Friday Fish Fries will begin on February 21st and run through Lent.

Fridays February 21 – April 10 4:30 pm – 7:30 pm	Adults Seniors Children (4-11) Children 3 & under	\$12 + tax \$10 + tax \$7 + tax free
Located at: 908 W. Jackson in Naperville	*Cash and credit cards accepted	

Over the past 50+ years, this has become a much-loved part of the Naperville social scene. Despite inflationary pressures, we continue to maintain our low pricing.



Menu varies each week. Visit our website www.napervfw3873.org or call Belgio's Catering at (630) 369-6100 for the current week's menu.



Our annual fish fries will begin this month, with the first one occurring on February 21st. They will run for 8 weeks and as usual, each week will feature a service night. Members from each branch are urged to attend on their respective service night to help out. Members from other branches are always welcome to help on any Friday evening. The service night schedule is:

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| February 21 - USMC | March 20 - Army |
| February 28 - Army | March 27 - Navy/CG |
| March 6 - Navy/CG | April 3 - Air Force |
| March 13 - Air Force | April 10 - USMC |

Name The Mascot

Announcing the Judd Kendall Mascot Naming Competition! We recently received a donation from an anonymous Navy F-14 Pilot (retired). He sent us his entire aviator flight suit kit, including harness, G-suit, helmet, cold weather gear, boots, gloves, and kneeboard with US Government issued Skilcraft pen (doesn't work). And to ensure his donation would be seen by all patrons of the Judd Kendall Canteen, he included a mannequin. It's been decided that this will be our canteen mascot. He will usher in holidays, attend events, run in the Judd-A-Thon, and even sit patiently, "listening" to anyone who wants to tell him their war stories! There's only one problem. Our mascot doesn't have a name. Therefore, the Commander and House Committee is asking for your help. Come up with a clever moniker (name) for our mascot and submit your entry. The best entries will be put to a floor vote at the March Post meeting and a name will be chosen. The person who submits the winning entry will receive a bottle of his/her choice from our inventory as well as eternal bragging rights. Entries can be submitted to the bartender in an envelope with your name on it, put in the Commander's mailbox at the Post, or e-mailed to the Commander at arayavfw@gmail.com.



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) for 2020. 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!

Naperville Police Provide Back-up

During the December visit with veterans at Independence Village, members of the Post were joined by officers of the Naperville Police Department. After learning about our Saturday morning visits to local area retirement homes, these officers showed up to participate in the camaraderie and to extend their appreciation to the veterans. A listing of our weekly visits to the various retirement communities can be found on the Post calendar and all are welcome to participate.



Comedy Night at the Post

Saturday, February 22nd

"The Tonight Show Adult Comedy Hour"

Featuring

Mike "the Irish Bear" Prueter and Friday Bob as Johnny Carson



Food will be served between 6:00 pm and 7:00 pm - feel free to bring a dish to pass.

The show will start at 7:00 pm with music and dancing to follow.

\$5.00 at the door.

Adults Only

(although tasteful, some jokes may be inappropriate for children)



Post 3873 Calendar of Events February 2020



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 10:00 am - Visit Vets at Monarch Landing
2 9:00 am - Band of Brothers and Sisters Breakfast	3	4 9:00 am - 1:30 pm Hines Mobile Outreach Team Visit	5 9:30 am - Yoga for Vets 2:00 pm - Auxiliary to Mill Street	6	7	8 10:00 am - Visit Vets at Brookdale
9	10	11 6:15 pm - Hines Hospital Visit	12 9:30 am - Yoga for Vets	13 7:00 pm - VFW Meeting	14	15 10:00 am - Visit Vets at Independence Village 6:00 pm - Legion Dinner
16 1:00 pm - District 19 Meeting (Montgomery)	17 President's Day	18	19 9:30 am - Yoga for Vets	20 7:00 pm - Auxiliary Meeting	21 4:30 pm - First Fish Fry	22 10:00 am - Visit Vets at Tabor Hills 6:00 pm - Comedy Night
23	24	25	26 9:30 am - Yoga for Vets	27	28 4:30 pm - Fish Fry	29

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	Paul Quinn	(312) 340-4424
Adjutant	Josh Kramer	(440) 864-6988
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) 886-9102

Committees

Americanism		
Blood Drive		
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
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