

THE KENDALL-GRAM



Volume 20 Issue 04

April 2020

A Monthly Publication for the Members of VFW Post 3873



Commander Pablo Araya



Back in 2016, just before Veterans Day, Marty, a good friend of mine invited me to Hugo's for a drink. He wanted to "toast" my Naval service. When I arrived at Hugo's, Marty was sitting at a table with two other gentlemen. One was Denny, a good friend of Marty's and the other was Mike Mika, Denny's longtime friend. There was the usual banter of men at bars - tall tales and exaggerations. But Mike, was mostly quiet. I made the crack that with his goatee and good looks, he reminded me of a 1960's Vegas guy that would have been a better fit with Frank and Dino, rather than Marty, Denny and me. He just smiled that killer grin of his. He was one of those guys you meet and like instantly. Then came the toast, and the three of them thanked me for my service. Marty and Denny then turned to Mike and thanked him for his service. We'd been jaw-jacking for about twenty minutes and Mike never mentioned his service once. So, I toasted him and asked him where and when, and he replied, "Army, Vietnam."

I then invited everyone to relocate down the road to the VFW. About ten minutes later the four of us were bellied up to Judd Kendall's tangerine colored bar, with Corda serving us up our Manhattans, Scotch and Old Styles. Sitting there, Mike began to open up. I could tell he really liked the Post. He said where he lived, there wasn't a Post with "this kind of atmosphere." I asked him where he lived, and he said Chicago. That didn't keep me from sliding a membership application in front of him. To my surprise, he took it and signed up on the spot. Little did I know he would make almost every meeting since. He was at last month's meeting where the officer openings for the 2020 slate were discussed. Later, in the Canteen sharing a drink, I half-jokingly told him I was looking for a Chaplain. He just smiled that "Rat Pack" smile of his, and said, he'd think about it.

According to reports and his family, Mike developed a COVID-19 fever last weekend. Later that day or the next, he was taken by ambulance to the hospital. I was informed yesterday that he had passed away. Turns out Mike had some serious health issues prior to the fever, but you never would have guessed that. He was the epitome of cool. (continued on Page 2)

Commander's Column

(Continued from Page 1)

I'm hoping upon hope, that by the time you read this Kendall-Gram, the Chinese Coronavirus crisis is behind us. But, as we all know, hope is not a strategy. When I returned from my UAE gig mid-February, a lot of people and most of the media were talking about the virus and the potentially catastrophic consequences of a pandemic. I, like so many others, was a bit skeptical. It was business as usual, until I heard otherwise. Then, on our fourth scheduled Fish Fry, the reality began to set in. We were down 70% of normal traffic, and that was after two local churches shut down their fish fries altogether. A few days later the Governor mandated that all restaurants and bars close shop until March 30. Now, reality had set in pretty much for everyone. The number of those infected with the virus climbed and we all realized this was going to be a battle like none we've ever faced. But amidst the bad news regarding this scourge, there are some positive signs that we'll recover from this.

For instance, at our last Fish Fry, someone dropped off a case of hand sanitizer. Imagine the fight he had to win to get that out of the store, just to turn around and give it to the Post. Someone else gave the cashier an extra \$120.00. When the Auxiliary volunteer tried to hand it back, the person said that he wanted to help in what was surely going to be a slow Fish Fry season. Both these donors came to my attention after the fact and anonymously. So, if you're reading this, thanks.

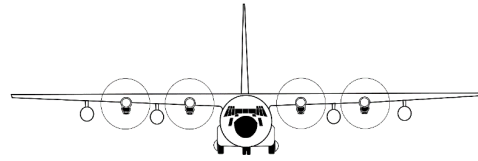
Yesterday, I went for a run along the DuPage River. There were all kinds of folks out there on bikes, running, and skate boarding. That is not unusual for an Illinois 60-degree spring day. What was unusual were the number of families walking the trail together. Normally, during breaks from school, kids do what kids do when not in the classroom. But what I saw yesterday were entire families, walking and talking and enjoying the outdoors together. All the various groups seemed to keep a certain distance from one another, but everyone greeted each other with hellos and waves.

I was recently at the Post doing some cleaning, knowing that there wouldn't be any interruptions or temptations to meet the regulars down in the Canteen, and I happened to look out the window. I saw Jimmy Walsh, cleaning the flower beds, raking and hauling off the debris. When I thanked him later for doing that, he just laughed and said, "What else am I gonna do? Gotta get out and do something! Might as well be for the Post." And, after the Governor mandated bar closings, I wanted to hear how other bars and restaurants were going to deal with the executive order. I called Anthony, the GM at Hugo's Bar and Grill. He explained that he and his staff were working on contingency planning, and that Door-Dash would be an option for his business. Then he advised me that he would prepare a meal and deliver it, free of charge, to any local veteran that was elderly, infirm or otherwise had no means of making his own meals.

This is a tough period, but we Americans are a hearty bunch. We'll get through this crisis like others we've faced. There have been, and will be more tremendous casualties and losses, but we'll come out stronger on the other side. Just hang in there, and when we re-open, we'll have had the Post cleaned and disinfected from top to bottom. Our Mascot will have a name, summer will be around the corner, and there will be nothing but blue skies. I promise.

Fly Navy!

**Junior Vice Commander
Todd Schuneman**



Last month I wrote about caring for each other. "No one does more for veterans" is our motto. I recently heard of a story, and became involved on the periphery, in which VFW members did exactly that.

A Vietnam veteran who lost his leg during the war was involved in a car accident. While not seriously injured, he sustained enough trauma to his residual limb that he could not put on his prosthesis for a while. This resulted in him requiring rehabilitation before he could return to his home.

VFW members heard of his plight and rallied around him. Not only did they support him with phone calls and visits, but they acquired a motorized wheelchair until he was able to use his prosthesis again. Several Posts used their collective resources, found the wheelchair, solicited businesses for batteries, and refurbished the chair for him. The vet was extremely appreciative of all the efforts put forth by his fellow VFW members. He was happy with the thought of being mobile again and having some semblance of normalcy back in his life until he could use his prosthesis again.

This story ended well for our fellow veteran. The team effort involved in caring for one of our own is what we did when we are on Active Duty and is at the heart of what we do as the VFW!

As an addendum to this story and in keeping with service to our community, blood supplies are running low. The Post's Spring Blood Drive will be on Saturday, May 2. If you are healthy, come out and donate. Do not self-defer. If you are not going to be available to donate during our drive, you can donate now and ask that our Post receive credit for the donation.

Auxiliary Report from President Kathy McNally

April showers bring May flowers, but what do March showers bring? Hopefully this month will give way to a wonderful spring! And with that, a beautiful Easter. To prepare your yard for those blooms, please note that the annual Plant Sale is open for business. See the form at the Post website (www.napervfw3873.org) and submit your order to the Post along with your check. The deadline for ordering is April 19th and pickup will be May 12th from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

Unfortunately, our [Friday](#) fish fries have been cancelled for the remainder of the season. I hope you were able to make it out to one of the fish fries we did conduct to enjoy food and friendship with your Post and Auxiliary friends and to experience firsthand how our fellow Napervillians embrace and support what we do. Thank you to the Auxiliary members who came out to help at the register and to help with the clean-up, too.

Are you interested in getting more involved in the Auxiliary? We will have elections soon for officer positions and there is always an opportunity to lead or join a committee. What better way to get to know your Auxiliary Brothers and Sisters while serving our beloved veterans? Reach out to any one of us if you're interested.

I join our Commander in wishing you and your family a very Happy and Blessed Easter!

Dates to Remember

Apr 8 – Yoga for Veterans, 9:30 am

Apr 9 – VFW Meeting, 7:00 pm

Apr 11 – Visit with Vets at Brookdale, 10:00 am

Apr 12 – Easter

Apr 14 – Hines Hospital Visit, 6:15 pm

Apr 15 – Yoga for Veterans, 9:30 am

Apr 16 – Auxiliary Meeting, 7:00 pm

Apr 18 – Visit with Vets at Independence Village, 10:00 am

Apr 18 – Legion Dinner, 6:00 pm

Apr 19 – Family Breakfast, 9:00 am

Apr 22 – Yoga for Veterans, 9:30 am

Apr 25 – Visit with Vets at Spring Meadows, 10:00 am

Apr 29 – Yoga for Veterans, 9:30 am

*** Note: Regularly scheduled events are listed that occur after the current “Shelter in Place” order is scheduled to end. Please confirm that events have not been suspended/cancelled due to ongoing health concerns prior to attending.**

DuPage Veterans Foundation Honor Flight Fundraiser

Due to the ongoing issues and concerns with the COVID-19 virus, the DuPage Veterans Foundation fundraiser for Chicago Honor Flight scheduled for May 2 will be rescheduled. Donations for the silent auction, ticket sales, and cash donations are still being requested and accepted. Coordination between the Foundation, the DuPage Airport Authority, Calamos Hangar, and many others is ongoing to determine an appropriate date for the event later this year.

Tickets that have already been purchased for this event will be honored on the day of the event, once it is rescheduled. A special thank you to all who have already made donations or purchased tickets. These proceeds will go towards the fundraiser. Once the new date has been set, all efforts will be made to notify everyone.

2020 Plant Sale

The VFW Plant Sale will go on as scheduled. Your order forms need to be mailed in to the VFW by April 19. Since the VFW is currently closed, you cannot drop your forms off or give them to the bartenders. Instead, mail them to: Flower Sale, 908 W. Jackson, Naperville IL 60540 before our deadline. Because the fish fries were terminated, there will be no extra money in the budget this year for enhancing the exterior gardens at the Post except for money that is raised through the plant sale. Please be generous with your order. Not only will you have a lovely garden, but the Post will have enough money to plant the various flower beds.

All the plants and flowers will arrive on May 12. Pickup time is 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Help will be needed to unload the truck at 7:00 a.m., as well as separating all the orders at 8:00 am. Assistance will also be needed in the afternoon as people pick up their orders. It will be a very long day, so it would be nice to have as much help as is possible. After what we have experienced, it will be nice to see beautiful flowers everywhere this summer!

Order forms are included in this edition of the Kendall-Gram or you can download one from the Post website (www.napervfw3873.org).

National Home for Children by Mike McGrath

April is the “Month of the Military Child.” A legacy of former Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, the Month of the Military Child was established in 1986. It underscores the important role that children of military men and women play in our Armed Forces community. Sponsored by the Department of Defense Military Community and Family Policy, the Month of the Military Child is a time to applaud military families and their children for the daily sacrifices they make and the challenges they overcome.

It is estimated that since 2001, 2 million children have had a parent deployed at least once. It is also estimated that 1.2 million children are currently part of an Active Duty family and that they relocate on average, once every 2.3 years.

So, “Purple Up” in April. Purple is the official color to recognize and thank our military families and children. Purple was chosen because it symbolizes all branches of the military. It is a combination of Army green, Navy blue, Marine Corps red, Air Force blue, and Coast Guard blue.

“Help, Hope, and Honor” well deserved.

Memorial Day Parade Vehicles

Again, this year, the Memorial Day Parade Committee is planning to have vehicles available for veterans to ride in during the parade. These vehicles are made available to veterans who would like to participate in the parade, but are unable to walk the parade route. Veterans wishing to ride in a vehicle during this year’s Memorial Day Parade are asked to contact Tom Parker at (630) 280-9347 or Pablo Araya at (312) 505-4377. Please provide your name, your branch of service, the conflict in which you served (i.e. WWII, Korea, etc.), and a phone number where you can be reached. If you have ridden with a specific driver in the past, please include that information. All efforts will be made to accommodate requests to ride in vehicles, based on their availability. Veterans needing a ride who do not pre-register for a vehicle will be invited to ride in the Veteran Trolley on the day of the parade.

In Our Thoughts...

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

The family of Jack Shiffler, Past Post Commander of VFW Post 3873 and Vietnam veteran, on his recent passing. Jack was well known and highly respected for his untiring efforts in promoting veteran causes and patriotism in the Naperville community. A proud Marine, Jack’s contributions were key in making the Judd Kendall VFW Post and what we do for veterans so well known throughout our community. Semper Fi, Jack.

The family of Michael Mika, Life Member of VFW Post 3873 and Vietnam veteran, on his recent passing.

The family of Scott Holley, Past Post Commander of Post 3873, and his family on the recent passing of his mother.

Do You Need a Copy of Your DD-214?

1. Request Your Military Service Records

TO OBTAIN A COPY OF YOUR DD-214, make your request using the following website:

<https://vetrecs.archives.gov/VeteranRequest/home.html>

Note: if you need to obtain a DD-214 for a funeral, expedite your request with the following sequence:

1. Day-1: Complete the request form.
2. Day-1: Call 314-801-0800 say "Emergency Service" to let them know the request is for a funeral.
3. Day-2: Call on day #2 and remind them it's for a funeral (yes, it's a repeat call/reminder).

For funeral emergencies - the VA has 72 hours, or less, to get the DD-214 to you.

2. Veteran burial allowance/payments to family/next of kin

Use the link below for a description and steps to request benefits up to 2 years after the death of a veteran.

<https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/veterans-burial-allowance/>

St. Patrick's Day 5K Run ... Sort Of

Naperville's St. Patrick's Day 5K run was cancelled this year, but that didn't stop a few of the Post's avid runners from continuing their long-standing Post Running Club tradition of running a few miles for "Ole St. Paddy." Post Commander Pablo Araya and Mike McGrath donned a little green and represented the Post well during their run along the Riverwalk. Albeit, in a greatly reduced field and shortened distance, both Pablo and Mike finished first in their respective age groups. And in a stunning finish, they crossed the finish line together to tie for first place overall. Great job guys and thanks for representing the veterans!



THE JUDD-KENDALL

VFW POST 3873

SPRING BLOOD DRIVE

SATURDAY, MAY 2nd 7:30 am – 1:00 pm

IN THE UPSTAIRS HALL OF THE POST



Post 3873 Calendar of Events April 2020



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 9:30 am - Yoga for Vets Passover Begins	9 7:00 pm - VFW Meeting	10	11 10:00 am - Visit Vets at Brookdale
12	13	14 6:15 pm - Hines Hospital Visit	15	16 7:00 pm - Auxiliary Meeting	17	18 10:00 am - Visit Vets at Independence Village 6:00 pm - Legion Dinner
19 Easter	20	21	22	23	24	25 10:00 am - Visit Vets at Spring Meadows
26 9:00 am - Family Breakfast	27	28	29 9:30 am - Yoga for Vets	30 9:30 am - Yoga for Vets	31	

* While scheduled, please confirm events before attending

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	Tom Parker	(630) 280-9347
Blood Drive	Ingrid Kanady	(847) 951-3300
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

VFW Plant Sale, 2020

Name _____

Orders are due April 19; Pickup on May 12 from 1 - 6 PM

Note: The VFW is not responsible for any plants not picked up by 6 PM on May 14.

Hanging Baskets \$14.50

Begonia Tuberosa	_____
orange	_____
red	_____
yellow	_____
white	_____
Begonia Dragon Wing	_____
red	_____
pink	_____
Begonia Minstral	_____
Calibrochia blue	_____
orange	_____
purple	_____
yellow	_____
Geranium	_____
pink	_____
red	_____
Geranium Ivy	_____
red	_____
Geranium Combo	_____
red	_____
Euphorbia	_____
Fushia	_____
Impatience Bounce	_____
New Guinea Impatiens	_____
red	_____
pink	_____
white	_____
Supertunia	_____
red	_____
purple	_____
pink	_____
white	_____
Wandering Jew	_____

Total Hanging Baskets _____
Total \$ amount _____

Flats of 48 plants \$14.50

Ageratum	_____
Alyssum	_____
white	_____
mixed	_____
Begonia Green Leaf	_____
pink	_____
red	_____
white	_____
Begonia Red Foliage	_____
red	_____
mixed	_____
Cleome	_____
Dianthus	_____
Impatiens	_____
orange	_____
lt pink	_____
dk pink	_____
red	_____
lt mixed	_____
dk mixed	_____
Marigold Short	_____
bicolor	_____
yellow	_____
Marigold Tall	_____
gold	_____
yellow	_____
Petunia	_____
deep blue	_____
red	_____
white	_____
patriotic mx	_____
orange	_____
Portulaca	_____
Salvia	_____
red tall	_____
victoria blue	_____
Snapdragons	_____
short mix	_____
tall mix	_____

Total Flats _____
Total Dollar Amount _____

Geraniums 4.5" pot \$4.00 ea

red	_____
dk pink	_____
lt pink	_____
violet	_____
white	_____

Total Geraniums _____
Total \$ amount _____

Geraniums 6" \$6.50 ea

red	_____
pink	_____
white	_____

Total 6" geraniums _____
Total \$ amount _____

Specialty Plants 3.5" \$3.00ea

English Ivy	_____
Spikes	_____
Vinca Vine	_____

Total for 3.5" plants _____
Total \$ amount _____

Specialty Grasses \$7.00 ea

Vertigo	_____
Purple Fountain	_____
Fireworks	_____
Red Bunny Tails	_____
Toffee Twist	_____

Total grasses _____
Total \$ amount _____

First Page \$ amount _____

VFW Plant Sale Page 2

Orders are Due April 19, Pickup is May 12, 1-6 PM
 VFW is NOT responsible for orders not picked up by 6 PM

4.5" pots \$3.75 ea

- Angelonia _____
- Bacopa white _____
- blue _____
- Begonia Dragon Wing _____
- Begonia Big _____
- Begonia Minstral red _____
- Calibrochia _____
- blue _____
- purple _____
- red _____
- Coleus Kong _____
- Coleus Sun _____
- Dahlia _____
- Diascia _____
- Dichondria Silver Falls _____
- Euphorbia Diamond Dust _____
- Gerbera Daisy _____
- Lantana _____
- Licorice Lime _____
- New Guinea Impatiens _____
- white _____
- red _____
- Osteospermum Daisy _____
- Phlox Intensia _____
- Sedum lemon coral _____
- Setcresea _____
- Strobilanthus _____
- Supertunia red _____
- puple _____
- blue _____
- pink _____
- Sweet Potato _____
- lime _____
- blackie _____
- Verbena Superbens _____
- Wandering Jew _____
- Wave Petunia _____
- pink _____
- blue _____
- red _____
- Zinnia _____

Veggies @ \$3.00 ea

- Cucumber _____
- Peppers _____
- bell _____
- jalapeno _____
- Tomato _____
- cherry _____
- big beef _____
- sauce type _____
- better boy _____
- Zucchini _____

Total Veggies _____
Total \$ amount _____

Herbs @3.00 ea

- basil _____
- oregeno _____
- parsley curly leaf _____
- rosemary _____

Total # of herbs _____
Total \$ amount _____

Side two plant totals _____
Side two \$ amount _____

Total plants side 1 _____
Total plants side 2 _____

Total \$ amount side 1 _____
Total \$ amount side 2 _____
Total \$ for both sides _____

Name _____

Phone Number _____

All orders Must be received by April 19, Pick up is May 12
 Orders can be dropped off or mailed with your check to

VFW Flower Sale
 908 W Jackson
 Naperville, IL 60540
 Checks should be made payable to the VFW

Total 4.5" plants _____
Total \$ amount _____

For questions or information, call Marcy Maughan, 630.357.3440
 or by email at marcymaughan@wowway.com

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

PRESORT STANDARD
US POSTAGE PAID
Fox Valley IL
Permit #441

