

THE KENDALL-GRAM



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A Monthly Publication for the Members of VFW Post 3873



Commander Tom Parker

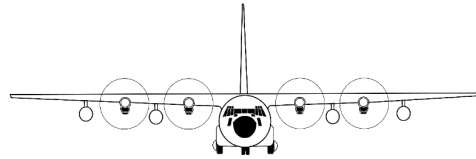


It seems like every time we turn around these days, the world has gotten a little crazier. I don't think any of us could have predicted that 2020 would present us with so many challenges and so many things to deal with as individuals and as a society. On the rare occasions when I watch the news, I can't help but to marvel at the various people who talk about what they have a right to do and I wonder how many of them really get it. I certainly don't discourage them from sharing their opinions or taking advantage of their many other freedoms, but I wonder if they really understand or even care about what had to occur for them to have those rights?

Someone once wrote "to those who have fought for it, freedom has a flavor the protected will never know." As a veteran who served along side others in a time of conflict, I'd like to think that I do get it. I've seen firsthand the efforts and sacrifices of men and women willing to give everything to protect our country, our freedoms, and our way of life. For all of you who are reading this, you are or know people who have been willing to do the same thing. For me, especially in these tumultuous times, I feel like I have a little bit deeper appreciation of our rights and freedoms than some of the people I see in the media stories. I think I realize just how precious they are, knowing what has occurred over the last two centuries to secure them for us. These are just my opinions, but I think we can all agree that we can be thankful for the brave men and women that went before us, and those that continue to serve, for protecting our great nation and the way of life that we are all so fortunate to enjoy.

For those of you that are looking for some form of respite from all the craziness, there are more and more opportunities to do so with fellow veterans and at the Post. On September 11, we'll come together to remember and honor those who lost their lives 19 years ago and those that have lost their lives defending our nation since that fateful day. On Sunday the 20th, we'll assemble for a morning of fun, semi-rigorous athletics, and rivalry as we participate in the Judd-A-Thon to raise money for the National Home. There continue to be monthly VFW and Auxiliary meetings along with "no reservations needed" stops by the Canteen to visit with fellow friends, members, and veterans. And whenever you have one of those moments like I often do, where you see someone casually shouting about their rights, do like me. Just shake your head and think "you're welcome."

Senior Vice Commander
Todd Schuneman



Earlier this year Shira Cavanaugh from the Census Bureau interviewed William "Doc" Schmitz, the VFW National Commander. He said, "For the VFW, an accurate census could mean an increase in local programs, increased access to public health care initiatives, better education and homeless programs ... the opportunities are endless."

Members of the VFW help support and advocate for our local communities. It is logical then for the VFW to collaborate with the Census Bureau to ensure we are all counted. The results of the census help the federal government allocate billions of dollars in support of programs and services that directly impact our local communities. Therefore, accuracy counts!

Ensuring that our nation's service members, veterans, and their families are represented in our state and local government is imperative. An accurate census could mean an increase in local veterans' programs, increased access to public health care initiatives, better education, and homeless programs. The VFW uses the Census Bureau data to assist veterans with Veterans Administration (VA) claims. The VFW currently has over 2,000 service officers accredited with the VA who assist veterans with their claims and appeals. The VFW relies on census data to ensure it is prepared to provide assistance in communities with the highest demand. The services range from assisting service members and veterans with VA disability compensation and pension benefits to identifying and developing health and education program expansions. The data collected by the Census Bureau is vital in supporting the VFW's efforts to identify and assist military and veteran communities.

It is imperative that we work together to help educate everyone on the importance of the census and ensuring its accuracy. Community service is a hallmark of the VFW. It remains dedicated to ensuring our military and veteran communities receive the support and assistance they have justly earned and deserve. You can be counted in several ways. Complete the questionnaire that you received in the mail. If you have not completed the census questionnaire that you received, you may call 844-330-2020 (TDD 844-467-2020) or fill out the questionnaire online by visiting <https://my2020census.gov/>.

Dates to Remember

Sep 2 – Yoga for Vets, 9:30 am

Sep 7 – Labor Day

Sep 9 – Yoga for Vets, 9:30 am

Sep 10 – VFW Meeting, 7:00 pm

Sep 11 – Patriot Day

Sep 16 – Yoga for Vets, 9:30 am

Sep 17 – Auxiliary Meeting, 7:00 pm

Sep 18 – Air Force Birthday

Sep 19 – Legion Dinner, 6:00 pm

Sep 20 – Judd-A-Thon, 10:01 am

Sep 23 – Yoga for Vets, 9:30 am

Sep 30 – Yoga for Vets, 9:30 am

*** As events resume, please continue to observe all required mask and social distancing requirements.**

Junior Vice Commander**Leo Jaime**

This month marks the 19th anniversary of the terrorist attacks of 9/11. I am sure all of us remember exactly where we were that morning, on one the deadliest days in the history of our country. Now, let us NEVER FORGET, and ensure our young ones learn about Patriot Day, the bravery and sacrifices of the victims of those attacks, and their families.

On September 11, 2001, 19 al Qaeda terrorists hijacked four airplanes and carried out suicide attacks against the United States. Two of the planes were flown into the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, a third plane hit the Pentagon just outside Washington, D.C., and the fourth plane crashed in a field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania. Almost 3,000 people were killed in one single day.

At 8:45 am on a sunny Tuesday morning, an American Airlines Boeing 767 loaded with 20,000 gallons of jet fuel crashed into the north tower of the World Trade Center in New York City. The impact left a gaping, burning hole near the 80th floor of the 110-story skyscraper, instantly killing hundreds of people and trapping hundreds more in higher floors. Then, 18 minutes later a second Boeing 767 - United Airlines Flight 175 - turned sharply toward the World Trade Center and sliced into the south tower near the 60th floor. The collision caused a massive explosion that spread burning debris over surrounding buildings and onto the streets below. At 10:00 am, horror ensued as the south tower began to collapse, creating a massive cloud of dust and smoke. At 10:30 am, the north tower collapsed.

As the events unfolded in New York, American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into the west side of the Pentagon at 9:45 am. Jet fuel from the Boeing 757 caused a structural collapse of a portion the building. 125 of our bravest military personnel and civilians were killed there, along with all 64 people aboard the airliner. A fourth plane - United Flight 93 - was hijacked after leaving Newark Liberty International Airport. Because the plane had been delayed, passengers on board heard of events in New York and Washington via cell phone. Knowing their doomed fate, a group of passengers and flight attendants acted. "Are you guys ready? Let's roll" was heard over an open line. Then the brave passengers fought the four hijackers as the plane flipped over and sped toward the ground at upwards of 500 miles per hour before crashing in a rural field near Shanksville, PA at 10:10 am. All 44 people aboard were killed. Its intended target is not known, but theories include the White House, the U.S. Capitol Building, Camp David Presidential Retreat in Maryland, or one of several nuclear power plants along the eastern seaboard.

At the World Trade Center, 2,763 died, including 343 firefighters and paramedics, 23 New York City police officers, and 37 Port Authority police officers. At the Pentagon, 189 people were killed, including 64 on American Airlines Flight 77. On Flight 93, 44 people died. In total, 2,977 freedom-loving people from 78 countries lost their lives. No, the math doesn't add up... I'm intentionally excluding the 19 terrorists. On December 18, 2001, Congress approved naming September 11 "Patriot Day" to commemorate the anniversary of the 9/11 attacks and in 2009, Congress named September 11 a National Day of Service and Remembrance.

This 9/11, let us NEVER FORGET! Let's pause and remember the 2,977 that perished that infamous day.

National Home for Children from Mike McGrath

As you know, because of concerns surrounding Covid-19, the State of Michigan has imposed limits on gatherings. There can be a maximum of 10 people indoors and 100 outdoors. As a result, our “in person” Illinois Day was cancelled this year. We hope to have a fun filled “Virtual Illinois Day” on September 26 instead. Stay tuned, as more details about this virtual event will be forthcoming.

As elsewhere, Eaton Rapids schools struggle because of the virus. Due to these concerns, the schools are switching to remote learning and are set to open on August 31. It’s certainly a challenging situation for the kids and their families, but we’re sure everyone will do well in this new environment.

Finally, thank you for your ongoing support of the National Home. We are grateful for your assistance and we hope to see you all at the Judd-A-Thon, where all donations will benefit the National Home.

19th Annual 9/11 Ceremony

Naperville’s 9/11 ceremony will occur this year on Friday, September 11. The ceremony will be held in honor of all the innocent people that lost their lives on September 11, 2001 and for all those that have made the ultimate sacrifice since then while serving our great country. As in years past, the ceremony will start promptly at 6:00 pm at the Dan Shanower Memorial along the Riverwalk behind City Hall. In the event of bad weather, the event will be cancelled.

Due to the current pandemic concerns, everyone is asked to wear a mask and adhere to social distancing mandates. Additionally, there will be no guest speaker this year, so the program will be brief. Our combined Honor Guard and Color Guard will play a role in the ceremony along with the Naperville Municipal Band, the Naperville Fire Department, and Naperville Police Department. As in the past, we hope to see many of you attend this event.

Judd Kendall VFW Post 3873 Fall Blood Drive

In the upstairs hall of the Post

Saturday, October 24th

7:30 am - 1:00 pm

Donors are requested to schedule an appointment ahead of time.

Call Vitalant at (877) 258-4825 or log on to Vitalant.org
to schedule your appointment.

Walk-ins will be accommodated as social distancing guidelines allow.



38,000 blood donations are needed each day.

Will You Help?

Judd-A-Thon

One, two, three, ONE! One, two, three, TWO! One, two, three, THREE! That's right, there are only about three weeks left until our 7th annual Judd-A-Thon. It will start promptly at 10:01 am on Sunday, September 20. That means you still have more than enough time to implement a rigorous training program to prepare for the grueling 0.1 km endurance race that has become a hallmark of the fitness community in Naperville. And just think, every dollar we raise will be donated to the National Home for Children. To reach our goal this year, we need your help in reaching out to sponsors. We've set a pretty ambitious target this year, but it's the least we can do for such a great organization that helps veterans and veteran families. Especially now that they can't conduct many of their own fundraising events. For details and registration forms, visit the Post website or pick one up in the Canteen. Now, get back to training. One, two, three, FOUR! One, two, three, FIVE! One, two, ...



Patriot's Pen/Voice of Democracy Scholarship Competitions

In addition to supporting and assisting veterans, the VFW is known for its emphasis on promoting patriotism and recognizing the accomplishments among our nation's youth. This is especially true in the Naperville area where Judd Kendall Post 3873 has enjoyed a rewarding relationship with both District 203 and District 204 schools. Due to virtual/online classes, the way in which students will attend school this fall has changed, however, our commitment to foster patriotism and to recognize outstanding achievement has not changed. Regardless of whether students attend classes in person or not, we will be conducting our Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy scholarship programs again this year.

Patriot's Pen is an essay contest for students in grades 6 - 8. Students can win scholarship money at the Post level and even more if they win at the District and State levels. The national first place winner receives \$5,000. The theme for this year's competition is "What is Patriotism to Me?" For students in grades 9 - 12, the Voice of Democracy audio-essay contest provides high school students the opportunity to win up to \$30,000 at the National level. The theme for this year's competition is "Is This the Country the Founders Envisioned?" Entries for both competitions must be received at the Post by midnight on October 31. For additional information on these scholarship competitions, visit <https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships>.

We usually promote these programs by placing flyers and brochures in the schools, but with online learning being the norm this year, please help us get the word out to any students who might be interested in winning money for school. Tell your children, your grandchildren, your neighbors, and anyone else you can think of that might have an interest.

In Our Thoughts...

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

The family of Edward Nuzbach, member of VFW Post 3873 and Korean War veteran, on his recent passing.

The family of James Skrna, member of VFW Post 3873 and Korean War veteran, on his recent passing..



Post 3873 Calendar of Events September 2020



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 9:30 am - Yoga for Vets	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 9:30 am - Yoga for Vets	10 7:00 pm - VFW Meeting	11 Patriot Day	12
	14 Labor Day	15	16 9:30 am - Yoga for Vets	17 7:00 pm - Auxiliary Meeting	18 Air Force Birthday	19 6:00 pm - Legion Dinner Rosh Hashana
20 10:01 am - Annual Judd-A-Thon	21	22	23 9:30 am - Yoga for Vets	24	25	26
27	28 Yom Kippur	29	30 9:30 am - Yoga for Vets			

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	Tom Parker	(630) 280-9347
Sr. Vice Commander	Todd Schuneman	(815) 791-4178
Jr. Vice Commander	Leo Jaime	(773) 441-3887
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	Lawrence Goss	(630) 728-9641
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	Bob Bronson	(630) 886-9102
3-Year Trustee	Craig Frier	

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	Bob Tallon	(630) 561-9902
Membership	Brian Byrne	(630) 901-6758
Legislative	Frank Haynes	(630) 357-2906
National Home	Mike McGrath	(630) 357-2680
Patriot's Pen		
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		

Auxiliary Officers

President	Kristen Jungles	(630) 816-6841
Sr. Vice President	Bernadette Budny	(630) 717-9471
Jr. Vice President	Darlene Kwarta	
Treasurer	Maryann Groner	(630) 363-8130
Secretary	Nancy Marinello	(630) 464-3696
Chaplain	Tita McLaughlin	
Guard	Carol Gloor	
Conductress	Marti Linnert	(630) 596-9930

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

