

# THE KENDALL-GRAM



Volume 21 Issue 10  
October 2021

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



## Commander Todd Schuneman



Since the Global War on Terrorism began on September 11, 2001, over 7,000 soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines have given their lives in defense of our nation. To honor their sacrifice, the Global War on Terrorism Memorial was dedicated at the National Infantry Museum on October 16, 2017. The memorial includes granite panels engraved with the names of all service members who have given their lives in the conflict, narrative panels explaining the conflict, and murals with artwork from each service. It also includes a 13' steel beam from World Trade Center Tower 1 that was presented to Fort Benning by FDNY firefighters, and nine bronze statues representing an Infantry squad. The memorial is rededicated each year to add the names of the recently fallen. The latest rededication took place on Saturday, September 10, 2021.

This past March, a bill was introduced in the Senate, and committee hearings were held in June, to establish a Global War on Terrorism Memorial on the National Mall. A similar bill has been introduced in the House. Senator Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, asked on the Senate floor that her colleagues approve the bill under unanimous consent. This means the chamber could pass the legislation unless someone stood to object. Senator Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., stood and blocked the vote. His reasoning was that the bill sought to exempt the Global War on Terrorism Memorial from a 2003 law that prohibits any more development on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. and he was concerned that this precedent would reopen fights to locate other memorials on the National Mall. He felt this would ultimately delay the construction of this memorial.

The area that is being considered for the memorial is a section called the Reserve. It is described as "The Great Cross-Axis of The Mall" which extends from the Capitol to the Lincoln Memorial, and from the White House to the Jefferson Memorial beside the Tidal Basin. It is an area of heightened scrutiny for any changes because it contains many of the most treasured monuments and memorials in the country. In recent years, proposals for a World War I Memorial and a National Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial failed to secure spots within the Reserve. However, nearby locations in Washington were found.

Numerous members of Congress and several other organizations are pushing to put the Global War on Terrorism Memorial on the National Mall, including the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, and the Global War on Terrorism Memorial Foundation. Call your senators and representatives and urge them to support the construction of the Memorial on the National Mall.

Senior Vice Commander  
Leo Jaime



Membership, the backbone of our Post.

Last month we kicked off the annual membership campaign with an 89.51% start and a goal of 100+%. To achieve this goal and give our Commander a fighting chance of meeting the coveted All-American Post objective, I will need a concerted effort from all of you. If my numbers are correct, not only we will need all our annual members to renew their membership, but we'll also need to recruit approximately 20 new members. Not an easy task, but a great challenge, that will only be achieved with your help. Look at this way: our Commander will be wearing a new shiny white hat next year, but all of us, as a Post, will proudly cherish the notion that our efforts made it happen, and once again, we will have set the standard in the District and beyond. So, how can you help the Post get 20 new members?

1. Reach out to your veteran neighbors. The U.S. census indicates there are 4,381 veterans in Naperville alone. I'm sure many of them have served abroad during a conflict. We need these veterans to be aware there is a great VFW Post in their city, and if qualified, they would benefit greatly by joining and belonging to the one organization that shares their interests, stories, and are ready to assist in many ways.
2. Reach out to a stranger. If you see a military bumper sticker, someone wearing a military hat or shirt, or you "know" they are veterans (high and tight is a dead giveaway for us jarheads) in the supermarket parking lot, gas station, or anywhere else in public, break the ice with a "Thank You for your Service" salutation and ask if he/she would like to hear about our Post. If the conversation goes well, give them my number 773-441-3887 or my email [leo.jaime@gmail.com](mailto:leo.jaime@gmail.com), and I'll turn that stranger into a fellow Post member.
3. Participate in public events. Having a presence in local public events such as parades, festivals, ceremonies, etc., raises awareness of veterans in our community. For example, I moved to Naperville in July of 2018 and as any Marine would do, I googled and reached out to the local Marine organization. This led me to the 2018 Marine Corps Ball where I met our past Commander Pablo (yes, Pablo knows Marine Corps Balls are not to be missed), who introduced me to the Post. Pablo's passion for the VFW and our Post convinced me that I needed to become a member. Not all of us are Pablos, but we can certainly speak proudly of our Post and raise awareness of what we do.

These three suggestions are simple steps we can all get behind. Your help and support are pivotal for the success of our Post. Thank you in advance, and please contact me if you need membership forms or additional recruiting resources.

**Junior Vice Commander****Mike McGrath**

Wow, it's official! The spectacular 8th annual Judd-A-Thon is in the books. We had great weather, a great crowd, an official military style workout regime, complete with actual push-ups, and an awesome fly-over by Lima Lima. Combine that with the zany costumes and the mid-race water station for those needing hydration during the run and you know the Judd-A-Thon rivaled any other race in the Midwest, possibly the nation. To add to the fun, there was great chow and refreshing beverages for everyone to enjoy during the excellent awards presentation following the run.

A sincere thanks to our many sponsors and to all those that participated in the run. A special salute to our Race Director, Past Post Commander Pablo Araya, and the many volunteers that put the event together. We were happy to have National Home representative Meghan Mitchell and her husband Philip join us and enjoyed seeing them again during our annual Illinois Day trip to the National Home on September 25.

This is a great time of the year with lots of activities. Check the Kendall-Gram and your e-mails to stay informed and come out to join us.

See you soon around the Post!

## Dates to Remember

Oct 2 – Painting on the Porch, 6:30 pm

Oct 5 – Hines Outreach Team Visit, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Oct 6 – GI Yoga, 9:30 am

Oct 13 – U.S. Navy Birthday

Oct 13 – GI Yoga, 9:30 am

Oct 14 – VFW Meeting, 7:00 pm

Oct 16 – Visit Vets at Independence Village, 10:00 am

Oct 20 – GI Yoga, 9:30 am

Oct 21 – Auxiliary Meeting, 7:00 pm

Oct 23 – Post Blood Drive, 7:30 am - 12:30 pm

Oct 23 – Visit Vets at Story Point, 10:00 am

Oct 27 – GI Yoga, 9:30 am

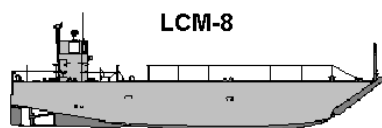
Oct 28 – Post Clean-up, 2:00 pm

## In Our Thoughts...

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

*The family of Joe Ayres, member of VFW Post 3873 and WWII veteran, on his recent passing.*

*The family of Doug Babitzke, member of VFW Post 3873 and WWII veteran, on his recent passing.*

**Service Officer Updates****Dennis Lukavsky**

September was an active month for the Post. It's great to see events resuming and if you haven't had an opportunity to join us yet, make plans to do so in the coming months. Here's a sampling of the many events that occurred recently and some that are ongoing.

1. Our "Coffee with the Vets" at Independence Village and Story Point continue to occur on the 3rd and 4th Saturdays of the month at 10:00 am.
2. The Hines Hospital Community Outreach Team assisted 10 veterans this past month as part of their monthly visits to the Post on the first Tuesday of each month.
3. While our monthly Hines Hospital visits continue to be on hold, John Shaw is actively collecting items to help provide comfort for veterans in the hospital.
4. September was Veteran Suicide Prevention Month. As part of this awareness, several seminars were held to learn about steps to take to help prevent veteran suicides, including the multi-day Heal, Opportunity, Peace, Empowerment (HOPE) seminar.
5. Post member Jim Oftedal recently participated in an Honor Flight and member Don O'Reilly flew on a "Dream Flight" in a vintage biplane. Be sure to ask them to share their stories when you see them.
6. Many Post members attended a dinner to help Post member Wayne Fisher celebrate his appointment as Illinois Commander of the American Legion.
7. Members of the Post participated in Naperville's Labor Day Parade and provided a color guard for the Jaycees during the Last Fling.
8. The Post held its first Pig Roast in quite some time on September 24. Everyone had a great time and had plenty to eat.

Again, this is a short summary of some of the events that have been going on around the Post to recognize and support veterans. Opportunities like these continue to occur at the Post and in the community and we'd love to have you join us in some or all of them. Whether it's assisting and supporting fellow veterans or just enjoying a few perks of being a veteran, you're sure to have a rewarding time.

## Auxiliary Report from President Kathy Thornton

Just coming off the Judd-A-Thon, and diving head-first into the next few busy months!

Couple of reminders:

- o Saturday, October 2, at 6:30 pm - Painting on the Porch. Must pre-register. Go to <https://www.pinotpalette.com/naperville> and search events for VFW 10/2 event. Cost is \$39, of which \$10 is being donated back to the Auxiliary.
- o Saturday, October 23, Karaoke Night in the Canteen. Look for flyer in this publication.

We all know how busy November and December are, so be on the lookout for Turkey Raffle and Christmas Party information (including a Children's Christmas party).

Sunday, September 19, 2021, was a beautiful day for our 8th annual Judd-A-Thon. As in the past, the Auxiliary's raffle baskets raised some serious money for the Children's Home. This year, in addition to our awesome raffle baskets, we added a booze cooler filled with spirits galore. The Cola Bear, the Girl's Toy Basket, and the Boy's Toy Basket raised \$837 and the booze cooler brought in \$545. A whopping total of \$1,382 was donated to the Children's Home.

Winners: Cola Bear – Gary Michalowski  
Girl's Basket – Kristen Jungles  
Boy's Basket – Grayson Budny  
Good Cheer Cooler – Anna Zimmerman

The Auxiliary would like to thank all that contributed to this success, from those filling the baskets to selling the tickets and all those that bought tickets to support the Children's Home. Nailed it!



**Judd Kendall VFW Post 3873 Fall Blood Drive  
In Kendall Hall  
(upstairs area of the Post)**

**Saturday, October 23rd  
7:30 am - 12:30 pm**



**Donors are requested to schedule an appointment ahead of time.**

**Call Vitalant at (877) 258-4825 or log on to [Vitalant.org](http://Vitalant.org) to schedule your appointment.**

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

**Masks are required.**

**38,000 blood donations are needed each day.**

**Will You Help?**

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## **Post Fall Clean-up from Marcy Maughan**


The growing season at the Post was pretty successful in spite of the drought. The Hollyhocks did amazingly well (thanks to whoever staked them up; I was not expecting them to do that well their first year). Mine here at home have never reached that height. We did have problems with rabbits who ate all the coneflowers and the butterfly bush. I planted coneflowers a couple of times over the summer, but the rabbit just kept finding them and eating them to the ground. I think the coneflowers became our sacrificial anode as the rabbit left the petunias and other flowers alone. The flower bed performed as expected, producing an array of blooming flowers for the whole season. Thanks to everyone who helped make it possible.

Please mark your calendars for the fall cleanup to be held on Thursday October 28, at 2:00 pm. Granted, this is an unusual date and time, but Kathy Thornton's company has offered to send people to help with the cleanup and spreading the mulch as a community service project, so we are working on their timeline. We would also like to have some VFW volunteers, with shovels and wheelbarrows. What we have learned from the past is that with a lot of help, the work goes very quickly and no one is overtaxed. We will be cutting back the perennials and pulling the annuals out of the pots, as well as spreading mulch. Because the 28th is a school day, we will not have the help of the young volunteers who came in the spring - so we will need a few more adult volunteers. Please help!



# Post 3873 Calendar of Events October 2021



| SUNDAY   | MONDAY | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY                             | FRIDAY | SATURDAY  |
|--|--------|---|---|--------------------------------------|--------|---|
|  |        |   |   |                                      | 1      | 2<br>6:30 pm - Auxiliary<br>Painting on the Porch                                       |
| 3  | 4      | 5<br>10:00 am - 2:00 pm<br>Hines Community<br>Outreach Team Visit | 6<br>9:30 am - Yoga for Vets                        | 7                                    | 8      | 9   |
| 10   | 11     | 12  | 13<br>9:30 am - Yoga for Vets<br>U.S. Navy Birthday | 14<br>7:00 pm - VFW Meeting          | 15     | 16<br>10:00 am - Visit Vets at<br>Independence Village<br>6:00 pm - Legion<br>Dinner    |
| 17   | 18     | 19  | 20<br>9:30 am - Yoga for Vets                       | 21<br>7:00 pm - Auxiliary<br>Meeting | 22     | 23<br>7:30 am - 12:30 pm<br>Post Blood Drive<br>10:00 am - Visit Vets at<br>Story Point |
| 24   | 25     | 26  | 27<br>9:30 am - Yoga for Vets                       | 28<br>2:00 pm - Post<br>Clean-up     | 29     | 30  |
| 31<br><br>Halloween |        |   |   |                                      |        |   |

On Average, 22 veterans commit suicide each day, that's 22 too many. The "22 a day" campaign was created to bring awareness to and help prevent veteran suicide.



Please Join us on Saturday, October 23, 2021

At the VFW Naperville Canteen at 6:30PM

# Karaoke for Our Cause

Proceeds benefit

Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veteran



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Food will be available for purchase

Featuring Quickstart DJ Productions (Brian) as our DJ.

Join us for a fun night of Singing, Food and Raffles.

Donation will be greatly accepted and appreciated



Sponsored by the Naperville VFW AUXILIARY 3873,  
Naperville VFW 3873 and the Naperville American Legion Post43

To donate: Contact Nadia Baran at [rios.nadia@gmail.com](mailto:rios.nadia@gmail.com) or  
Kathy Thornton at [kmrthornton@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kmrthornton@sbcglobal.net)

**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 | 1:00 p.m. | 10:00 pm |
| Friday   | Noon      | Midnight |
| Saturday | Noon      | 10:00 pm |
| Sunday   | Noon      | 6:00 pm  |

The bartender may elect to close the Canteen early due to low patronage. 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           | Todd Schuneman  | (815) 791-4178 |
| Sr. Vice Commander  | Leo Jaime       | (773) 441-3887 |
| Jr. Vice Commander  | Mike McGrath    | (630) 357-2680 |
| Quartermaster       | Phil Maughan    | (630) 383-1974 |
| Ass't Quartermaster | John Shaw       | (630) 961-3479 |
| Adjutant            | Matt Hoyt       | (630) 362-5564 |
| Judge Advocate      | Lawrence Goss   | (630) 728-9641 |
| Surgeon             | Bill Howland    | (630) 369-0087 |
| Service Officer     | Dennis Lukavsky | (630) 272-9064 |
| Officer of the Day  | Lou Kuelto      | (630) 898-8760 |
| Guard               | Roger Budny     | (630) 205-8745 |
| Chaplain            | Bob Grember     |                |
| 1-Year Trustee      | Bob Bronson     | (630) 886-9102 |
| 2-Year Trustee      | Craig Frier     |                |
| 3-Year Trustee      | Pablo Araya     | (312) 505-4377 |

**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 |
| Communications      | Dennis Lukavsky   | (630) 272-9064 |
| 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               | Bob Colby         | (630) 301-2664 |
| House               | Bob Tallon        | (630) 561-9902 |
| House               | Tom Parker        | (630) 280-9347 |
| Membership          | Leo Jaime         | (773) 441-3887 |
| Legislative         | Frank Haynes      | (630) 357-2906 |
| National Home       | Mike McGrath      | (630) 357-2680 |
| Patriot's Pen       | Leo Jaime         | (773) 441-3887 |
| Safety              | Mike McGrath      | (630) 357-2680 |
| Scout Liaison       | Todd Schuneman    | (815) 791-4178 |
| Social Media        | Dave Angelus      | (630) 596-3245 |
| Voice of Democracy  | Leo Jaime         | (773) 441-3887 |

**Auxiliary Officers**

|                    |                  |                |
|--------------------|------------------|----------------|
| President          | Kathy Thornton   | (630) 667-6704 |
| Sr. Vice President | Bernadette Budny | (630) 717-9471 |
| Jr. Vice President | Darlene Kwarta   |                |
| Treasurer          | Leo Hart         |                |
| Secretary          | Nancy Marinello  | (630) 464-3696 |
| Chaplain           | Maryann Groner   | (630) 363-8138 |
| Guard              | Mary Davidowski  |                |
| Conductress        | Lucy Hoy         |                |

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

