

# THE KENDALL-GRAM



Volume 22 Issue 04

April 2022

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



## Commander Todd Schuneman



Mother Nature and Father Time cannot always agree as to the moment they will bless us with the warmth of the sun which fills us with the optimism of rebirth. Even now the flora and fauna are beginning to emerge from their wintry slumber, which reminds me of a sonnet by William Shakespeare:

*From you have I been absent in the spring,  
When proud-pied April, dressed in all his trim,  
Hath put a spirit of youth in everything,  
That heavy Saturn laughed and leaped with him.  
Yet nor the lays of birds, nor the sweet smell  
Of different flowers in odour and in hue  
Could make me any summer's story tell,  
Or from their proud lap pluck them where they grew.*

*Nor did I wonder at the lily's white,  
Nor praise the deep vermilion in the rose;  
They were but sweet, but figures of delight  
Drawn after you, you pattern of all those.  
Yet seemed it winter still, and you away,  
As with your shadow I with these did play.*

Take time to grab some natural Vitamin D, look around, and absorb all the beauty of spring.

This time of year, we are so ready to hang up the heavy coats and pack away our winter boots to enjoy the outdoors and the warmer weather. However, the mission of the VFW and our Post still exists. Operation Support our Troops has an immediate need for supplies for the packages they send to our troops overseas. Our Service Officer, Dennis Lukavsky recently sent out an email with a list of items they need.

(Continued on page 2)

**Commander's Column (Continued from Page 1)**

On May 7, the Post will be hosting the first of our two semi-annual blood drives. Our showing over the past several years has been waning to a point where it is anemic. We have only been averaging approximately 20 units of blood each time we host this event. Don't self-defer. The rules for donation are always changing. Grab a friend and come to the Post and donate.

Next month we will again be remembering our brothers and sisters whom we have lost. At this point, Naperville will once again be holding a full Memorial Day parade. Tom Parker and his team are in the process of planning this event. Along with the parade, we will be asked to participate in numerous events and ceremonies. Dennis Regan has been gracious enough to lead the combined VFW/Legion Color Guard. Please support Dennis when he asks for assistance with these events.

Lastly, I would like to remind you of our Nursing Home visits. Lou Kuelzto is doing a yeoman's job leading those visits. Please take time to visit with the veterans who live in these facilities. It's fun and interesting sharing stories and adventures with other veterans.

We are entering a very busy time for our Post. Please support and participate in as many events as you can. Our comrades and community need our support and as we know, no one does more for veterans than the VFW.

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

**Saturday, May 7th  
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 are welcome.

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



**Senior Vice Commander**  
**Leo Jaime**



Spring is in the air, helping us forget the coldest St Patrick's Day ever! We walked the parade and some of our members also ran the 5K in the 10-degree weather! Thankfully the festivities that followed were held in warm and friendly Naperville establishments. To cap it off, the following weekend, the Post and Legion held a St. Paddy's dinner with home-cooked corned beef and all the fixings, that is sure to be mentioned for months to come. Thank you all for participating, volunteering, and supporting.

Now it's time to get to work as we inch our way to our membership goal. We are just shy of 95% and while it may look good compared to some measuring sticks, it is still short of the Judd Kendall standards, with only three months to go. We have some hurdles to overcome and need your help. The cancellation of our traditional fish-fry Fridays, due to ongoing supply chain issues, will keep us from bringing our members together to promote the spirit of comradeship, which usually results in annual membership renewals, life-membership conversion, and fresh recruiting.

With this in mind, please allow me to be the broken record, again: If you see a young man or woman wearing anything military, such as a hat, patch, or top, or driving around with military license plates, bumper stickers, or insignias (sometimes we can't help but to be proud of our service...) approach them, thank them for their service, and encourage them to come by the Post. Once they see and meet our members, they'll know they have found their home away from home. Get them through the doors, and they won't be able to deny themselves the right to be a comrade. For those of you who are coming up for renewal in the next few months, please consider converting to a Life Membership. In the long run, it's well worth the cost, and less expensive than renewing every year.

Lastly, we are in the process of selecting officers, committee chairs, and volunteers to carry out the duties of the Post. I have been making a few calls and "volunteering" some of you, but if you haven't heard from me and are motivated to step up, please call me at (773) 441-3887.

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## **Dates to Remember**

Apr 2 – Visit Vets at Monarch Landing, 10:00 am  
Apr 5 – Hines Outreach Team Visit, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm  
Apr 5 – Auxiliary Social, 5:00 pm  
Apr 6 – GI Yoga, 9:30 am  
Apr 9 – Visit Vets at Brookdale, 10:00 am  
Apr 13 – GI Yoga, 9:30 am  
Apr 14 – VFW Meeting, 7:00 pm

Apr 16– Visit Vets at Independence Village, 10:00 am  
Apr 16 – Legion Dinner, 6:00 pm  
Apr 20– GI Yoga, 9:30 am  
Apr 21 – Auxiliary Meeting, 7:00 pm  
Apr 23 – Visit Vets at Story Point, 10:00 am  
Apr 27 – GI Yoga, 9:30 am

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

St. Patrick and the leprechauns have gone, and the month of April lies ahead for us. But as we look back at March, thanks are owed to many folks. Thank you to all who participated in the “Frosty 5K” and the parade on March 12. “Sure, and begorrah,” thank you to St. Patrick, the leprechauns, and especially to our own Carey Freeman for the great Irish hospitality in the Post Canteen on March 17. Additionally, thanks to all for remembering National Vietnam War Veterans Day on March 29.

April is the Month of the Military Child, and the Defense Department celebrates military children during the month. There are more than 1.6 million military children who face many challenges as a result of their parents’ service. For example, military families move on average every two to three years. Purple is the official color for the Month of the Military Child and it’s a visible way for us to show our support and to connect with the military kids in our own community. The official day to “purple up” is Tuesday, April 19.

There are many other events throughout the month of April that we hope you’ll join us for. There are weekly retirement home visits on Saturday mornings, the annual Strength and Honor luncheon on April 26, and our monthly Post meeting. And a quick plug for membership – we have a great story to tell and many great people to tell it. Be sure to carry a few membership apps with you and don’t be afraid to share what we do with others. You never know when you’ll run into another veteran who wants to become a member of the organization.

Thanks for all you do, and we’ll be seeing you around the Post!

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## **Auxiliary Report from President Kathy Thornton**

Happy Spring!

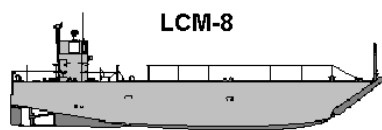
We are still looking for Auxiliary members to fill certain positions for the next calendar year. Currently in need of Guard and 2nd and 3rd Year Trustee. Please consider signing on if able.

Looking forward to our Easter Egg Eggs-travaganza on April 10.

Memorial Day at the Post: our busiest week/weekend of the year.

- Buddy Poppy Campaign 2022. There will be a sign up online. Stay tuned for more info in the May Kendall Gram. 100% of all monies raised goes right back into our Post and the services they provide for our veterans.
- Memorial Day parade: please consider joining us either on the trolley or walking alongside. If memory serves me, this is the first Memorial Day parade since Covid. Join us!
- Lots of hands needed for our most solemn task of placing flags on the graves of our departed Auxiliary brothers and sisters.

Feel free to reach out to me regarding any of the above information. God bless our veterans, especially at this difficult time.

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

*WHAT ARE YOU MISSING OUT ON?* I want to spend some time this month talking YOUR veteran benefits and here are two ways to answer this question.

Greg Hart, Veteran's Advocate and DuPage County Board Member, is offering a Veterans Appreciation Event available to ALL Veterans. The presenters will include Greg, Steve Fixler (Superintendent DuPage County Veterans Assistance Commission), and Kristy Bassett (Hines Hospital VA). The event will be held Saturday, May 7th from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm at the IBEW #701 building at 28600 Bella Vista Pkwy in Warrenville (on the south side of Ferry Road just west of Mill St.). *A free hot breakfast is included.*

I do think this will be a worthwhile event to attend. I feel it is very important that we, as veterans take advantage of any and all benefits we are eligible to receive and this is a great opportunity to get a summary of what you are entitled to have. I know Steve Fixler personally and have heard him speak publicly. He has a wealth of knowledge about veteran benefits. He lays it on the line succinctly and in an understandable fashion. Time to come out and learn what you are missing out on.

I also need to touch on the Hines Outreach Team again. This topic fits well with the May 7th event. By not investigating potential claims, you're making a mistake. Even if you think your claim only has a remote possibility of coming to fruition, isn't it worth a 10-minute discussion with an expert to find out one way or the other? The next meeting will be at the Post from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm on April 5th. **SEE WHAT YOU ARE MISSING OUT ON!?!**

**Auxiliary Social**

Did you know the Auxiliary hosts a social on the first Tuesday of each month at 5:00 pm in the Canteen? Pictured to the right are members participating in the March social. At our April Social, we will be filling eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt. Please come out to join us - especially new members.



## Kendall-Gram Editor Needed

For over three years, I have had the privilege of being the editor of the award-winning monthly Kendall-Gram. Due to changing responsibilities, I will be stepping down from this role this summer. If you are looking for a way to contribute to the Post, this may be a way for you to better learn what our Post does and achieves each year while keeping our membership up to date on our activities. I am happy to answer any questions you may have and will guide you through the process of publishing our newsletter each month if you take on this important role. If you are interested in this position, please contact me or Commander Schuneman.



## Post Running Team Update

Post Quartermaster Phil Maughan and Post Junior Vice Commander Mike McGrath, of the Post Running Team, braved the frigid temperatures on April 12th to participate in the Naperville St. Paddy's Day 5K Run. These two intrepid runners secured first and second place finishes out of all the members of the team that ran. Being Army veterans, it was no surprise when asked what type of training they did to prepare for the run, they both answered "Arrmy training!"

## Need a break from the everyday hustle and bustle?

Join the Sound Journey and Gong Wash Meditation on Sunday, April 3rd from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm in Kendall Hall for a relaxing evening with a fully immersive sound meditation. Relieve stress, tension, and pain as you are bathed in gentle soothing sounds while being guided through a cosmic soundscape designed to relax and recharge. You will enter a state of relaxation where healing of the mind and body can take place, leaving you rejuvenated and balanced.

No entry will be permitted after 5:30 pm. Please remember to bring a yoga mat, eye mask, blanket, pillows, and knee support.

RSVP via call or text to Ingrid Kanady at (847) 951-3300.



# Post 3873 Calendar of Events April 2022



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

**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	Dennis Regan	(630) 361-4644
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

