

THE KENDALL-GRAM



Volume 22 Issue 05

May 2022

A Monthly Publication for the Members of VFW Post 3873



Commander Todd Schuneman



In May we observe Memorial Day on the last Monday of the month to honor the men and women who died while serving our country in the military. Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. Memorial Day originally honored only those lost while fighting the Civil War. The holiday has evolved to commemorate American military personnel who perished in all wars. The 30th of May 1868 was designated for the purpose of scattering flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the war. In keeping with this tradition, members and friends of the Post place American flags on the graves of Naperville's veterans and lay wreaths at the various veterans' memorials throughout the community.

Many Americans observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, hold family gatherings, and participate in parades. For those of us in the VFW, the friends, and family of the fallen, Memorial Day is much more personal. It is a day where we especially remember our buddies, comrades, brothers, sisters, moms, dads..... The memories of the good times and of their loss is very real to us. They live in our hearts and minds every day where we memorialize them. It is our duty to ensure the rest of our countrymen truly understand the meaning of Memorial Day. Please plan to join us this Memorial Day as we resume our normal Memorial Day activities, honoring our brothers and sisters who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

And as the weather gets warmer and we have more sunny days, I want to remind everyone that May is Skin Cancer Awareness month. Skin cancer statistics have shown that melanoma is the most common type of skin cancer in the United States. Skin cancer is more common in people with lightly pigmented skin and in those with light or blonde hair, blue or green eyes, and those who burn easily. Whether joining us on Memorial Day or getting outside more often now that it's nicer outside, please follow the Skin Cancer Foundation's recommendations for helping prevent skin cancer.

Senior Vice Commander
Leo Jaime



We have less than two months to reach our membership goal of 100%. As this is printed, we are at 95%, meaning we need 34 more new members or members to renew their memberships. We can do this! If you are an annual member, please renew or better yet, upgrade to life membership. As a Life Member, not only will you not have to worry about sending in a check every year, but it will minimize the Post's admin efforts thus allowing us to spend more time focusing on new membership. Oh, and of course, a life membership is more cost effective.

During the month of May we celebrate perhaps the most important day of remembrance for our organization, our community, and the country as a whole. In these times of social tumult, we pause on Memorial Day to remember the sacrifices made by those that fell before us and their surviving families. Memorial Day also reminds us of our commitment to serve our veteran community.

Membership in our organization is one way to serve and honor our fallen while ensuring our Post remains a strong organization for generations to come. Participating in the parade and events surrounding Memorial Day is another solemn way to serve. Please consider walking with the Post and joining us at the numerous ceremonies throughout Naperville that day.

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

**Saturday, May 7th
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 are welcome.

All successful blood donations are now tested for Covid-19 antibodies



Junior Vice Commander**Mike McGrath**

The month of May promises to be a busy one for us and as the Covid restrictions are being lifted, we will be resuming a very full schedule of activities this month including Poppy Days, placing flags at the cemeteries, and our usual Memorial Day activities. Our Memorial Day activities will start at City Hall at 7:45 am followed by the Memorial Day Parade at 10:30 am and our ceremony at the Band Shell at noon. We'll have lunch at the Post after the mid-day ceremony and once the Colors have returned to the Post.

Memorial Day gives us all a chance to join together to honor our fallen comrades. Information about our schedule that day along with other events is included in this edition of the Kendall-Gram. Please read about all of them and plan to sign-up for poppies or just show up to join us on Memorial Day. Your participation does make a difference and through the years it has been an enthusiastic reminder of our dedication to our military and veteran community.

Thanks for all you do, and we'll be seeing you around the Post.

Auxiliary Report from President Kathy Thornton

May is our busiest month at the Post and rightly so. Memorial Day is a day set aside to mourn those who have given their lives in service to our country. Here at the Post, we set aside a 4-day weekend to show our respect. Please help us to show our support for our fallen comrades by participating in the various activities at our Post and around Naperville over the Memorial Day weekend.

- Thursday, 5/26 to Sunday, 5/29: Poppy Sales - help us raise funds for the Post/Auxiliary by being part of the Poppy Campaign. Sign up online at <https://volunteersignup.org/BXQEB>.
- Friday, 5/27 and Saturday, 5/28: Auxiliary will place Auxiliary flags on the graves of our deceased Auxiliary members at both Sts. Peter and Paul Cemetery and Naperville Cemetery. I will send out an email blast to members asking for volunteers. Contact me if you would like to participate (kmrthornton@sbcglobal.net).
- Monday, 5/30 at 9:45 am: Auxiliary members: consider joining the Auxiliary in the Memorial Day Parade. You can either ride the trolley or walk along side. Need flag bearers, walkers, and riders.
- Monday, 5/30: Looking for volunteers to help out at the luncheon at the Post following the parade. Contact me if you would like to help (kmrthornton@sbcglobal.net).

And don't forget:

- Friday, 5/6: Plant pick up from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the Post.
- Saturday, 5/7: Blood Drive at the Post. Please give if able (look for details in this newsletter). Contact Vitalant (877) 258-4825 or sign up at vitalant.org.

Dates to Remember

May 3 – Hines Outreach Team Visit, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm	May 15 – District 19 Meeting, 1:00 pm
May 4 – GI Yoga, 9:30 am	May 18 – GI Yoga, 9:30 am
May 6 – Plant Sale Pick-up, 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm	May 19 – Auxiliary Meeting, 7:00 pm
May 7 – Spring Blood Drive, 7:30 am - 1:00 pm	May 21 – Armed Forces Day
May 7 – Visit Vets at Monarch Landing, 10:00 am	May 21 – Visit Vets at Independence Village, 10:00 am
May 10 – Auxiliary Social, 5:00 pm	May 25 – Poppy Days Begin through May 29
May 11 – GI Yoga, 9:30 am	May 25 – GI Yoga, 9:30 am
May 12 – VFW Meeting, 7:00 pm	May 28 – Visit Vets at Story Point, 10:00 am
May 14 – Visit Vets at Brookdale, 10:00 am	May 30 – Memorial Day

Memorial Day 2022

Members of VFW Post 3873 and American Legion Post 43 will participate in Memorial Day services and the Memorial Day Parade on Monday, 30 May 2022. We will be returning to the regular schedule of events that existed prior to Covid-19. Please plan to join us on Memorial Day as we resume our normal day of activities, honoring our fallen brothers and sisters. The schedule for Memorial Day is:

- 0745 Service at City Hall (Dan Shanower Memorial)
- 0815 Service at G.A.R. Monument in Naperville Cemetery (south side)
- 0835 Service at Veterans Park (100 E. Gartner Road)
- 0900 Service at Ss Peter & Paul Cemetery (911 North Avenue)
- 0925 Service at Burlington Square (307 N. Ellsworth Street)
- 1000 Parade Line-up (vicinity of West St. and Jackson)
- 1015 Veterans step off to start parade
- 1020 Service at Riverwalk Memorial (during parade)
- 1200 Ceremony at Central Park Bandshell (approximate start time)

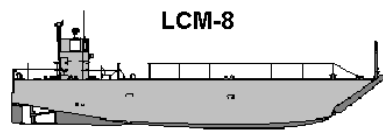
IMPORTANT INFORMATION: There is no parking in the VFW lot until after 11:00 am. Parking is available at City Hall and at other locations in the downtown area. Please be at City Hall by 7:30 am to participate in the morning's activities. Trolleys will provide transportation as we go to each location for the memorial services. There will also be transportation at Central Park to get you back to City Hall after the ceremony at the bandshell. Feel free to join us at any location, even if you are not able to start the morning with us.

Lunch will again be provided at the Post for veterans and their families following the ceremony at Central Park. The canteen will not be open until the Colors are returned to the Post following the ceremony at Central Park.

Veterans who are unable to walk the parade route and would like to ride in a car should submit their name, branch of service, conflict, and contact phone number to Tom Parker at (630) 280-9347 or tomparker60@gmail.com. Requests for a car should be made by May 20th. Anyone not requesting a vehicle by the 20th will be able to ride in the Veteran Trolley on the day of the parade.

Service Officer Updates

Dennis Lukavsky



I recently ran across the following message in a VFW Action Corps email and thought it was important enough to share. If you are in the process of filing a claim or have already filed a claim, please pay close attention to its content. The Hines Outreach team visits the Post every first Tuesday of the month and can provide these services to you for FREE.

“Have you been charged unnecessary fees to file a VA disability claim? If so, we want to hear from you. The VFW reported in the June/July 2021 issue of the VFW Magazine that predatory companies, referred to as “claim sharks,” coach veterans in filing VA disability claims with promises of increased ratings while charging them fees and taking a portion of their compensation. Veterans service organizations like the VFW have accredited service officers who provide claims assistance to veterans free of charge, as is the law.”



Also, do you remember what it was like to get a care package from home? It was always a morale builder. It told you that someone back home was thinking about you and cared enough to send a package. Currently, military members are still deployed all over the world and Operation Support Our Troops (OSOT) continues to send care packages to these brave men and women. The OSOT warehouse shelves are sorely depleted and need replenishing. Some of the items that are most currently needed are pain relief medications, dental floss, foot powder, beef jerky, and eye drops, just to name a few. For a more detailed list or to donate something, please see one of the collection boxes located near the entrances to the Post (upper level and Canteen entrance).



At the American Legion dinner held in April, Senior Vice Commander Leo Jaime helped present a special Award of Appreciation to Jim Hoch on behalf of VFW Post 3873 and AL Post 43. For years, Jim has been chronicling all we do through his photographs, and he was given the honorary title of VFW Post 3873 Post Photographer several years ago. Jim can always be found at one of our many events with a big smile, a friendly word for everyone, and an ability to capture scenes that most of us often don't notice at the time. Jim, on behalf of everyone at Post 3873, thanks for you all you do for veterans and for the Post!

Buddy Poppy Days

As Memorial Day approaches, it is time to plan for Buddy Poppy Days. We will collect from Wednesday, May 25 through Sunday, May 29. We will also have a few solicitors at the band shell on Monday. This annual fundraiser is one of our largest and its success depends on the participation of members of Post 3873 and our Auxiliary, as well as families and friends.

Some reminders:

- Masks can be worn but are not required.
- Touchless poppy distribution – poppies will be poked onto Styrofoam sheets and people will grab one themselves.
- People can send us checks or contribute electronically via link to our bank on our website.
- Stop by the conference room next to the bar to pick up a collection jug, a styrofoam sheet, an instruction sheet, and ONE bag of poppies for each two-hour shift (150 per bag).
- Give your collections to the bartender and put the jug and left-over poppies back in the conference room.

The collection locations for this year are as follows: Trader Joe's, Casey's, Jewel at Ogden and Washington, Jewel at Ogden and Aurora, Jewel at 75th and Naper, and Jewel at 95th and Rt 59. The Knights of Columbus will run the Caputo's site for us.

We will only use electronic signups this year. The signup sheet can be accessed at: <https://volunteersignup.org/BXQEB>. Go to this link and scroll through the list of locations, days, and times. The "open" column shows how many people are needed for that slot. The first name of the current volunteer will also be listed under the location identifier.

When signing up, we need your name, telephone number, and email address. You can contact Bob Colby at bob_colby@comcast.net or Nancy Marinello at nancymarinello@yahoo.com if you have questions.



Post Plant Sale Update from Marcy Maughan

Plants for this year's Post Plant Sale will arrive on Friday, May 6th. The truck will arrive at the Post at 7:00 am and we will need help unloading the flowers, separating them by type and color, and counting to make sure everything we ordered arrived. With many hands, this shouldn't take very long. We will then need help to put orders together so that things go smoothly and quickly when people come to get their orders in the afternoon. We do have a new system this year that should make it easier to put orders together, thus eliminating any confusion for those not familiar with specific flower types. Doing this will take more time, so again, having more people help will make the process go faster for everyone.

People will pick-up their orders between 1:00 pm and 6:00 pm that afternoon and we will also need help with this. During this time, we help people find their orders and help them load them into their cars. By the end of the afternoon, we will have distributed almost \$14,000 worth of plants and flowers. It takes a lot of work, but the Post (and I) will be very grateful for your assistance, even if it's only for an hour or two. This is one of our best fundraisers for the Post, so please volunteer to help that day to help make it another success. And if you can't be there to help in person, please pray for nice weather!

Post Easter Egg Hunt

We had over 25 children, Easter baskets in tow, attending our April 10th Easter Egg Hunt. Games, crafts, and prizes were part of the event held on the back porch, followed by an egg hunt on the front lawn of the Post. A big shout out to our Auxiliary for filling over 200 plastic eggs at the April Auxiliary Tuesday Social. Also, thanks to Jennifer Slown for providing pizza for the children, the Auxiliary members and Legion members who attended for their help, and to our EBAs (Easter Bunny Assistants) Robin and Ashley Rechenmacher for distributing eggs on the front lawn. The Auxiliary has been working closely with the Post and the American Legion to host family events such as these at our Post. It is so great to see all our veterans and their families, with more to come. And yes, everyone had an eggs-tremely good time!



New Post Officers for 2022-2023 Term


At the April Post meeting, nominations were accepted for the Post Officers for the 2022-2023 term. The following members were elected to serve in the following positions. These officers will assume their roles at the conclusion of the Department Convention in June.

Commander	Leo Jaime
Sr. Vice Commander	Kim Woods
Jr. Vice Commander	Staci Boyer
Quartermaster	Phil Maughan
Asst. Quartermaster	John Shaw
Asst. Quartermaster	Tom Parker
Chaplain	Bob Grember
Judge Advocate	Lawrence Goss
Surgeon	Bill Howland
3 Year Trustee	Roger Budny
3 Year House	Mike McGrath



Post 3873 Calendar of Events May 2022



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		10:00 am - 2:00 pm Hines Community Outreach Team Visit	9:30 am - Yoga for Vets		1:00 pm - 6:00 pm Plant Sale Pick-up	7:30 am - 1:00 pm Spring Blood Drive 10:00 am - Visit Vets at Monarch Landing
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		5:00 pm - Auxiliary Social	9:30 am - Yoga for Vets	7:00 pm - VFW Meeting		10:00 am - Visit Vets at Brookdale
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
1:00 pm - District 19 Meeting			9:30 am - Yoga for Vets	7:00 pm - Auxiliary Meeting		10:00 am - Visit Vets at Independence Village Armed Forces Day
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
			9:30 am - Yoga for Vets Poppy Days Begin			10:00 am - Visit Vets at Story Point
29	30	31				
	 Memorial Day					

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

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 Kueltzo	(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

