

THE

A Monthly Publication for the Members of VFW Post 3873



KENDALL-GRAM



Volume 18 Issue 1,
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Commander Tom Parker



2017 is now in the history books and as we look back at what we accomplished, there are many noteworthy achievements. We raised over \$16,000 for the National Home in our 4th annual Judd-a-Thon 0.1 k run. We recognized three high school students and five junior high/middle school students for their winning entries in our Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen programs and presented them several thousands of dollars in prize money. We saw another outstanding Turkey Raffle, where we brought in almost record setting donations and another tremendous Poppy Drive. In fact, as we reflect on what we were able to do, we achieved a great deal. None of this would have been possible without the participation of our members and for those that were able to help, my thanks go out to you.

We now need to set our sights on 2018. Our annual Fish Fries are right around the corner and shortly after they end, we will turn our focus to Memorial Day and the many other events that occur throughout the spring and summer. For those that have attended our monthly meetings, you know that we have received accolades from our District and State officers for the many things we do. Our Post has a proven record of achievement when it comes to helping veterans and promoting Americanism and patriotism within the Naperville community, but we can't accomplish these things alone.

It's always great to see new faces at our many events and I always hear the same comments about how members have been meaning to attend one meeting or event for quite some time. Once they do, they comment on how they wish they had done it sooner. At the Post, no one is ever a stranger. We share a common bond and it's remarkable how quickly we military people are able to interact as though we were long lost friends. Make this the year you act on that little thought in the back of your mind about doing something with the VFW, even if it's for only one event. Come to one meeting, one fish fry, or one of our many community or social events.

New Year's Eve the Post will be open until 5 PM and New Year's Day the Canteen will be open from noon till 4 PM.

Thanks to all who continue to be a part of this great organization and I wish you all the very best for a great 2018.

Senior Vice Commander Pablo Araya

First the good news: We're knocking on 94% in our current membership drive, and we're not even into the New Year yet. The bad news: We're only at 94%, and I'd like to be closer to 98% so that we don't have to scramble during a last minute crunch! I know, some guys are never happy. Judd Kendall needs everyone reading this to recruit at least one new member before February 1. And it should go without saying, if you are up for renewal, send in your check, or better yet, convert your annual membership into a Life Membership. We all take for granted that our Post is known to everyone in the area. Judd Kendall, after all, has a big presence in Naperville's bustling civic activities. But you'd be surprised.



Just yesterday I spotted a pick-up truck bearing Iraq Veteran tags in the Jewel parking lot. I pulled up to the driver's side window, and began chatting with the driver. Turned out he is enrolled at a local college under the GI Bill and had several questions about Veterans benefits. I gave him my number and told him to call me and we could discuss it at the Post sometime, where there might be some more resources available. He explained that he just relocated to the area and had no idea there was a VFW Post in Naperville. A lot of young Veterans are transferring to our area after separating from the service and landing a job with one of a myriad of Naperville based companies. Look for the tell tale bumper sticker or license plate, keep an eye out for the hat or t-shirt, or even tattoo that identifies a Veteran and approach them. As I've said before, once they walk through the doors of our Post, they'll be hard pressed to identify a more accommodating, friendly and supportive Post anywhere. And they will join. So I'm looking forward to hitting goal early in 2018. Thanks and Fly navy!

Junior Vice Commaander Dave Angelus

Hopefully everyone has survived the Holiday season this year. Once again this year the US Military Academy was victorious over the US Naval Academy. Go Army. And it was Army who took the Commander In Chief's trophy this year. It was a fun game to watch since both teams had to deal with the pounding snow. It a spectacular show of unity when both service academies sang the national anthem together. I don't think there was a dry eye in the house.



I would like to thank everyone that assisted with the Turkey Raffle this year, it was an awesome success.

Our first fish fry will commence on Feb 9th, as a trial run through. Ash Wednesday is on Valentines Day (Feb 14th) this year and from then on the Fish Fries will occur every Friday up till Easter. which is April 1, We will need lots of help with bussing the tables and seating people, so please volunteer your services.. Spread the word as this event is open to the public!

I look forward to 2018 and wish everyone new found health and prosperity.

VA Hot Line is Now Operational

The White House has announced that the VA Hotline is now fully staffed and operational around the clock to serve our Veterans. The team consists of 90% veterans or employees who have a Veteran in their family. The hotline can be accessed at 855-948-2311. It provides Veterans a supplemental option to report issues if they are not being addressed the VA's normal customer service channels.

Thw VA also staffs a National Crisis Hot Line. If you are in crisis and need immediate help. call 800-273-8255 or visit www.veteranscrisisline.net,



Veteran of the Month

Name: Joseph F. Marinello
 Rank: Tech 4
 Branch of Service: Army – Field Artillery
 Current Age: 88

Total Years Served: Enlisted for two years on 17th Birthday
 Served from: 1946-1948

Places served: Fort Bragg; Kyushu, Japan – 17 months (WWII Occupation)
 Sailed from San Francisco to Hawaii; Guam; Manila to Yokohama, Japan (36 days)

Job or Specialty: Field Radio – Morse Code

Fondest Memory while serving:

- (1) comradery amongst fellow GIs
- (2) While traveling with Military Government Team out in the prefectures and away from our base, was interesting to see local children’s curiosity as they gathered around us to inspect our jeep.
- (3) Sailing for home and arriving at Golden Gate at dusk at the moment bridge was illuminated.



Dates to Remember

- Jan 1 - New Year’s Day
- Jan 2 - Jan 3 - Aux to Visit Mill Street
- Jan 3 - Yoga for Veterans, 9:30 a.m.
- Jan 4 - Amer Legion Meeting, 7 PM
- Jan 5 - Hines Community Outreach 9-2 PM
- Jan 6 - Visit with Vets at Monarch Landing, 10 a.m.
- Jan 7 - Take down Christma decorations, 1 PM
- Jan 10 - Yoga for Veterans, 9:30 a.m.
- Jan 11 - VFW Meeting 7 PM
- Jan 13 - Visit with Vets at Brookdale, 10 a.m.
- Jan 13 - **BLOOD DRIVE**
- Jan 13 - District VOD Banquet
- Jan 15 - Martin Luther King Day
- Jan 17 - Free Yoga for Vets

- Jan 20 - Amer Legion Dinner, 6 PM
- Jan 24 - Free Yoga for Vets, 9:30 a.m.
- Jan 27 - Visit with Vets at Harbor Chase, 10 a..m.
- Jan 28 - District Patriot’s Pen Pizza Party
- Jan 31 - Free Veterans yoga

Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen

Students participating in the Voice of Democracy competition begin by competing at the local VFW Post level. The 1st place winner is advanced to the District, State, and National levels to compete for additional scholarship monies and the chance to win a \$30,000 scholarship.

As this year's VFW Post 3873 chair of the VOD, it is my pleasure to announce this year's winners.

First place winner and the recipient of \$1,000 is Nicole Tong from Naperville North High School.

Second place winner and the recipient of \$500 is Bianca Schramm from Naperville Central High School.

Third place winner and the recipient of \$250 is Hersch Pathak also from Naperville Central High School.



A presentation of the 1st place winner Nicole Tong was made at Naperville North High School on Dec. 6, 2017 during one of her classes. Presentations for 2nd and 3rd places Bianca Schramm and Hersch Pathak were made at Naperville Central High School on Dec 4, 2017 during one of their classes.

All the entries were very well done and it was a difficult contest to judge. We appreciate all the time and effort that the students put into their entries. This year we had a total of 16 entries which was great. Naperville Central had 8 entries while the other 203 & 204 schools had 1 or 2 each.

A special thank you to all of the post and auxiliary members who spent a long Saturday morning going through the judging for both the Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy entries. Also thanks so much to Bertha Novaczyk, Auxiliary VOD representative for all her assistance with the VOD program this year.

The VFW National Home for Children by Mike McGrath, National Home Board Vice President

Life skills classes help National Home residents build brighter futures .

National Home residents come from all over the United States with different life experiences and needs and when they leave the home they will continue to face daily challenges like decision making, goal setting, problem solving, personal finance, and more.

To help residents and families attain future success in these areas thanks to our continuing support, the National Home is able to provide life skills classes for residents and children. These classes are designed to be both practical and fun and can be a big help especially in fostering good financial habits. One important aspect is that the classes explain how to set realistic goals, how to write a personal financial plan and how to make it work in the real world of credit scores and other important financial concepts. What a great way to help families achieve long term personal financial goals and build brighter futures.

Did you know you can contribute painlessly to the National Home for Children when you shop on Amazon.com? By signing up, Amazon will donate a percentage of the price of your purchases to the National Home. Just go to www.smile.amazon.com. The default charity for Amazon is the wounded warrior program. But if you choose to list the National Home for Children as the charity you want your donations to support (and the National Home for Children is one of Amazon's approved charities.) Amazon will send them a check. That is all you have to do. It doesn't interfere in any way with your order and you have the satisfaction knowing each purchase on Amazon will include a donation to the National Home.

Thank you to everyone for supporting the VFW National Home for Children and best wishes to all for a great new year.

Honor Guard by Jim Oftedal



Honor Guard's - 11/27/17 - Military Funeral Service (M.F.S.) provided at Assumption Cemetery, Winfield, IL

Pictured (from left): Don O'Reilly, Rich Goulet, Guy Fralley, Jim Vahle, Bob Grember, Bill Ott, Lew Breese, Tinny Bixel Not in Picture: Lloyd McKee, Chuck Dunning, Jim Oftedal, and Rich Ynested

Don O'Reilly also pictured holding the Air Force Service Flag for the M.F.S.



This picture of Post 3873 members and friends was taken at Hines Hospital on Dec 12 as they arrived to go carolling for the patients in the Spinal Cord ward. Don Hennessey led the carolling and played the accordion for the occasion.

Members of the Post visit Hines on the second Tuesday of every month and play bingo and visit with the residents of the spinal cord unit.

Please Note: The Hines Community Outreach normally held on Tuesday Jan 2, will instead be on Friday, January 5, from 9-2 PM.

Auxiliary Report by Kathy Thornton

On Saturday, January 13, 2018, the Judd-Kendall VFW Post 3873 will host a replenishment Blood Drive in memory of Michael Karos (son of Auxiliary member Terry Karos).

Did you know...

- Every two seconds, someone in the U. S. needs blood.
- Approximately 36,000 units of red blood cells are needed every day in the U.S.
- Nearly 7,000 units of platelets and 10,000 units of plasma are needed daily in the U. S.
- The average red blood cell transfusion is approximately 3 pints.
- The blood type most often requested by hospitals is type O.
- A single car accident victim can require as many as 100 pints of blood
- Blood cannot be manufactured-it can only come from donors
- Type O negative blood (red cells) can be transfused to patients of all blood types. It is always in great demand and often in short supply.
- Type AB positive plasma can be transfused to patients of all other blood types. AB plasma is also usually in short supply
- Type O negative blood is needed in emergencies before the patient's blood type is known and with newborns who need blood.
- The average adult has about 10 pints of blood in his body. Roughly 1 pint is given during a donation.

All information obtained from American Red Cross (redcrossblood.org).

Such a painless way to make a difference! Make donating blood a routine for your New Year. Can you spare a pint? Stop by the Post on 1/13/18 and donate! Santa stopped by the life member breakfast on 12/10 to check up on our life members to find out who's been naughty and nice...

Naperville Police Department Helps Out Veterans

The Naperville Police department has written more than 50 holiday cards that were given to veterans who are patients in the spinal cord injury unit at Hines Hospital during the VFW Post and Auxiliary December visit. Cards will also be passed out to veterans at the retirement homes that the Post and Auxiliary members visit monthly. This is the second year that the police have reached out to our veterans during the holidays.

These officers have also written letters to Honor Flight Chicago veterans over the past few years. Our veterans are very thankful for the Naperville Police, not only for these letters, but also for their service to the community."

Auxiliary Member of the Month, January 2018

One, two, buckle my shoe. That could be a full time job for the Auxiliary Member of the Month for January. In addition to her own fabulous collection of footwear, **Lucy Hoy** recently stepped into some pretty big shoes to fill. When Miriam Ferguson became too ill to continue her responsibilities for the Auxiliary's monthly visit to the Community Convalescent and Rehabilitation Center on Mill Street Lucy took on the job of picking up treats, prize money and eventually assuming Miriam's role as Bingo caller. (Don't let anyone tell you that's an easy job. Those seniors don't miss a thing.) Because of Lucy's dedication this 30 year tradition of service continues; September through June, first Wednesday of the month at 2 PM. Join her and her merry band of volunteers as they make the day a little brighter for those in need. You'll be a shoe



Christmas Party 2017



Our WW II vets, including Don O'Reilly, Bill Howland, and Dick McLaughlin all enjoyed the Christmas Party.



People lined up for the delicious food.



The Auxiliary offered Merry Christmas wishes to everyone.

Hines Hospital Visits

The Chairman of the Hospital Committee, John Shaw would like to remind everyone that the Post visits the Hines VA Hospital every second Tuesday of the month. We will not be going in July and August, but our visits resume in September. We leave the post at 6:15 in the evening and return at approximately 9:15 PM. Transportation is provided. Everyone is invited. Why not come and spend some quality time with some very appreciative Veterans?

Canteen Hours

	Open	Close
Mon-Thurs	3:00 PM	10:00 PM/Midnight
Friday	Noon	10:00 PM/2:00 AM
Saturday	Noon	10:00 PM/2:00 AM
Sunday	Noon	5:00 PM/6:00 PM

If at anytime between the first close hour and the second close hour 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. This includes any children in the bar!

Remember: THE BARTENDER IS BOSS!

Submission Policy

The Kendall Gram encourages Post members to submit articles and photos. Simply give the article or photo to the on-duty bartender. It is important that you put your name and phone number on the item in case there are any questions. Please ensure that names are legible. Your article may be edited for clarity and space considerations. All photos MUST have the following information with it: where and why the picture was taken, and who is in the picture. Photographs without captions will not be used. Please submit all articles by the tenth of the month for next month's publication.

Kendall-Gram

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Judd Kendall Post 3873 Officers

Commander	Tom Parker	280-9347
Sr. Vice Commander	Pablo Araya	312-505-4377
Jr. Vice Commander	Dave Angelus	596-3245
Quartermaster	Phil Maughan	383-1974
Ass't Quartermaster	John Shaw	961-3479
Ass't Quartermaster	Terry Jelinek	357-5366
Adjutant	Brian Byrne	901-6758
Judge Advocate	Jeff Martinez	205-9364
Surgeon	Bill Howland	369-0087
Service Officer	Mike Barbour	240-1645
Officer of the Day	Lou Kuelczo	898-8760
Guard	Tom Scott	815-577-7748
Chaplain	Mark Anderson	815-806-5590

Trustees

1 year	Llyod McKee	922-8804
2 year	Bob Bronson	978-2143
3 year	Ron Beata	717-9007

Committee

Americanism		
Blood Drive	Nina Petru	871-9596
Buddy Poppy	Bill Wood	420-2367
Building	Mike Rechenmacher	961-1377
Color Guard	Jim Sarns	234-6292
Eighth Grade Awards	Tom Benton	579-8514
Facilities Manager	Ken Garhan	355-2493
Grounds	Phil Maughan	357-3440
Honor Guard	Jim Oftedal	357-4030
Hospital	John Shaw	961-3479
House	Bob Colby	301-2664
	Bob Talon	357-8134
	Scott Holley	708-287-5590
Membership	Pablo Araya	312-505-4377
Legislative	Frank Haynes	357-2906
National Home	Mike McGrath	357-2680
Patriot's Pen	Hugh Boger	317-417-8301
Public Relations	Mike Barbour	240-1645
Running Team	Rebecca Hirst	
Safety	Mike McGrath	357-2680
Scout Liaison	Todd Schuneman	815-791-4178
Social Media	Dave Angelus	596-3245
Voice of Democracy	Thys Vandervelde	708-927-0317

Auxiliary Officers

President	Kathy Thornton	355-6704
Sr Vice President	Jan Barbor	
Junior Vice President	Lucy Hoy	355-9799
Treasurer	Kathy McNally	708-642-5986
Secretary	Nancy Marinello	
Chaplain	Berni Budny	
Guard	Mary Lou Miller	
Conductress	Dorothy Kulir	

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