

THE

A Monthly Publication for the Members of VFW Post 3873



KENDALL-GRAM



Volume 18 Issue 10
October 2018

Commander Pablo Araya



FLY NAVY



I'm running around with my hair on fire getting the last bits of preparation ready for our Fifth Annual 0.1K Judd-A-Thon. Thanks to a solid turn out of "athletes" and some deep pocket sponsors, this year's gruel-a-thon promises to be another successful fundraiser for the VFW National Home for Children.

On a different note, you may have noticed that the front yard of the Post has gotten a huge face lift after taking a beating under hundreds of little feet running and stomping and jumping during the long, hot days of summer camp. Thanks to Dan, Dave and Eliuth (see picture), and some well timed soaking rains, our lawn will once again be plush and vibrant. The three men donated the needed seed, fertilizer, equipment, along with their horticultural acumen, and most importantly their time. They volunteered about five hours of their sunny weekend day to help our lawn recover. So if you see them around the Post, please give them a heartfelt thanks.

As our busy season approaches, with Veteran's Day activities and Turkey Raffle right around the corner, please take Dan, Dave and Eliuth's example of jumping in, no questions asked and help out wherever you see we need a hand. Remember, we are the best Post around, not just because I say we are (which I do all the time!) but because of our members and all those that volunteer to make it so!



Editor's Notes:

Pablo ran this year's Judd-a-Thon and donated countless hours to insure its success. The Judd-a-Thon made \$21,127.00 - the most ever! We took the check up to the National Home and Pablo presented it on Illinois Day. It was by far and away the largest check presented. (The next highest amount was \$5,000) And I can't begin to tell you how proud that made the people from Judd Kendall feel both of Pablo's hard work, and the post and auxiliary members who contributed their time and effort to make the Judd-a-Thon so successful. We do make a difference to the Vets and their families at the National Home. In the past five years we have donated over \$86,000 to the VFW National Home for Children.

**Senior Vice Commander Brian Byrne**

Fall is now in full swing. What a great month September was for out reach, between our outstanding golf outing and another highly successful Judd-A-Thon the post showed its true colors as a first class place! We now have almost one month to enjoy the weather before old man winter comes back. The only other matter is membership we are early in the year but it's never to late to recruit, keep an eye out for any new members out there. We only need 100+ new and renewed members to exceed last year's goal.

While we don't have a full slate of events in October we can certainly begin looking forward to November and Veteran's Day Activities. Someone said there maybe a football contest in December that may be of some interest.

Dates to Remember

Oct 2 - Hines Community Outreach at the Post 9-2 PM
 Oct 3- Yoga for Vets 9:30 AM
 Oct 3 - Auxiliary visit to Community Convelescence
 Oct 4 - American Legion Meeting 7:00 PM
 Oct 6 - Visit with Vets at Monarch Landing
 Oct 8 - Columbus Day
 Oct 9 - Visit to Hines Hospital 6:15 PM
 Oct 10 - Yoga for Vets 9:30 AM
 Oct 11 - VFW Meeting 7 PM
 Oct 13 - Visit with the Vets at Brookdale
 Oct 13 - US Navy Established 1775
 Oct 14 - Life Member Breakfast 9 AM

Oct 17 - Free Yoga for Vets 9:30 AM
 Oct 19- Post Pig Roast, 6 PM, \$10
 Oct 20- Visit with the Vets at Independence Village
 Oct 20 - Legion Dinner "Octoberfest" 6 PM, \$14
 Oct 24 - Yoga for Vets 9:30 AM
 Oct 27 - Visit with the Vets at Harbor Chase
 Oct 31 - Yoga for Vets 9:30 AM
 Oct 31 - Halloween

Auxiliary Report by Kathy McNally

If you didn't train and run in the 0.5 K Judd-a-Thon, you missed a good time on a lovely summer morning! And mixed with fun were the funds raised to support our National Home. As an organization, we often combine fun with fundraising - such as the fun karaoke night held last month for K-9s for Veterans. Our mission remains the same: Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes.

But all play and no work wouldn't meet our goals. So we share the burdens in stepping up to help lead committees and in volunteering to help in small ways for events during our VFW Auxiliary and Post year. Many hands make light work!

If you haven't attended a meeting in a while, I encourage you to join us any third Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm. Our National President, Sandi Kriebel, has reached out to each Auxiliary President and asked us to help to get back to basics in "Building on our Foundation" in service to our Veterans. She has recognized that many Auxiliaries have wavered from our basic goal. She asks us to keep our meetings brief and to the point in support of all-Veteran projects. You may be pleasantly surprised at our next meeting when you see that our Ritual remains the same; however, our reports are factual and brief, and our meetings end on a pleasant note (with the conviviality shared in the Canteen after each meeting)!

Our next opportunity for many hands will be our Turkey Raffle on Saturday, November 17th. Join us! Attend the raffle and volunteer for an hour or two to sell raffle tickets, help in the kitchen, or help with the walkaround items. You'll have fun while we are raising funds, all to assist our Veterans and their families. That is our mission.

In Memorium

The Post extends its deepest sympathy to the friends and family of William S. Cutter, a life member of the Post. He passed away on 9/19/18. Williams served 2 tours of duty in Vietnam and was awarded the Legion of Merit and the Bronze Star with cluster. His contributions to his country and to the Post will be missed.

Veterans Day

Anyone wishing to participate in the flag raisings at the various schools on Monday, November 12, please contact Terry Jelinek at 630-357-5366, He will have the list to sign up at the meetings, but would like to get the names as soon as possible, so the schools will have them by the end of October.

The Veterans Day Breakfast for all participants will be on Monday, November 12 at 7 a.m. at the District 203 Administration Center, 203 West Hillside Road in Naperville. Please RSVP by November 2 to: 203RSVP@Naperville203.org.

VFW National Home for Children

Post 3873 ... Official Home of the Judd-a-Thon .1K

Comrades it's official!! As we have now completed our 5th Annual .1K our Judd Kendall Veterans of Foreign Wars Naperville Illinois post and auxiliary have been recognized as the Official home of the Judd-a-Thon and we have a certificate and commemorative brick to prove it !!!

Many thanks go out to all the participants and everyone who helped out. Thank you all for your hard work and thank you for the zany costumes too.

We hope it's brought us all closer together. Thank you for bringing your families over and we hope they all enjoyed the festivities as well. We have just a great post and auxiliary !!!

Illinois Day at the National Home

Illinois Day on September 22 was enjoyable and we had a chance to meet Chloe our 2018 - 19 Buddy Poppy child. Chloe's dad has served in Iraq and Afghanistan and is currently deployed in Kuwait in the U.S. Army.

We also were able to see our new State of Illinois waterfall in the Tribute park and to tour our Illinois homes 1 and 2. The National Home is actually an 80 acre village with 42 homes, built and maintained by the individual states. Illinois has two homes that they maintain each year. Illinois is responsible for repairs, painting, and all the normal expenses that you incur as a homeowner. The homes are occupied by the Veterans and their families who have come there for help. They live in the homes for free for up to two years while the families receive counseling and help to get back on their feet. The National Home for Children receives no government funding and is dependent on the VFW for its primary budget. It is well worth a visit to see the VFW National Home for Children in Eaton Rapids Michigan. It will make you proud to be a member of the VFW.

Maybe someone you know could use a helping hand, if so visit or call the National home's helpline. Email ... vfwnationalhome.org/help or call 800 313 4200.

Post Pig Roast In the Canteen

6 PM

\$10 plus bring a dish to pass

Everyone is invited!