

THE

A Monthly Publication for the Members of VFW Post 3873



KENDALL-GRAM



Volume 18 Issue 9
September 2017

Commander Tom Parker



Back in the “olden days” before the advent of the internet and the overwhelming selection of online media outlets, I would get my news just like everyone else. I’d either read it in a newspaper or hear about it from someone else. As an Army officer, I would read the Army Times every week to stay abreast of the latest policies, news stories, and rumors. While at the Post just recently, I found a copy of the Army Times and feeling a little nostalgic, I couldn’t help but to look through it. The front page story discussed the possibility of reinstating the draft. While I won’t get into all the details, the article provided information about the remarkably small percentage of Americans who volunteer for military service even though the number of deployments and commitments throughout the world remain high. It went on to point out that today’s military is better educated and professional, more diverse, and more capable than it’s ever been, however, because of the low percentage of volunteers, the American public has become more and more disconnected from our military. That last part really stuck with me and I couldn’t help but to reflect on the number of people I’ve come in contact with that really don’t understand the full measure of what being in the military entails. They just don’t get what it means to serve and to be willing to sacrifice so much for our country, our freedoms, and our way of life. As a member of the Post, I’m surrounded by others that do get it and I am honored to be able to surround myself with men and women who “have been there and done that.” Also as a member of the Post, I realize I am in a unique position to help others develop a better connection with the military, even if it is just here in the Naperville area. We are fortunate to live in a community that supports our military and our veterans and we are provided with numerous opportunities to interact with other groups on a routine basis to not only help explain what the military does, but to educate them on how the veterans in our community helped contribute to the way of life we all enjoy.

With the kids now back in school, the opportunities I mentioned above will become more pronounced as the vacations end and life starts to settle back into a routine. I know I sound like a broken record most days (or broken mp3 file for the younger folks), but think about how each of you can do just one thing in the coming months to help us assist our local veterans and just as importantly, promote patriotism in our schools and community. Let’s do what we can to maintain the outstanding support we enjoy in our community and prevent the disconnect mentioned in the news article from taking hold in Naperville.



As we have done in years past, we will be partnering with Walgreens again this year to make flu shots available at the Post during September and October. Flu shots will be available prior to the VFW meetings on September 14th and October 12th. Shots will be given between 6:00 pm and 7:00 pm. If you are interested in getting your shot on either of these evenings, plan to arrive early and don’t forget to bring your insurance information.

Senior Vice Commander Pablo Araya

The London maze of roads is easy to walk, and an adventure awaits around every corner. A couple of weeks ago while traversing these streets and cobblestone alleyways of old London we came across the Nag's Head Pub. Outside of the pub there were businessmen and women, as well as casually dressed laborers, all talking earnestly about everyday subjects and sharing "a pint." Renae and I liked the vibe so we entered the small, cluttered establishment. Inside, there were old, short legged tables and stools, strewn about an uneven, weathered floor made of 8" oak boards, hundreds of years old. Everyone was friendly and welcoming. We ordered our Guinness and took a seat in the corner where we could take in the cozy atmosphere.



As I looked around the walls I noted black and white WWII photographs of RAF Spitfire aircraft, along with some newer, color photographs of an RAF Harrier Jet squadron. There were some decals and patches, stuck here and there, both military and law enforcement. I knew I was in my kind of establishment. Then I saw it, above the cash register, behind the bar hung a familiar looking brown and yellow trimmed "piss cutter" garrison hat. It was a Veterans of Foreign War cover, from Post 8785! The bartender let me go behind the bar and she snapped a picture of me underneath the cover, pointing to it. It stood out proudly among all types of other foreign military covers and patches and pins and photographs.

I have since spoken to the Hollis M. Boone, Post 8785 past Commander and current Quartermaster, Gary Burnett. I have sent him the picture and maybe he can figure out who contributed this piece of American pride to a small London pub, thousands of miles from home. Underneath the cover, about 12 inches below the cap, was a donated row of American medals, including the Bronze Star, Vietnam Service and Purple Heart. I wondered if the hat and medals were from the same contributor.

We eventually left Nag's Head, and headed for our dinner date. But the experience of being in that pub, and seeing that VFW cover hanging above the bar, stayed with me throughout the remainder of our trip. It reminded me that where ever we are, and where ever we go, we all share a brother/sisterhood that cannot not be denied, or taken from us. Whether or not we shared a foxhole or a cockpit or a tin can together, or served in the same branch or toiled through KP duty together, we are all bound by the same sacrifice and service that fills us with pride and knowing admiration for our fellow servicemen and women. We all have something in common that less than 1% of our country's citizens share.

So when you see someone wearing a service ball cap, or a t-shirt, or walk by a car in the parking lot that bears a sticker or vehicle plate that indicates the driver is a veteran, introduce yourself. Thank him or her for their service. Invite them to visit our Post. Welcome them with open arms. It might be a far flung community, but it's a close knit fraternity.

As mentioned at the August Post meeting, USAA and the VFW are partnering to award \$20,000 to a VFW Post somewhere in the United States. For anyone interested in entering the giveaway for a chance to win \$20,000 for our Post, look for the following link/notice at the bottom of the National VFW website homepage (www.vfw.org) or login at www.usaa.com/VFWgiveaway before October 31, 2017.

A promotional banner for a USAA giveaway. The text reads: "SALUTE YOUR POST GIVEAWAY", "Enter for a chance to WIN \$20,000", "for your local VFW Post when you sign up for a FREE USAA membership or when you log in using your existing USAA number.", and "ENTER NOW". Logos for the VFW and USAA are at the bottom.

USAA
SALUTE YOUR POST
GIVEAWAY

Enter for a chance to **WIN \$20,000**

for your local VFW Post when you sign up for a FREE USAA membership
or when you log in using your existing USAA number.

ENTER NOW

VFW USAA



Since the 70th Birthday of the Air Force is September 18th we choose the highest ranking Post member from the Air Force as the **Veteran of the Month!** Mark Anderson is a life member of the Post and serves as the Post Chaplain.

Name: Mark Anderson

Rank: Major General (O-8)

Branch of Service: United States Air Force

Current Age: 65

Total Years Served: 37 (16 active duty, 21 Reserve)

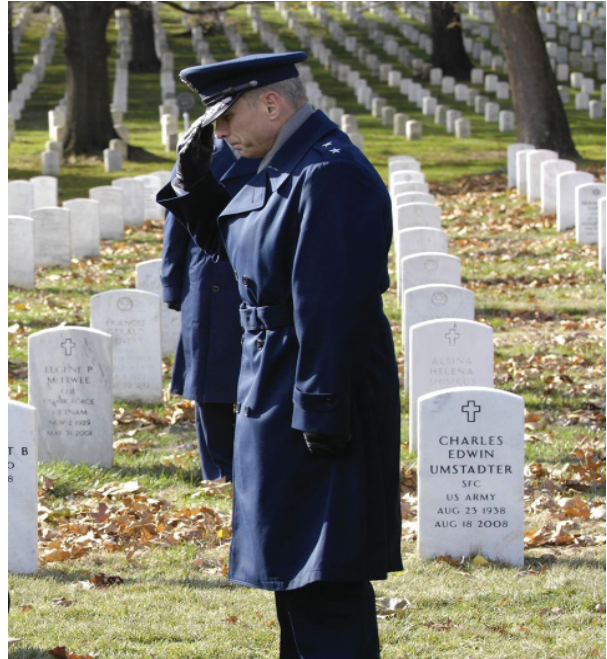
Served from (year to year): 1974-2011

Places Served: Laughlin AFB, TX, Rhein-Main AB FRG, Edwards AFB, CA, Hurlburt Field, FL, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Ramstein AB, FRG, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH, Chicago Air Reserve Station, Scott AFB, IL, Robins AFB, GA, The Pentagon.

Job or Specialty: Airlift Pilot (C-130, MC-130), Test Pilot (MC-130, AC-130), Instructor Pilot, Evaluator Pilot

Fondest Memory while serving: The outstanding people I worked with. I can't remember the places, but I'll never forget the faces.

Quote: "The older I get, the better I was"



The Judd-a-Thon is coming September 17. Are you ready?

Dates to Remember

Sept 2 - VJ day: Japan formally surrenders 1945
Sept 2- Visit vets at Monarch Landing 10 A.M.
Sept 2 - Rosh Hashanah
Sept 4 - Labor Day and Parade
Sept 5 - Hines community Outreach at Post 9-2 PM
Sept 6 - Free Yoga for Vets, 9:30 a.m.
Sept 7 - American Legion meeting 7 PM
Sept 9 - Visit with Vets at Brookdale 10 a.m.
Sept 11- 9/11 Ceremony at the Riverwalk 6 PM
Sept 12 - Visit to Hines Hospital, 6:15 PM
Sept 13- Free Yoga for Vets, 9:30 a.m.
Sept 14- Flu Shots at the Post 6-7 PM
Sept 14- Post meeting 7 PM
Sept 16 - Visit with Vets at Independence Village 10 a.m.

Sept 16 - Legion Dinner 6 PM
Sept 17 -VFW Auxilliary Organized, 1914
Sept 17- JUDD A THON 10:01 a.m.
Sept 18- 70th Birthday of the Air Force
Sept 20- Free yoga for Vets 9:30 a.m
Sept 21 - Auxiliary meeting, 7 PM
Sept 23 - ILLINOIS DAY AT THE NATIONAL HOME
Sept 23 - Visit with Vets at Harbor Chase 10 a.m.
Sept 26 - Taco Tuesday 5- 7 pm
Sept 27- Free Yoga for Vets, 9:30 a.m
Sept 29 - VFW established 1899
Sept 30 - Yom Kippur

9/11 Memorial Service by Wayne Fischer

On behalf of the 9/11 -2017 Memorial Service Committee, we would like to invite everyone to attend the 9/11 Memorial Service to be held on Monday September 11th, 2017 at 6 PM, at the CMDR Dan Shanower/September 11th Memorial on the Riverwalk next to City Hall. We recommend that you plan to arrive no later than 5:30 as parking may be limited at City Hall and on Water Street.

As this is the 16th Anniversary of the attack on our Country, this will again be a very special event as we pay our respects to all of those innocent men and women that were lost because of that dreadful attack on our Country and those lost fighting in harm's way to protect our Freedoms ever since. In the event of inclement weather we will conduct the Program in the City Council Chambers.

Please plan to attend this very special Ceremony. Our guest speaker for this year will be Fire Chief Lanson Russel, (Ret. Downers Grove). Chief Russel will be sharing his thoughts and memories of that fateful day.

Judd-A-Thon

In only a few short weeks, we will once again be holding the world famous 0.1K Judd-A-Thon. If you haven't begun training, you need to start. But more importantly, we need to stave off complacency. Yes, this will be our fourth year, and each of the previous years has been more successful than the prior year in the amount raised for our National Home. But this year we are well behind schedule. So please, if you signed up a sponsor last year, ask them for their 2017 donation. Remind them of all the great work the National Home does, and what a sense of accomplishment they get when crossing that mobile Finish Line! And don't just sign yourself up for the event, but spread the wealth - register your grandparents, your kids, your co-workers, your spouses and your friends and neighbors. You can find the sign up brochure on our website, Let's make the check that the Commander. Tom Parker presents to the National Home in September the biggest one yet!

Auxiliary President Kathy Thornton

A reminder column since it looks like everyone is on vacation this month (including yours truly)! Please sign up for the 0.1 run Judd-A-Thon. Also, do you know anyone who wants to be a sponsor for it?? Lots of great exposure.

More information to come on our Flip Flop Dave night on 10/7.

Our Pinot's Painting on the Porch will be sometime in November. Stay tuned for details.

Enjoy these fleeting last days of summer.

Honor Guard by Jim Oftedal

Your combined Naperville VFW and American Legion Honor Guard has placed a remembrance glass jar, of spent shell casings, that were fired at the MFS (Military Funeral Service) for all of the MFS's we have conducted since we were certified by the Department of Defense – October 2015. This collection represents your Honor Guard's "tribute" to the veteran and is a way to continue to honor and remember what each veteran invested into the freedoms for our great nation.

Each shell casing contains the following information:

- * MFS#
- * Date of MFS
- * Veteran's name
- * Service Branch/War



Please do look for a shell and remove it. The intent is to become a discussion among friends from both posts, and serves as a memory of what the person has meant to you. Military Funeral Services are for any veteran in Naperville and all communities whose border touches Naperville. (Regardless of post membership.)

The "Tribute Jar" is located in the Canteen on the bookshelf next to the weapons vault.

Your Honor Guard is comprised of American Legion #43 and Veterans of Foreign Wars #3873 veterans.

Save the Date, Illinois Day at the National Home for Children by Mike McGrath

Illinois Day at the VFW National Home for Children, is on Saturday, September 23, 2017. Activities commence Saturday at 9 am at the home with tours and activities at the campus. Lunch is served at noon. (Cost \$ 6.00)

Please note ... As in the past, there will also be a get together and dinner on Friday evening. September 22 ... 5 To 7 pm at the local VFW Post in Charlotte Michigan, for those comrades arriving on Friday. (Dinner cost \$10.00)

Remember, Michigan time is an hour ahead so plan accordingly.

Detailed information is available at our post's office and includes a list of local motels in the area, and we would appreciate a "head count" for those planning on going so as to prepare enough food for everyone.

A great trip and hope to see you there.

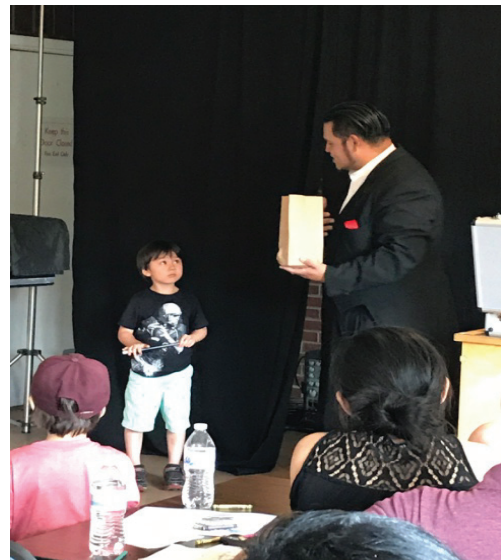
THANK YOU ALL.

Have you signed up for the Judd-a-Thon?

End of Summer Cookout

The Post held a cookout on Sunday August 13th to mark the end of summer prior to the kids heading back to school. There was an excellent turn out and everyone enjoyed the food, the activities and the camaraderie. While the kids were busy getting their faces painted, playing in the bounce house, and watching the magic show parents and grandparents took the time to get caught up on stories and to meet new friends.

The Magic of Platz



Face Painting



Auxiliary Member of the Month for September



Do you know the way to Eaton Rapids? This month's member could probably get there with her eyes closed, if someone else is driving that is. The VFW National Home for Children was established in 1925 as a place where those left behind by war could be together. Those of us who have visited the home think that Disneyland may not be the happiest place on earth. Our Auxiliary member, **Fran McGrath** can tell you first hand the wonderful work that is being done there. Her husband Mike serves on the board and both are passionate about their involvement. But along with that, Fran has been a long time active auxiliary member, supplying raffle prizes and many volunteer hours. An east coast girl with an attitude to match, there is nothing Fran can't or won't do when it comes to supporting our military families. Visit the website or better yet, join us on September 23 when we go up there for the day. Don't worry, Fran can tell you exactly where it is. Thank you, Fran.

Junior Vice Commander Dave Angelus

Recently while I was on vacation in August I had the pleasure of talking with some Korean War Veterans that served during the war. It was amazing so hear their hardships and what they had to endure. When you hear the term "tough as nails generation" I could not imagine a better description for Veterans during that era. While talking to them they used the term "cold winter" I asked what they meant and they responded that they were on patrol and it never got above zero for a month. Just to stay warm they went on patrols a lot and ate what rations they could. North Korea has been in the news lately claiming all sorts of non-sense. I can't imagine that our enemies truly understand what lengths our service members will go to and what they will endure to succeed in a conflict.

Heading into Fall we have several events that are going to take place. In Sept we have our annual .1K Judd a thon. Also in November we have our annual Turkey Raffle. In December we will also have our annual Army Navy game get together and annual Christmas party at the post.

Help by Marcy Maughan editor

I am greatly in need of a person who can put together the Veteran of the Month for this newsletter. This can be done entirely at home if you have a computer. You can contact Veterans and ask them if they would be the Veteran of the Month (you will be given both a post list and a list of those who have already appeared in the column, Have them fill out the form and send you a picture (can be done by email). All of this is forwarded to me for inclusion in the Kendall-gram. This is not a difficult job if someone wants to help out but doesn't have time for some of the other Post activities.

Thank you Scott Holley for coming up with the idea and then doing the work for the last several years. We all appreciate all your time and efforts.

And until I get a volunteer, if anyone wants to be named Veteran of the Month or knows of someone who can be the Veteran of the Month, please email me at marcymaughan@wowway.com or call me at 630 357 3440. I do need some volunteers for the next couple of months. It just takes a few moments to fill out the form.

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

Editor Marcy Maughan 357-3440

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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 Kueltz	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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