

THE

A Monthly Publication for the Members of VFW Post 3873



KENDALL-GRAM



Volume 18 Issue 4,
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Commander Tom Parker



Recently, I started pouring through the newspaper clippings, photographs, and other items I've been amassing over the past year that relate to the many activities we have participated in or spearheaded in the community. That's right, it's that time again where I get to compile our Community Service book for submission to State. Some of you may recall a rather lengthy explanation of the book in one of my columns last year, but the shortened version is that it is a book that chronicles the many events and activities we as a Post have accomplished during the past year in the areas of Americanism, youth activities, community activities, and several other categories. It doesn't seem like it's already been a year since I compiled last year's book, but this year has flown by and as I look at my stack of items, it's obvious we had another very busy and very productive year.

Without detailing every event over the past year, I do want to hit a few recent highlights. As I write this, we still have a few more fish fries for this year. So far, we have been having record numbers of guests coming to enjoy the meals and to support us. I have spoken with many of the people stopping by and they all have an appreciation for who we are and what we do, which helps us maintain the outstanding image we have in the community. I want to thank all the members that put in time to help with the various facets of making these events run smoothly. It truly has been a team effort and the results have been tremendous.

We also have our Easter Egg Hunt coming up in a few weeks. This is another of the activities we've endeavored to revive in order to provide activities for our members with children and grandchildren. We had a great turn out at the children's Christmas party over the holidays and we hope to continue having events like these two to provide activities for some of our newer members and younger era veterans. Many thanks go out to the Auxiliary for taking the lead on these activities.

Memorial Day is right around the corner and with that, we will have many more activities, but I'll address those in next month's column. All in all, we have had another productive year filled with events that have significantly impacted our members and our community. My thanks to all of you for making my job easy again this year as I once again find that I have plenty of stuff to "brag" about as I put the book together.

For those that wonder how we've done in the past when the Community Service books are judged at the higher levels, take a look at the back wall of our building. Each of those signs represents a year that our Post excelled at promoting patriotism and service within the Naperville community. The books to prove it are kept in our conference room downstairs. As I sort through the various stacks of stuff and put individual pages together for the binder, I'm sure we are going to do well.

Senior Vice Commandeer Pablo Araya

Well spring is in the air and we've been jipped out of an hour of much needed sleep, but that's not going to keep us from reaching our membership goal! We're close, but still have to keep the pressure on. If you are behind in your annual dues, please make an effort to pay your dues. If you're tired of my harping, transfer to a Life Time Membership, and I promise, no one will ever harangue you again for a payment! Just get a prospective Veteran through the Canteen doors, and I guarantee, the membership will be a shoe in. We're approaching our most solemn weekend of the year, and introducing a new member to the way we observe Memorial Days not just a boost to "our numbers," but will make an indelible impression on the new member. Get out there and shake the bushes!



And for the Running Team:

The Judd Kendall Post was well represented at this year's St. Paddy's Day 5K...
Ready, Vet, Run!

(Left to Right): Mike McGrath, Phil Maughan, P. Araya, Missing in the picture is Rebecca Hirst.



Junior Vice Commander Dave Angelus

My Great Grandfather came here from Lithuania in 1870 shortly after the Civil war ended. The was the last war using Napoleonic tactics. The US has recently announced that they are increasing their Cyberwarfare capabilities to include offensive tools. I am amazed that in 150 years later the US is fighting new battles in 5th generation warfare. The Army has also announced that they are recruiting for people to join that work in the commercial sector to work in Cyberwarfare since they do not have internal capabilities to do so. It will be amazing to see where this heads in the next few years and what will develop. It's amazing to know that a battle can now be fought that can potentially collapse an entire country without a single shot in anger being fired.



Recently I was invited to come back to school and speak to the cadets enrolled in the ROTC program. 9-11 happened a few years after I was commissioned. I am curious as to the questions this generation of new officers will have knowing that most likely they will be forward deployed after they complete their initial officer training. The Global War on Terrorism has grown well beyond the initial areas of involvement and has come as close as Trinidad & Tobago. A lot of the newly commissioned 2nd Lieutenants will be sent off to distant lands they have never heard of to fight terrorism. Since we are fighting ideology and pseudo nation states, this will be a long war to come without a decisive ultimate victory.

DuPage Veterans Foundation: *Honor Flight Chicago* Fundraiser by Wayne Fischer

Yes, we are going to do this for our 7th year. In the previous 6 years we have held this annual event we have raised just over \$250,000 for “Honor Flight Chicago”. This has supported many flights of WWII and Korean War Era Veterans the opportunity to see their Memorials in Washington, DC and be part of a once in a lifetime experience. From Naperville we have had many of our Veterans go for the day and we want to send even more this year.

So, mark your calendars for Saturday, May 5th to be at the Calamos Hanger at the DuPage Airport to enjoy this very special event. Doors open officially at 11 am and we plan a fun filled program of patriotic events. Any and all WW II and Korean Era Veterans will be our guests. We have new flyers done to share with everyone, and we will have sponsorship opportunities; silent auction; 50:50 raffles; era airplane displays; memorabilia; and music to fill the day. Also, we will need volunteers to help out during the event. More specifics will be forthcoming in the next newsletter and/or via email. Plan on coming out for the day to Honor our very special guests and to help raise money to send these Veterans to Washington, DC for their very memorable day. Finally Post Members Bill Howland and Lee Lindberg will be on the April 11th Honor Flight.

2018 Buddy Poppy Days

As Memorial Day grows nearer, it is also time to start planning for Buddy Poppy Days. This annual fund raiser is one of our largest, and its success depends on the participation of both members of Post 3873 and our Auxiliary. Each year we spend several days soliciting donations outside businesses throughout the city. Volunteers spend two hours per shift, interacting with the public, educating them about poppy days, and soliciting donations in support of Naperville Veterans.

Once again, we will have signup sheets posted on the North wall of the canteen. Like before, you can stop by and sign up for one or more slots. Each entry represents a two-hour slot on a specific day in front of a particular business. In addition to the paper signup sheets, this year we will also be using an online signup sheet so you can sign up for a slot from anywhere you have an internet connection. To try it out, go to <https://www.volunteersignup.org/F4MDW> and scroll through the list of locations, days and times. The “open” column shows how many people are needed for that slot. We will try to have two persons per shift at the train stations and big grocery stores, and one person per shift everywhere else. We need your name, telephone number, and email address. Most communication to volunteers will be via email. There will be a link to the online signup sheet on our post web site.

The online signup sheet is available now. Paper signup sheets will be posted in the canteen at the beginning of April. During the April VFW and Auxiliary meetings, there will be training and a demonstration of the online signup. Next month we will focus on the actual mechanics of doing your shift, tips and tricks, and what to do before and after. Collection time. If you have any questions, please contact one of the committee chairs: Bill Wood, Nancy Marinello, Julie Berkowicz, or Bob Colby.

Dates to Remember

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| April 1 - Easter Sunday | April 14 - Karoke Night , 6:30 - 9:30 PM |
| April 3 - Hines VA Community Outreach 9 - 2 PM | April 15 - Order forms for flower sale are due |
| April 4 - Free Yoga for Vets, 9:30 a.m. | April 17 - Taxes are due |
| April 4 - Aux visit to Nursing Home | April 18 - Free Yoga for Vets, 9:30 a.m. |
| April 5 - American Legion Meeting, 7 PM | April 19 - Auxiliary Meeting, 7 PM |
| April 7 - Visit with the Vets at Monarch Landing, 10 a.m. | April 21- Visit with the Vets at Independence Village, 10 a.m |
| April 8 - Life Member Breakfast, 9 a.m. | April 21 - American Legion dinner, 6 PM |
| April 10 - Hines Visit, 6:15 PM | April 25 - Free Yoga for Vets, 9:30 a.m. |
| April 11 - Free Yoga for Vets, 9:30 a.m. | April 29 - Boy Scout Spaghetti Dinner, 4 - 7 PM |
| April 12 - VFW Meeting, 7 PM | |
| April 14 - Visit with the Vets at Brookdale, 10 a.m. | |

VFW Auxiliary Report by President Kathy Thornton

Got a song in your heart? The Post and the Auxiliary are sponsoring Karaoke Night downstairs at the Post. Join us on Saturday, April 14 from 6:30 to 9:30 PM with returning DJ, Dennis Burda. Food, raffles and of course, karaoke! Bring friends and family! I have my song(s) all picked out!

Friday Fish Fries were so much fun. Hoping you had a chance to stop by and see for yourself. Current thanks: thank you to all those Auxiliary members who helped at the register on Fish Fry Fridays! And also to those who were able to assist with the Easter Egg Hunt. Your efforts and your time are truly appreciated! Belated thanks part 1: thank you to all who donated to our very successful Turkey Raffle Auxiliary Raffle. And thanks to those who attended. Lots of turkeys at the Post that night!

Belated thanks part 2: This past Christmas, the Post resurrected the Children's Christmas Party. Auxiliary members Kathy McNally and Barb McKissick did not disappoint! We had over 25 children. Many Auxiliary and Post volunteers were on hand to assist with games and crafts. And special thanks to our resident Santa Claus for taking time out of his very busy December schedule to stop by. We love you, Santa!

Auxiliary Member of the Month by Jan Barbour

Every organization needs those stalwarts who appear for every event, workshop and fundraiser. This month's Auxiliary member has done it all. In addition to helping with the rebuilding after Hurricane Katrina and the aftermath of a number of tornadoes, she has also traveled to Africa with her church and volunteered with Feed My Starving Children. **Mary Lou Miller** currently serves as Guard for our monthly Auxiliary meetings and I guarantee no one is getting in without her official okay. She tracks our volunteer hours each month and sees to it that they are reported to Department. The amazing part is, she is probably one of our most "senior" members and demonstrates to everyone that age is no excuse for not doing your part. Thank you, Mary Lou.



National Home by Mike McGrath

Focused on service, not self!

About three years ago the VFW National Home for Children began a Teen Advisory Board (T.A.B). The goals of this group are to give young people a voice for change, build leadership and job skills; teach responsibility and give them opportunities for community service. Teenagers from 6th - 12th grade take part in the program. They meet every two months in the campus library to plan activities. During the meetings the teens plan and prepare for events on campus. They also repair damaged books at the library.

The T.A.B.. also helps our military by preparing items to be sent to deployed troops overseas through "Operation Shoebox." They have also supplied items for the local Blue Star Mothers program.

The service of others is what the National Home's T.A.B. is all about.

The VFW National Home receives no government funding ...So we encourage our Veterans and supporters to become a life member. Life memberships are available for only \$40.00 which includes a Life Membership pin. Isn't it time for you to become a life member of the VFW National Home For Children. To become a life member go to www.vfwnationalhome.org/membership. Thank you for your support!

Business Donations to the Auxiliary for the 2017 Turkey Raffle

We would like to thank the following businesses for their generous donations to the Auxiliary for the fall Turkey Raffle. We sincerely appreciate your generosity. Thank you.

Andersons Books	Karisma
Basils Greek Restaurant	Naperville Kia (Anthony and Suzi)
Braconis	Naper Nuts and Sweets
Binneys	McDonald
Buffalo Wild Wings	Menards
Colonial Café	On the Border
Culvers	Olive Garden
Downtown Naperville GC	Pizza Hut
Downers Grove Jewelry	Red Lobster
Fox and Hound	Rosebud
Hotel Arista	Sephora in Penneys at the Mall
Hilton Hotel, Lisle	Starbucks
Hotel Indigo	Sun Nails
Hollywood Palms	Taco Bell
Jimmy Johns	TGIF
Jimmys Bar and Grill	Walgreens
Jimmy's Char House	

Legacy Life Member

A person's legacy is created on many planes, family, career, community involvement and more. Every VFW member shares a powerful legacy of serving in combat to defend our nation. By choosing to join the VFW we also extended that legacy through our commitment to assist veterans, their families and our communities. The VFW has a unique program which enables us to further our legacy in another important way. Legacy Life Membership allows you to donate money to the VFW Foundation that will create a perpetual income stream to the VFW at the post, state and national levels. There are various levels of giving within the Legacy Life program from \$400 to \$1200 and payment can be made all at once or over time. You can also start at one level and choose to move up to a higher level at any point.

There are various benefits associated with Legacy Life Membership including a tax deduction, a special membership card, discounts on purchases from the VFW Store and more. The greatest benefit, however, is the knowledge that by becoming a Legacy Life Member you are helping to provide a perpetual source of stable income to ensure that the important work of the VFW in assisting veterans, their family and our communities will continue forever.

As we approach Memorial Day each of us pauses briefly from our busy daily lives to reflect on invaluable role that all who have served in the military in securing and maintaining our nation's freedom. You should be very proud of your personal role in that legacy of service. Our country will always be in your debt. This year please also consider if Legacy Life Membership is appropriate for you at this point. It would a tangible way for your commitment to the values and work of the VFW to live on forever. Please contact Quartermaster Phil Maughan (630-383-1974 or plmaughan@pobox.com) for more information.

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

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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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PRESORT STANDARD
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Downers Grove IL
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