

THE

A Monthly Publication for the Members of VFW Post 3873



KENDALL-GRAM



Volume 17 Issue 12,
December 2017

Commander Tom Parker



With our Veterans Day and Turkey Raffle activities behind us, it's time to turn our attention to probably the most anticipated event of the year. Folks will be decorating their homes, selecting the appropriate attire to wear, and even sharing their excitement with others during conversations. That's right, the 118th Army - Navy game is right around the corner. This rivalry dates back to 1890 and is one of the longest, most intense rivalries in college football. There were 10 times the two teams did not play each other, but few know that the longest stretch occurred when a Rear Admiral and a Brigadier General got into an argument following the game in 1893. The argument almost resulted in a duel and the following year, President Grover Cleveland convened a cabinet meeting to discuss the incident. At the end of the meeting, the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy issued orders forbidding the teams from playing against each other. This ban lasted five years and at the end of that time, the competition was allowed to resume.

While the rivalry between our Army and Navy/USMC members continues to be just as intense as the rivalry between the Academies, we have not come to blows, nor have we seen a need to discontinue our annual tradition of gathering at the Post to share in the revelry, the competition, and the trash talking. This year we will be gathering again on December 9th to watch the game together in the canteen. The game is scheduled to begin at 2:00 pm, so plan to get there early for a good seat. We also plan to have a few more televisions installed by then to make viewing the game easier and ask that anyone attending bring a dish to pass.

Later this month we will once again celebrate Christmas with our annual Post Christmas Party. The party will be held at the Post on Saturday, December 16th at 6:00 pm. This is a great opportunity to share in fellowship and camaraderie with fellow veterans as we enjoy the holiday season. As in the past, there will be appetizers/finger foods and the bar will be open. Cost is \$5 in advance or \$7 at the door.

We will be hosting a children's Christmas Party the following day, Sunday, December 17th beginning at 2:00 pm. I have it on good authority that we are going to have a special visitor from way up north, so bring the kids out to enjoy fun, festivities, and a chance to see our bearded visitor.

As we see 2017 coming to a close, thank you all for making this year a huge success for the Post. We've accomplished a great many things for our veterans this year and I look forward to accomplishing just as much in 2018.

GO ARMY, BEAT NAVY!

Senior Vice Commander Pablo Araya

December is here, and recalling my childhood, it was my favorite month of the year: presents, Santa and no school! I thought it couldn't get better. Then years later I had the great fortune of donning my country's Navy uniform and experiencing a lifetime of memories, honor and camaraderie, all in a seven and a half year hitch. Since then I have looked forward to Veterans Day. And no one does it better than Judd Kendall Post and the Naperville community. From eager, young school kids, to an appreciative citizenry, from reconnecting with old shipmates, to enjoying the friendship in our Post's diversified collection of service members; it just doesn't get better!



As you all know, we were lucky this year to have a distinguished guest to share in some



of our week's long functions and events. Medal of Honor Recipient "Barney" Barnum joined us at a local school, the Marine Corps Ball, a flag raising and a chilly, but well received Veterans Park ceremony. Before he left for the airport I asked him his honest opinion of his Naperville experience. Col. Barnum stated that not only was the Marine Ball the best he'd ever attended, he was very impressed with the community's support and the overall feeling of camaraderie he felt during his visit here. Which is just another example of what we, no matter what you call it by: a special group, a lifelong fraternity, a brotherhood, whatever - we are all in this together. With each other and for each other. So like I always implore, seek out your fel-

low Veteran and ask him or her to stop at the Post and share a drink, a memory and experience the bonds that hold our unique

Junior Vice-Commander Dave Angelus

Despite all the political turmoil in the news lately I must say I was really impressed this year with the amount of appreciation and heartfelt thanks everyone received on Veterans day. I literally had two random people thank me for my service while I was driving around. It's good to know that the attitudes of the general public towards Veterans has gotten better in recent years.



While everyone is not looking forward to the normal stress of the Christmas shopping season there are several events at the post for everyone to look forward to. On Dec 9th we will be having our annual Army-Navy game at the post again. Game time is 2 PM. Despite a slew of disappointed Navy fans the turnout was really good last year. A great time was had by all, and I encourage everyone to attend this year.

We will be decorating the Post for Christmas on Dec 3rd, 1 PM. We would like many volunteers to help. The job will take 1 -1/2 hours if we get a lot of volunteers. Please come down and help out. Our next Life Member Breakfast is on December 10 at 9 a.m. We will also have our annual Post Christmas party on Dec 16th at 6:00 pm. Cost is \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door.

Commander Tom Parker

If you've been thinking of getting involved in events at the Post, this is a great time to do so. We need help with a few of our yearly events and would appreciate anyone who can donate a few hours of their time to help make these events a success. Each year we conduct our Poppy Drive around Memorial Day. We need help in contacting businesses, setting up Poppy bags, and completing other logistical issues. We also need help in planning and setting up our Fish Fries. Lent will be here soon and we need to make sure everything is in place to make our highly anticipated Friday night Fish Fries a success during that time. Anyone who can volunteer to help with these events will not be left to do them alone. We have folks that are already involved, but we need a few more that can assist with the workload. If you've been thinking that you should get more involved at the Post, please contact the Commander. He can answer any questions you might have and can explain in more detail how you can help.

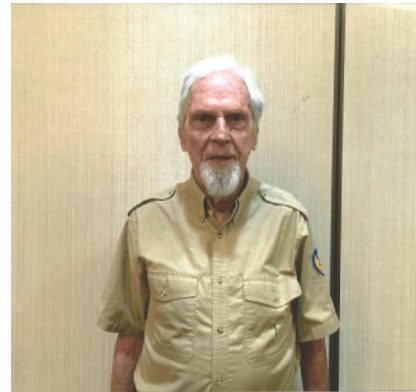


Name: Donald W O'Reilly
 Rank: PFC
 Branch of Service:
 Age: 95
 Total Years Served: 3 years, 3 mos, 19 days
 Served from: 7/2/42 - 10/20/45; Served Overseas from
 1/6/43 -6/15/45
 Places Served: Camp Robertson, AR; Camp Ribley, MN;
 Lockbourne Air Base, OH;305 Grp, England, 491 Grp,
 England, Abileen Air Base, Sweetwater, TX

Job or Specialty: Military Police

Fondest Memory while Serving: First airplane ride in a B17; the week after VE Day riding in a B24 over Dusel-dorf, Colgne and Hamburg; Coming home on the Queen Mary

(Editor's Note) Don is active with the Honor Guard and one of our active WW II Vets)



Dates to Remember

Dec 2 - Visit Vets at Monarch Landing, 10 A.M.
 Dec 3 - Decorate the Post for Christmas, 1 PM
 Dec 5 - Hines VA unit at Post - 9:30 - 2 PM
 Dec 6 - Free Yoga for Vets, 9:30 a.m.
 Dec 7- Pearl Harbor Day
 Dec 7 - American Legion meeting, 7 PM
 Dec 9 - Visit Vets at Brookdale, 10 a.m.
 Dec 9 - Army Navy Game, 2 PM
 Dec 10- Life Member Breakfast, 9 a.m.
 Dec 12 - Visit to Hines Hospital, 6:15 Pm
 Dec 13 -Free Yoga for Vets, 9:30 a.m.
 Dec 13 - Chanukkah
 Dec 14 - VFW meeting, 7 PM

Dec 16 - Visit with Vets at Independence Village, 10 a.m.
 Dec16 - Post Christmas Party, 6 PM
 Dec 17 - Post Christmas Party for Children, 2 PM
 Dec 20 - Free Yoga For Vets, 9:30 a.m.
 Dec 21 - Auxiliary Meeting, 7 PM
 Dev 23 - Visit with Vets at Harbor Chase, 10 am
 Dec 27 - Free Yoga for Vets, 9:30 a.m.

Jan 7 - Take down Christmas Decorations, 1 PM

VFW National Home for Children

On Oct 28, 2017, the VFW National Home for Children hosted the Annual Meeting of Life Members. Highlights of the meeting included the formal installation of new board officers and trustees. Newly elected trustees Steven Van Bergen, National Home District 9 and Renee Fulk, District 12, were sworn in, along with the new Board President Dave Oullette, and the new Board Vice President, our very own Mike McGrath who is a life member of Post 3873. Congratulations, Mike!

Christmas Time at the National Home for Children by Mike McGrath

Ho ho ho ! Yes indeed, Christmas is coming ... Santa is loading up his sleigh and bringing lots of toys and goodies for the kids at the national Home. Friday, December 1 and Saturday, December 2 are the dates for Santa and the annual “Cootie Christmas Party” and a great sight to see. The “Santa’s Store “ will also be open to allow the kids who have earned credits through out the year with their volunteer hours to obtain gifts for family members.

We are again looking forward to attending and hopefully will bring back some photos for you as well as good cheer and great memories. Best wishes and “ Merry Christmas to all.”

Honor Guard by Jim Oftedal

Your Honor Guard has completed two years (10/6/15) of service to provide Military Funeral Service (MFS) for veterans and their family. To commemorate this event, a request was made for a flag to fly over the US Capitol on 10/6/17. The flag and certificate have been received and placed in an Honor Shadow Box for display next to the Tribute Jar of Military Funeral Service shell casings.

The certificate reads: This is to certify that the accompanying flag was flown over the United States Capitol on October 6, 2017.

This flag was flown for the Naperville Honor Guard, in honor of your 2 year anniversary of certification of Honor Guard.
Certificate Signed By: Stephen T. Ayers, FAIA, LEED AP Architect of the Capitol



Legacy Life Membership

If you are looking for another tax deduction for this year, the Post can provide you with one. Legacy Life membership is a way of helping the Post and giving you a tax deduction at the same time. There are three levels of membership. \$400, \$800, and \$1200. With this donation the Post receives a return on your investment to help defray future expenses. For more information contact Phil Maughan at 630-383-1974.

Canteen Holiday Hours;

Christmas Eve - Noon till 5 PM
Christmas Day - Noon till 4 PM

New Years Eve - Noon till 5 PM
New Years Day - Noon till 4 PM

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone!



THE JUDD-KENDALL VFW POST 3873 FALL BLOOD DRIVE

HAS BEEN MOVED TO SATURDAY, JANUARY 13TH

**THIS WILL BE A REPLENISHMENT BLOOD DRIVE BEING HELD IN THE
MEMORY OF MICHAEL KAROS**

MICHAEL IS A MEMBER OF THE RECHENMACHER FAMILY. HE LOST HIS LONG AND COURAGEOUS BATTLE AGAINST CANCER SHORTLY AFTER GRADUATING FROM COLLEGE OF DUPAGE. THIS IS A DAY TO REMEMBER MICHAEL.

WE ALL HAVE A LOVED ONE WHO HAS OR IS STILL FIGHTING THE BATTLE AGAINST CANCER. THIS WOULD BE THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY FOR REMEMBERING NOT ONLY MICHAEL, BUT TO HONOR EVERYONE WHO HAS EVER FOUGHT THE FIGHT.

YOU CAN CALL LIFESOURCE AT 1.888.427.4836 OR LOG ONTO www.lifesource.org TO SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT. . . .OF COURSE YOU MAY ALSO WALK IN.

38,000 BLOOD DONATIONS ARE NEEDED EACH DAY. WILL YOU HELP??

Auxiliary President Kathy Thornton

Thank you to everyone who helped on the many November events at the Post. It was a busy and rewarding month. Watch out, cuz here comes December!

Christmas party for the kids: Be sure to sign up for our VFW Children's Christmas Party. It will be held on Sunday, December 17 at the Post from 2p to 4p. Fun and games and...a visit from...Santa Claus! Santa will bring a gift to all children present. RSVP required: Kathy McNally kathymcnally@wowway.com or 708.642.5986 with child(s) name, age and gender. If you would like to volunteer for this event, contact Kathy McNally. Check the Kendall-Gram for more December Post events.

A prayer for our military and their families for this Christmas season:

Dear Lord, I give thanks to you for our brave men and women in uniform. I pray that you would comfort them during this Christmas season. Lift them up above their circumstances and situations. Refresh them and strengthen them as they seek to courageously serve their country. Provide them with times of supernatural blessings to help them deal with the emotional pain of being far away from loved ones this Christmas. Lord, surround their loved ones with a supernatural ability to deal with the empty chair at their holiday table. May each soldier and each loved one feel your loving arms around them bringing comfort during this Christmas season. Amen (Copyright © 2014 Beth McLendon of Inspirational-Prayers.com)

Personal note: I recently had the opportunity to volunteer at F.A.R.M. (Farmers Assisting Returning Military) in Dallas. The program is designed to help the returning veteran through agricultural therapeutic rehabilitation. F.A.R.M. was started by two Army veterans as a vehicle to integrate returning soldiers into civilian life via farm work. We (with fellow coworkers) worked getting the grounds ready for a Veterans Day ceremony and fundraiser. It was a wonderful experience. For more information go to farmvet.org.

May your Christmas be Merry and Bright! And shared with family and friends.



Ginny Arbogast (seated back row, left) celebrating 100 year birthday. Fellow Auxiliary members were on hand to wish her a very happy birthday!



Auxiliary Member of the Month-December

Sister, Sisters, there never was such devoted sister. That's a clue to December's Auxiliary Member of the Month. **Dorothy Kulir** is a long time Auxiliary member. Back in the day when she was Secretary, minutes were written by hand in a bound record book. During prime rib nights she would wait tables. When her husband, Pappa Joe's health began to fail she stepped back from the Auxiliary for a while. She is back now and she brought her sister Bertha Novaczyk with her. These two talented women have cornered the market on raffle baskets, earning hundreds of dollars for veterans' causes. Lately they have adopted the Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans as their project and each month deliver actual carloads of needed items to the shelter. These everyday items help the veterans make the transition from shelter to independent living while letting them know how much others care for their success. They have also found time to create award winning Poppy displays. Holiday gifts come in many sizes and shapes, but these two ladies are a special gift to veterans in need.

Photo courtesy of Jim Hoch



Midwest Veterans Homeless Shelter

With Dorothy Kulir under the weather, her sister Bertha Novaczyk (pictured on the left) drove to the Midwest Veterans Homeless Shelter to deliver over 50 items for the month of November that they purchased and prepared in baskets for the vets. Products ranged from kitchen, bathroom, and bedding items to a fold-able lounge chair. What was a really interesting event, was that when one of their nephews from Wisconsin came to visit, he was touched by their hard work and donated \$100 worth of Walmart \$10-gift cards to be used for the Commissary's Christmas Project.

Speaking of this is not accidental. It's a good time to remember these veterans by donating dollars or gift cards for gas, food, and incidentals for their Christmas Project. Here's the info you need to send in your donation if you want to: Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans, 433 S. Carlton Ave., Wheaton, IL 60187.

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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Facebook: Naperville VFW Judd Kendall 3873

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	Lloyd 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	

Veterans Of Foreign Wars
Judd Kendall Post 3873
908 Jackson
Naperville, IL 60540

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Maria Mink from Georgetown School presented a patriotic blanket to five of our World War II veterans. Shown l-r are Maria, Lou Wegeman, George Hogrew, Joe Martinelli, John Prescott, and Don O'Reilly. Maria made all five blankets and each was slightly different. Picture by Jim Hoch