

THE

A Monthly Publication for the Members of VFW Post 3873



# KENDALL-GRAM



Volume 12  
April, 2009

## Together Then, Together Again with Commander Charlie Vladika

This month's Post meeting is very important. We will be taking nominations for Post Officers and then electing our 2009-2010 Officers. Let me again stress that any member in good standing is eligible for nomination for any position. Check last month's Kendall Gram for the duties of each elected or appointed Officer. The following members were nominated at our March 12th meeting.

Commander	Chuck Vladika
Senior Vice Commander	Scott Holley
Junior Vice Commander	John Coby
Quatermaster	Terry Jelinek
Ass't Quatermaster	Phil Maughan
Judge Advocate	Nina Petru
Surgeon	Bob Reiger
Chaplain	Jay Johnson
3 year Trustee	Mike Rechenmacker
3 year House Committee	Mike Barbour

Again, we will be taking nominations from the floor for the above Post Offices, then we will conduct the election. Please come to this meeting. It is important that we have a respectable turnout. We will be looking for additional help for the various Committees that enable our Post to function. We are very involved with Veterans projects as well as community projects. It takes Post members' willingness to be on these Committee's to maintain our success. Most only take an hour or two of your time each month. Please look into the possibility of joining one. Thanks

The past three years have been an expensive drain on our Post's resources. We had to repave and repaint the parking lot. We have updated the kitchen, installed new counters and countertops and purchased some new appliances. Our new roof will be or in the process of being installed by this month's meeting. At a cost of \$40,000, this is another big bite out of our funds

This leads me into our next Post function, Our Ham Raffle. This is a much needed source of revenue to our Post. It will be held on April 4<sup>th</sup> and we hope you all will come down for the evening and perhaps even volunteer to help. We are doing well with this year's Fish Fries. Our Wednesday Night Canteen meat raffle's, plus our other money raisers all contribute to the maintenance and up keep of our building and the Veteran projects we need to fund. Our Hall rentals contribute a meaningful percentage of our Post's income. Thanks to our Facilities Manager, Ken Garhan. He keeps the Hall rented. Terry Jelinek, Post Quatermaster, carefully watches our expenditures and cash flow. I am amazed how he keeps the Post running daily with employee payroll, assorted taxes, insurance, utility payments, etc. Be sure you thank him for his time and patience.

A big thank you goes out to our Fish Fry volunteers. Also, thanks to our Ladies Auxiliary for their much appreciated help greeting and running the cash register for the Fish Fries.

To ALL my fellow Veterans, Saturday, April 25th we will be hosting "Armed and Ready". This is an opportunity for

ALL Veterans to get answers regarding their VA earned benefits. Please pass the word on to all and any Veteran or the parents of current active duty soldiers. This will be a very beneficial opportunity for both. Comrades, we have a great Post. You make it so. I ask that you come to our Post meetings, stop in some time at our Canteen and meet your fellow members new or old. Thank them for their service to our country. Talk to them about the work Judd Kendall does for our fellow Veterans and the Community. Bring a new member in for membership to the best Post in the state and country. Be proud, you earned it.

## A 'Scoche' more from the Signal Corp by Senior Vice Scott Holley



As Senior Vice Commander my goal is to make sure we continue the mission of the VFW which is: ***"To Honor the Dead by helping the Living"***. With the efforts of our dedicated members at Judd Kendall VFW Post 3873 I know we consistently deliver on this effort and for that I thank you.

For membership, we are at 102%. Thanks so much to all of our members for making this the great Post that it is. We are a very active and proud Post that is recognized within our community and beyond.



I'd like to take a few moments to reflect on our loss of "The Colonel." **Colonel John Dawley** was an honorable, respectful, caring and a dedicated comrade to our beloved Post. He could turn on the "Colonel" in him when needed but was always a pleasure to be around. I loved listening to his stories and hearing his perspective. I learned a lot from the Colonel. He will be missed tremendously around the Post. He always would win the Military trivia that I put together for the Post picnic or other Post activity. If I had to pick one memory that really stands out it would be this: Last year at the Fish Fry, there was one Veteran from Hines Hospital that was so happy to be here he didn't want to leave. He did have his camera and wanted to capture the moment. Everyone else was on the bus and ready to go and was waiting for him. Well, when I told him that the Colonel was outside of the bus and if he wanted a picture with the Colonel he should hurry up. This young man rushed out the door faster than a Marine to the chow line. He did get his picture with **Colonel Dawley** and it might as well have been the President. **Colonel Dawley** had a way about him of making you feel his presence but also putting you quite "At Ease". To Jenny: I pray for you and your family to be strong during this very tough time, but if you need anything, please reach out.

The **Ham Raffle** is on **Saturday April 4<sup>th</sup>**. Always a great time at the post! Please come down and offer some assistance with the event or lay down a few bucks to win some of the great prizes from a ham, prime rib or many other meat and cheeses.

Don't forget to get your **Plant Sale** form submitted timely! They are also on the website for your convenience in the Calendar section and the Kendall-Gram section. We had a last minute rush last year, so let's not stress Marcy out this year and get them in early. Due at the Post by **April 7<sup>th</sup>** and the pickup day is **May 5<sup>th</sup>**. See the form for more details.

For you newer members, please get involved with our wonderful Post and give what you can....it can be a very fulfilling, rewarding and fun experience! Veteran's Day in the schools, Turkey Raffle, Visits to Hines Hospitals, Post Christmas Party, to name just a few. There are various other ceremonies throughout the year that are quite an honor to participate in as well. Please ask one of the Officers or chairman of the committees listed in this Kendall-Gram for additional information. You can always see what's coming up by checking out the Kendall-Gram or by visiting the website at [www.napervfw.org](http://www.napervfw.org). If you are not getting the email communications from Mike Barbour, please provide him with your email by sending him one at: [mbarbour@wowway.com](mailto:mbarbour@wowway.com)

Over and Out

**Aiming High**  
**Junior Vice Commander John Coby**



**Ham Raffle** – Please note that the Ham Raffle will be on the 4<sup>th</sup> of April. This is one of the Post's big fund raisers. If you can come and help out with ticket sales and clean up after the event it would be a huge help.



**Fish Fries** – The Fish Fries continue to be a great success. Please come down and enjoy a great meal! Thanks to all who help with cleaning tables and the ladies for working the register

Please note the Hines Hospital dates. If you are able to attend, you will enjoy a rewarding evening.

And don't forget Armed and Ready on April 25<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions on VA benefits, this is the time to get them answered.

### Dates to Remember

April 3<sup>rd</sup> – Fish Fry, 5-8 PM  
 April 4<sup>th</sup> – **Ham Raffle 6 - 11 PM**  
 April 9<sup>th</sup> – VFW Meeting, 7 PM  
 April 10<sup>th</sup> – Fish Fry, 5-8 PM  
 April 12 - Easter Sunday  
 April 14<sup>th</sup> – Hines Hospital Visit. 6:30 PM  
 April 16<sup>th</sup> – Ladies Auxiliary Meeting, 7 PM  
 April 19<sup>th</sup> – Life Members Breakfast, 9 AM  
 April 25<sup>th</sup> – Armed and Ready, 10 AM  
 May 12<sup>th</sup> – Hines Hospital Visit, 6:30 PM  
 May 14<sup>th</sup> – VFW Meeting, 7 PM  
 May 17<sup>th</sup> – Armed Forces Day  
 May 17<sup>th</sup> – Installation Dinner, 6 PM, \$10  
 May 21<sup>st</sup> – Ladies Auxillary Meeting, 7 PM  
 May 22<sup>nd</sup> – Grave Decoration, 4 PM  
 May 23, Grave Decoration, Naperville Cemetary, 9 AM  
 May 23<sup>rd</sup> – Blood Drive 8 AM - 2 PM  
 May 25<sup>th</sup> – Memorial Day Parade and Luncheon

### Dates of Interest

April 1<sup>st</sup> 1945 – Invasion of Okinawa Began  
 April 1<sup>st</sup> 1968 – Operation Pegasus Began  
 April 5<sup>th</sup> 1951 – Operation Rugged Began  
 April 6<sup>th</sup> 1972 – Operation Linebacker  
 April 8<sup>th</sup> 1972 – Siege of An Loc Began  
 April 10<sup>th</sup> 1968 – Battle for Lang Vei Began  
 April 11<sup>th</sup> 1991 – Persian Gulf War Official Cease Fire  
 April 16<sup>th</sup> 1953 – Battle of Pork Chop Hill Began  
 April 19<sup>th</sup> 1968 – Operation Deleware Began  
 April 20<sup>th</sup> 1953 – Operation Little Switch Began  
 April 24<sup>th</sup> 1967 – Battle of the Hills Began

## Memorial Day Schedule

**May 22-** Flags placed at graves at St Peter and Paul cemetery, 4 PM

**May 23** - Flags placed at Naperville Cemetery, 9 AM

**May 25, 2009**

8:00 – Flag raising and service at 9/11-Cmdr. Dan Shanower Memorial – (taps & volley)

8:30 – Service at Veterans Park (Gartner Rd.) – (taps & volley)

8:50 – Service at Burlington Park Doughboy Monument – (taps & volley)

9:15 – Service at St. Peter & Paul Cemetery (taps & volley)

10:00 – Service at GAR Monument in Naperville Cemetery – (taps & volley)

10:30 – Advance section of parade steps off from Jackson and Ewing

10:40 – Service at plaza, corner of Webster & Jackson

Main Parade steps off from Jackson & West St., East to Washington, North to Jefferson, East to Brainard, North to Van Buren, West to Court Place, North to Benton, East to St. Peter & Paul parking lot.

12:15 – Program at Community Concert Center

Selections by Naperville Municipal Band

Invocation – Star Spangled Banner

Municipal Band – Medley of Service Songs

Service at Blackhawk Monument – prayer, volley, taps & Star Spangled Banner

Municipal Band – Patriotic Medley

12:45 – Dismissal –

**If it is raining at 9 AM – decision to cancel will be made at that time by Parade committee and Naperville Police Department**

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**Grounds Committee Report****Marcy Maughan**

Last year we had a wedding on the front lawn of the VFW. We have also had lots of people who rent the VFW pose for pictures at the arbor on the front side of the VFW. Since people are showing a lot of interest in our grounds, and because this helps the rentals of the hall, we decided to upgrade some of the landscaping in the front. We are using two students from the Naperville North Horticulture department to help us design new flower beds along the building. The North students were extremely enthusiastic about putting their book knowledge to use. We are enthusiastic about making the grounds more beautiful. Our efforts will be funded by money raised by the plant sale. We hope everyone will be ordering plants from the plant sale so that we have the necessary funds to upgrade the grounds.

I am extremely upset by the vast number of cigarette butts lying in the front yard. It seems people come outside to smoke their cigarettes. Then instead of placing their butts in the containers provided, they just throw them out on the lawn. It is disgusting. I hope this is not a practice of any of our members. I think its too bad the offenders can't be made to come back and clean up their mess!

Our plant sale is going on and we hope everyone will order plants. We have a large selection of flats, specialty plants, hanging baskets and vegetables. All forms must be returned by April 7th and pickup is May 5th from 1-6 PM.

The kids from Kennedy Jr. High will be here to help unload the truck but we still need additional help. If you can volunteer your time at 7 AM that morning, it would be most appreciated.

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### **Auxiliary Report by Kathy McNally**

April showers bring May flowers! Have you placed your plant order yet? The deadline is April 7th - pickup is May 5th - and proceeds go to help the upkeep of our own landscaping. Thanks for Marcy Maughan for her tireless efforts for the beautification of our Post. Did you know she leads the plant sale effort, too?

Now, we just need to wait for the right time to plant - not only our plants from the VFW/Ladies Auxiliary Plant Sale - but it's the perfect time to plant your own seeds - of helpfulness and encouragement. We always welcome Sisters to join the Hines Hospital visits on the second Tuesday of every month; our annual Ham Raffle is Saturday, April 4th (we still need auction prizes and kitchen help); there's an opportunity to sell Poppies in the days around Memorial Day weekend. There are so many opportunities to become involved with our Veterans and their families - isn't that why you joined?

At press time, there are two Fish Fry Fridays left - April 3rd and April 10th. Thanks to all our Sisters who have helped us on the cash register again this year: Mary Lou Miller, Sue Jelinek, Bernie Berkes, Marcy Maughan, Jan Barbour, Deb O' Bourne, Jane Bronson, Dorothy Garhan, Barb McKissick, and Melba and her special helper - handsome Rod! Please call me to sign on for a 90 minute shift - or add your name to the sign up sheet in the Canteen.

Our next Auxiliary meeting for April is the 16th and for May is the 14th, when we will hold election for officers. Are you interested in holding an office? Would you like to chair a committee this year? What are your interests or talents? Call me for a list of open committees, (630) 305-8196. The commitment is very often less than 3 or 4 hours per month

Please note your calendars: Installation of Officers is on May 17 at 6 PM at The Post. There is a \$10 charge for the dinner. And we'll be decorating our Sisters' graves again this year on Friday, May 22nd after school. Thanks to Tara Debbins, we have a complete map of the Sts. Peter & Paul cemetery graves! We also have a committed group of young people, including Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts - but all young people are welcomed to help us place the flags! We meet at the Post for our assignments, then rejoin in The Lodge afterwards for treats and a special guest speaker. All this leads up to our Parade and luncheon on Monday, May 25th.

Sowing the seeds of helpfulness and encouragement now will yield a bouquet of reward and satisfaction as you witness the ripples of your efforts reach out to make a difference in our Veterans' and their families' lives. And I know that's why you joined!

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### **Buddy Poppy Sales by Jan and Mike Barbour**

**IT'S TIME FOR BUDDY POPPY SALES!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

The time has come to stand up and be counted comrades! Our disabled veterans as well as troops serving in the war against the Islamic Jihad need your help. The sign up sheets to sell Buddy Poppies will be posted in the canteen beginning the 15<sup>th</sup> of April.

The contacts for the various regions are:

<b>NORTHERN REGION</b>	Mike and Jan Barbour 527-0738
<b>CENTRAL REGION</b>	Mike and Jan Barbour 527-0738
<b>SOUTHERN REGION</b>	Mike and Jan Barbour 527-0738

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**SIGN UP SHEETS WILL BE IN THE CANTEEN BEGINNING THE WEEK OF APRIL 13<sup>TH</sup>. MAKE SURE YOU GET THERE EARLY TO GET THE PRIME LOCATIONS!**

**YOU WILL BE ABLE TO PICK UP THE POPPIES IN THE CARD ROOM BEGINNING THE WEEK OF MAY 11<sup>TH</sup>. PLEASE READ AND HEED THE INSTRUCTIONS POSTED THERE. IF YOU DON'T PUT YOUR NAME AND LOCATION ON THE CANS, YOU WON'T BE IN THE RUNNING FOR THE "LEAD DOG" AWARD.**

Several of our members told me that they don't often get to the canteen but want to sell Buddy Poppies. If you want to sell Buddy Poppies and it isn't easy for you to sign up, call the **Buddy Poppy Prince or Princess at 630-527-0738**. We will find a spot for you at one of the prime locations. For you folks, here are the locations we will be selling Buddy Poppies at this year:

**NORTHERN REGION**

Route 59 Metra Station	May 20 <sup>th</sup> & 21 <sup>st</sup>
Naperville 5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Metra Station	May 20 <sup>th</sup> & 21 <sup>st</sup>
Jewel @ Ogden & Aurora (across from Post office)	May 22 <sup>nd</sup> thru 24 <sup>th</sup>
Dominick's @ North Aurora	May 22 <sup>nd</sup> thru 24 <sup>th</sup>
Buikema Ace @ Washington St	May 21 <sup>st</sup> thru 24 <sup>th</sup>
Jewel @ Ogden & Washington	May 22 <sup>nd</sup> thru 24 <sup>th</sup>

**CENTRAL REGION**

Outside Starbucks, Jefferson & Main	May 20 <sup>th</sup> thru 24 <sup>th</sup>
Outside Barnes & Noble, Washington & Chicago	May 20 <sup>th</sup> thru 24 <sup>th</sup>
Casey's Food Store @ Gartner & Washington	May 21 <sup>st</sup> thru 24 <sup>th</sup>
Trader Joe's @ Gartner & Washington	May 22 <sup>nd</sup> thru 24 <sup>th</sup>
Jewel @ 75 <sup>th</sup> & Naper Blvd	May 22 <sup>nd</sup> thru 24 <sup>th</sup>
Dominick's @ 75 <sup>th</sup> & Naper Blvd	May 22 <sup>nd</sup> thru 24 <sup>th</sup>

**SOUTHERN REGION**

Buikema Ace @ 75 <sup>th</sup> Street	May 21 <sup>st</sup> thru 24 <sup>th</sup>
Jewel @ 95 <sup>th</sup> St. & Rt. 59	May 22 <sup>nd</sup> thru 24 <sup>th</sup>
Dominick's @ 95 <sup>th</sup> St & Rt. 59	May 22 <sup>nd</sup> thru 24 <sup>th</sup>



This is another prime year to sell Buddy Poppies. Public awareness of veterans and the military is heightened. Americans want to help! Let's give them that opportunity! I don't want to hear Napervillians come up to me and say, "We wanted to buy a Poppy but we couldn't find anyone selling them." That is embarrassing, comrades. It tells the civilians that we don't care enough about our own.

We had less than 10% of our membership sell Buddy Poppies last year. Thanks to all those who participated! For the rest of our membership I have evidently failed in conveying the importance of Buddy Poppy Sales and the good those sales do for disabled veterans. **If you have any question about that good call the "Poppy Princess" (Jan Barbour) or me at 630-527-0738 and one of us will explain it to you.** The disabled veterans are at your mercy! They need your help!

**All the money collected is used in the Naperville area for projects and programs that directly benefit both disabled veterans and local troops on active duty in the war zones.**

There is no doubt that the money collected for Buddy Poppy sales goes where it is intended. We need new blood comrades! **STAND UP AND BE COUNTED!!!! IF WE ARE GOING TO MEET OUR GOAL OF \$25,000 THIS YEAR COMRADES, SISTERS, AND FRIENDS, WE NEED BODIES ON THE STREET!**

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### News from the Pritzker by Phil Maughan

On Saturday, April 25, the Pritzker Military Library will present Russell Bonds discussing his new book Stealing the General: the Great Locomotive Chase and the First Medal of Honor.

In 1862, a team of covert Union operatives slipped behind enemy lines and stole a locomotive named The General. Their mission was to wreak havoc behind the lines by tearing up track, burning bridges, and cutting telegraph wires. Some of the raiders became the very first recipients of the Medal of Honor. The lecture will be followed with a screening of Buster Keaton's classic silent film "The General." A post-film discussion will be lead by Ed Tracy.

The library is located at 610 N Fairbanks Court, Second floor, Chicago IL. The Event is free. For more information on this and other upcoming events check [www.pritzermilitarylibrary.org](http://www.pritzermilitarylibrary.org).

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### Blood Drive

Don't forget our upcoming Blood Drive to be held on May 23 from 8 AM to 2 PM. Giving blood is giving life to another human being. A free pancake and sausage breakfast will be available to all who donate blood. Mark this date on your calendar. For more information contact our blood drive chairman, Nina Petru at 871-9596.

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### HelpingThose who Served

There are several web sites devoted to helping men and women who served their country. Operation Support our Troops is probably the best known in this area. They provide supplies to those currently serving in Afghanistan and in Iraq. This organization is currently in need of supplies to send overseas. You can check their website [osotil.org](http://osotil.org) for a complete list of their most needed supplies. The economy has impacted their supply of donations. Perhaps you could organize a supply drive for them at your church or workplace. Check the website for further information.

For those returning from active duty, please come to our Armed and Ready at the Post on April 25th. You might want to check out websites dedicated to helping veterans who have returned. These include [Nationalresourcedirectory.org](http://Nationalresourcedirectory.org); [lava.org](http://lava.org); [homesfor our troop.org](http://homesfor our troop.org) and [usacares.org](http://usacares.org).

**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 do not go during the months of July and August but our visits resume in September. We hope you will join us. We meet at the Post and leave promptly at 6:30. Everyone is invited to join us.

**Canteen Hours**

	<b>Open</b>	<b>Close</b>
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	11:00 AM	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 third of the month for next month's publication.

**Kendall-Gram**

Editor Marcy Maughan 357-3440

**Post Mailing Address:** VFW Post 3873,  
908 W Jackson  
Naperville, IL 60540

**POST NUMBER 420-9820**

**Website Address: [napervfw.org](http://napervfw.org)**

**Judd Kendall Post 3873 Officers**

Commander	Charlie Vladika	357-8615
Sr. Vice Commander	Scott Holley	369-1912
Jr. Vice Commander	John Coby	548-6104
Quartermaster	Terry Jelinek	357-5366
Ass't Quartermaster	Phil Maughan	357-3440
Adjutant	Bob Bronson	978-2143
Judge Advocate	Nina Petru	871-9596
Surgeon	John Dawley	428-3494
Service Officer	Ken Garhan	355-2493
Officer of the Day	Jack Shiffler	357-4615
Guard	Mike Rechenmacher	961-1377
Chaplain	Jay Johnson	355-5522

**Trustees**

1 year	Mike Barbour	527-0738
2 year	George McKissick	961-2030
3 year	Mike McGrath	357-2680

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Americanism	Jack Shiffler	357-4615
Blood Drive	Nina Petru	871-9596
Buddy Poppy	Mike Barbour	527-0738
Building	Mike Rechenmacher	961-1377
Color Guard	Jack Shiffler	357-4615
Eighth Grade Awards	Tom Benton	
Grounds	Phil Maughan	357-3440
Facilities Manager	Ken Garhan	355-2493
Hospital	John Shaw	961-3479
House	Mike Rechenmacher	961-1377
	Bob Tallon	357-8134
	Kag Cagnoni	
Kitchen	Ken Garhan	355-2493
Membership	Scott Holley	369-1912
Legislative	Frank Haynes	357-2906
National Home	Laurie Dobson	
Nursing Home	Jim Godshall	
Public Relations	Mike Barbour	527-0738
Safety	Mike McGrath	357-2680
Voice of Democracy	Mike Barbour	527-0738
Youth Activities		

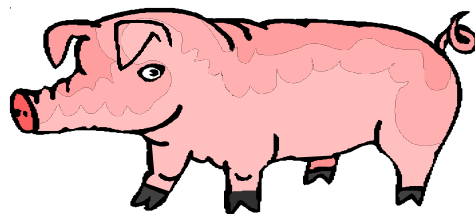
**Auxiliary Officers**

President	Kathy McNally	305-8157
Senior Vice	Fran McGrath	357-2680
Junior Vice	Jenny Dawley	428-3494
Treasurer	Debbie Obourne	
Secretary	Jan Barbour	527-0738
Chaplain	Dorothy Garhan	355-2493
Guard	Mary Lou Miller	226-9767
Conductress	Sue Jelinek	357-5366

KENDALL-GRAM  
Veterans Of Foreign Wars #3873  
908 W Jackson  
Naperville, IL 60540



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**Ham Raffle**  
**April 4, 2009**  
**6 - 11 PM**  
**Everyone is Invited**  
**Open to the Public**