

THE

A Monthly Publication for the Members of VFW Post 3873



# KENDALL-GRAM



Volume 12, Issue 5  
May 2009

## Together Then, Together Again with Commander Charlie Vladika

We the Officers of Judd Kendall Post 3873 want to thank our members for their confidence in electing us for the upcoming year. The 2009-2010 year Officers are:

Commander	Chuck Vladika
Senior Vice Commander	Scott Holley
Junior Vice Commande	To be nominated and presented for election at our May, 2009 meeting:
Quatermaster	Terry Jelinek
Ass't Quatermaster	Phil Maughan
Judge Advocate	Nina Petru
Surgeon	Bob Rieger (Doc)
Chaplain	Jay Johnson
3 year Trustee	Mike Rechenamcker
3 year House Committee	Mike Barbour

As Commander, I have asked our appointed Officers and Committee Chairpersons to continue their outstanding work to ensure the Post continues to move forward with our many goals. We would like to thank John Colby for all his work and enthusiasm in the last year. John ably served as our Junior Vice, but due to reserve commitments and work commitments is unable to continue in the job. Thank you, John. At our next meeting we will be accepting nominations for the job of Junior Vice and the nominees will be presented for election at the meeting. Come and join us.

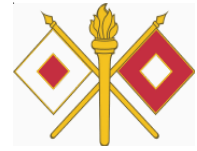
We are STILL looking for additional help with heading up or assisting on our Committee's. Please, think how YOU can help by taking an hour or two out of your busy schedules to assist on a Committee that needs help or one that interests you. Thanks, YOUR Post needs you. Jack Shiffler and Terry Jelinek reviewed the times and dates of the many events for our Annual Memorial Day Ceremonies at our April meeting. (Be sure to check out these dates and times listed within the following pages.) Comrades, this is why as Veterans, we hold this Memorial Weekend to be an important Duty to Honor our departed Veterans. We have transportation for those Veterans who need it. We have over 700 members, lets try to have a large turnout.

Thanks to everyone who volunteered their time to help out with the ham raffle. Thanks also to those who invited their friends and neighbors to come down.



So this is what the winning tickets look like!

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



As my second year approaches as Senior Vice Commander at **Judd Kendall VFW Post 3873**, my goal will continue to be consistent with the mission of the VFW which is: *“To Honor the Dead by helping the Living”*. With the efforts of our dedicated members, I know we consistently deliver on this effort and for that I thank you.

For membership, we are at 103%. 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 look forward to having another great year with membership in the upcoming year and achieving 100% well before **Veterans Day**. Getting your annual membership dues paid in July / August allows us to focus more on helping Veterans and less on administrative stuff. Please watch for your renewal letter in a few weeks and reply with your payment as soon as you can. As in past years, I anticipate our Quartermaster having another incentive program that will provide you with a chance to win a **Life Membership** so please don't miss that money saving opportunity.

A great time was had by all at the **Ham Raffle**, however the crowd was a little light. Please make sure you are spreading the word about the Post Activities as word of mouth is the best way to boost attendance and support for the Post. We all want to continue supporting Veterans causes as much as we do and this is a great way to do your part.

With the Ham Raffle and the Fish Fry's behind us, we look forward to the next couple events at the Post such as the **Officer Installation Dinner** on **May 17<sup>th</sup>** and the **Memorial Day** activities such as **Poppy Sales, Grave Decorating, Memorial Day Ceremonies**, not to mention the **Parade**. For those members out there who have not participated previously, you should really come and join in on a very patriotic and special day to honor those who have gone before us and those currently serving and in harms way. I challenge you to find a town that appreciates and honors their Veterans more than right here in Naperville. Come to the May VFW meeting on May 14<sup>th</sup> for more information and to be able to ask questions.

Don't forget to pick up your order from the **Plant Sale** on **May 5<sup>th</sup>**.

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, Memorial Day Parade, 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

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## Aiming High Junior Vice Commander John Coby



It was another successful year for the Fish Fry's. Thanks to Belgio's for another great year and for all that tasty food. Thanks to the Kitchen committee also for making it another successful event. Thank you also to all the volunteers for helping clean up, seat people and all the other little jobs in between. It was also a special time when the Veterans from Hines came out.

As spring comes about we are entering a busy time of the year with the Installation dinner, Poppy Sales, Grave Decorations and the Parade.

I'd also like to mention that there is a box in the canteen for donations for Operation Support Our Troops- IL. There is a list by the box with suggestions of what to give so please check it out. As a recipient of a couple of boxes I can attest that all of them are very nice choices. Some of the favorites were beef jerky, phone cards, white socks, tooth paste, soft toilet paper and paper back novels.

### Dates to Remember

#### May 5 - Flower Pick UP 1-6 PM

May 9 - Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast  
 May 10th - Happy Mother's Day  
 May 12<sup>th</sup> - Hines Hospital Visit, 6:30 PM  
 May 14<sup>th</sup> - VFW Meeting, 7 PM  
 May 16th - Armed Forces Day  
 May 17<sup>th</sup> - Installation Dinner, Cocktails 5 PM,  
 Dinner at 6 PM, \$10  
 May 20 - Kennedy Jr. High kids plant VFW,  
 Supervisors needed! 9 AM  
 May 21<sup>st</sup> - Ladies Auxiliary Meeting , 7 PM  
 May 19-24 Poppy Sales, Please volunteer!  
 May 23<sup>rd</sup> - Blood Drive 8 AM- 2 PM  
 May 25<sup>th</sup> - Memorial Day Parade and Luncheon  
 May 28 - Naperville Municipal Band Summer Concerts  
 Begin At Central Park, 7:45 PM  
 June 9<sup>th</sup> - Hines Visit\*, 6:30 PM  
 June 11<sup>th</sup> - VFW Meeting, 7 PM  
 June 18<sup>th</sup> - Ladies Auxiliary Meeting, 7 PM  
 June 21<sup>st</sup> - Life Members Breakfast, 9 AM

### Dates of Interest

May 1<sup>st</sup> 1970 - Cambodia Campaign Began  
 May 5<sup>th</sup> 1968 - Mini Tet Began  
 May 8<sup>th</sup> 1945 - V-E Day : German Unconditional  
 Surrender Signed  
 May 8<sup>th</sup> 1972 - US Navy Mined North Vietnamese  
 Ports

\*There will be no Hines Hospital visits in July and August

## NEW PROCEDURES FOR BUDDY POPPY PICK UP

Ladies and gentlemen we are trying to make life easier for everyone, reduce costs and streamline the process for the selling of Buddy Poppies. Based on feedback and suggestions from the membership these are the changes effective with the 2009 campaign:

1. As always the Poppies will be in the card room for pick up. **Please note that the Auxiliary Poppies are separate and in red bags. The Poppy Princess has asked that the VFW membership not take those bags; they belong to the auxiliary sales ladies. That is under the threat of great personal harm to me.**
2. The Poppies are packaged 200 in a bag. The official VFW cans will be next to the Poppies. **Big change!** We will use those cans until they are gone but we will not buy more cans. Most of you have your own cans and there will also be a supply of coffee cans appropriately labeled for Buddy Poppy Sales there too.
3. If you want to make your own collection can that is entirely acceptable and encouraged. There will be some Buddy Poppy labels there that you can attach to the can.
4. Everyone always asks how much did I collect? With the coffee cans you are encouraged to count your money. It helps us tremendously!
5. When you return the Poppy money to the canteen make sure that the envelope or can is marked with your name and the location where the money was collected.

## THE POPPY PRINCESS SPEAKS

From My Window  
Jan Barbour

This month, my message is simple. Any of you who know me, understand my deep connection to the military and the brave men and women who protect us each and every day. Each year, Mike and I are proud to chair the Poppy Campaign for the VFW to raise funds to help our veterans and their families in need. This year is no different, except perhaps that the need is much greater. You all recognize the tiny red flower when you see it, but I want you to understand its meaning and the power it holds for us.

The Corn poppy is a common weed in France and its seeds may lie dormant for years until the earth is disturbed. After the intense fighting of World War I and when the ground was opened to bury the fallen soldiers, the poppies began to grow and bloom between the crosses. Poppies have long been the symbol of both sleep and death. Sleep because of the opium extracted from them and death because of their blood red color. In Greco-Roman mythology the bright scarlet color is the symbol of the promise of resurrection after death.

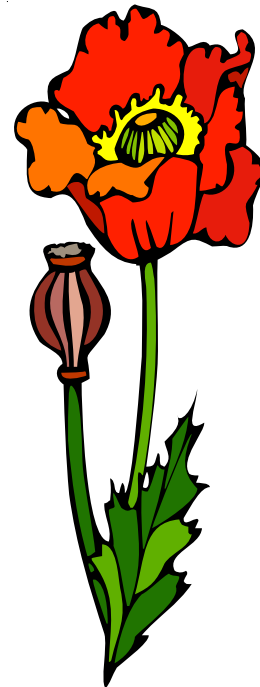
In the United States it is common to wear “Buddy Poppies” during the weeks preceding Memorial Day to commemorate the sacrifice of veterans during the various wars, whereas Veterans Day on November 11 is used to “honor” living veterans. Since 1922 the VFW has conducted an annual distribution of “Buddy” Poppies to raise funds for its charitable programs on behalf of the needy and disabled veterans, and the widows and orphans of deceased veterans.

After witnessing the death of his friend, Lt. Alexis Helmer, a Canadian surgeon and soldier, John McCrae wrote the poem “In Flanders Field” on May 3, 1915. I end with it today, and hope that you will regard that tiny red flower with new respect.

In Flanders Fields the poppies blow  
    Between the crosses row on row  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
    The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the dead, short days ago  
    We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved and now we lie  
    In Flanders Fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe  
    To you, from failing hands we throw  
The torch, be yours to hold it high.  
    If ye break faith with us, who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
    In Flanders Fields.



**Buddy Poppies by Jan and Mike Barbour**

**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 Napervilleans 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.**

## Memorial Day Schedule

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 Sts. 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, (modified due to construction) 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 and Silver Star Statue – prayer, volley, taps & Star Spangled Banner  
Municipal Band – Patriotic Medley

12:45 – Dismissal –

If it is raining at 9:00 – decision to cancel will be made at that time by Parade committee and Naperville Police Department

**Memorial Day Parade has been a Naperville tradition for over 80 years. Let us all thank a veteran on this special day!!**

Busses will take veteran's and Military units back to City Hall for their vehicles or directly back to Judd Kendall VFW Post 3873 where lunch and refreshments will be provided for participants and their families.

## Grounds Committee

We have been working with two Naperville North horticulture students who designed a plan to create new flowerbeds along the front of the VFW building. Renee TeVogt and Olicia Landiak presented us with a plan we will be implementing over the next couple of years. Coming out are the overgrown yews and the tree at the east corner of the building. Going in will be colorful flowers, benches, flowering bushes and a trellis. We would like to thank Renee and Olivia for all their research and efforts. To our members, watch for the changes as we continue to beautify our grounds.

Thanks to everyone who ordered flowers in the plant sale this year. Your support enables us to maintain and continually improve the grounds here at the VFW. The flowers arrive on May 5, and we will need some help unloading the truck (7AM) and separating out the orders. We will also need supervisory help on May 20th when the Kennedy kids come to plant our flowers. We are ordering 12 yds of mulch so we will need help spreading it over the beds. I have to admit with my allergies I cannot spread the mulch. So I am asking for help! I personally think our VFW is one of the most attractive in the state and we certainly work hard to keep it looking beautiful. If you can give some time to helping us, it would be most appreciated.

## Auxiliary Report by Kathy McNally

April showers be gone! And May flowers will be here soon.....particularly because of the special work and dedication of our Sister Marcy Maughan. Marcy has volunteered to manage our annual plant sale for quite a few years. She has now placed the order and our profit will be seen blooming around the Post grounds soon. Marcy extends her grateful thanks for all those Sisters who encouraged plant sales at the Fish Fries this year and for all who sent Marcy an order.

Now, Marcy asks us for two things - and since she has been taking the lioness share of this project over the years, we are certainly going to do all we can to accommodate her! First, Marcy needs help on May 5, pickup day, any time at all from 7 AM to 6 PM. Even if you only have your lunch hour free, all hands are appreciated. Marcy's second request is to pray for nice weather for pickup day...We'll be counting on you!

We also extend our grateful thanks to all our Sisters who helped cashier or bus tables at our Fish Fries this year. Once again, many hands made light work - and we couldn't have done it without you!

May is such a busy month for us, and if you're unable to come out to help pickup day, there will be plenty of opportunity to give a hand. On May 20, Marcy will need supervisory help with the kids from Kennedy Jr. High.

Our next meeting is Thursday, May 21st at 7 PM. Installation of our new officers is Sunday, May 17th at with Cocktails at 5 and dinner at 6 PM. And we'll be decorating our Sisters' graves again this year on Friday, May 22, after school. We have a committed group of young people including Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts - but all young people are welcomed! We meet at the Post for our assignments, then rejoin on the back deck afterwards for treats and a special guest speaker. All this leads up to our Parade and Luncheon on Monday, May 25th. If you can't march, you can ride the Ladies Auxiliary trolley!

Please consider coming out to a meeting, the Parade or luncheon. Volunteers are a very powerful force that make a difference on all our lives and especially for our Veterans and their families.

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## Get Well Wishes

The post sends its Get Well wishes to Past Commander Mike McGrath who is recovering from back surgery and to Scott McNally, husband of Auxiliary President Kathy MaNally. We hope you both have a quick recovery.

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## SUPPORT OUR TROOPS THIS MAY

Blood donors throughout the month of May will be doubling their gift: Donations will support our deployed troops and the community blood supply. Through your blood donation, you can help LifeSource make a monetary contribution to Operation Support Our Troops Illinois (OSOTIL).



In memory of our dear friend Colonel John Dawley, we will have Bone Marrow Registration at the May blood drive. LifeSource will waive the normal \$25.00 Bone Marrow registration fee for those who present to donate a unit of blood. Registrants must be between the ages of 18 and 60.

The spring Post Drive and Pancake Breakfast will be held on Saturday, May 23rd, from 0800 – 1400. Please call 847.803.7943 to schedule your donation appointment. Walk-ins are always welcome. If you are unable to attend on the 23rd and donate at one of LifeSource's donor centers, please make sure you use our code 073C. Judd Kendall will receive credit for the donation.

**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 during the months of July and August but our visits will resume in September. We hope you will join us then.

**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

**POSTNUMBER 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		
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



PRSRT STD  
US Postage Paid  
Naperville, IL  
Permit #2978



**Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast**  
**Saturday, May 9**  
**7 AM - 1 PM**  
**at Kendall Hall**



**\$5 per person, \$15 for a family (up to 5 members)**  
**Everyone is Invited!**

## **Running Team News**

The running team recently participated in the Calamos NCO Spring Run on April 19. We are proud to say running team member Pablo Arayo took first place for his age group. Congratulations! Team captain Phil Maughan took second in his age group! MIA on this occasion was team member Mike McGrath who recently had back surgery. We wish him a speedy recovery.