

THE

A Monthly Publication for the Members of VFW Post 3873



KENDALL-GRAM



Volume 11, Issue 3
March 2007

Around the Post with Commander Mike McGrath

IT WAS SUPER

Although the Colts prevailed, we all enjoyed the great food and camaraderie on Super Bowl Sunday here at our Post. Thank you to everyone who participated and to all who worked so hard to make our Super Bowl party a success.

Our Friday night Lenten Fish Frys are off to a great start and we thank our House Committee and all the folks who help out. It's great to see all the friendly familiar faces again. And don't forget our upcoming Ham Raffle on 3/31.

DID WE FLOOR YOU ?

Hope you noticed our brand new floor upstairs? It looks GREAT and thank you to everyone who helped out with all the "prep work."

PLEASE NOTE

We work hard to keep everyone informed and so if for some reason you are NOT getting your copy of the KENDALL GRAM, please contact Mike Barbour directly.... home phone 630 527 0738 or email mbarbour@wowway.com. It's important to us so be sure to let us know. And if I can help you please let me know as well. If you don't have a Kendall-Gram, I will get you one.

The month of March is an important month for Our Post. This is the month we nominate candidates for Post Officers for the upcoming term. So if you would like to run for an office or just have questions about the process or what is involved, be sure you come to our monthly meeting on March 8th. The elections will be in April and our Officers will be installed in May. We would especially like to see the younger guys get involved. Never forget, this is your Post and your organization!

As you also know, we have our Naperville Mayoral Elections coming up as well. And so no matter what; GET OUT AND VOTE! for the candidate of your choice. There, I knew I could count on you!

Congratulations and thank you to the gals on our Hospital Committee and Nursing Home Committee. The Exchange Club of Naperville has selected Mickey Cadigan, Rita Powers, Mildred Bradley, Hildy McIlwain, Jenny Dawley, Jan Barbour, Mirriam Ferguson, and Ginny Arbogast as recipients of the ABRAHAM LINCOLN AWARD for Volunteerism. I can't think of more deserving people. You gals make our Post proud! Thank you for your great example!

Wishing everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day!



THANK YOU all for all you do ! We'll be seeing you "Around the Post."

Together Then, Together Again

Senior Vice Commander, Chuck Vladika

103 Percent, and continuing. Thanks, Comrades. Your response to “re- upping” has proven to be the BEST in the District and one of the first to hit 100% in the State. Keep talking to friends, neighbors, anyone who has a son or daughter serving in Iraq or Afghanistan. Tell them that our Post Members would be honored to pay their dues while serving overseas.

Check our calendar for upcoming events. Remember to come to our Fish Frys every Friday during Lent. Best Fish Fry going!

We have also begun installing our new hall floor. This will help to acquire more Hall rentals. Hall rentals are our major money maker for the Post. We are hoping to increase our morning or mid day rentals. Pass the word to any of your local business friends or acquaintances.

Don't forget the upcoming Ham Raffle on March 31.

Check out our Junior Vice's news and Dates To Remember.



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

Even though the Bears didn't bring home the trophy, the Super Bowl Party was a lot of fun. If you didn't make it out, you missed out on a great time. Thanks to Terry, Mike, Charlie and Sue for putting together a wonderful spread. Upstairs was a little more laid back and smoke free, but just as supportive of the Bears as downstairs.

I look forward to seeing everyone come out to the **Fish Frys**. Come out and enjoy a nice meal catered by Belgio's. I will be at most (if not all) of the Fish Fry's. Some of my favorite things to do are taking “pot shots” at Jim Godshall while working the bar or complaining to Garhan that my paycheck has not arrived yet, and meeting the friendly folks that come down for the Fish Fry. Somehow, I do manage to clear my share of tables and remove the garbage to the dumpster. Some of you newer guys might enjoy coming down and helping out and jaw jacking with the likes of Laury Dobson, Jay Johnson, Ken Garhan and a peanut gallery of others. See ya there!

The **Ham Raffle** is early this year and falls in the month of March, so help get the word out. It should be another great event and an opportunity to showcase the Post and raise some funds to pay for all of the great things we do for veterans. So mark your calendar for Saturday, March 31st and come down for a lot of fun. I look forward to seeing some of the new members come down and help out with this event as well. It sounds like work, but with this bunch it's actually a lot of fun!

Over and Out

Dates of Interest

March 2nd 1965 – Raid on North Vietnam began
March 2nd 2002 – Operation Anaconda begins
March 3rd 1931 – “Star Spangled Banner” made US National Anthem
March 4th 1966 – Operation Utah
March 11th 1968 – Operation Resolve to Win began
March 12th 1912 – Girl Scouts of America Founded
March 18th 1969 – Operation Breakfast
March 22nd 2002 – Operation Anaconda ends

Dates to Remember

March 2nd - Fish Fry (**Army**) 5:00 – 8:00 PM
 March 8th – Post Meeting
 March 9th Fish Fry (**Navy**) 5:00 – 8:00 PM
 March 13th – Hines Hospital Visit, Leave Post at 6:30 PM
 March 15th – Auxiliary Meeting
 March 16th - Fish Fry (**Air Force**) 5:00 – 8:00 PM
 March 17th - St. Patrick's Day!
 March 23rd - Fish Fry (**Marines**) 5:00 – 8:00 PM
 March 30th - Fish Fry (**Women's Auxiliary**) 5:00 – 8:00 PM
March 31st - Ham Raffle 6:00 – 9:00 PM
 April 6th - Fish Fry (**All Branches**) 5:00 – 8:00 PM
 April 10th – Hines Hospital Visit
 April 12th – Post Meeting – (Vote for New Officers)
 April 15th – Life Members Breakfast
 April 19th – Auxiliary Meeting
 April 28th - Blood Drive – 9:00 AM – noon



THE POPPIES HAVE ARRIVED

Comrades and Sisters, our basement is filled with Buddy Poppies, 18,000 to be exact. With all the \$5.00, \$10.00, and \$20.00 bills we get, our goal of \$25,000 can be reached with only that low number of Poppies. As I have said so many times we are only limited by bodies on the street.

NAPERVILLE SUPPORTS VETERANS! It is up to us to take advantage of that fact. Many of our members are getting a little older and can't spend as much time selling Poppies as they would like. It is time for our younger members and those who can't help as much at the Post to step up and sign up for a few hours to sell Poppies. We had 60 members last year collect over \$19,000. If we can get 100 to 150 comrades and sisters out, there is no limit to what we can collect to support veterans' causes.

Laury Dobson, the Seabee, has said he intends to beat his mark last year of \$6500. He has staked out his area and it is sacred. When you are the Lead Dog that is a perk you have earned. If anyone gets within \$1,000 of Laury I will personally give them a \$100 bill. Now I know Laury will come to me and want to know what he gets. If you are the Lead Dog again this year Laury you will get an all expense paid trip to Bolingbrook. What could be better than that?

The challenge is out there comrades. Make plans now to sell Poppies over the Memorial Day time frame.

A Special Thank You

We would like to extend a special thank you this month to Frank Haynes. Frank is the manager of the pull-tab machines. He comes in several times a week to keep the machines full, count the money from the machines, and file the numerous government forms required. The pull tab income is an important component of the Post's financial structure and is crucial in enabling us to maintain our many programs of support of veterans and our community. Thanks, Frank, from all of us at the Post.

Naperville North Memorial

Naperville North High School is working with local chapters of the V.F.W. and American Legion on a project to install a permanent memorial to honor North graduates who have gone on to serve their country via military service. The school is currently trying to gather a comprehensive list of former student/veterans.

If you are aware of a North graduate (of any class) who is either a veteran or currently serving in any branch of the armed services please contact Jeff Bedore, Humanities Department, at jbedore@naperville203.org. Ideally, the school would like the student's name, year of graduation, and branch of service.

The memorial wall will include pictures of every student/veteran. If a digital photograph of the student in uniform is available it can be sent to Mr. Bedore via email. Printed photographs can be either mailed or dropped off at the school to Mr. Bedore's attention. Printed photographs will be scanned and returned to their owners. (Please include a return address.) Yearbook portraits will be used for those students for whom a photograph in uniform cannot be located.

Finally, any veteran or active service graduate who is willing to loan small mementos of their service, that can be displayed as part of the memorial, are encouraged to do so. (For example, photographs of small units, aircraft or ships, unit or rank insignia etc.)

Contact Jeff Bedore at jbedore@naperville203.org or leave him voice mail at 630 305-4367 for more information.

Auxiliary Report by Kathy McNally

And just when you thought there was no end to the snow and blowing cold...our Annual Ham Raffle is this month! That means Easter is right around the corner. But there are still a few Fish Fry Fridays to enjoy.

It's great to see all our neighbors and friends at the Fish Frys. This year, the Ladies have volunteered to "man" the cash registers - no more dishpan hands! We're still looking for Sisters to help. There are two shifts (so you can plan on dining with your family): 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM or 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM. Please call me to donate 90 minutes of your time at least once this Lenten season (630 305 8196). Remember that all proceeds go to funding our Veterans and their families' needs. Plus, it's a great excuse to get out of the house!

Our Ham Raffle is another fun fund-raiser. We still need donated items for the Ladies raffles. And note the date in your calendar: Saturday, March 31st at 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM. We'll also be looking for help in the kitchen and would like to see some new faces this time. Are you game?

Did you know that we've formed our Ladies Auxiliary 60th Anniversary Committee? If you have any ideas or would like to get involved, let us know.

Decorations - Jan Barbour (displays, corsages, tabletop)
Hospitality - Sue (and Terry) Jelinek (reception and dinner)
History/Program - Kathy McNally (help! Do you have anything in your files from long ago or even the recent past?)
Invitations - Marcy Maughan

It will be a gala evening at the Post on Saturday, June 16th and we are extending a special invitation to our Charter Members. It will be great to see old friends and new faces. Be sure to plan to attend.

Since this is the season and you're eating a lot of it, don't forget to drop off your Campbell's soup labels (UPC codes only). They go towards funding the National Home.

Hope to see you at a Fish Fry or two and then again at the Ham Raffle. Meantime, Beannachtaí na Féile Pádraig! (St. Patrick's Day Blessings to You!)

Flower Sale

In this month's Kendall-Gram (or attached to it, if you receive it online) is the annual Plant Sale Order Form. This sale helps us improve the general surroundings of the Post by planting flowers, trees and bushes and maintaining the landscape. We are especially proud of our grounds, and since everyone walking the Riverwalk can see the Post, we try very hard to maintain the grounds esthetically as possible. All plant order forms must be returned by April 9. I realize the weather right now isn't exactly conducive to thinking about flowers but Spring will arrive. And the plants we offer are really nice. We offer flats of annuals, lush hanging baskets, specialty plants and vegetable plants. They come directly from the grower on the day of pickup. You can send your orders to the VFW with your check, or they can be dropped off with the bartenders anytime the canteen is open.

The flowers will arrive on Tuesday, May 8th. It is your responsibility to pick them up that day from 1-6 PM. WE DO call all the people who don't pick up their flowers by 5 PM to remind them of the pickup. However, if you don't fill out your phone number, or if no one is home and you don't have an answering machine, we cannot leave a reminder. So mark your calendars NOW and send those orders in. We did not raise prices at all this year.

Blue Star Reception

Naperville area families with a loved one in military service are invited to a reception for Blue Star families on Sunday afternoon, March 18, beginning at 2:00 PM at the VFW Hall.

They will be presented with a Blue Star Banner, have an opportunity to describe their loved one's service, meet and socialize with other families of servicemen and women over refreshments.

The Blue Star Banner is displayed in the front window of homes, signifying that a family member is serving our country in the armed forces, including the Reserve and National Guard.

Your help is needed to reach every eligible family in the Naperville area. Advise Jim Vahle, (864-7183, vahlej@comcast.net) of eligible families or contact them yourself and send the information to him so can be added to the invitation list.

Citizen of the Year

Know someone special whose volunteer work has benefitted the community? It is time to nominate that person for the American Legion Citizen Of The Year Award. Previous winners include Ron Keller for his work with the municipal band and Mickey Cadigan for her dedication in visiting the patients at Hines Hospital every month for over 25 years.

Send the name of the nominee, a resume highlighting the reasons why the nominee should receive the award and your name, address and phone number. Everyone in our community is eligible, whether they are a veteran or not.

Please send your nominations to The American Legion Post 43, PO BOX 4, Naperville, IL 60566 or via email to Wfisher@royalcanin.us. All entries must be received by March 16th. This prestigious award will be presented at the April American Legion dinner.

Hines Hospital Visits

The Chairman of the Hospital Committee, Mike McGrath, 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

	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	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 Phone Number 420-9820

Website Address: napervfw.org

Judd Kendall Post 3873 Officers

Commander	Mike McGrath	357-2680
Sr. Vice Commander	Charlie Vladika	357-8615
Jr. Vice Commander	Scott Holley	369-1912
Quartermaster	Terry Jelinek	357-5366
Ass't Quartermaster	Phil Maughan	357-3440
Adjutant	Bob Bronson	527-9102
Judge Advocate	John Shaw	961-3479
Surgeon	John Dawley	428-3494
Service Officer	Ken Garhan	355-2493
Officer of the Day	Jack Shiffler	357-4615
Guard	Harry Brozynski	961-9245
Chaplain	Jay Johnson	355-5522

Trustees

1 year	Mike Rechenmacher	961-1377
2 year	Phil Maughan	357-3440
3 year	Mike Barbour	527-0738

Committee	Chairman	Phone
Americanism	Jack Shiffler	357-4615
Blood Drive	Bernie Berkes	357-0547
Buddy Poppy	Mike Barbour	527-0738
Building	Mike Rechenmacher	961-1377
Color Guard	John Scofield	851-6229
Eighth Grade Awards	Mike Pagnano	362-6077
Grounds	Phil Maughan	357-3440
Hall Rental	Barb Crabb	357-0256
Hospital	Mike McGrath	357-2680
	John Shaw	961-3479
House	Ken Garhan	355-2493
	Silas Bowman	718-1445
	Bob Tallon	357-8134
Kitchen	Ken Garhan	355-2493
Life Membership		
Membership	Charlie Vladika	357-8615
Legislative	Frank Haynes	357-2906
National Home		
Nursing Home		
Public Relations	Mike Barbour	527-0738
Safety	Jim Morsovillo	204-0599
Voice of Democracy	Mike Barbour	527-0738
Youth Activities		

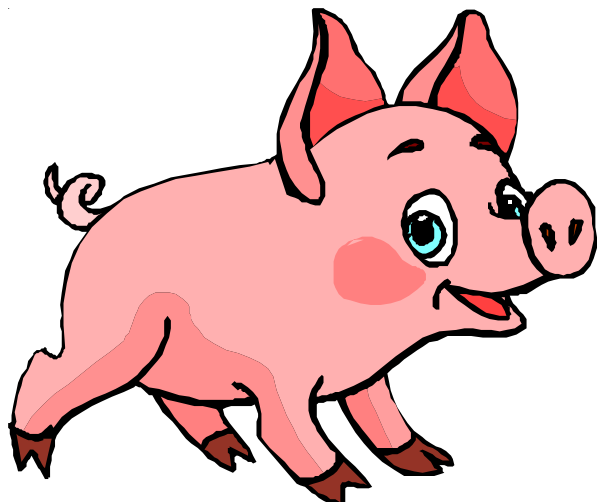
Auxiliary Officers

President	Kathy McNally	305-8157
Senior Vice	Donna Morsovillo	302-2638
Junior Vice	Jenny Dawley	428-3494
Treasurer	Sue Jelinek	357-5366
Secretary		
Chaplain	Ginny Arbogast	355-5406
Gusard	Mildred Bradlee	355-0413
Conductress	Fran McGrath	357-2680

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



PRSRT STD
US Postage Paid
Naperville, IL
Permit #2978



Annual Ham Raffle
Saturday, March 31, 2007
6 PM
Everyone is Invited!