

THE

A Monthly Publication for the Members of VFW Post 3873



# KENDALL-GRAM



Volume 11 Issue 8  
August, 2008

**Together Then, Together Again  
with Commander Charlie Vladika**



The dog days of summer are approaching again, characterized by hot and sticky weather. The Dog Days gives us two things to think about. We Vietnam Veterans will never forget those very, very humid days throughout Vietnam. Our current Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans are sweating out the heat, along with sand storms, and very hot desert days too. Keep them, and all our Veterans in your thoughts and prayers.

Our VFW State Convention (Department) was a good old rebellion by the membership in general as floor nominations played a part in the elections. There was not just an acceptance of certain slated candidates. Our 19th District was seated right up front. Our own past National Commander, George Cramer tagged us *The Noisy 19th*; and did we ever make noise. Two members from the 19th District were elected to state officers in a close vote. Bill Wolf was elected State Junior Vice, and Tom Brislen was elected as the State Quartermaster.

We returned with a few of the awards our Post won. They will be on hand at our upcoming Post meetings. (Department is forwarding them to us). The Award we are most proud of is for "Community Service." Your dedicated hard work, along with that of our Ladies Auxiliary, makes it possible for us to proudly say we are number one in the State and National for our community work. Thanks Comrades.

Veterans helping Veterans.... thanks to our members for their support and work to help make the Lt. Dan *Rockin for the Troops Concert* such a success this past July 19th. The next instance of helping Veterans is the upcoming "Armed and Ready" day, September 7th, 2008 starting 10:30 am. This is for current Veterans, or those who have served, seeking answers to questions concerning VA and other agencies benefits due to them. Pass on the word, we would like to make this one of the most important events we can bring to our Veterans. This is coming at the opportune time, with the passing of the "New GI Bill". Senator Durban spoke of this Bill's passage and what it means for our Veterans in Naperville at Veterans Park earlier in the month.

Thanks for your continuous support. Remember—This IS your Post, your involvement brings us ALL success. Do check out the articles within your Kendall- Gram.

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



If you missed 4<sup>th</sup> of July at the Post, you missed a lot. It was a perfect day with great friends and comrades. Everyone had a great time and it was as if the firework display was put on just for Judd Kendall.

We are starting off the year in good shape with membership, but hope to be 100% by the end of the month. With great comradeship, community involvement and awareness, I look for all of the annual paying members to update their membership most expeditiously.

Transitioning into the Senior Vice Commander role has allowed me to go on the last 2 Hines Hospital visits and I would simply echo the sentiments of the regulars that it is a very good time and rewarding. The veterans are so appreciative of everything, especially taking the time to come down and break up a little bit of the monotony.

Thanks to all of you who volunteered at “Rockin for the Troops”. It’s a great cause and we appreciate everything that Deb Rickert and OSOT does for our beloved Service men and women. It’s a great feeling to see all of that patriotism in one place.

**Article update:** I have yet to come up with a new name for my monthly article, so please come down to the monthly meeting and provide me with yours. There might be a big reward for the best one.

Over and Out

## Aiming High

### Junior Vice Commander John Coby



It was a spectacular 4<sup>th</sup> of July this year again. We were blessed with great weather and a good time was had by all. I want to thank everyone who made this event successful. A special thanks to the Ladies Auxiliary and Post Members who made the post grounds look so nice!

Happy Birthday to our Coast Guard Veterans who celebrate their service’s birthday on August 4<sup>th</sup>. And don’t forget our Airborne Veterans who celebrate their special day on August 16<sup>th</sup>. Airborne! All the Way!

Don’t forget about the annual Post Picnic on September 13<sup>th</sup> from 2-6. Everyone is invited. Please bring a side dish to share.



### Dates to Remember

August 12<sup>th</sup>- NO Hines visit  
 August 14<sup>th</sup>- Post Meeting, 7 PM  
 August 17<sup>th</sup>- Life Member Breakfast, 9 AM  
 August 21<sup>st</sup>- Auxiliary Meeting, 7 PM  
 September 7<sup>th</sup> – Armed and Ready, 10:30 AM  
 September 9<sup>th</sup>- Hines Hospital Visit, 6:30 PM  
 September 11 - Memorial Service, 6:30 PM at the Dan Shanower 9/11 Memorial  
 September 13<sup>th</sup>- Post Picnic 2-6 PM

### Dates of Interest

August 2 1990 – Operation Desert Shield began  
**August 4 1790 - US Coast Guard was established**  
 August 4 1950 – Defense of Pusan/Naktong Perimeter began  
 August 7 1942 - Battle of Guadalcanal  
 August 7 1782 - Purple Heart Medal established  
 August 14 1945 – Japan Surrendered, Ending WW II  
 August 16 – National Airborne Day  
 August 18 1951 – Battle of Bloody Ridge began

## Auxiliary Report by Kathy McNally

Did you see all the red, white and blue displayed around our community on Memorial Day weekend? Were you aware of all the happy kids cheering at the parade? Did you see our Veterans stand and salute as our flag was displayed? Memorial Day means many things to many people. I once worked for a man in Texas who refused to give us the day off because he believed that Memorial Day was created by the North to honor Union soldiers! Today, since we are engaged in a war on terrorism, the media reminded us of the true meaning of Memorial Day - to remember our fallen soldiers. And our Post remembered. It was a busy weekend beginning with the Ladies Auxiliary decorating the graves of our Sisters with the help of the entire Debbins family. We all took our shifts for selling Buddy Poppies. And we proudly marched in the Parade and helped to serve our Veterans a delicious luncheon post-Parade. We could not have done all of this without the many hands of our Sisters who tirelessly volunteer when called upon.

Department Convention in Springfield found us returning with many awards. At press time we will be attending our new Department President's School of Instruction, where we will receive our awards - a full list will appear in next month's issue. We won one major Auxiliary award - best Newsletter in the State! Congratulations again to our editor, Marcy Maughan, who also earned for us a second place award for our Post in the VFW contest. (**editor's note:** actually the Auxiliary award for best newsletter went to Mary Maughum, whoever she may be. The award was returned for correction. They managed to misspell both my first and last name! As an award for print journalism, I expected better!)

And the end of the Convention marks the beginning of our Auxiliary year, which begins on July 1st, 2008 and ends on June 30, 2009. If you are a continuing member, please watch your mail box for our membership dues payable reminder.

Were you part of the group who helped to organize a Fourth of July box for the Obourne's son's unit overseas? We had a sew-a-thon one night at the Post and produced many neck coolers for the soldiers. Brings to mind those old quilting bees....but it's not your Grandmother's group any more - it's up to US to take the baton and forge ahead to help our Veterans and their families. Come join us and you'll see that we are a much younger group - and we welcome your enthusiasm and ideas.

The Fourth of July found us picnicking outside the Post on the lawn, watching the fireworks. What a glorious weekend! And at press time, we are planning to join the crowd at Cantigny for the Rockin' for the Troops concert to benefit Operation Support our Troops. Hope to have a good report on their profits next month, too.

It's a new Post and Auxiliary year - please come on down to help us to make it a memorable one for our new Commander! Our next meeting is on Thursday, August 21st at 7:00 PM. See you then!

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## September 11<sup>th</sup> Ceremony

We will again hold the "September 11<sup>th</sup> Ceremony in remembrance of those lives lost in the attack on our Country on 9-11-2001. This year, The Exchange Club of Naperville will be handling this event and as in the past we are requesting the support of both the VFW and American Legion to provide the Color Guard. This year's theme is "Preparedness". The Ceremony itself is scheduled for Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:30pm at the Dan Shanower/September 11<sup>th</sup> Memorial along the Riverwalk.

Please mark your calendar as in the past we look forward to a large contingent of Veterans to be there.

**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

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**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	
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 Cagnolia	
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

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Don't forget the Post's Annual Picnic on September 13th - 2 - 6 PM.  
Everyone is invited!