

THE

A Monthly Publication for the Members of VFW Post 3873



# KENDALL-GRAM



Volume 10, Issue 12  
December, 2007

## Around the Post with Commander Mike McGrath

### Veterans Day Activities

A "Judd Kendall" Thank you to everyone who participated in our many Veterans Day activities this year and Special thanks to Jack Shiffler and Terry Jelinek for organizing our school visits. Everyone had a great time with the kids... how very rewarding to be able to interact with all those young faces.

### Thank You

to Mike Barbour for setting up our first visit to Neuqua High School... they had a great program on Tuesday 11/6 and we greatly enjoyed working with the Neuqua kids and teachers. Thank you as well to Jack Amberg for providing the new DVDs to Dist 203.

Our **VETERANS DAY** ceremonies were awesome...despite some cold rainy windy weather. And again, the message is clear..."Don't forget." When all the speeches and media coverage are over... our troops will still be fighting for our freedom. We must never forget this. Let's help make Veterans Day every day. There... I knew we could count on you.

### What A Great Dinner

The "Amigos" really outdid themselves... on our Veterans Day Dinner. It just doesn't get any better...

### On Your Mark

Our post racing team had a great time at Cantigny on Sat 11/3 and we hope to do it again next year...Thank you to race team captain Phil Maughan for setting it up...what a beautiful place...wow! and what a fun way to get some exercise as well. (Sgt Rock is a happy man.)

### Turkey Anyone

Thank you to everyone who helped out at our Turkey Raffle...Our Hall and new patio looked great, everyone had a great time indeed.

### Membership

Thank you to Charlie Vladika for his fine efforts as our membership is now over 97% renewed. We have a great Post... one we all can be proud of. Thank you all for sending in your dues on time. Thank you also to John Coby for serving as our liaison officer to our young veterans.

### And What's Next

The Army Navy game is on December 1; the Christmas Party is on December 8; we'll sing Christmas Carols at Hines on December 11 and the blood drive is on December 15. **DO NOT MISS OUT G.I.** You **WILL** have a good time...and bring a buddy with you. And by the way, this is cold and flu season so be sure to take care of yourself G.I.

Thank you all for all you do and we'll be seeing you, "AROUND THE POST."



## **Together Then, Together Again Senior Vice Commander Chuck Vladika**

OK comrades.... This is THE FINAL notice. The drawing for a paid Life Membership in Judd Kendall VFW Post 3873, is taking place during our December 13th meeting. So.....now is the TIME to get your paid dues in to the Quartermaster by the first day of December. Don't hold out for the VFW National's drawing. You have better odds with our Post.

We officers want to thank ALL our members who are working to bring in new members. We are moving along to our goal of reaching 100%. This goal is something that all of our members should be proud of. We demonstrate to our fellow VFW comrades across the State that we are a active Post that continues with our promise when it comes to Veterans Helping Veterans. Your membership brings a strong voice to our community, state, and yes, even to our Federal political leaders that we will always be there to challenge any thoughts and actions they may have in cutting or passing over Veteran's earned benefits. So never assume that you don't count or have a cause/effect when it comes getting a response to our Veterans needs. Remember, NUMBERS do get attention.

This past month while I was at the Post, a Father brought his son down to our Post to check us out and possibly sign on as a member. The son returned to Iraq to begin his second tour a member of Judd Kendall and the American Leagon. Please keep a look out for other active or returning Veterans. Contact John Coby (or any Officer) for assistance. John is our Post's lead contact for Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans. Remember, they need our support, especially when it comes to comradeship. Thanks. Pray for our Troops!!

---

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



This was my second year visiting the schools for **Veterans Day** ceremonies. I went to Kingsley Elementary School where my son Jake is the class president. My daughter Krysten and son Zak also go there. Last year Jake did a great job with his speech on the Air Force, however, I made him do 10 push-ups when he got home because I was Army. This year as class president he did speeches on the Army and the Coast Guard, so I had to do the 10 push-ups in front of the school. It's an honor and a pleasure standing next to the other veterans and nice to see the appreciation from the kids.

The **Turkey Raffle** certainly was a huge success and a lot of fun. Hopefully, everyone came home with the prize of their choice. Much thanks to the long list of volunteers that make this event so much fun and a huge success! This is the largest fund raising event at the post and all of your efforts are appreciated very much!

**Army / Navy Game** – Can the Black Knights do it this year and prevent me from having to do push-ups in the Sales meeting again? (My Sales Exec is former Navy) Come down to the Canteen on December 1 and root them to victory. It's ok to root for the Midshipmen as well. Game starts at 11:00 AM. Plenty of fun and raffles for Army and Navy stuff too!

**The Post Christmas Party** is on Saturday December 8<sup>th</sup>. Please sign up in the canteen. The cost is \$5 per person and no need to bring a dish to pass. The party starts at 6:00 PM and will include a slideshow of pictures that I have collected throughout the year highlighting several of the big events. I look forward to seeing everyone there!

The Post will be open on **Christmas Day** from 11 AM to 2:00 PM with lots of Christmas spirit and free egg nog.

Please continue supporting our Troops and keeping those in harms way in your prayers and never forgetting the ones who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Over and Out

**Dates to Remember**

December 1<sup>st</sup> – Army / Navy game, 11 AM  
December 8<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Party, 6 PM  
December 11<sup>th</sup> – Hines Hospital Visit, 6:30 PM  
December 13<sup>th</sup> – Post Meeting, 7 PM  
December 15<sup>th</sup> – Blood Drive, 8 - noon  
December 16<sup>th</sup> – Life Members Breakfast 9 AM  
December 16<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Kids Party, 2-4 PM  
December 20<sup>th</sup> – Auxiliary Meeting, 7 PM  
January 8<sup>th</sup> – Hines Hospital Visit  
January 10<sup>th</sup> – Post Meeting  
January 17<sup>th</sup> – Auxiliary Meeting

Dates of Interest

December 7<sup>th</sup> 1941 – Pearl Harbor Bombed  
December 10<sup>th</sup> 1950 – Wonsan-Hungnam Campaign Ended  
December 16<sup>th</sup> 1944 – Battle of the Bulge Began  
December 24<sup>th</sup> 1964 – USAF Began Strike on Laos  
December 31<sup>st</sup> 1946 – Official End of WWII



The Officers and their families of  
Judd Kendall VFW Post 3873  
wish to extend our warmest holiday greetings  
to all of our members.

We cordially invite  
all members, spouses or guests to join us on  
December 8, 2007  
at 6:00 P.M..  
For our annual  
Holiday Cocktail Party.

*Proper Attire requested*  
*Cash Bar (as last year)*  
*Cost is \$5 per person*  
*Sign up sheet in Canteen*

## Auxiliary Report by Kathy McNally

With a terrific Veterans Day and the great Turkey Raffle behind us, of course it can only mean Christmas is right around the corner! Will you be gathering with family and friends over the next few weeks? Will you have plenty of good food and warm company? We are all caught up in this very busy time of year, but will you also pause to think about what you can do to help our Veterans and Soldiers during this festive season? Perhaps you can purchase a few extra grocery items for the Support Our Troops mailings, or join us on the December Hines Hospital visit. Remember why you joined the Auxiliary, and also remember that our mission to our Veterans and Soldiers doesn't take a break for the holidays.

One of the festive occasions you should have on your calendar is the VFW Christmas Cocktail Party on Saturday, December 8th. As in past years, it promises to be a warm evening of conviviality, no matter what the weather! Please join us for Christmas cheer.

Santa has promised to pay a visit to all good boys and girls of the Post and Auxiliary on Sunday, December 16th. Again we have young ones in our midst, so the Ladies will host a Children's Christmas Party from 2:00 to 4:00 PM. Barbara McKissick has kindly agreed to manage the arrangements. Call me at (630) 305-8196 to let us know how many boys and how many girls you'll bring to the party so that Barb and her elves will be ready.

In looking back at our November, we must give grateful thanks to the Sisters who worked so hard to help in the kitchen on Veterans Day, and to our Sisters who solicited donations, worked on the floor and in the kitchen during the Turkey Raffle. We'll soon be discussing where our donations will be spent, and wouldn't you like to be a part of that discussion? Why not make it your New Year's resolution to attend a few meetings in 2008?

Our December auxiliary meeting on Thursday, December 20th will be an abbreviated business meeting. So come prepared for the White Elephant exchange and bring a small dish to pass if you like. The Auxiliary will provide the main meal.

With all best wishes to our Sisters and families for a truly Blessed Christmas and a healthy and successful New Year.

---

---

## 2007 BUDDY POPPY RECAP

2007 was a banner year for the Buddy Poppy Campaign in Naperville. Our campaign had a goal of \$25,000 for the year. We have exceeded \$27,000. The Ladies Auxiliary set a personal best record this year. Congratulations and thank you to all who worked so tirelessly on the campaign.

We also instituted a new award called the **RED BARON AWARD**. It was given to all Poppy Campaigners who sold \$500 or more in Poppies for the year. We had 8 winners that accounted for over \$14,000 in sales for the campaign. I want to recruit these folks for my company sales team. They included Judy Chapleau, Jeff Close, Laurie Dobson, Lee Lindberg, Deb Obourn, John Shaw, Barney Siwek, Don Swanson and Kathy Thornton.

I would be remiss if I didn't thank all the businesses who have supported our Post in this campaign:

Binny's  
Buikema Ace  
Casey's  
Magnetrol Manufacturing for a \$2200 donation to the Relief Fund  
Naperville Dominick's Stores  
Naperville Jewel Stores  
Sam's Club for a \$1,000 grant to the relief fund  
Trader Joe's

These are the businesses that support us let's reciprocate by supporting them.

As the Italian race driver said so eloquently, "Whatsa behind me I don't worry about"! What is 2008 bringing in the way of goals and expectations for the Buddy Poppy Campaign? To begin we have 23,500 Poppies sitting in our basement that must be distributed in 08. Our goal is \$30,000 ladies and gentlemen. For all who worked so tirelessly in 07 it means a new commitment for 08. To all of our new members and members who have transferred in it means now is the time to step up and become a **VETERAN HELPING VETERANS**.

We will have some exciting new programs where you can easily donate to the Buddy Poppy Relief Fund if you can't go out and sell Poppies. I have already applied for grants for 08 from retailers, etc.

The good citizens of Naperville support us ladies and gentlemen. Bodies on the street are what will insure success. The Poppy Princess and I thank you for your efforts.

**MAY THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON BRING YOU ALL THE JOY AND HAPPINESS YOU TRULY DESERVE.**

---

## Citizen(s) of the Year 2008

Jim Wasson, Nominating Committee Chairman  
American Legion Post 43

Last year I missed the Citizen(s) of the Year presentation due to a little accident. Our committee of Wayne Fischer, Bill Carmichael, Don Hennessy and Bill Jepson made an outstanding selection of Amy Berger and Dominique Martucci. They were both deserving of this prestigious honor. Thanks to our committee for a "**Job Well Done**." These passionate and dedicated citizens through their effective leadership and generous contributions of time and resources made life more pleasant for our heroes serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. I want to thank the members of our post and the Veterans of Foreign Wars for their outstanding nominations. Keep up the good work. The quality of the nominations from our veterans and the general public makes this reward something to be coveted. Remember, the purpose of the annual award is to recognize and encourage extra ordinary service to the Naperville community or to the Nation.

"I don't believe there has ever been a time when volunteerism is more important to maintaining the awesome civic strength of our nation." You have contributed so much to this nation and are active in our community. Therefore, you are in an excellent position to nominate candidates that deserve to be selected. Some of you have made excellent nominations in the past. Re-nominate them! Several of our past winners won on their second nomination. Individuals who are nominated do not have to be members of the American Legion nor do they have to be veterans. Those who submit nominations for the 2008 award are requested to write a note that identifies the nominee(s) and summarizes the nominees achievement. The note should also note the nominees name, address, and telephone number. Nominations can be submitted by postal mail, to American Legion Post 43, PO Box 4, Naperville, IL 60566. Nominations can also be submitted by e-mail to [wfischer@royalcanin.us](mailto:wfischer@royalcanin.us). The award committee requests that all nominations be received by Monday, March 10, 2008. The recipients will be honored at the American Legion's Past Commanders' Dinner on Saturday, April 19, 2008, in Naperville. Questions and comments may be directed to Jim Wasson, at 630/357-5283, or to Post Commander Bob Bohr, at 630/841-9147

*Don't delay – March 10<sup>th</sup> is only a few months away ~*

---

## Blood Drive

Our next Blood Drive will be held on December 15, 2007 from 8 AM till noon. All donors will receive a pancake and sausage breakfast. There is always a shortage of blood during the holiday time. For more information or to request a time to donate, contact Bernie Berkes, at 630-357-0547.

**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**

	<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	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	978-2143
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	Phil Maughan	357-3440
2 year	Mike Barbour	527-0738
3 year	George McKissick	

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Americanism	Jack Shiffler	357-4615
Blood Drive	Bernie Berkes	357-0547
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	Mike McGrath	357-2680
	John Shaw	961-3479
House	Ken Garhan	355-2493
	Mike Rechenmacher	961-1377
	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	Debbie Obourne	
Secretary	Jan Barbour	527-0738
Chaplain	Ginny Arbogast	355-5406
Guard	Mary Lou Miller	226-9767
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



Girl scouts made lap robes for the Veterans at Hines Hospital



The Post sponsored girls softball team helped us with the fall cleanup