

THE

A Monthly Publication for the Members of VFW Post 3873



KENDALL-GRAM



Volume 11, Issue 1
January, 2008

Around the Post with Commander Mike McGrath

Ring Out the Old!

Wow, what a Great Holiday Season we've had at our Post... the eggnog was very tasty and our Post looks great. The Christmas decorations look terrific and we thank all of the Judd Kendall "Elves" who helped decorate both upstairs in our Hall and downstairs in our Canteen as well.



Our thanks also to everyone who worked so hard to make our Annual Christmas Party such a success...The food was great...Scott Holley's slide show was a big hit and the party was well enjoyed. Visitors to our party included 19th District Past Commander (and candidate for State Jr Vice Commander) Bill Wolfe and 19th District Commander Paul Kallembach. The mayor also dropped by during the evening.

And Oops, can't forget about the Army/Navy game...Congratulations especially to the "Midshipmen" and also to the "Cadets" for hanging in there with a very good Navy team.

Our blood drive was held on Saturday 12/15 and was very well supported. Thank you to all who participated and helped out... Charlie Vladika's pancakes sure hit the spot too.

Membership

As our Post is rapidly approaching 100% membership we would like to thank everyone and especially our Sr. Vice Commander Charlie Vladika... whose son Craig recently graduated from "Boot Camp" at Ft. Jackson S.C. Thank you for your efforts and for remembering what membership in the VFW is all about. At the heart of it all, our membership shows our support for our Troops and we must NEVER FORGET THIS!! ... all the courageous men and women who are defending our freedom around the world every single day of the year deserve our support 24/7/365. We owe them an enormous thanks for all they do.

And Home on Leave

Along with Mayor Pradel, the Patriot Guard, and our American Legion buddies; we recently welcomed servicemen Kevin Martin and Sean Groves with a Naperville Welcome Home Motorcade. We're hoping to do more of these in the future and we extend our prayers and best wishes to all of our troops and their families.

More New Members

We welcome the following new and transfer members to our Post: Raj Gupta, Kevin Martin, John Bikus, Sue Houser, Cary Schorsch, Nina Petru, Gilbert Howard, Alan Glodowski and Sran Gagendep.

And Sgt Rock Says

Just because it's winter, don't even think of quitting your workout regimen. The Naperville area has many fine facilities available or even a few minutes of calisthenics at home every day will help you... let's stay in shape G.I.

And "Safety Man" wants to remind you to "Be Careful Out There"... roads and sidewalks are slick... be careful whether driving, shoveling or walking. And you do have emergency gear in the trunk ...good... I knew I could count on you.

Our Hospital Committee wishes a Merry Christmas to everyone and due to the weather, we'll have our report for you next month.

Ring in the New

Now before you go and hibernate this winter please remember there's always a lot to do at our Post... So come on over, get involved and bring a buddy with you. This is your Post and we're grateful for all you do. Don't forget that our Super Bowl Party and our Friday Night Fish Frys are right around the corner. Hope you all have a great 2008 and we'll be seeing you "Around the Post."

Together Then, Together Again

Senior Vice Commander Chuck Vladika

Get the word out Ladies and Gentlemen; we are inching closer to our 100% membership goal. We are now at 98%. Again, this achievement helps our Post to get recognition throughout the District and State. It brings special attention to our work helping Veterans. Remember, it's truly a team effort carried out by members who bring in new members as well as those who make sure our current yearly paying members are paid up. Thanks!

Do take a minute or more to say a prayer for our Veterans serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. Also, include ALL Members of our Armed Services around the World. Here is a prayer sent to us today from Rob Castillo, 1st sergeant Army Iraq.....

"Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their Families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of our Lord and Savior. Amen."

Come to our Post Meetings, There is a lot happening. We need more members to take an interest and get involved. We have many projects that need a few hours of your time over the up coming months. Give what time and effort you can spare. Happy Holidays, Comrades.....

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

Army / Navy Game – Congratulations go out to the Midshipmen for beating the Black Nights once again. I know a few of us Army supporters are looking to start evening the score next year! It was a lot of fun and if you missed the horse race, during half time, you missed a lot. There were a lot of great prizes for both sides and people had a great time! Thanks to comrade Silas Bowman for sending us a bunch of cool stuff from West Point.



The Post Christmas Party was a beautiful evening at the post with the District commander's from the VFW and American Legion. Heck, even the mayor came out just to see the slideshow I put together. (That's the story I'm telling anyway...and I'm sticking to it). As usual, the amigos and the women did a wonderful job with the spread. Everything was just fabulous!

The Super Bowl is on Sunday February 3rd and I know everyone looks forward to coming down and rooting the Chicago Bears onto victory this year. On second thought, maybe we should show a reply of the '85 season. Anyway, start making your plans now and sign up in the canteen when the sheet is posted (that always makes for better planning).

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

January 1st – New Years Day
 January 8th – Hines Hospital Visit
 January 10th – Post Meeting
 January 17th – Auxiliary Meeting
February 1st – Fish Fry – Dry Run (All Branches)
 February 3rd – SuperBowl 4:30
 February 5th – Hines Hospital Visit
 February 8th – Fish Fry – (Army)
 February 14th – Post Meeting
 February 15th – Fish Fry – (Navy)
 February 17th – Life Members Breakfast
 February 21st – Auxiliary Meeting
 February 22nd – Fish Fry (Marines)
 February 29th – Fish Fry – (Air Force)

Dates of Interest

January 8th 1967 – Operation Cedar Falls began
 January 17th 1991 – Operation Desert Storm began
 January 20th 1968 – Battle of Khe Sanh began
 January 25th 1951 – Operation Thunderbolt began
 January 30th 1968 – Tet Offensive Began
 January 31st 1968 – Battle of Hue Began

Voice of Democracy Program by Mike and Jan Barbour

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is with a great deal of excitement that Judd Kendall VFW Post 3873 and its Ladies Auxiliary announce their winners for the 2007 Voice of Democracy Contest:

FIRST PLACE	\$1,000	Claire Simpson, Neuqua Valley
SECOND PLACE	\$500	Nicholas Weithman, Naperville Central
THIRD PLACE	\$250	Marlena Maria May, Naperville North

The first place winner will continue on to the District 19 competition that will be held on Saturday, January 12th at the Alta Villa Banquets in Addison, IL.

Good luck, Claire, in the District competition.

We also advanced 26 students on to the District competition in the Patriot's Pen contest. We hope our students do well at the District level in this competition also.

Auxiliary Report by Kathy McNally

Can it really be time to look forward to Super Bowl!? What happened to Christmas? Here's hoping you had a wonderful and blessed season with family and friends.

If you were too busy with your preparations to stop by the Post, you missed a few fabulous events! The Turkey Raffle was the best this year with record proceeds for our Ladies Auxiliary raffles and kitchen sales. The crowds bought everything you so graciously donated! And there wasn't a hot dog or potato chip left over - for the first time we had to close the kitchen early!! Many thanks go to our kitchen helpers and raffle queens: As always, Bernie Berkes and her husband deftly managed the Bake Sale table. Thanks to all our Sisters who helped to bring in a good profit on the No-Bake Bake Sale, too! Why not come to the next meeting and let us know how you'd like to see these donations distributed to our Veterans and community?

Our Commander helped to host a magical Christmas Cocktail Party. Without our elves, The Three Amigos in the kitchen - and their Señora Sisters, Sue Jelinek and Dianne Rechenmacher, we couldn't have had the food and presentation that made the party. Didn't the Post look nice that night? Thanks also to Jan Barbour and Mike for presetting the tables the night before and helping to make setup a breeze. We can report that a good time was had by all.

And for the second time, Santa dropped by to visit the good boys and girls of the Post. Thanks to Barb McKissick and her grandchildren for managing the activities and treats. (Thanks also to Santa "Bob," for without the jolly man in red, it wouldn't be a Christmas party, would it?)

It was terrific to see so many of our Sisters at our December meeting. We were able to dispense with business fairly quickly and enjoy holiday treats and a gift exchange. A great evening to celebrate all the good we've done this year for our Veterans and their families!

Be sure to mark your calendars for our Super Bowl XLII at the Post on Sunday, February 3rd. Watch for signup sheets in the Canteen. Since Easter is early this year, Fish Fries start February 1st! We'll be tapping you on the shoulder to cashier for 90 minutes during Lent (and especially on Ladies' Auxiliary night). It's a great opportunity to catch up with friends and neighbors who have been hunkered down during the cold long winter.

Why not make this year, 2008, the year you attend a meeting or two and get involved in a committee? As your mother always told you, many hands make light work - and we need your helping hands! Mark your new calendar for our meetings - always the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Post. Wishing all our Sisters and their Families a very Happy New Year, all good health and happiness, and we hope to see you soon!

Troop 111 Fall Overview.

Larry Spencer

Our fall started with three successful eagle projects in which we participated in the total makeover of Von Oven Scout Camp.

Joe Reilly's project was to clear an overgrown road to the back of the camp in order that maintenance crews will have access to remove dead trees and repair a fence.

Rahul Nohria had an outstanding project to clear out a campsite buried in overgrowth and fallen trees. During the process we discovered and restored the campsite fire ring then laid down a soft bed of mulch.

Luke Drendel poured a concrete slab at the entrance of the latrine to allow for handicap access. From there he graded and mulched that area as well.

We would like to congratulate these scouts on their achievement and leadership skills. Von Oven is a valuable asset to the Boy and Girl Scouts of our community and we are blessed to have this place so close to home. In October our troop went on a fun windy campout. We camped at Camp Oh-Da-Ko-Ta in Burlington, Wisconsin. During the day we took a hike on Lake Geneva's lake path. This past month we were camping down in southern Illinois to explore in Illinois caverns. There was a wet slippery cave but the experience made everything great.



Joe Reilly's Eagle Scout Project



Rahul Nohria's Eagle Scout Project



Luke Drendel's Eagle Scout Project

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

POSTNUMBER 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	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	

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	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

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

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JUDD KENDALL HONORS

In keeping with Judd Kendall VFW Post 3873's tradition of raising the standard since day one we are instituting an awards dinner to honor outstanding citizens who serve the Naperville community. This is just one more way that we will be interacting with the community.

Here are the particulars:

JUDD KENDALL HONORS MARCH 8TH, 2008

SOCIAL HOUR 6-7PM
DINNER 7-8PM
AWARDS 8-9PM

PURPOSE: TO INTERACT WITH THE NAPERVILLE COMMUNITY BY PRESENTING YEARLY AWARDS TO THE TEACHERS OF THE YEAR IN DISTRICT 203 & 204, AND THE POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS. AT THAT TIME WE WILL ALSO BE HONORING THE POST VOD AND PATRIOT PEN WINNERS

COMMITTEES: TABLES WILL BE SET UP AND DECORATED BY THE VFW AND LADIES AUXILIARY. COOKING WILL BE DONE BY TERRY JELINEK AND THE THREE AMIGOS. CLEAN UP WILL BE DONE BY VFW MEMBERS WHO GRACIOUSLY VOLUNTEER OR ARE VOLUNTEERED BY THE EVENT CHAIRMAN WHO WOULD BE ME.

This year will mark the first time we have attempted an event of this magnitude. We will be calling on lots of members to help, offer suggestions, etc. After the event we will need about 6 members to help clean up. It will take 15-20 minutes. We will be selling tickets through the Chamber of Commerce and other venues throughout the city. More details will be coming in the February newsletter.