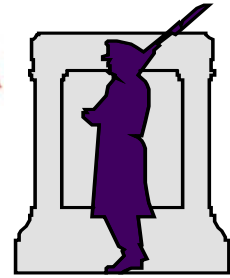




KEEPING POSTED



American Legion Post #43
Naperville, IL
www.naperlegion.org

Celebrating 105 Years of Service to Veterans, U.S. Military, Youth, & Community

COMMANDER'S CALL

Dear Post 43 Legion Members, Sons of the Legion, and Legion Riders,

As we approach Veterans Day on November 11th, it's a fitting time for me to say thank you to all our members for your dedicated service to our country, our post, and our community. I hope that you take a few moments to reflect on the positive impact that your dedication and service has had on our community and nation.

The American Legion stands for advocacy on behalf of Veterans, promoting a strong national defense, fostering patriotism and honor, and supporting the well-being of the nation's children and youth. Quite a robust mission, don't you think? In accordance with this mission, I am pleased to share that Post 43 recently donated \$1,500 to the Illinois Department Emergency Relief Fund which will be used to provide support to those impacted by the hurricanes that affected the southern states over the past few weeks. Your commitment to upholding the values mentioned above is deeply appreciated!

As usual, we have a busy November, please look at the calendar in this newsletter and consider attending the events listed.

Thank you for your unwavering service and continuous contributions to our post and our community! Please remember that if you need help, reach out.

Semper Fidelis!

Tom Jorstad
Commander Post 43
(630) 215-3592
Tom.jorstad@yahoo.com



Tom Jorstad

Sr. Vice Commander

Strengthening Our Ranks: A Call to Action

As we continue to honor the proud traditions of the American Legion, it is crucial to focus on growing our membership to sustain our mission of supporting veterans, engaging youth, and serving our communities. Recruiting new members is essential for continuing our legacy and expanding our impact.

Membership in the American Legion offers many benefits, including:

- ◆ **Advocacy:** A collective voice for Veterans' rights and benefits.
- ◆ **Support Services:** Assistance with VA claims, healthcare, and employment opportunities.
- ◆ **Community Engagement:** Opportunities to participate in local events and volunteer projects.
- ◆ **Youth Programs:** Involvement in mentoring, scholarships, and leadership development for young people.

If you are on social media, when participating in Legion activities, I urge you to take a picture and share some words about where and what you are doing. Our veterans need to see that we are more than just a club. They need to see that as veterans we are still family, that we care and that we will continue to help. Exhibiting the many engaging activities we participate in is key to reaching a larger pool of new members.

As Senior Vice Commander, I am dedicated to leading our recruitment efforts. Together, we can build a stronger, more vibrant Naperville Post 43 that continues to honor and serve our Veterans, our communities, and our Nation. We are always looking for suggestions on activities. Please keep a look out on our social calendar for the exciting events we have coming up.



Jennifer Slown



Jennifer Slown
Senior Vice Commander, Post 43

Jr. Vice Commander

Dear Post 43 Membership,

More than 30,000 American service members who died in WWI are buried overseas. Over 92,000 American WWII military personnel are buried overseas. On October, 4th the City of Berkeley, IL and School District 87 had the opportunity to welcome home PFC Harry Jerele, a WWII veteran who died in 1943 as a POW in Japanese captivity in the Philippines. PFC Jerele's remains were not identified until 2023. He recently returned home with a dignified funeral procession attended by flag waving students and community members through his home town on the way to his permanent resting place in Joliet, IL.



Dan Sullivan

Veteran's Day

Monday, November 11th is Veterans Day! President Wilson declared Armistice Day, November 11, 1918 to commemorate the end of the Great War or the War to End all Wars, now known as World War I. President Eisenhower, in 1958 after World War II changed the name of commemoration from Armistice Day to Veteran's Day and November 11th became a federal holiday. We look forward to serving a traditional holiday meal of Turkey and stuffing with all the fixings. Social hour will start at 6:00 PM followed by dinner at 7:00PM.

Thank you to all of our members for the volunteer work to plan and deliver these upcoming social events which help build a strong community of purpose and patriotism!

More information and RSVP details will be sent out in an e-mail.

Sincerely,

Dan Sullivan
Junior Vice Commander
American Legion Post 43, Naperville



AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER 43



Steve Strickland

The Riders Prime Rib Fundraiser Dinner that was held on Saturday, October 12th was a smashing success, thanks to all who joined us for this event

The Riders were on hand at Midway Airport on October 23rd to Welcome Home Honor Flight Chicago to meet the Veterans on their return home from Washington, DC. This was the last flight for 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Strickland

Director



Brought to you by
American Legion Naperville Post 43
and Roosevelt-Aurora Post 84

**ALL PROCEEDS FROM THIS
EVENT WILL BENEFIT
DUPAGE COUNTY TOYS
FOR TOTS**



**COSTUME PARTY
WITH HEROES**

Prizes for best
costume by age
category

Meal Catered by
Mission BBQ

FRIDAY 15TH NOVEMBER, 7-10 PM

\$ 15 INCLUDES DINNER
\$ 10 FOR KIDS

**FREE CANDY . GAMES .
RAFFLES, SILENT AUCTION AND
KARAOKE**

908 JACKSON AVENUE
NAPERVILLE, ILLINOIS
RSVP TO RIDERS.NADIA@GMAIL.COM



Join us on Friday, November 15th for our Annual DuPage County Toys for Tots Fundraiser. Bring your family, your singing voice, and your best costume for a night filled with fun and philanthropy. Don't miss out on this chance to support a great cause while enjoying an evening of entertainment and community spirit. **And as a special surprise we will have a visit from Santa. So bring all the little ones.**

The American Legion Comfort Warriors Program

As you all know, last summer our Naperville Post 43 was invited to join the Aurora Post 84 in a “Joint Golf Tournament” at the Tamarack Golf Course. Of course, we joined up as we had never participated in one of these prior. Commander Jorstad and Adjutant Nadia took the leadership role of behalf of Post 43. The decision early on was that this would be a fundraiser for our “**American Legion Comfort Warriors Program**”.

Well, it was very successful thanks to the many local sponsors and golfers that supported this event. Our Post 43 check for **\$9,314**, was sent and received by National withing a few days. Thanks again to “**ALL**” that supported this fun “**Fundraiser**”.

Here is how “**OCW**” works: *The American Legion contacts officials at military health care facilities, Red Cross stations, and their surrounding communities and obtain “wish lists”, or “non-essential items list” to determine which items are needed at that facility. Once a need is identified, the items are ordered by the American Legion and delivered in an expeditious manner. It’s as simple as that. No red tape.*

All administrative and marketing costs for OCW are paid for by The American Legion’s general fund, meaning 100% of donated funds go directly to purchasing comfort items for the troops confined in a VA Hospital.

Again-Thanks to all that supported this Great Program!!!

- Wayne Fischer

Historian Report

November is Anniversary of Vietnam Veterans Memorial

The dedication of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial took place in Washington, D.C., on November 11, 1982 in a ceremony attended by tens of thousands of people. Senator John Warner (R-Va) gave the keynote address.

That event culminated efforts that began in 1979, four years after the fall of Saigon, led by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund. Jan Scruggs, a wounded Vietnam War veteran, founded the fund to commemorate other veterans who died in the war. The fund raised more than \$8 million in private donations to pay for the memorial's construction.

Two acres next to the Lincoln Memorial were acquired in 1980 and a nationwide competition was organized to choose a design for the memorial. More than 2,500 individuals and teams submitted more than 1,400 designs. Out of these, the selection jury chose the design by Maya Lin, a 21-year-old undergraduate architectural student.

The design consists of two adjoining walls, each nearly 247 feet long and composed of 72 highly-polished black granite panels. Seventy of the panels on each wall contain the inscribed names of men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice.

The Memorial Walls originally contained 57,939 names that are listed chronologically according to the date of the fatality. That number of names is currently 58,281 and includes those classified as dead or missing and unknown. The names of confirmed dead are marked with a diamond shape and those whose status is unknown are denoted with a cross sign.

The Memorial contains the names of eight women, all of whom were nurses.

In addition to the Memorial Wall, two monuments have been added to the site. On Veterans Day in 1984, a statue of three figures was dedicated to honor those who fought and returned from the war. The servicemen statues stand seven feet tall upon a foot-tall base and are meant to portray the major ethnic groups that served in combat in Vietnam: Latino, European American and African American.

In 1993, a second statue grouping was added. The sculpture depicts three servicewomen tending a wounded soldier. The artist meant to portray the serviceman being saved by the three nurses as a monument to the living.

In addition to the permanent Vietnam Veterans Memorial several transportable replicas have been created to allow those unable to travel to Washington to simulate the experience. In addition, last year Naperville witnessed the Vietnam Wall of Remembrance from November 9 through 13 at the Riverwalk.

Incredibly, in contrast to the typical reverence shown by visitors to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the site has endured hundreds of instances of vandalism including the burning of a directory stand in 1993. All acts of vandalism have been repaired.



AMERICAN LEGION POST 43 CALENDAR



Nov 2, 2024
Nov 2, 2024

Saturday
Saturday



10 AM Coffee at Monarch Landing
249th USMC Birthday Ball @ the Naperville Marriot

Nov 7, 2024
Nov 9, 2024
Nov 10, 2024
Nov 11, 2024
Nov 11, 2024
Nov 15, 2024
Nov 16, 2024
Nov 19, 2024
Nov 23, 2024
Nov 23, 2024
Nov 27, 2024

Thursday
Saturday
Sunday
Monday
Monday
Friday
Saturday
Tuesday
Saturday
Saturday
Wednesday



Post Meeting 7:00PM
10 AM Coffee at Brookdale
Happy 249th Birthday Marines Veterans Day
Veterans Day Dinner 6:00PM
Costume With Hero's Party 7:00PM
10 Am Coffee At Tabor Hills
S.A.L Squadron Meeting 7:00PM
10 AM Coffee at Story Point
VFW Turkey Raffle
Legion Riders Meeting 7:00PM

Dec 5, 2024
Dec 7, 2024
Dec 14, 2024
Dec 14, 2024
Dec 14, 2024
Dec, 17, 2024
Dec, 21 2024
Dec, 25 2024
Dec, 28 2024

Thursday
Saturday
Saturday
Saturday
Saturday
Tuesday
Saturday
Wednesday
Saturday



Post Meeting 7:00PM
10 AM Coffee at Monarch Landing
10 AM Coffee at Brookdale
Army/Navy Game
Annual Join Post Christmas Party
S.A.L. Squadron Meeting 7:00PM
10 AM Coffee at Tabor Hills
Christmas Day
10 AM Coffee at Story Point



Jan 2, 2025
Jan 4, 2025
Jan 11, 2025
Jan, 14, 2025
Jan 18, 2025
Jan 18, 2025
Jan, 22, 2025
Jan 25, 2025

Thursday
Saturday
Saturday
Tuesday
Saturday
Saturday
Wednesday
Saturday



Post Meeting 7:00PM
10 AM Coffee at Monarch Landing
10 AM Coffee at Brookdale
S.A.L Squadron Meeting 7:00PM
10 AM Coffee at Tabor Hills
Post Dinner at 7:00PM
Legion Riders Meeting 7:00PM
10 AM Coffee at Story Point

Sons of the American Legion

Sons of the American Legion Squadron 43

Our stated S.A.L. meeting is every third Tuesday at 7:00PM. We meet in the lower level "patio" at the VFW hall. Our next stated meeting is scheduled for November 19th and all members of the Legion and Legion Riders are welcome and encouraged to attend.

We are always welcoming new members and transfers. Many Legionnaires hold dual memberships in S.A.L. All male descendants, adopted sons, and stepsons of members of The American Legion, and such male descendants of veterans who died in Service, are eligible to join. The S.A.L. Squadron 43's main goals are to support our Post and support our Community.



Regards,
SAL Commander, Post 43
Chris Lance
630.926.1177
chrislance@gmail.com

Coffee With Vets
Saturday Morning 10 AM



The NOV dates are:

Nov 2nd—Monarch Landing
Nov 9th—Brookdale - Lisle
Nov 16th—Tabor Hills
Nov 23rd—Story Point-Naperville

Don't forget our monthly visits with Veterans at Monarch Landing, Brookdale - Lisle, Tabor Hills, and Story Point-Naperville. Join us on the 1st Saturday at Monarch Landing, 2nd Saturday at Brookdale in Lisle, 3rd Saturday at Tabor Hills and 4th Saturday at Story Point-Naperville. All are welcome to Attend!!

Information: Jim Stoffregen 630-430-4966 or Jerry Cooney 630-995-5053



VA Dental Health Benefit

People frequently ask about dental benefits for veterans. Listed below are the general criteria for eligibility to

receive dental health care. Keep in mind that there are caveats associated with each criteria. So it is possible

that even though you seem to qualify, you may not receive the benefit. There are a few additional criteria that I did

not list because they are isolated situations. To better determine if you are qualified you must go to the site below

and open the criteria that you think you meet. Review the sub criteria to see if you are eligible.

www.va.gov/health-care/about-va-health-benefits/dental-care/

Dennis Lukavsky

Service Officer:

VFW Post 3873

American Legion Post 43

American Legion Dinner Social and Legion Riders fundraiser Memories from October





American Legion Post #43
 PO Box 4, Naperville, IL 60566

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS are the first Thursday of every month at 7 PM, at the VFW Hall, 908 W. Jackson Naperville, IL
 Special Meetings are held at the Post Home, 10 W. Chicago Av., Naperville, IL

www.naperlegion.org

Post Officers

Commander	
Tom Jorstad	630-215-3592
Sr. Vice-Commander	
Jennifer Slown	630-803-2251
Jr. Vice-Commander	
Dan Sullivan	
Sgt.-At-Arms	
Glenn Granat	630-209-2834
Finance Officer	
John Noll	630-881-6718
Service Officer	
Dennis Lukavsky	630-272-9064
Chaplain	
Tom Richert	630-921-4511
Historian	
Joe Strebel	630-369-3846
Judge Advocate	
Don Hennessy	630-355-4679
Adjutant	
Nadia Baran	630-728-7519
Immediate Past Commander	
Nadia Baran	630-728-7519
Public Relations Officer	
Jennifer Slown	630-803-2251
Bugler	
Rich Yndestad	630-698-6444
Legion Rider Director	
Steve Strickland	630-453-0095
Honor Guard Commander	
Jim Oftedal	630-357-4030
Color Guard Coordinator	
Dennis Regan	630-361-4644
Sons of the American Legion	
Chris Lance	630-926-1177

Legion Trustees of Post #43

Nadia Baran	Richard Karbarz
John Noll	Tom Jorstad
Wayne Fischer	Don Chasteen
Todd Bertulis	

Newsletter Editor

The American Legion Post 43

Jason Baran 630-768-9805
 E-mail: jason.baran@gmail.com

Please send your reports to Jason by NOV 15th for December Newsletter

Post 43 Webmaster

Nadia Baran
 E-mail: Rios.Nadia@gmail.com

NOV 2024

Activities - Opportunities

- NOV 7th Post Meeting 7pm
- NOV 2nd Coffee-Monarch Landing
- NOV 9th Coffee-Brookdale in Lisle
- NOV 16th Coffee-Tabor Hills
- NOV 23th Coffee-Story Point

Selected Thursdays & Saturdays:
 Help OSOT America sort & pack boxes at the Lisle warehouse.





American Legion Post #43
PO Box 4, Naperville, IL 60566

Happy 90th Birthday Lou Kuelczo

