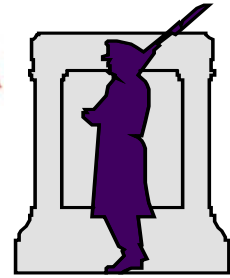




KEEPING POSTED



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

Celebrating 105 Years of Service to Veterans, U.S. Military, Youth, & Community **COMMANDER'S CALL**

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

Happy February! I know it can be quite cold outside this time of year, so please dress warmly, pace yourself when doing outdoor activities like shoveling snow, and don't over-do it.

Volunteers are needed for the following Post 43 positions:

- 1. Girls State Chairperson:** Girls State is an exceptional program where girls between their junior and senior year of high school learn the inner workings of government, leadership, and civic responsibility. We're seeking a volunteer to be the chairperson for this impactful program. As chairperson, you'll reach out to local schools, church groups, and other organizations and solicit candidates to attend the program. Please consider volunteering for this fulfilling endeavor and help nurture tomorrow's leaders today.
- 2. Marketing & Communications Committee Members:** The goal of this committee is to put marketing and communications plans in place to increase participation in our great programs (i.e., Boys State, Girls State, Oratorical Contests, Post Scholarships, etc.). Please consider joining this committee and lend you input on how we can do a better job at getting the word out on our Post 43 programs.



Tom Jorstad

Upcoming Activities:

Blood Drive: I'm excited to announce that Post 43 is partnering with American Legion Aurora Post 84 and the Blanche Osborn Chapter of the Women's Marine Association for a blood drive in March! Specific details to be provided soon.

February 15th Sweetheart Dinner and Dance: Save the date for a special evening on February 15th as we honor our local first responders with a dinner followed by a performance by a Frank Sinatra-style crooner to serenade us and provide the opportunity to dance. Look for more information and RSVP details coming out soon.

Thank You and Semper Fidelis!

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

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:

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 Suggestion on activities. Please keep a look out on our social calendar for the exciting events we have coming up.

Jennifer Slown
Senior Vice Commander, Post 43



Jr. Vice Commander

Dear Post 43 Membership,

Thursday, February 6, 2025 is the Post 43 monthly meeting at 7:00 p.m. On the evening of Saturday, February 15th is the monthly American Legion dinner. Social hour begins at 6:00 p.m. dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m. We will be honoring our first responders.

President's Day is held each year on the 3rd Monday in February. Four U.S. presidents were born in February: George Washington on February 22nd 1732. Abraham Lincoln on February 12, 1809. William Henry Harrison, February 12th 1773; and Ronald Reagan on February 6th 1911.

I hope your new year is off to a great start. Stay warm!

Sincerely,

Dan Sullivan
Junior Vice Commander
American Legion Post 43, Naperville



Dan Sullivan



Riders Newsletter Report – February 2025

The Riders held their elections in December and there were some changes in the officer positions. We look forward to a new year of riding, fellowship and support of the various American Legion activities.

The new list of officers is as follows:

Rich Frantz – Director

Rich Tamborski – Assistant Director

John Kunsch – Financial Officer

Tony Giudice – Secretary

Doug Askren – Chaplain

Steve Stribley – Safety Officer

Roger Treend – Legislative

Patrick Frey – Sergeant of Arms

We will be attending the upcoming Friday Fish Fry events at the VFW Post to sell our RED apparel to support Camp Hometown Heroes.

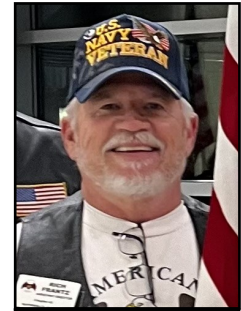
Respectfully submitted,

Rich Frantz

Director

American Legion Riders

Post 43, Naperville, IL



Rich Frantz



WE HAVE A WINNER!!! Again.....

Our Naperville Post 43 Winner this year is Chaithrika Sripathi. Chaithrika is a Freshman at Naperville North High School and has placed 1st in our 11th District High School Oratorical Scholarship Contest AND 1st in our 2nd Division Oratorical Contest held Sunday January 19th at Cantigny. She is keeping our Post 43 "Tradition" alive of having Annual Winners in these Oratorical Scholarship Contests. The next step will be our Department Semi-Finals and Final Contest on February 28-March 1, 2025, to be held in Springfield, IL at the President Abraham Lincoln Springfield-Double Tree by Hilton.

This is a very challenging Oratorical Scholarship Contest. Our Contestants must give an 8-10 minute Oration on our U.S. Constitution followed by a 3-5 minute Oration on one of 4 Amendments to our Constitution. She truly did a fantastic presentation on both orations from memory. Chaithrika came up through our Post 43 "7th and 8th Grade Speech Contest" and has committed herself to keep moving forward in this High School Oratorical Scholarship Contest for the next 3 years. Also included here is a picture of Chaithrika (center) and her family. Her Mom and Dad and younger sister are very proud of her accomplishments and look forward to having her do great at our Department Contest.

Respectively-Wayne Fischer



Citizen of the Year

Naperville American Legion Post 43 began naming a Citizen of the Year in 1986. We are again asking for community assistance to identify deserving candidates, and we especially would like input from our own American Legion and VFW members.

Nominee's service must be in support of the Naperville area or its bordering communities. Members of the American Legion, Sons of the Legion, VFW, and Auxiliary are eligible, but it is not limited to. The service must have been performed in a volunteer capacity, rather than as part of compensated employment.

Anyone may nominate a candidate by sending a letter or email that includes a comprehensive description of the services the nominee performed, the time frame, duration, and significance of the service to others, and the category they are being nominated for, along with the name and contact information for the nominee and the person offering the nomination. Letters from others endorsing the nominee are encouraged.

Naperville is blessed with people who serve their fellow citizens. Typically, the judges have a very difficult task. Comprehensive information, attachments, and endorsements may be included, and are of great help to the committee in selecting the winner. Nomination may be mailed to The American Legion Post 43, Citizen of the Year, Post Office Box 4, Naperville, 60566 or emailed to r.yndestad@yahoo.com or rios.nadia@gmail.com to arrive no later than March 31, 2025.

The winner will be announced in the local media and honored at The American Legion's Awards and Recognition Banquet on April 19th, 2025. So, fire up your keyboard; sharpen your pencil; and make sure the selection committee knows about your candidate.

Want information on recent Citizens of the Years and their contributions? Go to our Post website at: naperlegion.org

Contacts:

Rich Yndestad r.yndestad@yahoo.com

Nadia Baran rios.nadia@gmail.com

Historian Report

U.S. and France fight Quasi War

On February 9, 1799, the U.S. frigate *Constellation* fought and captured the French ship *L'Insurgente* – the first U.S. ship to defeat an enemy warship since the U.S. won independence.

Why was the U.S. fighting France, which was a key ally in the American Revolution? After all, France had supplied some 12,000 soldiers as well as warships and 22,000 sailors to support the rebellion against the British.

The answer lies in a tangle of commercial disputes and the complex politics of 19th Century Europe.

In the 1790s, France was engaged in the War of the First Coalition with several countries, including Great Britain. Consequently, France resented the U.S. trading with its continental enemy. Our nation's signing the Jay Treaty with Britain – a pact that normalized relations between the countries – intensified France's ill feelings.

For these reasons beginning in 1796, French privateers began seizing American ships that were trading with Britain. For the next several years, France took by force some 300 ships.

The U.S. sent envoys to France in an effort to resolve their differences diplomatically. That effort only made the relationship worse when French representatives threatened financial penalties, demanded an end to trading with its enemies and even threatened invasion. In addition, there was a demand for personal financial rewards for members of the French government.

Diplomatic papers describing these demands for bribes and threats became public with the names of the French diplomats replaced with the letters, X Y and Z. What became known as the XYZ Affair caused outrage in the U.S. and prompted Congress to cancel treaties with France in 1798 and authorize the U.S. Navy to respond with force to French attempts to seize our country's ships. The authorization stopped short of a declaration of war, hence the term, Quasi War.

This undeclared war was fought mainly in the West Indies, between the North Atlantic and Caribbean Sea.

Hostilities continued as the U.S. Navy grew from six to 30 commissioned vessels. These forces eventually took some 85 French ships as prizes. Fortunately, the fighting was relatively light with the U.S. suffering 160 casualties and the French some 100.

Because of their past friendly relationship, the U.S. and France renewed efforts to negotiate a resolution to their differences. Those efforts concluded with the Convention of 1800, which, despite some lingering disputes, concluded the Quasi War.

While the fighting and subsequent treaty did not provide a clear resolution to all their differences underlying the Quasi War, it did establish the U.S. as a power that had to be reck-

AMERICAN LEGION POST 43 CALENDAR



Feb 1, 2025	Saturday	10 AM Coffee at Monarch Landing
Feb 6, 2025	Thursday	Post Meeting 7:00PM
Feb 8, 2025	Saturday	10 AM Coffee at Brookdale
Feb 15, 2025	Saturday	10 AM Coffee at Tabor Hills
Feb 15, 2025	Saturday	Post Dinner at 7:00PM
Feb 19, 2025	Wednesday	S.A.L Squadron Meeting 7;00PM
Feb 19, 2025	Wednesday	Legion Riders Meeting 7:00PM
Feb 22, 2025	Saturday	10 AM Coffee at Story Point
Feb 23, 2025	Sunday	SAL 7th Pancake Breakfast 8-11:30am

Mar 1, 2025	Saturday	10 AM Coffee at Monarch Landing
Mar 6, 2025	Thursday	Post Meeting 7:00PM
Mar 8, 2025	Saturday	10 AM Coffee at Brookdale
Mar 15, 2025	Saturday	10 AM Coffee at Tabor Hills
Mar 15, 2025	Saturday	St Patrick's Day Parade
Mar 15, 2025	Saturday	Post Dinner at 7:00PM
Mar 19, 2025	Wednesday	S.A.L Squadron Meeting 7;00PM
Mar 19, 2025	Wednesday	Legion Riders Meeting 7:00PM
Mar 22, 2025	Saturday	10 AM Coffee at Story Point
Mar 29, 2025	Saturday	10 AM Coffee at Independence Village

April 3, 2025	Thursday	Post Meeting 7:00PM
April 5, 2025	Saturday	10 AM Coffee at Monarch Landing
April 12, 2025	Saturday	10 AM Coffee at Brookdale
April 19, 2025	Saturday	10 AM Coffee at Tabor Hills
April 19, 2025	Saturday	Post Dinner at 7:00PM
April 23, 2025	Wednesday	S.A.L Squadron Meeting 7;00PM
April 23, 2025	Wednesday	Legion Riders Meeting 7:00PM
April 26, 2025	Saturday	10 AM Coffee at Story Point

Sons of the American Legion

The Sons of the American Legion will be hosting our **7th annual Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser**. This event will be held on **Sunday February 23rd and will be held at the VFW Hall from 8:00AM until 11:30 AM**. As requested by popular demand, we will continue to have the "Topping Bar" where you can add your favorite topping to the already delicious pancakes; ie. chocolate chips, whip cream, etc. SO please **MARK YOUR CALENDARS** for this **AMAZING** breakfast! We will be asking for the Legion's support to make this a successful event so please tell your families, friends, neighbors, coworkers, and anyone who you walk past.

Our stated SAL meeting will be combined with the Legion Riders which is every 4th Wednesday at 7:00PM. Our next stated meeting is 2/26/2024. We met in the lower level "patio" at the VFW hall. 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 SAL. 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 SAL 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:

FEB 1st—Monarch Landing
FEB 8th—Brookdale - Lisle
FEB 15th—Tabor Hills
FEB 22nd—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



2025 VA Benefits Handbook

The VA has recently released its annual handbook. The book is a "cliff Notes" version of the VA web site and contains many links to often used sections of the website. Here is an example:

VA Home Page	www.VA.gov
Benefits and Services Overview	www.choose.va.gov
Burial and Memorial Benefits	www.cem.va.gov
Caregiver Support	www.caregiver.va.gov
Center for Minority Veterans	www.va.gov/centerforminorityveterans
CHAMPVA	www.va.gov/communitycare/programs/dependents/champva

You get right to where you want to go WITHOUT dreaded searching. Additional the handbook contains almost all the VA phone numbers you could need all in one place. The handbook is 120 pages long so printing a copy would be a mistake (besides the links would then be of no use). My suggestion is store the the link to the book itself and download it when you need it. Here is the link:

<https://department.va.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/2025-Federal-Benefits-for-Veterans-Dependents-and-Survivors.pdf>

The book is helpful to in many ways to all veterans. Make sure you keep a copy of the link. You never know when you might need

Dennis Lukavsky
 Service Officer:
 VFW Post 3873
 American Legion Post 43

January Dinner Social Memories





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	
Rich Frantz	630-300-8189
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 Feb 15th for March's Newsletter

Post 43 Webmaster

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

FEB

Activities - Opportunities

- FEB 6th Post Meeting 7pm
- FEB 1st Coffee-Monarch Landing
- FEB 8th Coffee-Brookdale in Lisle
- FEB 15th Coffee-Tabor Hills
- FEB 22nd 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

7th Annual Pancake Breakfast

7th Annual
Pancake Breakfast
Fundraiser
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23rd
8AM – 11:30AM

LOCATION:
VFW
908 Jackson Ave.
Naperville, IL

MEAL INCLUDES:
PANCAKES, SAUSAGE
OJ, MILK, COFFEE



Portion of the proceeds will help
out a veteran organization

\$8
Adults

\$5 Kids
(12 and under)