



# KEEPING POSTED

American Legion Post #43  
Naperville, IL

[www.naperlegion.org](http://www.naperlegion.org)



Volume 13 Issue 7  
September 2015

## COMMANDER'S CALL

Tom Evans - Post Commander

Hello Fellow Legionnaires,

This month there are a number of events for members to participate. First is our **Post meeting on September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7 PM.** I expect our member participation in our monthly meetings to increase to the levels that proceeded the Summer months.



The next event is our annual participation in the **Last Fling Labor Day parade.** Also, after the parade, don't forget that at **1PM there will be a free luncheon for veterans at Rotary Field.** In addition, we also have to be available to help veterans from the Hines Blind Unit that will arrive by bus at around 1:45 PM. They will need assistance from the bus to their tables.

**Patriot Day activities at City Hall will be on September 11<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM** at the CDR Dan Shanower Memorial located behind City Hall. If it is raining, the memorial service will be in the City Hall Council Chambers. We will finalize the timing and announce any changes at the Post meeting.

This month's **dinner/social will be on September 19<sup>th</sup>. Doors open at 5PM and dinner served at 6PM.** This is a change from prior years. As part of that night's activities, we will install our new officers and present awards to our members that were presented at the Illinois American Legion State Convention in Springfield.

Hope to see you at these events.

Tom

**SR. VICE COMMANDER**

The American Legion is a great organization for veterans and military members to find fellowship, feel supported for their love of our great country and, best of all, continue serving their community on a local and national level. In addition, a membership in the Legion opens the door to many discount programs at various businesses and entertainment venues.



Liz Michalski

Membership in The American Legion is based on a calendar-year from January 1st to December 31st. When we pay our dues, we are paid up for that membership year. The renewal process begins in July for the upcoming membership year. Renewal notices are sent out in July, October, January, March and May. When a member renews, they are removed from future renewal notices for that year. There are times when a member pays their dues, but they still receive a renewal notice. If dues are paid to the local post, it takes a little longer for national to be notified about the renewal and the member may receive another renewal notice. If this should happen, please contact one of the officers so we can check on your status.

Where do dues go? A percentage goes to state and national levels of the American Legion to pay for many programs benefiting veterans returning home, military families in need, as well as, our youth. These funds also support Department Service Officers helping veterans who assist veterans in preparing claims and obtaining their full military healthcare benefits through the VA. Another percentage stays at the post level benefiting the similar programs specific to the local community. Some of these include Boys and Girls State; educational materials for our local schools, Oratorical Contests and other youth programs.

Up to now, dues have been only 35 dollars per year. The American Legion's National Executive Committee is currently proposing to raise the dues by 5 dollars at the beginning of 2016. The NEC's recommendation comes at a time when the need for American Legion advocacy, expertise, influence, services and programs are sorely needed in every corner of our nation. Veterans are waiting too long for benefit claim decisions and medical appointments. They need well-trained and accredited American Legion service officers right now and for years to come. A national \$5 per-capita dues increase can prevent National Headquarters from having to cut programs and services over the course of an entire decade.



We anticipate getting the final word on their decision after the Legion's National Convention scheduled at the end of this month. In the meantime, I would like to mention that we are able to renew our memberships not only on an annual basis, but also on a five-year or a life-time one at the current rates.

*Liz*

## Jr. Vice Commander

### TIME IS FLYING!!

First dinner is **September 19<sup>th</sup>**. Please inform Wayne Fischer by September 16<sup>th</sup> if you will be attending! **The social hour beings at 5PM and dinner follows at 6PM.** The new officers will be installed following dinner. Please hold these dates for upcoming Post 43 dinners: October 17, 2015, November 11, 2015, January 16, 2016, February 20, 2016, March 19, 2016 and April 16, 2016.



Doug Deetjen

Legion Riders will also be hosting a fundraiser on September 12, 2015, social hour 5PM dinner at 6:15PM at The Judd Kendal Hall to help raise funds for the Legacy Fund and other events. The ticket is \$25.00 and the Kendal cooks will be preparing prime rib. Also on board will be entertainment by Clairemont Drive, a Rock & Roll band with the 50's and 60's music.

A number of our Legion Riders left on the Legacy Run August 22<sup>nd</sup>, will return August 30<sup>th</sup>. Chicago to Indianapolis to Baltimore and home. Riders will be cleaning their bikes and getting them checked for this big event. Big Challenge.

Would like to thank the Legion members for the support, help and always being there for the riders in our growing days moving forward.

So many things happening: Congratulations to Wayne Fischer, Dept. of Illinois Second Division Commander, congratulations to Terry Jelinek for receiving Silver Brigade award for signing 25-49 new members for this year. Lee, I personally want to thank you for the great job you did for Post 43. The riders appreciate all your help and support. We are also looking forward to the USS Illinois N-Sub being commissioned in October.

*Doug*



## AMERICAN LEGION POST 43 CALENDAR

September 3, 2015  
 September 7, 2015  
 September 8, 2015  
 September 9, 2015  
 September 11, 2015  
 September 12, 2015  
 September 12, 2015  
 September 18, 2015  
 September 19, 2015  
 September 19, 2015  
 September 23, 2015  
 September 28, 2015

Thursday  
 Monday  
 Tuesday  
 Wednesday  
 Friday  
 Saturday  
 Saturday  
 Friday  
 Saturday  
 Saturday  
 Wednesday  
 Monday

Post Meeting  
 Labor Day Holiday/Parade  
 Hines VA Visit  
 County Mtg. - Bartlett  
 Patriots' Day Services  
 10 a.m. Coffee at Devonshire  
 Legion Riders Fundraiser  
 U.S. Air Force Birthday  
 10 a.m. Coffee at Independence Village  
 Dinner/Social - Installation of Officers  
 Legion Rider Meeting  
 Trustee Meeting



October 1, 2015  
 October 10, 2015  
 October 13, 2015  
 October 13, 2015  
 October 14, 2015  
 October 17, 2015  
 October 17, 2015  
 October 27, 2015

Thursday  
 Saturday  
 Tuesday  
 Tuesday  
 Wednesday  
 Saturday  
 Saturday  
 Wednesday

Post Meeting  
 10 a.m. Coffee at Devonshire  
 U.S. Navy Birthday  
 Hines VA Visit  
 County Mtg. - TBA  
 10 a.m. Coffee at Independence Village  
 Dinner/Social - October Fest  
 Legion Rider Meeting



November 2, 2015  
 November 5, 2015  
 November 10, 2015  
 November 10, 2015  
 November 11, 2015  
 November 11, 2015  
 November 14, 2015  
 November 21, 2015  
 November 25, 2015  
 November 26, 2015  
 November 30, 2015

Monday  
 Thursday  
 Tuesday  
 Tuesday  
 Wednesday  
 Wednesday  
 Saturday  
 Saturday  
 Wednesday  
 Thursday  
 Monday

Trustee Meeting  
 Post Meeting  
 Hines VA Visit  
 U.S. Marines Birthday  
 Dinner/Social - Veterans' Day  
 County Mtg. - TBA  
 10 a.m. Coffee at Brookdale Plaza  
 10 a.m. Coffee at Independence Village  
 Legion Rider Meeting  
 Thanksgiving  
 Trustee Meeting



# TAPS

**Don Whyte  
 and  
 John Wozniak**



**September 11<sup>th</sup> 2015 Memorial Program**

We will be holding our 14<sup>th</sup> Annual "September 11<sup>th</sup>" Memorial Program on Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at the "CMDR Dan Shanower/9/11 Memorial". The Program will start promptly @ 6pm at the Memorial on the Riverwalk behind City Hall. In the event of inclement weather, it will be in the City Council Chambers. As in the past, we will again honor and remember all of the men, women and children lost that tragic day and those lost in wars and conflicts around the world since then.

Our Guest speaker for this will be Michael Dugan, Captain FDNY (Ret.) He was there on duty on 9-11. Please help spread the word so we can have a great turnout of Veterans. Please wear your cover.

Thanks-Wayne

---

**Last Fling Parade-Labor Day September 7<sup>th</sup>**

Again, for this years' Labor Day Parade, we are signed up to do a "Combined Color Guard" kicking off at 10am south of NNHS. We will need a minimum of 12 Veterans to carry the Flags and call cadence. Please plan to be there no later than 9:30 so we can get everything organized. We hope anyone with a "Era" vehicle will join in this along with our American Legion Riders.

Also, all Veterans are invited to the Jaycees Sponsor Tent on Rotary Hill again this year for a "FREE" lunch. We are planning to have a busload of Hines Veterans that afternoon also to enjoy the day with us. Usually this starts about 1pm after the Parade is all over. I am sure we will again be asked to provide the "Colors" for the afternoon entertainment at the main stage at the base of Rotary Hill, usually around 2:30-3pm. Please plan to come out to "Show our Colors" in the Parade and stick around to enjoy the lunch sponsored by our own Naperville Jaycees.

Wayne



Happy 68th Birthday  
U.S. Air Force



September 18, 1947



**Naperville Post 43 2015 - 2016 Officers**

At the end of this month following the American Legion Department of Illinois convention those elected to office at last month's general meeting will begin functioning in their new roles. They will be officially installed in their new offices at the September Dinner/Social. The 2015 - 2016 slate of officers is as follows:

Commander	(E) Tom Evans
Senior Vice Commander	(E) Liz Michalski
Junior Vice Commander	(E) Doug Deetjen
Sergeant-at-Arms	(E) Roy Bonus
Finance Officer	(E) Brian Light
Service Officer	(E) Mike Barbour
Chaplain	(E) Dick Komarek
Historian	(E) Joe Strebel
Judge Advocate	(A) Don Hennessy
Adjutant	(A) Tinny Bixel - Meeting Notes
Assistant Adjutant	(A) Terry Jelinek - Membership

**Board of Trustees**

The Board of Trustees is comprised of 4 elected officers who serve for 4 years plus the Commander, immediate Past Commander and the Finance Officer. The 2016 Trustees are Ken Garhan, Wayne Fischer, Don Hennessy, Jim Vahle Commander – Tom Evans, Past Commander – Lee Lindberg and Finance Officer – Brian Light.

**IMPORTANT DUES INCREASE INFORMATION!!**

National has seen fit to increase membership dues effective **JANUARY 1, 2016.**

Unfortunately Post #43 will be compelled to follow suit. All memberships and renewals received after January 1, 2016 will cost \$40.00. Membership renewals and new member fees are still \$35.00 if paid by December 31, 2015. This dues increase by

National will also affect the cost of Paid Up For Life memberships so if you have ever considered purchasing a Paid Up For Life membership then do so before December 31, 2015 and save money.

One other very reasonable offer is the Department of Illinois 5 year Gold card. Now through December 1, 2015 you can get a five year membership for just \$130.00. If you have already paid your \$35.00 for 2016 then you only need to submit an additional \$105.00 to Post 43 and you will be paid through 2020.

If you have any questions just contact the Sr. Vice Commander Liz Michalski or Terry Jelinek (630-357-5366).

**IN ORDER TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE SAVINGS YOU MUST ACT BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2015!!!!!!**



## LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER 43

As of the end of July Chapter 43 has not missed an Honor Flight Welcome Home this year. With only two more flights left this year we don't expect to miss any. In the past few weeks we also had representation at the Lincoln National Cemetery for burial of two veterans.



On August 16th in Downtown Naperville we lead the Naperville India Day Parade. Also in August members were in attendance at the Vietnam traveling Wall at the Lockport American Legion.

The big ride in August was the annual Legacy Run. The American Legion Legacy Run traveled the open roads and highways along some of the most scenic areas of the United States. Portions included the Ohio River, historic towns and cities, farmlands, two-lane roads and interstate, and beautiful plains, hills and rivers of Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Maryland. Highlights of Legacy Run 2015 included shorter days, shorter legs, several stops at military and veteran memorials, wreath laying ceremonies (each day), meals at American Legion Posts, a return visit to Stoystown, PA and the Flight 93 Memorial, and a three-hour layover at Gettysburg National Battlefield. This run funds and promotes the Legacy scholarship which provides college scholarships for children of active duty United States military and National Guard, and military reservists who were federalized and die on active duty on or after September 11, 2001.

Chapter 43 Riders have been planning its annual fundraiser, a Prime Rib Dinner on September 12<sup>th</sup>. You must **pre-purchase dinner tickets** to attend. So if you would enjoy a great meal and some 50's and 60's music, the tickets are \$25 and are available from any of the Chapter 43 member.



*Don Chasteen*



### WWII Veterans Honored for their Service

The National WWII Memorial opened on April 29, 2004. It was dedicated by President George W. Bush on May 29. Understanding that many WWII veterans would not be able to travel to our nation's Capital, Naperville American Legion Post 43 along with Naperville VFW conducted a special ceremony honoring all WWII Veterans in the area.

Held at Kennedy Jr. H.S., WWII Veterans and their guests were serve coffee and rolls prior to the program which consisted of a proclamation in their honor by Mayor George Pradel followed by a presentation of certificates to each veteran acknowledging his/her service.

On May 15<sup>th</sup> Post Members went to eight local nursing homes to honor those WWII Veterans unable to attend the May 29<sup>th</sup> Program. Again each veteran was individually recognized and presented a certificate honoring his/her service. In addition the nursing homes were presented a flag flown over our Nation's Capital.

### Coffee "and"

**Saturday Morning**



**The September dates are:**

**Sept. 12 - Brookdale Plaza Lisle**

**Sept. 19 - Independence Village**

Don't forget our monthly visits with veterans at Brookdale Plaza on the 2nd Saturday of each month and at Independence Village on the 3rd Saturday of the month. All are welcome, so come join us.



### **SICK CALL**

**Joe Pope**

**Doug Askren**

**Don Widder**

**Al Zumpe**

**Chuck Winchester Ken Blood**

**Jim Strnad**

**Joe Marinello**

**Dick Knosher**







### Post 43 Annual Dues Programs

With the conclusion of the Department of Illinois Convention, the New Legion Year commences. That's right, the officers elected in May have officially begun their duties as officers even though the formal installation will be postponed until our first Dinner/Social in September. The first half of the year (August - December) is also the time for our annual membership drive. It would certainly be nice to complete our membership drive by December rather than May, the end of the year. Check out what group you belong to and re-up. We need each and every one of you.

**Naperville Post 43 "Paid up for Life" Program:** This is a special program designed to pay the annual dues for members that live in the Naperville area, have been a member of Post 43 for at least a year and served during WW II (Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>, 1941-Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>, 1946). This same privilege applies to those that served during the Korean War Era (Jun. 25<sup>th</sup>, 1950-Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>, 1955). We also pay the annual dues for any member of American Legion Post 43 who has been a member of the American Legion for 50 years or more.

**Active Duty, including Active National Guard and Reserves:** Post 43 will pay the annual dues of any member serving full time on Active Duty regardless of branch or location served and for those Active Guardsmen/Reservists that attend monthly drills and are subject to activation. But, they must want to become a member of the American Legion Post 43 and be from Naperville.

**Hardship Cases:** In the event a current Post 43 member is experiencing a personal "hardship", Post 43 will pay their annual dues as long as this situation continues and he/she resides in the Naperville area.

**Annual Membership Dues:** This is the most widely used Program for active dues paying members. Current annual dues are \$35.

**Department of Illinois 5 year Gold card:** Now through December 1, 2015 you can get a five year membership for just \$130.00. If you have already paid your \$35.00 for 2016 then you only need to submit an additional \$105.00 to Post 43 and you will be paid through 2020.

**American Legions Paid up for Life (PUFL):** This program is the National American Legion Program where members can pay for a "Life Membership" in the American Legion and is based on age and the annual cost of dues for the Post.

**LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER**  
***Sponsored by American Legion Riders,***  
***Naperville Chapter 43***  
**Prime Rib Dinner – Entertainment by Clairemont Drive**  
**\$25 /person - Cash Bar**  
**September 12, 2015 5 -10:30 PM (dinner at 6:15)**  
**VFW Kendall Hall - 908 West Jackson, Naperville**

We'd love to have you all join us for our Annual Fundraiser for the American Legion Legacy Fund. It will be a fun party with a great 60s band and super food prepared by our Kendall Cooks. This is a great opportunity to support the families of our soldiers that paid the ultimate sacrifice. Last year the American Legion Legacy Fund received just over \$1M for this cause. Even if you cannot make this, any and all donations will be greatly appreciated. The opportunity to help these families is now and we hope you will consider actively supporting this effort via this Fundraiser. 100% of the proceeds go to this program. Plus there are no administrative costs involved. Our Legion dues cover 100% of the cost of the people that administer this Program.

**Tickets:** [630-864-7183](tel:630-864-7183) or [vahlej@comcast.net](mailto:vahlej@comcast.net)

**Donations:** mail to American Legion, PO Box 4, Naperville, IL 60566

**Checks payable to Chapter 43 Legion Riders – note “Legacy Fund Donation”**

**JUDD - A - THON 2015**

\*\*\* SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, RACE TIME: 10:01 SHARP \*\*\*

\*\*\* SECOND ANNUAL FUN RUN / FUNDRAISER \*\*\*

\*\*\* FUN RUN FOR EVERYONE \*\*\*

\*\*\* FUN ... FOOD ... PRIZES \*\*\*

\*\*\* YOUR VERY OWN JUDD -A -THON T SHIRT AND OTHER GOODIES \*\*\*

Yes comrades, September is right around the corner and our Post's Second Annual Fun Run/Fundraiser" for our VFW National Home for Children is Coming up soon. Be ready and do not miss out on this awesome event. It's for a great cause and it's a "fun run for everyone", young and old.

Only \$20.00 per person for sign-up .... Or \$250.00 minimum for sponsorship. Please sign up as soon as you can as orders are filling up fast now. Information and sign-up sheets are available in our Post Canteen.

\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE\*\*\*

We will need to order t shirts for everyone soon so time is getting short.  
Thank you all and see you there.

Mike McGrath  
630 - 420 - 9820



### **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

Executive Committee, Officers, Legion Riders, Boy Scouts and  
Special Meetings are at Post Home, 10 W. Chicago Ave., Naperville, IL

[www.naperlegion.org](http://www.naperlegion.org)

### **Post Officers**

#### **Commander**

Tom Evans 630/904-7578

#### **Sr. Vice-Commander**

Liz Michalski 630/857-8109

#### **Jr. Vice-Commander**

Doug Deetjen 630/719-1133

#### **Sgt.-At-Arms**

Roy Bonus 630/961-2724

#### **Finance Officer**

Brian Light 630/369-1053

#### **Service Officer**

Mike Barbour 630/240-1645

#### **Chaplain**

Dick Komarek 630/983-6043

#### **Historian**

Joe Strebel 630/369-3846

#### **Judge Advocate**

Don Hennessy 630/355-4679

#### **Adjutant**

Tinny Bixel 630/717-1350

#### **Assistant Adjutant**

Terry Jelinek 630/272-2420

#### **Immediate Past Commander**

Lee Lindberg 630/961-2174

#### **Public Relations**

Jim Vahle 630/864-7183

#### **Taps Bugler**

Rich Yndestad 630/357-6444

#### **Legion Rider Director**

Don Chasteen 630/833-6102

#### **Color Guard - Chair**

Lou Kuelto 630/898-8760

#### **Color Guard - Co-Chair**

Scott Holley 708/287-5590



### **Legion Callers**



Bob Bronson	630/978-2143
Tom Fogarty	369-2374
Ken Garhan	355-2493
Dick Knosher	355-5066
John Prescott	420-1244
Joe Udell	369-8301
Jim Godshall	804/756-8212

### **Legion Trustees of Post #43**

Tom Evans	Lee Lindberg
Brian Light	Jim Vahle
Wayne Fischer	Don Hennessy
Ken Garhan	

### **Newsletter Editor**

**Lauren Evans** 630-904-7578  
3078 Serenity Lane Naperville, IL 60564  
E-mail: [evans.laurenann@gmail.com](mailto:evans.laurenann@gmail.com)

### **Assistant Editor**

**Ron Smith** 630- 357-2738  
E-mail: [smith-ron@comcast.net](mailto:smith-ron@comcast.net)

**Please send your reports to Lauren  
Evans by September 15 for October**

### **Post 43 Webmaster**

**Del Luzadder** 630/587-1588  
E-mail: [dluzadder@aol.com](mailto:dluzadder@aol.com)

## **September 2015** **Activities — Opportunities**

Sept. 3 - Post Mtg.  
Sept. 8 - Hines VA Visit  
Sept. 12 - Brookdale Plaza Lisle  
Sept. 12 - Legion Riders Fundraiser  
Sept. 19 - Independence Village  
Sept. 19 - Dinner/Social  
Sept. 23 - Legion Rider Mtg.  
Sept. 28 - Trustee Mtg.

**Selected Thursdays**  
**& Saturdays—**  
**Help OSOT Ameri-**  
**ca sort & pack**  
**boxes at the Lisle**  
**warehouses—**





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

## **Wayne Fischer installed as 2nd Division Commander**



**Paul Gartner, Department Commander, looks on as Wayne Fischer receives his white cap from his wife Iris signifying his role as 2nd Division Commander.**