




KEEPING POSTED




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

Volume 14 Issue 5
August 2016

COMMANDER'S CALL

Lee Lindberg - Post Commander

Hello Fellow Legionnaires,

Post 43 Past Commander Tom Evans and his wife Lauren, longtime "Keeping Posted" editor, have moved to South Carolina. This issue therefore, represents the first for new editor Jennifer Slown. We are grateful that she has been willing to take on the task, and wish her all the best as she carries on the long tradition of excellence. At the State of Illinois American Legion convention in Springfield, July 14-16, Tom and Lauren plan to attend and for the 5th time in 6 years, Lauren and Post 43 will be the honored recipients for "Best Newsletter" in the State!



Since there was no Keeping Posted in June or July, it's well to review, remember, and reflect on some of the events and highlights of the past couple of months:

- "Poppy Day Distribution" May 17th at 3 train stations produced great results.
- Under the direction of Wayne Fischer over 2300 flags were placed by **volunteers at all veteran's graves in Naperville**
- Memorial Day crowds turned out in record numbers for the parade with our own Department of Illinois VFW Commander Phil Maughan as Parade Marshall and Lou Kueltzo as Officer of the Day.
- Freshman Regan Macwan, our oratorical contest participant who placed 3rd in the State, did an exceptional job speaking in Central Park after the parade.
- I attended the commencement of Savvy Raghuvanshi, oratorical contestant in 2014 and State winner. He along with 944 of his classmates graduated from Neuqua Valley High School. As the president of the student council and National Merit Scholar Finalist, he graduated Summa Cum Laude (no surprise) and gave the welcome speech. He will attend Harvard and major in mathematics.

continued on page 5



My Fellow Veterans,

This year I will be working on membership. As you know the Legion year begins in July. Dues (\$40.00 annually) are now due for the 2016-2017 year. We struggled to reach our goal last year. Let's all renew now and then recruit new members. Help make the best Post in the State be the Top Post in membership.

-Doug

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
Sons of The American Legion

Date _____

Detachment of _____ Squadron No. _____ Birth Date _____

Name _____ Recruited by _____
(First) (Initial) (Last) (Initial) (Last)

Address _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip) (Telephone)

Veteran through whom eligibility is established _____

(a) Above is a member in good standing of Post No. _____, Dept. of _____

OR (b) Above is a deceased veteran who served honorably from _____ to _____

(c) Relationship of Applicant to Veteran _____

Has Applicant previously been a member of the SAL? _____ Where? _____

I hereby subscribe to the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion, apply for membership, and transmit \$ _____ as annual membership dues.

Signed _____
(By Applicant or Parent)

Eligibility certified by _____
(Post Adjutant)

00-001 (1987)



Jr. Vice Commander

This is my first newsletter article as your Junior Vice Commander and I am honored that you have chosen / allowed me to take a major part in our great organization. As Junior Vice, the planning of the Legion Socials is my major concern and with your input and assistance, I am looking forward to a great year.



Don Chasteen

In regards to the socials, I would like to share with you the dates and some information about them that has already been planned. At this time the Socials will start at 6 PM with good fellowship with your fellow veterans and friends. Dinner will be served around 7 PM with a program to follow around 8 P.M. Since I am relatively new on the block, I will be the bearer of some unpleasant news for some. The price of dinners has been \$12 for several years but due to an increase in costs, it has been decided to raise the price to \$14. Below are the day, date, and theme.

Saturday, 17-Sep-2016, Officer Installation / Award Presentations

Saturday, 15-Oct-2016, To Be Announced

Friday, 11-Nov-2016, Veterans Day – American Legion & VFW

Saturday, 21-Jan-2017, New Member Initiation, Legion Riders Officer Installation

Saturday, 18-Feb-2017, Salute to our Youth

Saturday, 18-Mar-2017, St. Pat's Day/Legion Birthday

Saturday, 15-April-2017, Past Commander's Night, Citizen of the Year Awards, Scholarships.

More information about these to come later.

Don Chasteen
Junior Vice Commander

Coffee "and"

**Saturday Morning
10 AM**



The August dates are:

August 6 - Monarch Landing

August 13 - Brookdale Plaza

August 20 - Independence

Don't forget our monthly visits with veterans at Monarch Landing, Brookdale Plaza and Independence Village. Join us on the 1st Saturday at Monarch Landing, the 2nd Saturday at Brookdale and the 3rd Saturday at Independence Village or all three. Remember, all are welcome.



AMERICAN LEGION POST 43 CALENDAR



August 4, 2016	Thursday		Post Meeting
August 4, 2016	Thursday		U.S. Coast Guard Birthday
August 6, 2016	Saturday		10 am Coffee at Monarch Landing
August 13, 2016	Saturday		10 am Coffee at Brookdale Plaza
August 20, 2016	Saturday		10 am Coffee at Independence Village
August 24, 2016	Wednesday		Legion Rider Meeting
September 1, 2016	Thursday		Post Meeting
September 3, 2016	Saturday		10 am Coffee at Monarch Landing
September 10, 2016	Saturday		10 am Coffee at Brookdale Plaza
September 13, 2016	Tuesday		Hines VA Visit (bus leaves at 6:15pm)
September 17, 2016	Saturday		10 am Coffee at Independence Village
September 17, 2016	Saturday		Dinner/Social - Officer Installation
September 18, 2016	Sunday		U.S. Air Force Birthday
September 28, 2016	Wednesday		Legion Rider Meeting
October 1, 2016	Saturday		10 am Coffee at Monarch Landing
October 6, 2016	Thursday		Post Meeting
October 8, 2016	Saturday		10 am Coffee at Brookdale Plaza
October 11, 2016	Tuesday		Hines VA Visit (bus leaves at 6:15pm)
October 13, 2016	Thursday		U.S. Navy Birthday
October 15, 2016	Saturday		10 am Coffee at Independence Village
October 15, 2016	Saturday		Dinner/Social - Theme TBA
October 26, 2016	Wednesday		Legion Rider Meeting
November 3, 2016	Thursday		Post Meeting
November 5, 2016	Saturday		10 am Coffee at Monarch Landing
November 8, 2016	Tuesday		Hines VA Visit (bus leaves at 6:15pm)
November 10, 2016	Thursday		U.S. Marine Corps Birthday
November 11, 2016	Friday		Dinner/Social - Veterans Day
November 12, 2016	Saturday		10 am Coffee at Brookdale Plaza

Commander's Call—Continued from p. 1

- Our Post volunteers presented over 50 American Legion Medallion Awards to a graduating eighth-grade boy and girl from each middle school, and one male and female graduating senior from 6 high schools and 2 colleges. This program was ably administered this year by Priscilla Laubscher.
- The May 21 Armed Forces Day Dinner hosted by American Legion Illinois' 2nd Division was well attended with Wayne Fischer serving as Commander and MC at the new Embassy Suites event.
- Saturday morning visits to veterans at 3 senior living centers each month continued, the Hines VA Hospital visit on June 14, and the quarterly visit for the mass burial ceremony at Lincoln National Cemetery.
- A flag dedication ceremony took place July 8 at the Country House Restaurant in Lisle. Fifteen Post 43 members participated.

Plans are in place for a full season of activities. The next American Legion Dinner will be September 17 at 6:00 P.M. when installation of officers will take place. Remember spouses and guests are welcome at dinners and I hope to see many of you there.

Oh, and I didn't make it to the gym today, that makes 5 years in a row. I stopped referring to the bathroom as "the john", and now refer to it as "the jim". I feel so much better saying "I went to the Jim this morning".

I wish you a pleasant and healthy remainder of summer.

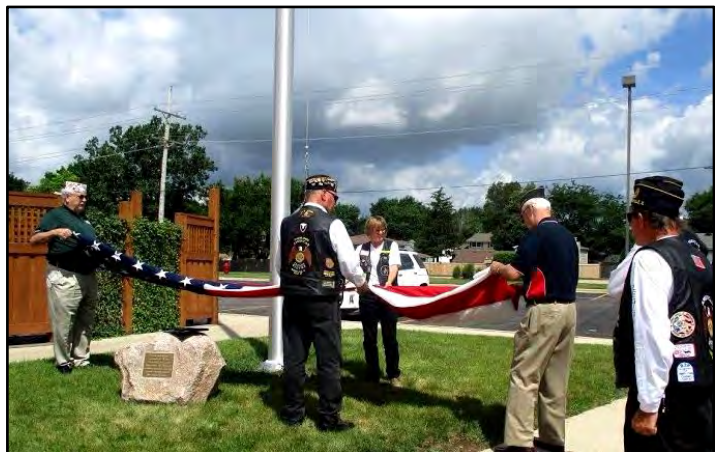
-Lee

Flag Pole Dedication at Country House Restaurant

On July 8 the Naperville American Legion and Legion Riders dedicated a flag pole and plaque, erected by owner Patrick Regnery, at his Country House Restaurant in Lisle. Regnery is a long time supporter of military veterans.

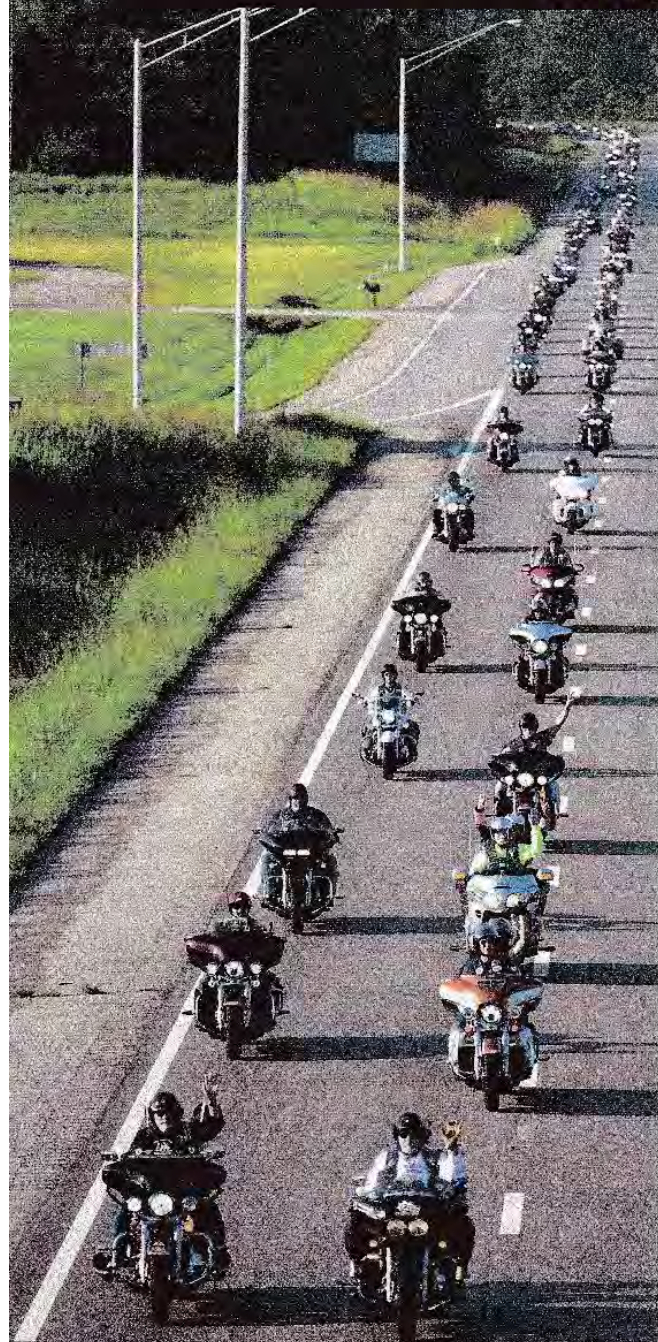
The inscription on the plaque reads: "Dedicated to the memory of all the local fallen veterans. They made the ultimate sacrifice in order that our country would remain free from tyranny."

From left to right:
Charles Vladika, Doug Askren,
Terry Askren, Wayne Fischer



A 'veteran-centric' Legacy Run

This year's charity motorcycle ride will cover nearly 1,300 miles, with daily stops at military memorials along the way.



BY STEVE B. BROOKS

The 2015 American Legion Legacy Run included daily stops for wreath-laying ceremonies at U.S. military memorials along the route. This year's participants can expect nothing less in 2016.

Department of Virginia Legionnaire Bob Sussan, the ride's chief road captain, helped design this year's route with memorial stops in mind. As chairman of the American Legion Riders Advisory Committee, Sussan said that last year's participants were overwhelmingly in support of such detours.

"We've made it very veteran-centric," Sussan said. "Last year was, I think, the turning point to that. We do a wreath-laying every day. We visit exclusively (Legion) posts for lunch and dinner along the way. It's really changed.

"What we're trying to do ... is get as many veteran events involved as we can. We actually formed an honor guard on the Legacy Run. We have one rider who started re-practicing blowing the bugle, and he blows the bugle for us."

Highlights this year will include stops at the national cemetery in Hopkinsville, Ky.; the Wilson County Veterans Memorial & Museum in Lebanon, Tenn.; and the Veterans Memorial at Bay Tree Park in Red Bay, Ala.

This year's ride, again sponsored by USAA, will travel nearly 1,300 miles through Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and Ohio. The run will depart Kenneth N. Dowden Wayne Post 64 in Indianapolis at 9 a.m. Aug. 21 and conclude Aug. 25 at Yeager-Benson Memorial Post 199 in Harrison, Ohio, on the eve of the 98th American Legion National Convention in Cincinnati. From Aug. 25-28, Post 199 and other Ohio Rider chapters will host events, meals and runs.

The 2015 Legacy Run raised over \$1.2 million for the American Legion Legacy Fund, which provides college scholarships for the children of U.S. servicemembers who died while on active duty on or after 9/11, as well as to children of post-9/11 veterans with VA disability ratings of 50 percent or higher.

In 10 years, the Legacy Run has helped raise more than \$6 million for the fund.

Register online by Aug. 1:

www.legion.org/riders/registration

NAPERVILLE STUDENTS EXCEL AT ILLINOIS BOYS STATE

Naperville's American Legion Post 43 sent twenty-four students from Naperville North, Waubonsie Valley, Nequa Valley, Metea Valley, Benet and St. Francis High Schools to the 81st Annual Session of Illinois Premier Boys State, held at Eastern Illinois University from June 11th – 17th.



Boys State, a week-long program of citizenship training sponsored by the American Legion, was originated by the Department of Illinois in 1934 and adopted by the national organization in 1935. The Illinois program attracts five hundred boys in the summer before their senior year in high school.

Attendees, known as citizens, are formed into eight counties and twenty-three cities. They attend seminars on the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government, the electoral process, lobbying, meetings, elections, media productions and leadership. They form a band, militia, and police force, participate in athletic activities; and most importantly, learn hands-on government by forming political parties and running for city, county and state elective offices. For all intent and purposes, Illinois Boys State is a mythical fifty-first state with a constitution and body of law run by the attendees. It is often referred to as "A Week That Shapes a Lifetime."

The Naperville students excelled by winning six state-level offices: Lt. Governor, Archit Dhar, Secretary Of State, Tejas Gajula, Comptroller, Bernie Wang, Treasurer, Josh Patel, President pro-tem of the Senate, Shawn Park and Speaker of the House of Representatives, Doug McKissick.

Doug McKissick won a \$2,000 John Geiger Leadership Scholarship; Alexander Shura a \$2,000 Lincoln Oration Contest, (Archit Dhar was the runner-up), and Alexander Shura won a \$1,000 Samsung Scholarship and the right to compete with other state winners for several national scholarships. Chailuv Godwani placed 3rd in the Joe McCraith Model Citizen contest, and Josh Patel was 2nd, Archit Dhar 3rd, in running for the Paul Brown Leadership Award



To learn more, or register for the 2017 program, go to illinoisboysstate.org or contact Terry Jelinek at jelinst@sbcglobal.net.





CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

As I write this our baseball teams are doing what they always seem to do at this time of year; they make it interesting. The White Sox are fighting for a playoff spot while our Cubbies are in 1st place with their sites set on their first World Series appearance since 1945 and to win their first series since 1908. It seems that this IS finally the year . Hope they do it!! So, is it just me or are most of you more than just a little confused and uncertain regarding this current election season. Certainly, so far this year, it has been one of the most unpredictable, exciting, passionate, confusing, if not frustrating elections in our nation's history. Which candidate is the most experienced and trustworthy to lead our country through a most challenging next four years! We all could use some clarity regarding all of this. Especially someone we can truly trust and whose message we can depend on. Let me suggest a candidate who will do what they promise, a leader who will lead with strength of character, vision, compassion and who will have your best interests at heart. Also, this candidate is consistent, the same yesterday, today and tomorrow and cannot be swayed by the political landscape, desiring only the best for its citizens living in the greatest country which has ever existed.

Yes, a person like this does exist. Of course His name is God!! We can surely trust and have faith in Him in all situations both during good times and in the most challenging of times in our lives! Unlike most politicians he wants to hear from you and wants us to be intimate with him through prayer and sharing our concerns, needs and thoughts. What does God require from us? Only to trust Him in all things and to regularly communicate through prayer and meditation while acknowledging our blessings in praise and worship. He also desires that each of us is to be a blessing to others serving them with a spirit of joy and with an unselfish nature and not just what's in it for us at the moment.

American Legion Family, although our nation and the rest of the planet is in a confused and unstable state with discord strife, evil and now terrorism knocking at freedom's door, we can be assured that God's will and purpose for our nation and our individual lives will be carried out. Be comforted that although our elected leaders many times do not have solutions for the problems we face-God is in control! We can be confident that God loves each of us very much! Turn your problem, concerns and fears over to him. Learn to lean on him when the world or our lives make no sense and patiently await his answer. Finally, we should all pray for our elected leaders at the national, state and local levels. Have you prayed recently for our nation's leadership to provide strong, ethical and faith based principles and to support a vibrant military and national defense? We can all make a difference and produce effective results if we demonstrate our faith in action. Pray that America's leaders will show greater humility in seeking God's will for our nation! God will hear those prayers and our nation will be guided successfully through the uncertain days ahead. God bless each of you and God bless America!!

-Chaplain Dick Komarek



AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER 43



Well this is the August, 2016 newsletter and since the last one in May, the Riders have been very busy. We have had several Chapter rides going to Milwaukee, WI; Rockford, IL; and White Pines Restaurant near Oregon, IL. Memorial Day weekend we attended a Veteran's ride in DeKalb, IL, a Military Tribute at Spring Brook Church, and the Naperville Parade. We added a new Parade on the 4th of July by attending the Knoch Knolls Homeowners Parade. We have attended several walk throughs for veterans and a wake for one of our supporters. We assisted with the dedication of a flag and flag pole at the Country House Restaurant in Lisle. We have attended other Legion Rider Chapter rides.

We continue to support the Chicago Honor Flight Welcome Home for our veterans. On our 4th Annual Honor Flight Fundraiser Run from Heritage Harley Davidson to the DuPage Veterans Association Fundraiser we had a 92 year young WWII veteran Joe DePiero ride with ALR Bob Burch. We had discussed presenting him a memento of the ride, so when we heard he was not feeling very well we contacted his family to get their pictures of that day and combined them with some of ours to make a plaque. When we rode over to his home and presented it to him it really made his day and ours. He is planning to ride with us again next year and we are looking forward to it.

Well, that is what we have been doing and you might think our summer is about over., but you would be wrong. We are preparing for the National American Legion Legacy Run which we will be on shortly after this newsletter comes out. At this time 11 Riders have committed to this Run. Naperville American Legion Post 43 will once again be well represented by these Riders who unselfishly give their time and money to participate in this event. Last year this run raised \$1.2 million for the education of children of service men and women who gave the ultimate sacrifice since 9-11. If anyone would like to make a donation to the American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund, see any of the Naperville Legion Riders who will make sure 100% gets into the fund.

Riders, you can earn the new Department of Illinois American Legion Riders Recruiter patch and pin by signing up two or more members to the Legion Family. This would be a great patch to have on your vest and the Legion families would really appreciate your effort.

If you are a motorcycle enthusiast who likes to support Veterans and their families and can qualify for the Legion, Legion Auxiliary, or the Son of the Legion, we would like to have you as a member!

Don Chasteen
ALR Chapter, 43 Director
630-531-1050





Honor Guard

The combined Post 43 and Post 3873 Honor Guard has been busy providing Military Honors for veterans and their families. The Guard is pictured in their new Summer uniforms at a recent service at St. Peter and Paul Cemetery in Naperville. The Honor Guard is lead by post member Jim Oftedal and currently has 12

members. The Guard provides a grave side Three Rifle Volley, followed by a live sounding of Taps. The Honor Guard is available for ceremonies as well as funerals.

For more information contact Jim Oftedal at [630-357-4030](tel:630-357-4030) or contact the post.

TAPS

Arne DeFrang

John Zedrow

Cliff Preston

Tom Fogarty

Bob Owensby



SICK CALL

Don Widder

Al Zumpe Joe Pope

Chuck Winchester

Chuck Biegel

Sam Hilderbrand

Ken Blood

Don Faulhaber

Jim Grimm

Jim Strnad

George McKissick

Dick Knosher





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

Post Officers

Commander

Lee Lindberg 239/537-3189

Sr. Vice-Commander

Doug Deetjen 630/719-1133

Jr. Vice-Commander

Don Chasteen 630/833-6102

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

Tom Evans 843/705-7177

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 Trustees of Post #43

Glen Granat

Lee Lindberg

Brian Light

Jim Vahle

Wayne Fischer

Don Hennessy

Ken Garhan

Newsletter Editor

Jennifer Slown 630-803-2251

1166 Evergreen Ave Naperville, IL 60540

E-mail: JenniferBSlown@gmail.com

Assistant Editor

Rich Yndestad 630-357-6444

E-mail: r.yndestad@yahoo.com

**Please send your reports to Jennifer
Slown by August 15 for September**

August 2016

Activities — Opportunities

Aug. 4 - Post Mtg.

Aug. 6 - Monarch Landing

Aug. 13 - Brookdale Plaza Lisle

Aug. 20 - Independence Village

Aug. 24 - Legion Rider Mtg.

Selected Thursdays

& Saturdays—

Help **OSOT America** sort & pack
boxes at the
Lisle ware-
houses—



Legion Callers



John Prescott
Joe Udell



630-420-1244
630-369-8301





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