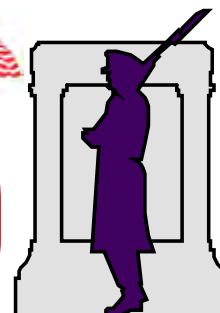




KEEPING POSTED

American Legion Post #43
Naperville, IL

www.naperlegion.org



Volume 14 Issue 2
February 2016

COMMANDER'S CALL

Tom Evans - Post Commander

Hello Fellow Legionnaires,

Now we are entering a busy time for our Post. In the past few weeks, we have been involved with the Oratorical Contest. One of our candidates, Regan Macwan, won our Post event and the County event and our other candidate, Abinaya Ramakrishan, won the 11th District event. They will be competing in the 2nd Division event on January 24th. Don Hennessey has done another great job. Thanks Don from all Post 43 members.



At our social on January 16th we initiated 12 new members and our Legion Riders had their officers installed. I know Don Chasteen will continue to do a great job and continue to represent our Post at many events.

In February, we will be honoring our youth at our Dinner/Social on February 20th. Please plan to be there to see what our local youth have accomplished in the past year. We will have Boys and Girls State participants plus Oratorical Contest winners and those who were involved in some of our other activities.

One other item that needs mentioning is that the Post is at 90% of our membership goal. We need YOU to recruit a member this month. If you know a member who hasn't paid his or her \$40 dues, remind them that now is the time. Know any qualified veterans who are not members? Invite them to a meeting, a dinner/social or other activity and encourage them to join (see application on page 3).

Looking forward to Spring? I think we all are.

Tom

SR. Vice Commander

Hard to believe we are one month into the New Year. May 2016 bring good health, beautiful moments, continuous joy, and successes to whatever you endeavor. I have a feeling that 2016 will be an exceptionally positive year globally.



Liz Michalski

One of our Post's strongest features is our relationship in the community. With our mantra of "Veterans continue serving", our members interact and kindle rapport with all age groups, making a difference with enthusiasm. Our list of commitments is long and covers a wide range of activities—from Boys and Girls State and Oratorical Contests to monthly Hines VA visits and Honor Flights. I am humbled by the responses of Naperville residents who sincerely thank us for our service, especially on the sidelines of the Memorial Day Parade. Not all communities are so supportive of a veteran's patriotic passion and not all respond to our presence with open affirmation. Post 43's positive relationships are not by coincidence, but through many years of its members' unconditional caring and involvement with Naperville, as well as, surrounding communities. If you are looking for something new to do in 2016, I invite you to visit our website at www.naperlegion.org to see the list of activities, or come to the monthly meetings held on the first Thursday of every month at 7 pm.

As of this month, the National American Legion dues have increased by five dollars—from \$35.00 to \$40.00. With more than 3 million post-9/11 generation veterans having already discharged from service and more to come, the demand for service for our veterans has increased dramatically. The American Legion plays a vital role in advocating for them—pushing for reforms in the Department of Veterans Affairs, in the midst of its greatest crisis. The Legion provides many transitioning assistance services and events including job fairs, business workshops and licensing summits. In addition to the general fund, it manages 18 dedicated funds with specific purposes such as The American Legion Endowment Fund or Operation Comfort Warriors. This \$40 new rate is projected to last 10 years without another increase. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call any of us.

Have a blessed New Year!

Liz

Jr. Vice Commander

To my fellow Veterans!

Our next social "Youth Recognition" is February 20, 2016, 6PM social hour, 7PM dinner.

"Women in Military" will be our March 19th Social, 6PM social hour, 7PM dinner.



Doug Deetjen



Please inform Wayne Fisher three or more days in advance for these socials so he can have a good count for the food.

I would like to thank everyone that helps make these socials a success.

To the left is a picture of the installation of the 'Riders' officers from the January 16th social.

Doug

The American Legion Membership Application

(Name)

(Phone)

(Mailing Address)

(City)

(State)

(Zip)

(E-mail)

Dues

☐ \$40.00 (1 Year)

☐ \$160.00 (5 Years) **
Save \$40.00 on 5 Year
Membership Program

Please include a copy of
your DD-214 with dues

Please check appropriate eligibility dates and branch of service below:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 2, 1990 - cessation of hostilities as determined by U.S. Government | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 20, 1989 - Jan. 3, 1990 | <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Army <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Navy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 24, 1982 - Jul. 3, 1984 | <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Air Force <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Marines |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Feb. 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975 | <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Coast Guard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jun. 25, 1950 - Jan. 31 1955 | <input type="checkbox"/> U.S Merchant Marines (12/7/41-8/15/45) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 7, 1941 - Dec. 31, 1946 | |

I certify that I served at least one day of active duty during the dates marked and was honorably discharges or am serving honorably.

(Signature of applicant) (Date)



AMERICAN LEGION POST 43 CALENDAR

February 1, 2016
February 4, 2016
February 9, 2016
February 10, 2016
February 13, 2016
February 20, 2016
February 20, 2016
February 24, 2016
February 29, 2016

Monday
Thursday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Saturday
Saturday
Saturday
Wednesday
Monday

Trustee Meeting
Post Meeting
Hines VA Visit
County Mtg. - Elmhurst
10 a.m. Coffee at Brookdale Plaza
10 a.m. Coffee at Independence Village
Dinner/Social - Youth Recognition
Legion Rider Meeting
Trustee Meeting



March 3, 2016
March 4 & 5, 2016
March 8, 2016
March 9, 2016
March 12, 2016
March 19, 2016
March 19, 2016
March 23, 2016

Thursday
Fri. & Sat
Tuesday
Wednesday
Saturday
Saturday
Saturday
Wednesday

Post Meeting
State Level Oratorical Contest
Hines VA Visit
County Mtg. - Wood Dale
10 a.m. Coffee at Brookdale Plaza
10 a.m. Coffee at Independence Village
Dinner/Social - Women in Military
Legion Rider Meeting



April 4, 2016
April 7, 2016
April 9, 2016
April 12, 2016
April 13, 2016
April 15-17, 2016
April 16, 2016
April 16, 2016

Monday
Thursday
Saturday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Fri. -Sun.
Saturday
Saturday

Trustee Meeting
Post Meeting
10 a.m. Coffee at Brookdale Plaza
Hines VA Visit
County Mtg. - Cantigny
National Oratorical Contest
10 a.m. Coffee at Independence Village
Dinner/Social - Past Commanders

Coffee "and"

**Saturday Morning
10 AM**



The February dates are:

**Feb. 13 - Brookdale Plaza
Feb. 20 - Independence Village**

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

PREMIER BOYS STATE AND ILLINI GIRLS STATE

Premier Boys State will be held from **June 11 - 17, 2016** and Illini Girls State will be held from **June 19 - 25, 2016** at Eastern Illinois University in Charlestown, Illinois.

Boys and Girls State are seven-day hands on experiences in the operation and fundamentals of government. These Programs bring together the best and brightest high school students - during the summer before their senior years - to help lead them down the path of individual success and leadership through doing, not just learning.

This is a wonderful experience for all who attend. If you know of someone who is completing their junior year of high school please let them know about this program. Terry and I believe these programs are the best we have to offer our young people and will provide a lasting influence in their lives.

Premier Boys State began in 1936 and Illini Girls State in 1940. The numbers have been decreasing in recent years and we would like to change that. Naperville sent 19 Boys to last year's program, but many Posts did not send anyone. Terry has challenged other Posts to send one or one more than last year. Our plan is to accept the challenge as well and to do even better. Last year Naperville had only 7 Girls attend which is half of previous years. Our goal is to return to 14 girls in attendance or better. We need your help in identifying possible candidates.

They can find out more by going to www.illinoisboysstate.org or www.ilala.org/igs/index.html respectively or have them contact Terry Jelinek at 630-357-5366 (Premier Boys State) or Lauren Evans 630-904-7578 (Illini Girls State) for more information. Naperville Post #43 will cover enrollment and transportation costs.

Terry & Lauren



HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL CONTEST



On January 2nd the Naperville Post Oratorical Contest level was held at the Post Home. There were two contestants Regan Macwan a homeschooled Freshman (younger brother of Rowen Macwan who placed 1st in the State and 2nd in the nation last year) and Abinaya Ramakrishnan a Sophomore at Illinois Mathematics & Science Academy. Regan placed 1st winning \$550.00. Abinaya Ramakrishnan was presented a \$400 check for placing second.

The Du Page County contest level followed the next day, January 3rd. It was held in the Visitor's Center Theater of Cantigny Museum in Wheaton, Illinois. Both Regan and Abinaya competed along with five other students. Once again Regan placed 1st.



Front Row: Regan Macwan and Abinaya Ramakrishnan
Back Row: Dick Komarek, Post 43 Chaplain; Tom Evans, Post 43 Commander; Wayne Fischer, 2nd District Commander and Don Hennessy, Post 43 Judge Advocate and Oratorical Contest Chair.

On January 10th the 11th District Contest took place at the Carol Stream Fire Facility. Abinaya placed 1st while Regan placed 3rd. Both will continue on to The 2nd Division Contest which will be on January 24 at the Carol Stream Fire Facility.

Future contests to watch for will be:

- The State contest will be held at the Peoria Civic Center, Peoria, Illinois on March 4th and 5th
- The National contest will be held at Wyndham Indianapolis West Hotel, 2544 Executive Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46241 on April 15th, 16th and 17th

Don



LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER 43

By the time this report comes out, it will be approximately two months (60+ days) to spring. With the mild weather we are having this winter we can only hope by spring all the snow, ice, and ROAD SALT will be gone. While we wait for this, it is a perfect time to go over your bike if you still have it at home.



Check your mileage against your manual for recommended maintenance, check your tire wear, brake pads, brake & clutch lever travel, and since it is sitting still place a piece of cardboard under it to check for any seal leaks. If you don't feel comfortable performing these yourself, right now is a good time to call the shop to make an appointment to get it done. This will ensure your bike is ready to go when you are.

For those that attended the January ALR breakfast and visit to the Brookdale veterans, I hope you enjoyed it. If you did, I will see you at the February one along with those who could not make the January one. An email with the date and place will be coming. Even though we cannot be riding, we can still be serving.

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. Come check us out at our next meeting which will be 24 February, 2016, 6:00 pm for social and 7:00 pm for meeting at Bono's Pub, 2029 Ogden Avenue, Lisle, IL.

Don Chasteen
ALR Chapter 43 Director
630-531-1050





OUR DINNER/SOCIAL HOURS HAVE CHANGED BACK TO 6 PM SOCIAL HOUR FOLLOWED BY 7PM DINNER. PLEASE REMIND YOUR FRIENDS THAT THIS SCHEDULE HAS BEEN REINSTATED AND WILL BE FOR ALL FUTURE DINNER/SOCIALS.



Monthly Hines Visit



Our monthly Hines visit will be Tuesday, February 9th. The bus leaves promptly at 6:15 PM from Judd Kendall VFW Post 3873. You don't have to be a VFW, Legion or Auxiliary member to visit the Veterans. We have many

who just want to help Veterans that come along. So tell your friends and relatives this is a good way to give. back.

TAPS

Gordon M. Anderson



SICK CALL

Don Widder Al Zumpe Joe Pope

Chuck Winchester

Chuck Biegel

Jim Grimm

Ken Blood

Jim Strnad

Don Faulhaber

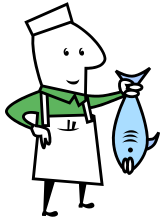
Tom Fogarty

Dick Knosher



Judd Kendall VFW Fish Fry's-2016

Yes, the Fish Fry Season is on and we are ready for 2016. Our Judd Kendall Fish Fry's begin Friday February 5th, 2016 and will be held every Friday night thru Good Friday-March 25th. Serving will be from 5pm-8pm as in the past. We will again offer a "Shrimp Option" that compliments our very unique "All You Can Eat" Fish Fry's in Naperville and the surrounding area.



This year we will be keeping the same core pricing as last year-yes you are reading this right. Our core prices remain the same as last year. But we are adjusting the "Shrimp Option" to "6 pieces for \$6".

Remember, this is an "All You Can Eat" Fish Fry with a large variety prepared on site by Belgio's, our Fish Fry partner. As our dear "Uncle Sam" once said-"We Want You"!!! And yes, we are "Open to the Public". Feel free to invite all your friends, neighbors, and even your enemies. Please check the VFW website at www.napervfw3873.org to see the weekly menus.



Wayne Fischer

Post 43 Scholarship



American Legion Post 43 Naperville, in order to assist a deserving young man or woman pursue their education after high school, will award a graduate of the class of 2016 from an accredited Illinois high school the sum of \$1500.00. This can be applied to the cost associated with continuing education at any technical school or degree granting college or university within the United States.

For further information on Eligibility, Selection Criteria and Applying for the Award please view the information on our webpage <http://www.naperlegion.org/index.php?id=8>

WILL YOU NOMINATE NAPERVILLE'S CITIZEN(S) OF THE YEAR?



Naperville American Legion Post 43 began naming a Citizen of the Year in 1986. Two years ago the program was expanded to consider naming a Citizen of the Year in up to three categories—Service to the Community, Service to Youth, and Service to Veterans.

We are again asking for community assistance to identify deserving candidates in each category and we especially want input from our own Legion and VFW members.

Nominees must be Naperville residents and their 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-are of great help to them in selecting the winners. They may be mailed to American Legion Post 43, Citizen of the Year, Post Office Box 4, Naperville, 60566 or emailed to vahlej@comcast.net to arrive by March 16, 2016.

Winners will be announced in the local media and honored at the Legion's Awards and Recognition Banquet on April 16, 2016.



So, fire up your keyboard; sharpen your pencil; and make sure the selection committee knows about your candidate.

Jim Vahle



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

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	

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Please send your reports to Lauren Evans by February 15 for March

Post 43 Webmaster

Del Luzadder 630/587-1588
E-mail: dluzadder@aol.com

February 2016 **Activities — Opportunities**

Feb. 1 - Trustee Mtg.
Feb. 4 - Post Mtg.
Feb. 9 - Hines VA Visit
Feb. 13 - Brookdale Plaza Lisle
Feb. 20 - Independence Village
Feb. 24 - Legion Rider Mtg.

Selected Thursdays

& Saturdays—

Help OSOT America sort & pack boxes at the Lisle warehouses—





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

New Members Initiated January 16, 2016

