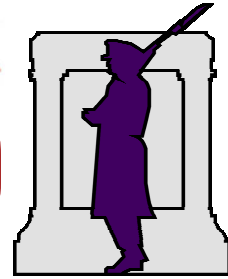




KEEPING POSTED

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



Volume 18 Issue 4
April 2020

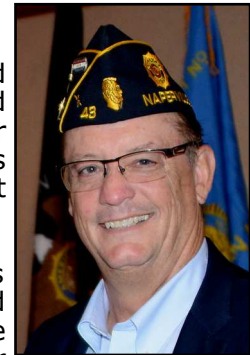
Celebrating 101 Years of Service to Veterans, U.S. Military, Youth, & Community

COMMANDER'S CALL

Jack Amberg - Post Commander

Greetings Fellow Legionaries:

As I write this article, we are at the beginning of the activities and reaction to the Coronavirus (Covid-19). My first reaction is to hope and pray that it is all an overreaction; because if it's not, then we are in for some very rough times. That said, I think there are still opportunities and I'd like to share these. By the way, I am not a doctor nor a scientist so in no way can I begin to predict the future.



1. **Take the time.** The most precious commodity any of us has ever been given/issued is time. All the closures of business and activities have given time back to use. We can "stop and smell the roses" or spend quality time with family. We can improve our knowledge by reading or researching. We can improve our spirituality through prayer. The virus will eventually be controlled to the point our lives can return to as close to normal as before, but we can use the time it gives us now.
2. **Be positive and optimistic.** We live in the greatest nation in the world. Our food is not cooked over an open fire, that fire's fuel fed by trash or dung as in 3rd world countries. More than 80% of the world's population still lives in 3rd world countries. We carry our climate around with us every day. We have it good, most say we are blessed. Focus on what you have and not what you don't have, on what you can do, not on what you can't do.
3. **Think about others and do what you can for them.** There are a lot of businesses that have been forced to close. That is bad, and although it is temporary, for some it may be permanent. There are small things we can do to help others through the tough times. Use the drive through when you can. Use services that will bring the food to your home when you can. I am not saying spend all your money on take out, but if you normally eat out, just order drive through or delivery at those times. Get gift cards where you can. As I write this, grocery stores are still open, but movie theaters are not. Buy gift cards as gifts for special occasions at the grocery store. Shop local businesses online. Amazon may have it, but a local business may also have it.
4. **Finally,** what a great time to check in with those Veterans we have all wanted to reconnect with, and just see how they are doing.

At some point the Coronavirus will move on, and we will return to as normal as a life as we can. In all the events of our lives that are presented, we have choices on how to react and what actions we can take. We are service oriented, or we wouldn't be Veterans. Good Luck to you all, and good health to you and your families.

Jack Amberg
Commander, Naperville American Legion Post 43



Sr. Vice Commander

As of right now our membership stands at 542 of 573 or 95%. 31 members short of our goal! We're in the home stretch, but really need to dig deep to meet our numbers for 2020. If you know a Veteran or active duty member from the Naperville area, please encourage them to join our Post (reminder current active duty, guard, and reserve members have their dues paid for by the Post).



Jennifer Slown

Our PayPal is up and running! You can now pay your new member and renewal dues by credit card directly to Post 43 at IL43finance@gmail.com through the PayPal platform. If you need assistance navigating this process, don't hesitate to contact Finance Officer Bob Colby. We will have this function enabled on the website in the near future.

Looking to warmer weather, Naper Settlement will be hosting a weekend festival May 16th and 17th titled "Home Front 1940s". This weekend will honor our nation's sacrifices on the home front during WWII that helped ensure our victory. There will be musical tributes from big bands to the Andrews Sisters as well as swing demonstrations, WWII era vehicles, Victory Garden art showcase, movie screenings, meet and greet with Rosie the Riveter and one of the last surviving Rockford Peach baseball players, and so much more!

During the weekend, Post 43 will have an American Legion booth set up to connect with veterans. We are asking for volunteers to man hour long shifts to ensure that we have coverage for the whole weekend. You will of course have the opportunity to enjoy the festivities. If interested in volunteering for this community outreach event, please let me know through email or phone call.

Leading up to the weekend, Naper Settlement will be interviewing veterans and those who lived through the 1940s and have a story to tell. Those with a Naperville connection are especially encouraged to be interviewed and have their story recorded and shared. If interested, please call 630-305-5252 to speak with a Naper Settlement representative.

Finally, the grand prize of a \$100 gift card to Hugo's Frog Bar and Fish House is still at stake! The member that recruits the most Legion members to our Post between September 1st, 2019 and May 31st, 2020 will win! Simply notify Adjutant Rios if you recruit a new member so we have an accurate accounting! Thanks for being a valued member of Post 43!

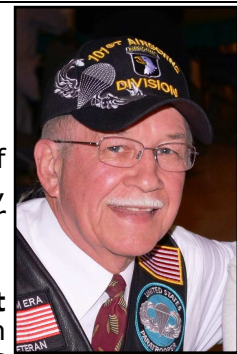
Semper Fidelis!
Jennifer Slown
Sr Vice Commander



Jr. Vice Commander

As we continue to take the necessary measures to slow down the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) within our borders, and for everyone's protection, we cancelled our Dinner/Social for March. We hope to continue with our regular activities for April, but we will let you know if things change.

Our last Dinner/Social is **April 18th, 2020**, and is our salute to "**Past Commanders**". We will also recognize our Citizens of the Year and High School Scholarships winners. So please mark your calendars for this special event! The menu for this event is "**BBQ**", and I am still in the process of selecting a caterer for this evening. As our agenda for this Dinner/Social is quite full, we will not have any other entertainment.



Richard Karbarz

The cost for all Dinner/Socials remains the same at **\$14 per person, \$7 for children age 7-14, and children age 6 and under still eat for free!** Be sure to call or email your RSVP, when the email blast goes out to ensure you have a spot reserved! Warm regards and good health!

Richard H. Karbarz, Jr. Vice-Commander **"Airborne All The Way"**!



DuPage Veterans Foundation 2020 Chicago Honor Flight Fundraiser Postponed

Given all that is happening regarding the "Virus" we will be **rescheduling our Fundraiser for Honor Flight Chicago to a later date.** We will still be requesting donations for our "Silent Auction"; ticket sales; and cash donations. For all that have already purchased a ticket, we will certainly honor that at the door. We are currently working with the DuPage Airport Authority and the folks at the Calamos' Hanger to find a date this summer so we can have Era Airplanes and Military Vehicles from Cantigny on display also. A special "thank-you" goes out to all that have made donations or bought tickets. This will all go to our fundraiser. Thanks again to all who support and attend this special event and as soon as we get a date set, we will let the world know.



Wayne



AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER 43



Spring is here and riding season has begun, but our events are rapidly being cancelled or delayed due to the Coronavirus (Covid-19).

The May 2nd DuPage Veteran's Foundation fundraiser for Honor Flight Chicago has been rescheduled for a later date. We generally had over 150 motorcycles attend a Post 43 Legion Rider Run, which raised monies for this event. When a new date is available, we will let you know!

We were also saddened that the Naperville St. Patrick's Day Parade and Veteran visits at various Senior Living Centers were cancelled, but we certainly understand these decisions. We also had to cancel our "Dine In" last month at Naperville's Texas Roadhouse, due to their dining area being closed over concerns of the Coronavirus. That event will be rescheduled as soon as things settle down.

We hope all of you are well and that this Coronavirus (Covid-19) passes soon with little damage to our great country, and its citizens that we have so proudly pledged to defend. Our oath to the USA never ends!

Our next Riders meeting is 22 April 2020 at the Patio of the VFW/Legion Hall. Meeting starts at 7:00 pm. If you are interested in becoming a Legion Rider, you are welcome to attend a meeting.

Tom Dillon
Director ALR Chapter 43
630-803-2047



PREMIER BOYS STATE AND ILLINI GIRLS STATE

Premier Boys State will be held from **June 13 - 19, 2020** and Illini Girls State will be held from **June 21 - 27, 2020** at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, 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. 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.

They can find out more by going to www.illinoisboysstate.org or www.ilgirlsstate.org respectively or have them contact Ken Mores at 815-353-4102 (Premier Boys State) or Eileen Lass 630-778-7603 (Illini Girls State) for more information. Naperville Post 43 will cover enrollment and transportation costs.

**Family Breakfast Sunday April 19th**

All are invited to free Family Breakfast on
Sunday, April 19th, 2020, 9 am
at the VFW Hall, 908 W. Jackson, Naperville, IL

Prepared by the Kendall Cooks



VA Hotline
1-855-948-2311





When Corrie Ten Boom's faith and courage stood up strongly in the face of Nazi tyranny during WWII, she was often heard to say to those around her that worry doesn't empty tomorrow of its sorrows, it empties today of its strength! Over each of our lifetimes 90% of what we worry about or become panicked over never happens, the other 10% is out of our control. It also takes the same amount of energy to worry as it does to pray. One leads to peace, the other to panic. We have the choice of which action will determine our result. Peter in 1Peter 3:17 encourages us to press on in the midst of every evil, whether they be persecutions or pandemics like the one we are facing now. God calls us to face troubles and threats with courage leaning on him. Throughout history Christians and all persons of faith have always stood out willing to help those who are sick, poor or in need of encouragement when the world seems to not make sense or desert them in terms of uncertainty or crisis. This is such a time to demonstrate our faith, love and compassion to our families, our co-workers and to friends and strangers alike. Now, I don't want to appear naive. Loving the sick doesn't mean we intentionally infect ourselves with the coronavirus contagion but it does mean we should take practical steps in hygiene, staying away from large groups and if necessary self-isolate if we might have the flu, bad cold or other non-virulent virus. However, if we are well we can reach out to the sick, the lonely or infirmed by being quick to help and slow to hiding in our basements. Noted pastor Greg Laurie told his congregation this week: 1) Be practical about hygiene and safety, 2) Be prayerful for God's protection. God is BIGGER than the Covid-19 virus, and 3) Spread God's love and compassion by being faithful and not fearful. Don't worry, pray and replace fear with faith. Throughout history there have been plagues and pestilences far worse than what we are currently facing. However, the United States government has been slow in the production and distribution of testing kits, which are important of knowing who has the virus, so the virus can be better controlled. As of March 13th China has tested 370,000 of its citizens, South Korea 248,000, Italy 86,000, Russia 77,000, Britain 30,000, Taiwan 16,000, Japan 10,000 and the United States has tested only 13,624 of its citizens. Since the outbreak of the virus there have been to date 1,750 reported US cases with 50 deaths. The worldwide count is 137,445 cases, of which 80,945 are from China, 15,113 from Italy, and 11,364 cases in Iran. Deaths resulting from the virus are just under 5,000 as of March 13th, the day I am writing this article to you. Symptoms of the virus are: a temperature of 100.4 or above. That's right not 104 but 100.4, dry cough, fatigue and thick mucus coughed up from the respiratory track. This information provided by the CDC. The virus can survive on hard surfaces like plastic and stainless steel for 72 hours, only 24 hours on cardboard. The virus is not an airborne virus says the CDC. One can only be infected by touching a surface or coming into contact with an infected person. Use hand sanitizer with at least 40-60% alcohol base. Finally, an encouraging sign may lie not far ahead. Many viruses become less transmissible when the temperature and humidity rise and eventually die out. The virus, says the CDC, will not live long on heated surfaces. So, since Spring will have already started by the time you read this, we can be optimistic and hopeful that the days of the Coronavirus may be numbered particularly with the testing, sanitary protocols and reduction in large group gatherings; as well as temporary closures of schools and events to further control the spreading of the virus. Keep faithful and hopeful and recognize that God is still in control! In closing here are some facts also from the CDC you may have missed. Unrelated to COVID-19, the CDC estimates that between October 2019 and March 2020, 36 to 51 million people will be treated for flu related illness with 370,000 to 670,000 requiring hospitalization. 22,000-55,000 deaths occur from just the regular flu each year. It's been much worse before the Coronavirus appeared. During WWII, more soldiers died from the Spanish Flu Pandemic of 1918, than were killed in the entire war! The 1918 flu, when there were no antibiotics and medical treatments like we have today, killed an estimated 20-55 million people including 675,000 Americans. This deadliest of all viruses in history also resulted in 40% of all Navy and 36% of all Army soldiers to be infected with the flu. Troops moving around the world in crowded ships and trains helped to spread the virus. God Bless You All! God Bless The United States of America!

Chaplain, Dick Komarek



AMERICAN LEGION POST 43 CALENDAR



April 2, 2020
 April 12, 2020
 April 14, 2020
 April 18, 2020
 April 19, 2020
 April 21, 2020
 April 22, 2020

Thursday
 Sunday
 Tuesday
 Saturday
 Sunday
 Tuesday
 Wednesday



Post Meeting 7 p.m.
 Easter
NO Hines VA Visit
 Dinner/Social - Past Commanders
 Free Family Breakfast at VFW 9am
 S.A.L. Squadron Meeting 7 p.m.
 Legion Rider Meeting

May 2, 2020
 May 7, 2020
 May 12, 2020
 May 14, 2020
 May 16-17, 2020
 May 19, 2020
 May 25, 2020
 May 27, 2020

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



DVF Fundraiser Postponed
 Post Meeting 7 p.m.
 Hines VA Visit ??
 Poppy Day
 Naper Settlement
 S.A.L. Squadron Meeting 7 p.m.
 Memorial Day Parade
 Legion Rider Meeting

June 4, 2020
 June 9, 2020
 June 14, 2020
 June 14, 2020
 June 16, 2020
 June 24, 2020

Thursday
 Tuesday
 Sunday
 Sunday
 Tuesday
 Wednesday



Post Meeting 7 p.m.
 Hines VA Visit ??
 U.S. Army 245th Birthday 1775
 Flag Day
 S.A.L. Squadron Meeting 7 p.m.
 Legion Riders Meeting

July 4, 2020
 July 14, 2020
 July 8-12, 2020
 July 22, 2020

Saturday
 Tuesday
 Wed.- Sun.
 Wednesday

Independence Day
 Hines VA Visit
 Legion State Convention-Springfield
 Legion Rider Meeting

Due to Coronavirus (COVID-19), Schedule subject to change without notice



Sons of the American Legion Squadron 43

Our stated S.A.L. meeting is every third Tuesday at 7pm. We meet in the lower level "patio" at the VFW hall. Our next stated meeting is scheduled for April 21st. We raised over \$800 on our 2nd Annual Pancake Breakfast. Thanks to all that participated!



As a reminder 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. All are welcome and I encourage all to attend.

Chris Lance
Squadron 43 SAL Commander

*Plant Sale
Today*

Annual VFW Plant Sale

The VFW plant sale is in full swing. Please return your order forms (available at http://www.napervfw3873.org/files/2020_Plant_Sale_Order_Form.pdf) by April 19. The flowers will be delivered on May 12th and be ready for pickup from 1-6 PM at the VFW. We could use additional help that day to separate the flowers into orders.

We hope you will support our plant sale. Money derived from the sale goes to maintaining the grounds of the VFW. We are very proud of the Post and want to keep it looking as good as possible. Plus we offer you a wide variety of first quality plants, hanging baskets and flats. They are shipped in the morning of the plant sale from West Olive, MI. These are plants that have been grown in the Midwest and are accustomed to the climate here. The prices are reasonable and the flowers are first rate!

For questions or information, contact me at marcymaughan@wowway.com or call me at 630-357-3440.

Marcy Maughan

Coffee "and"
Saturday Morning 10 AM



**Coffee's cancelled for an
Indefinite period of time!**

Due to the concerns over Coronavirus (Covid-19), our monthly visits with Veterans at Monarch Landing, Brookdale-Lisle, Independence Village, and Spring Meadows have been postponed for an indefinite period of time. When it is safe to resume, we will again have gatherings on the 1st Saturday at Monarch Landing, the 2nd Saturday at Brookdale in Lisle, the 3rd Saturday at Independence Village, and the 4th Saturday at Spring Meadows.

Information: Ken Mores 815-353-4102

2019-2020: Period of Many Anniversaries

The past year has seen the 100th anniversary of the official end of WWI with the signing of the Treaty of Versailles on June 28, 1919.

Earlier in that same year, a group of Veterans met in Paris to start discussions about forming what would become the American Legion. Similarly, in June, 1919, 15 Naperville Veterans came together to form American Legion Post 43, making 2019 a year of multiple 100-year anniversaries.

This year has its own milestones. On Feb. 19, 1945, the amphibious landings began on Iwo Jima. Some 70,000 U.S. Marines would eventually engage in the battle against a Japanese force of 18,000 soldiers, fighting from caves and bunkers dug into the island's volcanic rock. One of the bloodiest battles of the Pacific war, the fighting lasted until March 26, 1945. At its end, some 26,000 U.S. casualties were recorded, including 6,800 dead. Of the Japanese force, only 216 remained alive to surrender.

The iconic image of the battle of Iwo Jima, fought 75 years ago, was the photograph of five Marines and a Navy Corpsman raising the U.S. flag on the summit of Mount Suribachi. Although a broadly recognized symbol of victory, the flag raising actually occurred on Feb. 23, just four days after the landing and weeks before the battle's ending.



This year will also mark the 75th anniversary of the end of WWII with the formal Japanese surrender on Sept. 2, 1945, on the deck of the USS Missouri, following the Japanese Emperor's surrender declaration of Aug. 15.

This month also contains significant dates in military history. On April 4, 1775, the "shot heard around the world" was fired by American colonists against British troops at the battle of Lexington and Concord, Mass., setting off the American Revolution.

Exactly eight years later in 1783 General George Washington declared the end of hostilities.

Also this month, the U.S. Civil War began in 1861 with the firing by Confederate forces on Fort Sumter, S. C., on the 12th of April. The Union garrison of 85 officers and men included Abner Doubleday, who is reputed to have fired the first shot and who is also credited with inventing the game of baseball in 1839.

April also marks the end of the Civil War. General Robert E. Lee surrendered to General Ulysses Grant at Appomattox, Va., on April 9, 1865.

There are other important April dates in military history, but one has particular significance for many Post 43 members. On April 30, 1975, Saigon fell to Communist forces and the last Americans evacuated South Vietnam via helicopters. These Americans remained in non-combat roles following the signing of a peace treaty between the U.S. and North Vietnam in January 1973.

Joseph Strebel
Historian Post 43





G.I. Yoga is free to all Veterans and their family members. G.I. Yoga teaches stress relief methods by using the practice of Yoga to ease aches and pains, lower blood pressure, and increase strength, flexibility, and balance. G.I. Yoga also teaches participants how to use Yoga to manage symptoms of PTSD and TBI. All classes are taught by certified Yoga Instructors.

Due to the Coronavirus (Covid-19), the Wednesday morning classes at VFW Hall and Saturday morning classes at the Fort Hill Center in Naperville are all cancelled until farther notice.

Instead, we will be holding online classes through our GI Yoga YouTube channel at the regular times on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

YouTube channel link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxBk498oH94DIr8KMRPjdug/>

For additional information, contact:

Kate Fleming at giyoga@osotamerica.org

Chitra Singh: mailofchitra@gmail.com

Please check Class Schedules: <https://giyoga.org/calendar/>

G.I. Yoga is a program of osotAmerica.org

If you have wondered about the importance of your DD-214, the attached link will get you to the VA - U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs which helps to provide the details and benefits your family will receive if you file a claim...WITHIN 2 YEARS OF VETERANS DEATH. See the link provided below for the explanation of your benefits.

The over-riding importance, however, you must have the DD-214 (or final discharge papers, if prior to DD-214) to request the benefits. Advise your family where your discharge papers are stored; and/or have a copy of your DD-214 (Discharge Documents) on file with Post 43.

This website describes veteran burial allowance/payments to the veterans family or "next of kin."

<https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/veterans-burial-allowance/>

Jim Oftedal

TAPS

Henry H. Hughes
Joseph White
Richard Galgano
John A. Roe Jr.
James P. Dodson
Clinton Bargerstock
Jack C. Shiffler
Charles R. O'Malley
David A. Grobl
Robert J. Parker
Robert E. Johnson





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

Boy Scouts and Special Meetings are at Post Home, 10 W. Chicago Av., Naperville, IL

www.naperlegion.org

Post Officers

Commander

Jack Amberg 630-995-5244

Sr. Vice-Commander

Jennifer Slown 630-803-2251

Jr. Vice-Commander

Richard Karbarz 630-527-9438

Sgt.-At-Arms

Glenn Granat 630-209-2834

Finance Officer

Bob Colby 630-301-2664

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

Nadia Rios 630-728-7519

Immediate Past Commander

Don Chasteen 630-833-6102

Public Relations

Jim Vahle 630-864-7183

Bugler

Rich Yndestad 630-698-6444

Legion Rider Director

Tom Dillon 630-803-2047

Honor Guard - Chair

Jim Oftedal 630-357-4030

Color Guard - Chair

Jim Sarns 630-234-6292

Sons of the American Legion

Chris Lance 630-926-1177

Boy Scout Liaison Troop 106

Jerry Cooney 630-995-5053

Legion Trustees of Post #43

Don Chasteen

Jack Amberg

Bob Colby

Jim Vahle

Wayne Fischer

Jim Stoffregen

Ken Garhan

Newsletter Editor

Rich Yndestad

630-698-6444

E-mail: r.yndestad@yahoo.com

**Please send your reports to Rich by
April 15th for May Newsletter**

Post 43 Webmaster

Liz Michalski

E-mail: lizmichalski@yahoo.com

Legion Callers



John Prescott 630-420-1244

(Additional Legion Callers are needed!!!)

April 2020

Activities — Opportunities

Apr 2 - Post Meeting 7 pm

Senior Living Coffee's suspended for
indefinite period of time

Apr 18 - Dinner/Social 6 pm

Apr 19 - Family Breakfast at VFW 9am

Apr 21 - SAL Squadron Meeting

Apr 22 - Legion Riders Meeting

Selected Thursdays & Saturdays:

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





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



Post 43 Sons of the American Legion held their 2nd Annual Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, Feb. 23rd, at the VFW Hall.

(Photo by Jim Hoch)