KEEPING POSTED

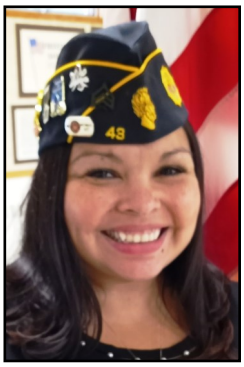
American Legion Post #43
Naperville, IL
www.naperlegion.org

Volume 19 Issue 9-10
Nov - Dec 2021

Celebrating 102 Years of Service to Veterans, U.S. Military, Youth, & Community

COMMANDER'S CALL

Nadia Baran - Post Commander



As we continue to navigate the waters of this very strange year, I would like to thank all those who have supported the Post. Your participation in events, and encouragement is what keeps this Post going.

This year we are going to strive to work more closely with the VFW, VFW Auxiliary, and of course our own Legion Riders. It is our goal that both Posts support each other fully. We believe that we will be stronger together, as our end goal has always been to help our Veterans and our Community. Post 43 has been doing this for many years. We are lucky to have two Posts that work together; we will just be doing more. We have a couple of fundraising ideas, which we will be doing with the VFW. More information will be available in the months ahead.

As you know the R.E.D shirts sales were extremely successful! A BIG Thank You to the American Legion Riders for raising over **$12,000** for the Gold Star Memorial monument. Our fundraiser for "22 A Day" shirts is still going strong. We have made over **$3000** in donations, so far. The "22 A Day" shirts are for raising awareness for Veteran's Suicide. By raising awareness, we are hoping to bring this incredible number down. All proceeds for the "22 A Day" shirts will be going to the Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans. As always if you have any new ideas for fundraising, please send them my way. The same goes for any suggestions you might have on how to better the Post. Please let me know!

November is shaping out to be a busy one. We have the Marine Corps 246th Birthday Ball on November 10th. **Semper Fidelis!** Veterans Day is on Thursday, November 11th. Please join us for the Veterans Day ceremonies at 11am, as well as the Dinner/Social that evening at 5:30pm. Later on in the month is the VFW Turkey Raffle on November 20th, 2021. In December, we will have a joint Christmas Party with the VFW on the 4th at 6pm.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the Meetings and Socials. Our next meetings will be on November 4th, 2021 and December 2nd, 2021. So, have a Happy Thanksgiving and enjoy the holidays!

In closing, I would like to take time to recognize "Operation Her Story". I had the privilege to fly as a guardian with these women on this historic, first ever, All Women Veteran's Honor Flight. I had the honor of meeting numerous Women Veterans who served in WWII, Korea, and Vietnam. I would like to thank all Veterans out there for both your service and sacrifice.

Semper Fidelis!

Nadia Baran
Post 43 Commander

Sr. Vice Commander

Tom Jorstad

I was recently golfing at Springbrook Golf Course and saw a fellow golfer who happened to be wearing an Army baseball cap. I struck up a conversation with him during which I found out that his name was John and that he was indeed a Veteran who had served in Korea. I mentioned the American Legion to him and asked if he was a member. He said he was not and asked what we do. I paused and collected my thoughts and made a short sales pitch to him during which I loosely recited the American Legion mission statement, which is: ***"To enhance the well-being of America's Veterans, their families, our military and our communities by our devotion to mutual helpfulness."*** I mentioned that Naperville Post 43 holds our meetings at the VFW Post in Naperville, at 7pm on the first Thursday of the month. John seemed interested in attending a meeting and possibly joining the Post, but was non-committal. We parted ways and went back to our separate golf games. Afterwards, I couldn't help but think that my membership sales pitch could have been better, and I wished that I had a business card or membership form with me that would have provided him some Post 43 details. This encounter gave me a couple of ideas:

1. I need to work on a 30 second "elevator pitch" that has enough detail to spark interest but not too much detail that it overwhelms someone.
2. I need to start carrying a business card or something to leave behind that recaps details about our post while providing some Post 43 contact information.

I wrote last month that growing our membership ranks is a responsibility that is shared by all Post 43 members. To that end and related to point 1, above, I am asking all Post 43 members to take time and think about what you would say to a prospective member. Think about how you would approach someone and, what you would tell them about the American Legion and our Post. We all need to do what we can to grow our ranks. So please think about your own version of a membership pitch, and seize the opportunity to talk to others about the American Legion and our post. Regarding point 2, I know that we have some cards with details about American Legion Post 43, and I will be looking into getting additional cards printed and made available to our members so that these can be provided to prospective members. Also, if you're at our monthly meeting, and you see someone you don't know, make it a point to introduce yourself. That person might be a prospective member. After all, small gestures like introducing yourself to someone new can make a big difference.

A couple of administrative reminders:

- Our fiscal year runs July 1st through June 30th
- Dues are $45 per year, paid on or before July 1st

As of October 15th, we have 313 members who have paid their dues for the current membership year 2021/2022; out of a total of 589 members from the previous year or 53% - so if you're reading this and haven't paid your dues for the current year, please do so!
You can renew your dues by going online to www.legion.org/renew, or if you prefer to pay by mail, please submit a check for $45 to:

American Legion Post 43
PO Box 4
Naperville, IL 60566

As always, I am open to ideas regarding recruiting and member retention.

Tom Jorstad
Sr. Vice-Commander, Post 43
(630) 215-3592 e-mail: tom.jorstad@yahoo.com

Jr. Vice Commander

Gary Michalowski

Greetings to All My Fellow Post 43 members!!

It has been amazing to get to know more of our members and a privilege as I grow into my roll of Jr. Vice Commander. I'm also looking forward to getting to know more members. This is KEY for all of us, to get out of our comfort Zones, to reach out more to each other to try to make it more of a Community. We have a lot to give to each other by sharing our stories and strengths that bind us together.

Attendance at the last 2 months of our Dinner/Socials has been growing. We had over 55 people for the month of September. We also had 70 guests for our Oktoberfest dinner catered by Corky's Catering, along with a String Quartet from the Fine Arts Dept. at Neuqua Valley High School.

Veterans Day Dinner is on Nov. 11th at 5:30pm! This dinner is a joint Veterans Day Celebration / Thanksgiving dinner, catered by Belgio's catering. This is a combined event with VFW Post 3873 and Post 43. There will be special entertainment from the DuPage Men's Barber Shop Chorus. The menu will include: Turkey breast oven roasted to perfection with Super Creamy mash potatoes and natural gravy on top. Green Bean Casserole made with mushroom soup, with fried onions rings and seasonings. Traditional Stuffing, chopped onions & celery topped with a seasoned broth and baked croutons. Cranberries Sauce, Petite Dinner Rolls and Butter. Dessert is a 1/2 chocolate, and 1/2 white Cake to honor Veteran's Day!

Location: Judd Kendall VFW Post, 908 W. Jackson Ave., Naperville, IL. 60563
The Cost is $15.00per person, $7.00 for kids, and children under 6 yrs eat free.

RSVP to Gary Michalowski: e-mail gmichalowski@sbcglobal.net **or Call or Text to 630-988-0106 Reservation Deadline: Monday, November 8th**
Payment is at the door: credit card, cash, or check payable to ("American Legion Post 43")

There is **NO** Dinner/Social in December, however a Joint Christmas Party will be held by VFW Post 3873 and American Legion Post 43, on the **4th of DECEMBER at 6pm,** upstairs at the VFW Post.

So I Hope to see you soon! So with that, I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas!!

Gary Michalowski
Jr. Vice Commander

Our Social Media Pages are:
Facebook: American Legion Naperville Post 43
Instagram: post43naperville
Twitter: Naperville Post 43 - @naperlegion

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER 43

Steve Strickland

The Riders were at Midway Airport to greet the first All Women's Honor Flight on October 18th, when they returned from Washington, DC. The Legion Riders were also there for the last Honor Flight, for 2021, on October 27th.

Our bikes will be tucked away for the Winter all too soon! The Riders will resume our visits to Brookdale the 2nd Saturday at 10 am of each month. We'll be continuing our Biker tradition of "Eat to Ride and Ride to Eat", so we meet at the Morningside Café for breakfast at 8:30 am. All are welcome to join us!

Year to date the Riders have participated in 77 events, totaling 1066 hours.

We continue to promote the Four Pillars of the Legion as shown by the fact ***that in the last 7 months, Post 43 Legion Riders took part in 23 events and donated 355 hours of Legion service***. We are proud to be a part of American Legion Post 43! The Legion Riders raise over $12K for the Naperville Gold Star Memorial.

Our next Legion Rider meetings will take place at the VFW patio on Wednesday November 17th and December 15th, at 7 pm.

Membership is very important and if you are a member of the American Legion or Sons of the American Legion, and ride a motorcycle 500cc or larger, you are eligible for membership. We would be honored to have you attend one of our meetings and see what we are about.

Steve Strickland
Director ALR
Chapter 43
630-453-0095

AMERICAN LEGION POST 43 CALENDAR

November 4, 2021	Thursday	Post Meeting 7 pm
November 10, 2021	Wednesday	U.S.M.C. 246th Birthday
November 11, 2021	Thursday	Dinner/Social - Veterans Day 5:30pm
November 13, 2021	Saturday	10 am Coffee at Brookdale-Lisle
November 16, 2021	Tuesday	S.A.L. Squadron Meeting 7 pm
November 17, 2021	Wednesday	Legion Rider Meeting 7 pm
November 20, 2021	Saturday	10 am Coffee at Independence Village
November 27, 2021	Saturday	10 am Coffee at StoryPoint-Naperville
December 2, 2021	Thursday	Post Meeting 7 pm
December 4, 2021	Saturday	10 am Coffee at Brookdale-Lisle
December 4, 2021	Saturday	Joint Christmas Party with VFW 6pm
December 11, 2021	Saturday	10 am Coffee at Independence Village
December 11, 2021	Saturday	Army/Navy Football Game 2pm
December 14, 2021	Tuesday	S.A.L. Squadron Meeting 7 pm
December 15, 2021	Wednesday	Legion Rider Meeting 7 pm
December 25, 2021	Saturday	Christmas Day
January 1, 2022	Friday	New Year's Day
January 6, 2022	Thursday	Post Meeting 7 pm
January 8, 2022	Saturday	10 am Coffee at Brookdale-Lisle
January 8, 2022	Saturday	High School Oratorical Contest
January 15, 2022	Saturday	10 am Coffee at Independence Village
January 15, 2022	Saturday	Dinner/Social-Riders & SAL Officers
January 18, 2022	Tuesday	S.A.L. Squadron Meeting 7 pm
January 22, 2022	Saturday	10 am Coffee at StoryPoint-Naperville
January 26, 2022	Wednesday	Legion Riders Meeting 7 pm

Due to COVID-19 Mandates, all events listed are subject to change without notice

Coffee "and"

Saturday Morning 10 AM

The Nov dates are:

Nov 6 - Cancelled
Nov 13 - Brookdale - Lisle
Nov 20 - Independence Village
Nov 27 - StoryPoint-Naperville

Don't forget our monthly visits with Veterans at Brookdale - Lisle, Independence Village, and StoryPoint-Naperville. Join us on the 2nd Saturday at Brookdale in Lisle, 3rd Saturday at Independence Village, and 4th Saturday at StoryPoint-Naperville. All are welcome to Attend!!

Information: Jim Stoffregen 630-430-4966

The United States Marine Corps Celebrates their 246th Birthday

This year our beloved United States Marine Corps celebrates their 246th Birthday on November 10th, 2021 and YOU'RE INVITED! The Naperville Marines will once again be hosting the Marine Corps Birthday Ball celebration at the Naperville VFW Post. Details below:

Who: Open to the Public!
What: Marine Corps Birthday Ball Celebration
When: Wednesday, November 10th, 2021 with cocktail hour beginning at 5:30pm
Where: Naperville VFW at 908 Jackson Ave, Naperville, IL
Why: Celebrate 246 years of the Marine Corps

The night will include the traditional Marine Corps Birthday Ceremony and celebration including cake cutting ceremony, followed by dinner, and dancing. Whether you've never been to a Marine Corps Ball or have gone every year, this highly anticipated event is not one to be missed!

Don't wait to buy your tickets!
You can purchase tickets at the Naperville Marines website or paste this link: https://www.napmar.com/event-details/246th-marines-cops-birthday-ball

The Naperville Marines

Sons of the American Legion Squadron 43

Our stated S.A.L. meeting is every third Tuesday at 7:00PM. We meet in the lower level "patio" at the VFW hall. Our next meetings are scheduled for Nov 16th and Dec 14th and 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 S.A.L. 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 S.A.L. Squadron 43 main goals are to support our Post and support our Community.

Save the Date: Sunday, Feb 27th, 4th Annual Pancake Breakfast, 8 am to 11:30 at the VFW Post.

Chris Lance
Squadron 43 SAL Commander
(630) 926-1177

VA Hotline
1-855-948-2311

For the Good of the Legion:

FREE SOUND MEDITATION JOURNEY on Friday, November 12th at 6 pm, for Veterans and their families ages 16+. Sound therapy is designed to reduce stress and anxiety. Presented by Lotus Vibrations Healing.

Military Events in Year's Closing Months

- On Dec. 16, 1773, Samuel Adams led a protest in Boston Harbor in which a group of citizens dumped tea chests, valued at $90,000, off a British ship. The protest came to be known as the Boston Tea Party.
- Nov. 10, 1775, marked the birth of the U.S. Marine Corps with authorization by the Congress to raise two Marine battalions.
- On Dec. 25, 1776, General George Washington crossed the Delaware River to attack and defeat the British at Trenton, N.J.
- Dr. Richard J. Gatling received a patent on Nov. 4, 1862, for the machine gun. His invention comprised six rifle barrels bundled together and fired in sequence at a rate of 200 rounds per minute.
- On Dec. 15, 1890, soldiers killed Sioux Indian Chief Sitting Bull in South Dakota after he was accused of stirring agitation among tribe members.
- The first American troops were killed in WWI on Nov. 2-3, 1917, near Bathelemont, France. The three casualties were members of the 16th Infantry, 1st Division.
- On Dec. 7, 1941, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, a "day that will live in infamy" that ushered the U.S. into WWII.
- The first jet vs. jet dogfight took place on Nov. 8, 1950, over the Yalu River as a U.S. Air Force pilot flying an F-80C shot down a Chinese MiG 15.
- Authorities opened the 27.9-mile Berlin wall on Nov. 8, 1989, after it had stood for 28 years as a symbol of the Cold War.
- On Nov. 19-20, 1990, the Cold War came to an end during a summit in Paris at which leaders of NATO and the Warsaw Pact signed a Treaty on Conventional Forces in Europe.
- North and South Korea signed a treaty of reconciliation on Dec. 13, 1991, formally ending the Korean War.
- The U.S. military departed the Philippines on Nov. 24, 1992, after nearly a century of presence.
- On Dec. 20, 1989, the U.S. invaded Panama to capture Manuel Noriega on charges of narcotics trafficking. Operation Just Cause toppled the Noriega government and led to his capture a few weeks later.

Joe Strebel
Historian Post 43

Veterans Day 2021

Our **Veterans Day Memorial Service will be held at 11am on Thursday, Nov 11th** at Veterans Park, located at 303 E. Gartner Road.
Please arrive by 10:45 a.m.

Later that night we will have our Veterans Day Dinner/ Social at the VFW Post. Our social hour will commence at 5:30 p.m. followed by our traditional Thanksgiving Turkey dinner.
RSVP to Gary Michalowski: e-mail gmichalowski@sbcglobal.net **or Call or Text to 630-988-0106**

HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL CONTEST
Saturday, January 8, 2022

The Naperville American Legion Post 43 is seeking participants for the American Legion 2022 High School Oratorical Scholarship Program. The local contest will be conducted Saturday, January 8, 2021 at 1:30PM at the American Legion Post 43 at 10W Chicago, Av., Naperville IL. Winner(s) at this preliminary contest may be invited to compete at the District contest the following Sunday, Jan 9. The Oratorical Contest is designed to give students a greater appreciation of the Constitution of the United States, while developing leadership qualities, the ability to think and speak clearly and intelligently, and the preparation for acceptance of the duties and responsibilities, rights and privileges of American Citizenship. Monetary prizes are available at all levels of competition. Participants shall be citizens or lawful permanent residents of the US. and in grades 9-12. Complete eligibility requirements are found on the National website.

Further rules and information may be found at the Post 43 website: www.naperlegion.org or contacting Neal Kemp at 630-204-6658, or email at kemp1112@aol.com

Our Saviour's Veterans Gathering

The Men's Ministry of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church will be honoring all Veterans on **Saturday, November 13, at 8 am.** All are invited! The subject of Cyber Security Threats for both National & International will be the topic. Arvin Verma, Lieutenant US Navy Reserves will be our guess speaker. Arvin is a Cryptologic Warfare Officer and also is employed by Abbott Labs as a Cybersecurity Risk Manager.

Coffee & Juices will be available and CDC Mask Mandates will be followed.

For additional info contact: Russ Harwood, oldsalt17@aol.com

WISDOM & WARNINGS FROM OUR FOUNDING FATHERS & OTHERS (Part2)

As we learned in Part 1 of this article in last month's Post 43 Newsletter, that if America turned away from the Godly values and virtues as recorded in our Nation's two cornerstone and foundational documents, the Declaration of Independence and The Constitution; we would be at grave risk to suffer the loss of national blessings, cherished liberties, and freedoms together with loss of our top leadership and economic standing in the world. We now continue with commentary from our founding fathers, as well as current contemporary writer's concerning this most vulnerable moment in America's 245 year history facing us today.

1) John Adams stated, "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other"
2) Benjamin Franklin remarked: "A nation of well-informed men who have been taught to know and prize the (inalienable) rights, which God has given them cannot be enslaved. It is in the region of ignorance that tyranny begins."
3) Alexander Hamilton warned: "If it be asked, what is the most sacred duty and greatest source of our security in a republic? The answer would be an inviolable respect for the Constitution and Laws."
4) Benjamin Rush, another of our Founding Father's, said this: "Where there is no law, there is no liberty"

However, Thomas Jefferson said he trembled for our country as if seeing thru history to this present day with his stark warning that "God who gave us life also gave us liberty. Can the liberties of a nation be secure, when we have removed a conviction that these liberties are the gift of God." God's justice, says Jefferson, cannot sleep forever. If we are to guard against ignorance and remain free, it is the responsibility of every American to be informed."

Contemporary commentator Ayann Hirsi Ali, a research fellow at the Hoover Institute and a contributing writer to the Washington Examiner magazine, had this perspective on current American culture recently: "The original aims of our founding documents were to ensure life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness while also protecting property rights and religious liberty. Our foundational principles, which time and again enable us to overcome injustices, are not only universal but timeless." Ali continues; "Our identity rests upon cherishing the core principles that all of us are created equal and are endowed with some unalienable rights from God. Unalienable rights are inseparable from humanity." Ali asserts; "These rights can be ignored as irrelevant by an oppressive authority, but they can never be eliminated or changed since they come from God." The Founders earnestly believed, concludes Ali, that government existed solely to secure those rights and that its Power is derived from the consent of the governed," which is all of us.

In summary, our Nation, with all the current confusion, morals in decay, welcoming Socialism over Capitalism, with the anger and violence of hate groups reshaping this country, needs to come to its senses and revisit our core principles, values and freedoms before it becomes too late to stop God's judgment from falling on America. WE must pray for a spiritual revival to change the hearts of our citizens and government leaders. Benjamin Franklin's words of wisdom and words of truth have never been more-true. Said Franklin, over two centuries ago: "I have lived, sir, a long time and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this one truth, that God governs in the affairs of men and if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, is it then probable that an empire can rise without his aid!!"

Chaplain
Dick Komarek

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.

G.I. Yoga is Live in person at 9:30 a.m. at the VFW. Also, Kate has many videos on YouTube, so check they out. Copy and paste this link below into your browser:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxBk498oH94DIr8KMRPjdug

Kate Fleming: kdflemingyoga@gmail.com

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

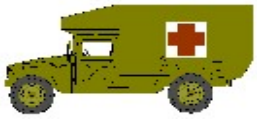
There is also a Saturday morning class at 9:30 am at the Rubin Center in Naperville, led by Chitra Singh: mailofchitra@gmail.com.

TAPS

Robert A. Mandel
William E. Richardson
John Joseph Green
Darrell L. Benson
Robert Eberhart
Russell D. Joslin
Robert J. Kouba
Leon D. Mowrer
James H. Jungels
George J. Engler
Michael T. Walker
Michael E. Brenan
Michael J. Barry
Robert C. Puraleski
Kenneth R. Lietz

SICK CALL

Bob Colby Dick McLaughlin Dick Komarek



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 Post Home, 10 W. Chicago Av., Naperville, IL

www.naperlegion.org

Post Officers

Commander	
Nadia Baran	630-728-7519
Sr. Vice-Commander	
Tom Jorstad	630-305-8803
Jr. Vice-Commander	
Gary Michalowski	630–988-0106
Sgt.-At-Arms	
Glenn Granat	630-209-2834
Finance Officer	
Bob Colby	630-301-2664
Service Officer	
Dennis Lukavsky	630-272-9064
Chaplain	
Dick Komarek	630-983-6043
Historian	
Joe Strebel	630-369-3846
Judge Advocate	
Don Hennessy	630-355-4679
Adjutant	
Erica Katz	917-417-9492
Immediate Past Commander	
Richard Karbarz	630-527-9438
Public Relations Officer	
Jennifer Slown	630-803-2251
Bugler	
Rich Yndestad	630-698-6444
Legion Rider Director	
Steve Strickland	630-453-0095
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 Callers

John Prescott 630-420-1244

(Additional Legion Callers are needed!!)

Legion Trustees of Post #43

Nadia Baran	Richard Karbarz
Bob Colby	Don Potoczny
Wayne Fischer	Rich Yndestad
Don Hennessy	

Newsletter Editor

Rich Yndestad 630-698-6444
E-mail: **r.yndestad@yahoo.com**

Please send your reports to Rich by Dec 15th for January Newsletter

Post 43 Webmaster

Liz Michalski
E-mail: lizmichalski@yahoo.com

Nov - Dec 2021 Activities - Opportunities

Nov 4 - Post Meeting 7pm
Nov 11 - Veterans Day Ceremony 11am
Nov 11 - Veterans Day Dinner 5:30pm
Nov 13 - Coffee-Brookdale in Lisle
Nov 20 - Coffee-Independence Village
Nov 27 - Coffee-StoryPoint

Dec 2 - Post Meeting 7pm
Dec 11 - Coffee-Brookdale in Lisle
Dec 18 - Coffee-Independence Village

Selected Thursdays & Saturdays: Help OSOT America sort & pack boxes at the Lisle warehouses—

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

New Post 43 Officers for 2021/2022 take oath of office at September Dinner/Social on 9-18-21.

(Photo by Rich Yndestad)