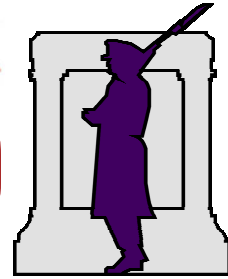




KEEPING POSTED

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



Volume 18 Issue 5
May 2020

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

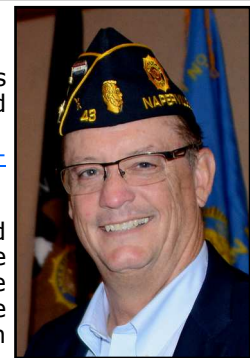
COMMANDER'S CALL

Jack Amberg - Post Commander

Greetings Post 43 Legionaries:

We are all living in a world turned upside down right now. By the time this is published, I hope we are on the other side of the peak, and on the downward side. Until then, below are questions with answers from our American Legion National Website: <https://www.legion.org/news/248547/questions-and-answers-about-coronavirus>

The Coronavirus outbreak is rapidly evolving and there are many concerns and questions that American Legion Family members have. The best resources are health agencies like the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the World Health Organization (WHO), and state and local health departments. The following key questions and answers about the Coronavirus have largely been assembled from the [CDC website](https://www.cdc.gov), the [WHO website](https://www.who.int) and elsewhere.



The flu happens every year. What's the big deal about the Coronavirus?

A person with the flu infects an average of 1.3 others. While health experts are still learning about Coronavirus, they estimate that each person with COVID-19 will infect between two and four other people. Simply put, COVID-19 is expected to escalate quickly, leading to a significant number of cases and deaths, especially among those who are elderly or have existing respiratory conditions.

Still, Coronavirus does not seem to be that fatal. How does it compare with the mortality rate for the flu?

Like the flu, older people (over age 50) are especially at risk. Same for those already in poor health. The World Health Organization estimates that the mortality rate of coronavirus is about 3.4 percent — around 100 times higher than flu. The mortality rate of coronavirus could range from 9 to 19 % for older people, especially those with cardiovascular disease, diabetes or have other health issues related to compromised immunity.

There are billions of people on the planet, so my risks of contracting Coronavirus are minimal. Correct?

The World Health Organization has determined Coronavirus to be a Pandemic. Health experts expect over 2 million people to be infected. With an estimated mortality rate as low as 2 percent, that translates to many thousands of deaths. Currently, there are over 165K deaths globally. In the US, experts estimate tens of thousands of cases. The death toll in the US is now over 40,000.

So, are we all supposed to hide in our homes until the threat passes?

Due to this virus, there have been large-scale cancellations of public events, sports competitions, business conferences, and celebrations and parades. Many schools and universities have moved to classes on online. The prevailing advice is to engage in "social distancing."

Because this virus is so contagious, limiting exposure to large groups of people will not only help protect you, but others around you, who might be at an elevated risk. That's why universities and schools are suspending classes for the remainder of this school year. This will help protect students and those more at-risk, such as faculty members, staff and others. Also, all Post 43 activities have been cancelled for the foreseeable future. By limiting the spread of the virus, we will not only save lives, but allow our health-care system to focus more resources on fewer people.

Jack Amberg
Commander, Naperville American Legion Post 43

Sr. Vice Commander

As of right now our membership stands at 553 of 573 or 96.5%. A mere 20 members short of our goal! This is absolute crunch time and with the social distancing requirement and multiple veteran events being cancelled, we have extra barriers. That's okay though because as veterans, we specialize in adapting and overcoming obstacles! I'm asking you to reach out to any veterans, active duty, reserve, or national guardsmen you know and encourage them to join our post. As a reminder, Post 43 will pay the dues of any WW2, Korean War, active duty, reservist, or national guardsman. It is no cost to them to join and the benefits are countless. WE CAN DO THIS!



Jennifer Slown

Are you receiving our Post 43 e-mail blasts? E-blasts are a great way to stay connected with all that is happening in the veteran community while conserving paper and postage. Know someone who would benefit from the information we send? Have them e-mail me at JenniferBSlown@gmail.com, and I will add them to our e-mail list. We also send out this Post 43 newsletter digitally, so if you would prefer to receive it electronically let me know!

Speaking of E-blasts, you may have seen the message I sent out regarding our search for a new Post Adjutant. Our current Adjutant Nadia Rios will be assuming the position of Jr. Vice Commander for next year, and this left the Adjutant's position open. Thanks to Rose Porter for stepping up to fill the position of Post Adjutant; and Nadia promises she will train you in all of the duties and be ready to assist you along the way in processing new members, renewals, and transfer members to our Post. Richard Karbarz will assume the position of Senior Vice for next year. I will be taking a leave of absence during the 2020-2021 year, but I intend to return to a leadership position after my leave of absence.

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

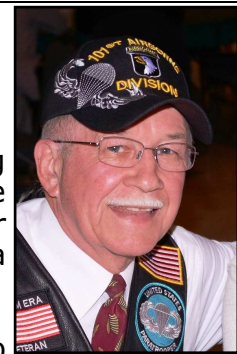
Semper Fidelis!
Jennifer Slown
Sr Vice Commander



Jr. Vice Commander

Please continue to practice our social distancing, as we are making inroads in slowing down the spread of COVID-19. Although we have yet to hit the downward side of the curve peak in Illinois, our optimism accepts the truth of reality, and we look forward to a brighter future.

The American Legion Post 43 Officers Team goal is to keep everyone safe from contracting the COVID-19 Virus, thus we cancelled our remaining Dinner/Social **scheduled for April 18, 2020.** Please note, that after a summer break, our Dinner/Socials will start-up again in September.



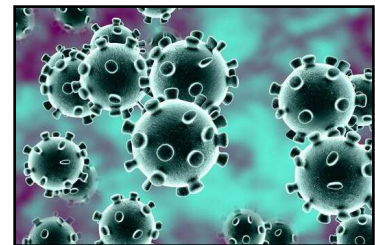
Richard Karbarz

I would like to wish everyone good health, stay healthy as we continue to eradicate the COVID-19 Virus. Warm regards, stay strong, and never waiver as we continue to overcome our current challenges in dealing with COVID-19.

Richard H. Karbarz

Jr. Vice-Commander

"Airborne All The Way"!



Memorial Day Parade and Activities are cancelled

The Memorial Day Parade and its associated activities for this year have been cancelled. This was not a decision that was made lightly, but out of an abundance of concern for the health of our veterans and the members of our community, the Memorial Day Planning Committee feels that having the parade and our other events that day are not conducive to helping keep everyone safe.

We are already hearing that participation for the parade will be significantly reduced due to school and other closures. When combined with an expected decline in veteran and spectator participation, due to health concerns related to COVID-19, we believe this is the best decision for this year.

The morning ceremonies at the various memorials throughout town, the ceremony at the band shell, and the luncheon at the Post are also cancelled. We are looking into the possibility of having a single ceremony that morning, but we have to see how events continue to unfold. If we are able to arrange such a ceremony, we will get the word out to everyone at that time.

Tom Parker



AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER 43



Your Legion Riders are currently polishing their bikes and wishing to be unchained from the Covid-19 Virus. As all Legion events and meetings have been suspended, all we can do is follow the health recommendations, and pray for those affected by the Coronavirus.

Unfortunately the Legion's National Legacy Run has been cancelled for this year (it had been scheduled for late August). The DuPage Veteran's Foundation Honor Flight Fundraiser and Motorcycle Run has been rescheduled for 12 September 2020. We feel hopeful that this event can be held with the new scheduled date, and that it will raise lots of monies to support the Honor Flight program. As of now we are also hoping that the Honor Flights themselves will be able to continue, as in years past. We have only missed attending one Chicago Honor flight in the last 9 years or so, and we intend to continue greeting our service members as they return from their flight to Washington D.C.

We are looking forward to better times ahead, and we will continue to support all the Legion programs as soon as allowed.

Tom Dillon
Director ALR Chapter 43
630-803-2047



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



VA Hotline
1-855-948-2311



PREMIER BOYS STATE

Premier Boys State scheduled for **June 13 - 19, 2020**, has been cancelled.

ILLINI GIRLS STATE

Girls State has NOT been cancelled, as yet: Regarding COVID-19, the leadership of the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Illinois and ALA Illini Girls State continues to monitor the constantly changing COVID-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak.

We have been working with Eastern Illinois University to ensure that we will have a safe and healthy environment for the Delegates and Staff at our ALA Illini Girls State program.

We will continue to follow recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Illinois Department of Health as they are released.

At this time the ALA Illini Girls State session will be held at Eastern Illinois University **June 21-27, 2020** as scheduled. Please continue to monitor the ALA Illini Girls State website and social media for updates.

For additional information, go to www.illinoisboysstate.org or www.ilgirlsstate.org respectively or contact Ken Mores at 815-353-4102 (Premier Boys State) or Eileen Lass 630-778-7603 (Illini Girls State) for more information.



DuPage Veterans Foundation 2020 Chicago Honor Flight Fundraiser Rescheduled to September 12th

Given all that is happening regarding the "Coronavirus" we have **rescheduled 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 them at the door. The new date for this event is **Saturday, September 12, 2020.** We will 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.



Wayne

GREETINGS LEGIONAIRES AND FAMILIES!

Well there is one unexpected benefit to come out of all of us having to "Shelter-in-Place". I am learning new computer skills, and truth be told I could sure use these additional skills. Having to conduct my first Zoom meeting recently was interesting. I thought I was up and officially "zooming" or had become a "zoomer" or whatever term the millennials tell me I should be using! Hey, I'm just an older yuppie trying to do his best with this. So cut me some slack! But I digress, unfortunately, although the meeting ID was correct, the password to enter the meeting wasn't. I found this out just 10 minutes before the meeting begins. Anyway, I made contact with one of my Zoom experts or better said wizard named Jenny, and within minutes the correction was made and my meeting was launched complete with split screen, chat room, audio, and visual

During these uncertain times, don't forget to pray for our Post members and their families. Pray also for our brave Veterans serving, and now not only defending our nation, they are dealing with this vicious virus that has not spared many nations or peoples! Continue praying for people serving us on the front lines; medical workers (nurses/doctors are the most vulnerable), 1st responders (paramedics, firefighters and police officers) who have a really tough job now protecting us through this dangerous time, exposing themselves daily to this Coronavirus. Also, don't forget our grocery and retail workers, our truck drivers moving essential supplies the nation needs. Pray daily also for all workers in essential industries like those producing needed masks, ventilators, sanitizer, and gloves. They deserve our respect and admiration for their bravery and dedication to us! Finally, pray for our President and our elected officials, as they are facing critical decisions in the days ahead!!

In closing, I have been asked recently why God has allowed this pandemic to affect so many people and claim so many lives, especially here in America. We now have more deaths (20,000) from Covid-19 than Italy, Spain or Britain with over 100,000 Americans now affected. In a recent interview Franklin Graham (son of evangelist Billy Graham, who passed away several years ago) gave an answer that you may find surprising! Says Mr. Graham: "God has not given us a spirit of fear. Fear does not come from God and HE is still in control of this planet and all its affairs. God did not cause this virus, but he has probably allowed it to spread especially to our nation". This is perhaps a warning from God to America, says Graham, to get serious about our faith to return to the God we have kicked out of our nation's schools, businesses, government, and turned away from him as a nation. Gone are the Ten Commandments, prayer, and a fear of God! Easter weekend, concluded Mr. Graham, may find more people in America in prayer seeking God than at any time since World War II.

Now, God Bless you all! Stay safe and do not take unwarranted risks during this pandemic. Trust God! We WILL come through this! America is resilient! Remember, THY WILL, NOT MINE, BE DONE!

Chaplain, Dick Komarek

WINNERS OF CITIZENS OF THE YEAR AWARDS FOR 2020

Again this year Post 43 is recognizing people in three service categories:

Service to Community: Wayne Klein. "Simply the most selfless person I have ever met" is the way one person described Wayne. His service in the community is characterized by low key actions that don't grab the spotlight. Wayne coaches kid's athletic teams, organizes a memorial golf outing, worked as a Cub master, Scoutmaster, suggests Eagle Scout projects, consults on obtaining required city permits, and teaches Junior Achievement. Wane offered his construction company to build an outdoor classroom at a local elementary school, and uses his plane to fly medical missions. He is devoted to his family. Wayne is also involved in his community with positions on the facilities committee at All Saints Academy, he became president of the School Board, and now serves on the Board of Trustees. He has served on multiple committees and projects at his church, St. Elizabeth Seton.

Service to Veterans: James Oftedal. Jim is a member of both Post 43 and VFW Post 3873, where he serves as Chaplain. In 2015, Jim organized the joint Post 43 and Post 3873 Honor Guard, and serves as its Commander. He is a Viet Nam veteran, who lost three high school friends in that war. After months of training, the combined Post Honor Guard received the Department of Defense Certification, a significant achievement, in October 2015. Since that time, the Naperville Honor Guard has performed 235 Military Funeral Services (MFS) and numerous community service events (CSE). As HG Commander, Jim's tasks include coordination with the funeral home, notifying the HG members and ensuring a sufficient number are available, coordinating with the military flag folding team (and to perform that task if a military unit is not available), securing the rifles and returning them to the Post. He also notifies local police departments, and keeps the Post Commanders up-to-date on the Honor Guard activities. Each event requires a significant investment of his time.

Service to Youth: Sherry Weinstein. Over seventeen years ago, Sherry started a program for District 203 and 204 parents called "Keeping Kids Safe". It addressed bullying and other social situations. Over time it evolved to emphasize protecting children from online abuse such as cyber-bullying, sexting, sextortion and stalking. The program was presented by Naperville Police Department Internet Crimes Detective Rich Wistocki (now retired). The presentation was so popular that it was turned into a seminar so that parents who couldn't attend, might access the information online. Detective Wistocki presented the seminar at the Exchange Club's National Convention in 2017. The program was deemed so timely and urgent that the National Exchange Club posted the hour-long, professionally produced video on its website for its nationwide audience. To keep youth safe is the greatest service that can be performed, and Sherry has fulfilled that service to not only her own family's children but also the children of parents everywhere. She is a true unsung hero for the prevention of child abuse.

Contact Jim Vahle at 630-864-7183, vahlej@comcast.net for more information.



American Legion Post 43 Awards Two \$5000 Scholarships



Two local students have been awarded \$5000 scholarships by Naperville American Legion Post 43.

Grace Lee, is an "A" student at Nequa Valley High School, scored an almost perfect 35 on the ACT, a curriculum-based education and career planning tool for high school students that assesses their mastery of college readiness standards. She is a National Merit Finalist, Indian Prairie Scholar and an IL State Scholar; but her accomplishments are not limited to academics. She won first place in the Speech Contest at Illinois American Legion Auxiliary Girls State, holds the President's Volunteer Service Award, Wildcat Pride Award, and ILMEA All-State Honors Band. She also volunteers at Naper Settlement and interned with IL State Senator Laura Ellman. Her essay on the Responsibilities of Citizenship focuses on the responsibility to vote. In keeping with its title Not a Spectator Sport, Grace voted in this year's Illinois primary election and demonstrated her commitment to lead by her membership on the Executive Board of KA Voice, a nationwide volunteer organization that promotes Korean American civic awareness.

Claire Yu attends Naperville Central High School, where she carries a cumulative weighted grade point average of 4.7, and is the Student Ambassador to the District 203 Board of Education. An accomplished musician, she played a piano solo at the Weil Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall in New York City. But her musical interests go beyond being a soloist. As a member of the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra, she has collaborated in trio, quartet, and quintet settings to study the scores of Schumann and Beethoven beyond what is written on the surface level. Claire is very active in organizations at Naperville Central, where she is Editor-in-Chief of Literary Magazine, President of the Urban Arts Club, and of Junior State of America. Claire's essay on the Responsibilities of Citizenship discusses the need to recognize your weakness, but focus on your strengths, compromise, and give voice to those whose voices have been silenced. She has been accepted by her dream school, Stanford University.

Contact Jim Vahle 630-864-7183 vahlej@contact.net

May has Many Reasons to Remember

This month, of course, we observe Memorial Day and honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice. Originally known as Decoration Day, it was first observed on May 5, 1865, with the decoration of Civil War soldiers' graves. While Memorial Day is central, this month includes other significant dates in military history.

For example, on May 8, 1846, the first regular engagement of the Mexican War (1846-1848) took place. General Zachary Taylor defeated the forces of General Mariano Arista at Palo Alto, Texas. The engagement actually took place prior to President James Polk's formal declaration of war on May 13, 1846.

The first Union soldier to fall during the Civil War, Bailey T. Brown, died on May 22, 1861. He was a member of the 2nd West Virginia Volunteer Infantry.

The U.S. Army 1st Division opened the first offensive assault by an American unit during WWI by capturing the French village of Cantigny from German forces on May 28, 1918.

On May 7, 1942, the first naval battle fought entirely without ships being in sight of one another took place in the Battle of the Coral Sea.

Also in 1942 Congress authorized women to enlist for non-combat duties, creating on May 14 the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps (WAAC), Women Appointed for Voluntary Emergency Service (WAVES), Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron (WAFS), Semper Paratus Always Ready Service (SPARS) and the Women's Reserve of the Marine Corps.

On May 5, 1961, Commander Alan Shepard, Jr., became the first American in space, flying in the Freedom 7 capsule some 300 miles at a speed of 15,000 mph at an altitude of 115 miles.

During the Vietnam War, two pilots from USS Constellation, flying an F-4 Phantom II became the first aces of the war, shooting down three Mig 17's on May 10, 1972.

Nine years ago on May 2, U.S. Special Operations Forces found and killed Osama bin Laden at his compound in Abbott bad, Pakistan. The attack culminated the hunt for the architect of the 9/11 attacks, which killed some 3,000 people at New York's World Trade Center, the Pentagon and a Pennsylvania field.

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

The new slate of Post Officers for the 2020-2021 are:

Commander - Jack Amberg
Senior Vice - Richard Karbarz
Junior Vice - Nadia Rios
Adjutant* - Rose Porter
Sgt at Arms - Glenn Granat
Finance Officer - Bob Colby
Service Officer - Mike Barbour
Chaplain - Dick Komarek
Judge Advocate - Don Hennessy
Historian* - Joe Strebel
Public Relations* - Jim Vahle
Trustees - Wayne Fischer (4 year term)



*Adjutant, Historian, & PR are appointed positions. All others are elected.

TAPS

Allen Grossman





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

Ken Garhan

Newsletter Editor

Rich Yndestad

630-698-6444

E-mail: r.yndestad@yahoo.com

**Please send your reports to Rich by
July 15th for August Newsletter**

No Newsletters in June & July

Post 43 Webmaster

Liz Michalski

E-mail: lizmichalski@yahoo.com

Legion Callers



John Prescott 630-420-1244

(Additional Legion Callers are needed!!)

May 2020

Social Distancing

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





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



Combined Post 43 and Post 3873 Color Guard at ceremonies held on Memorial Day last year.
(Photo by Jim Hoch)