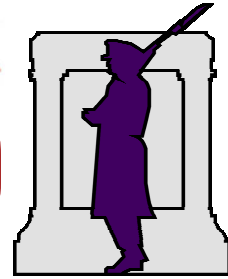




KEEPING POSTED

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



Volume 17 Issue 1
January 2019

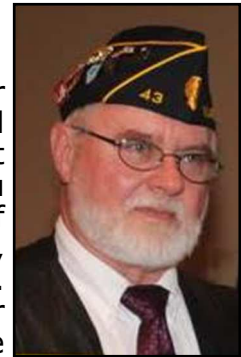
Celebrating 100 Years of Service to Veterans, U.S. Military, Youth, & Community

COMMANDER'S CALL

Don Chasteen - Post Commander

Legion Members, Sons of the Legion, and Legion Riders,

The membership committee has been working at getting all our members current by the end of December so that a member will not lose a benefit of an Accidental Death and Dismemberment insurance policy of \$1000. This amount increases to \$5000 if you are on American Legion business when the accident occurs. So if you paid your dues for the 2019 year, before the end of December, I thought you might want to know how to enroll in the coverage. You only need to enroll one time as long you keep paying your dues between 1-July and 31-December each year. So if you have met the above requirements and have never enrolled here is how you can enroll: Go on line to www.TheLIT.com/LegionCare2 or call 1-800-235-6943.



Naperville American Legion Post 43 Oratorical contest will be held on Saturday, January 5, 2019 at 1:30 PM in our Post Home at 10 W. Chicago Ave. Legionnaire Don Hennessy has chaired this event for many years with great success. He needs the help of his fellow Legionnaires mainly to just be in attendance to hear the young contestants give their speeches. So please give him your support by attending.

Our Legion Social returns this month on Saturday, January 19th, and Junior-Vice Commander Slown will have the information about it in her article. My comment about it is: "Let's keep the outstanding attendance going this month as we had in November"! The Post is still in need of Legion Callers, a chairman for the Gifts to the Yanks program, and a chairman for the Junior High School Oratorical contest.

I hope everyone had a festive Christmas and a Happy New Year! I am looking forward to 2019, since it is our actual 100th Birthday Year and many celebrations are being planned for the year. Joe Strebel and his celebration committee have come up with some good ideas and are pursuing them.

For the Good of the Legion,

Don Chasteen
Commander, Naperville American Legion Post 43





As of the month of December, our Post was approx. 85% of its membership goal for 2018/2019 Legion Year. So, if you have not paid your dues, and you know who you are, please send in your check for \$40 to our Post at: American Legion Post 43, PO Box 4, Naperville, IL 60566.

Know someone who is a veteran? Invite them to join or think about giving a gift of membership to someone. The American Legion needs your support in order to provide all the programs it has for Veterans, Active Duty, Youth, and Community.

The American Legion Membership Application			
(Name)		(Phone)	
(Mailing Address)			
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	
(E-mail)			
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"/> Aug. 24, 1982 - Jul. 3, 1984 <input type="checkbox"/> Feb. 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975 <input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 25, 1950 - Jan. 31, 1955 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 7, 1941 - Dec. 31, 1946 <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Army <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Air Force <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Coast Guard <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Merchant Marines (12/7/41 - 8/15/45 only) <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Navy <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Marines			
Dues <input type="checkbox"/> \$40.00 (1 Year) <input type="checkbox"/> \$160.00 (5 Years) ** ** Save \$40.00 on 5 Year Membership Program Please include a copy of your DD-214 with dues		I certify that I served at least one day of active duty during the dates marked and was honorably discharged or am serving honorably.	
(Signature of applicant)		(Date)	



Santa stopped by in December at the "Brothers in Arms" breakfast held at the VFW Hall.



Jr. Vice Commander

I hope this newsletter finds you happy, healthy, and in the company of family and friends! Because of the many holiday events and parties that took place last month, we did not have a Dinner/Social in December. What that does mean though is that we will have an amazing turnout for our January Dinner/Social on January 19th, 6 pm at the VFW Hall! And trust me when I say you don't want to miss this one!



Jennifer Slown

January's dinner will be catered by Texas Roadhouse, the menu will include pulled pork, ribs, mashed potatoes with cheese and bacon, corn, and buttered rolls. Our program will have our new member initiation, Legion Rider and S.A.L. Officer Installation. We will also have Lindsey Joy Ward, an incredibly talented local violinist and vocalist, who will play a variety of songs during our social hour and dinner hour.

February's dinner program will be our "Salute to Youth". Prime Rib dinner will be prepared by our famous Kendall Cooks. March's menu will be our St Patrick's Day celebration and will include corned beef and cabbage also prepared by the Kendall Cooks. 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 RSVP when the email blast goes out to ensure you have a spot reserved!

Wishing all of our Post members and their families a very Happy New Year!
See you in 2019!

Semper Fidelis!
Jennifer Slown
Jr Vice Commander



Photos by Jim Hoch



AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER 43

Although the riding season has ended the Riders continue to support Post 43 Legion endeavors. On December 6th, the Legion Riders attended the Brookdale Senior Living visit and had a great time sharing their service experiences. A week later a couple of Riders attended the Saturday morning coffee with veterans at Independence Village. The Riders were disappointed that the Little Friends Parade of Light was cancelled due to weather conditions. Next year we hope the weather cooperates so we can show off our bikes decorated in Christmas ornaments and lights.



Recently I visited the Naperville Texas Roadhouse restaurant. This is where we had a fundraising dinner a few months ago. I noticed that they have a Christmas tree decorated with pictures of the Legion members who attended that dinner. Texas Roadhouse employees are asking arriving customers if they would like to donate to Veteran causes and it seems they have collected a substantial amount of donations that will be given to us to use for the good of needy veterans. We will let you know the total donated amount in the next Legion newsletter. We are so impressed by the support Texas Roadhouse has shown to the military. They have been great to us.

On 17 December over a half dozen Riders acted as Salvation Army Bell Ringers at the Jewel/Osco located at Washington Street and Ogden Avenue. (See photo back page) Some of the members sang Christmas carols while those of us with poor singing voices enthusiastically rang the bell and greeted customers. We believe we collected a substantial amount of donations for the Salvation Army to use in their charitable causes. The Riders had a great time doing this and we did wear our Legion Rider vests and our Legion cover. The shoppers really support the military.

Also Elections of Rider officers were held and the following are the elected officers for 2019:

Director	Tom Dillon
Asst. Director	Steve Strickland
Treasurer	Bob Burch
Sgt at Arms	Don Doty
Safety	Rich Tamborski
Legislative	Roger Treend
Secretary	Tony Giudice
Ride Coordinator	Rick Rolling

Congratulations to the 2019 Rider Officers. The Installation of Rider Officers, new Legion members, and the Sons of the American Legion Officers will be held during the 19 January Dinner/Social.

Finally the next Legion Rider meeting will be held at the VFW/ Legion patio on 23 January at 7:00pm.

Tom Dillon
Director ALR Chapter 43
630-803-2047





AMERICAN LEGION POST 43 CALENDAR



January 1, 2019
January 3, 2019
January 5, 2019
January 5, 2019
January 8, 2019
January 12, 2019
January 15, 2019
January 19, 2019
January 19, 2019
January 21, 2019
January 23, 2019
January 26, 2019

Tuesday
Thursday
Saturday
Saturday
Tuesday
Saturday
Tuesday
Saturday
Saturday
Monday
Wednesday
Saturday



HAPPY NEW YEAR!!
Post Meeting 7 p.m.
10 a.m. Coffee at Monarch Landing
Oratorical Contest 1:30 p.m.
Hines VA Visit (bus leaves at 6:15pm)
10 a.m. Coffee at Brookdale-Lisle
S.A.L. Squadron Meeting 7 p.m.
10 a.m. Coffee at Independence Village
Dinner/Social - Rider/SAL Officer Initiation
Martin Luther King Day
Legion Riders Meeting
10 a.m. Coffee at Harbor Chase

February 2, 2019
February 7, 2019
February 9, 2019
February 12, 2019
February 14, 2019
February 16, 2019
February 16, 2019
February 18, 2019
February 19, 2019
February 23, 2019
February 24, 2019
February 27, 2019

Saturday
Thursday
Saturday
Tuesday
Thursday
Saturday
Saturday
Monday
Tuesday
Saturday
Sunday
Wednesday



10 a.m. Coffee at Monarch Landing
Post Meeting 7 p.m.
10 a.m. Coffee at Brookdale-Lisle
Hines VA Visit (bus leaves at 6:15pm)
Valentine's Day
10 a.m. Coffee at Independence Village
Dinner/Social -Youth Recognition
President's Day
S.A.L. Squadron Meeting 7 p.m.
10 a.m. Coffee at Harbor Chase
S.A.L. Pancake Breakfast 7 a.m.-11 a.m.
Legion Rider Meeting

March 2, 2019
March 2, 2019
March 7, 2019
March 9, 2019
March 9, 2019
March 12, 2019
March 16, 2019
March 16, 2019
March 19, 2019
March 23, 2019
March 27, 2019

Saturday
Saturday
Thursday
Saturday
Saturday
Tuesday
Saturday
Saturday
Tuesday
Saturday
Wednesday



10 a.m. Coffee at Monarch Landing
HFC Hockey Classic Bensenville
Post Meeting 7 p.m.
10 a.m. Coffee at Brookdale-Lisle
St. Patrick's Day Parade 10 a.m.
Hines VA Visit
10 a.m. Coffee at Independence Village
Dinner/Social -Women in Military
S.A.L. Squadron Meeting 7 p.m.
10 a.m. Coffee at Harbor Chase
Legion Rider Meeting



High School Oratorical Contest 2019

This is a great opportunity for High School Students in the Naperville area. Nothing worthwhile is easy, and this contest is not easy. But it is not very difficult either, because thousands of good students have competed in this Annual Oratorical Contest over the years since it started in 1938.

Current prizes for the top three places in our January 5th Naperville Contest are \$500, \$400 and \$300. Our local contest will be held at our Post Home at 10 W. Chicago Ave here in Naperville. We want all our contestants checked in and ready to go no later than 1:30pm.

At our Department Contest in Springfield, the College Scholarship Awards total \$13,000, and at our National Contest in Indianapolis, the College Scholarship Awards total \$128,000. The "Essentials" for the contest are available in the American Legion Naperville Post website: www.naperlegion.org under links for "Youth" and "Oratorical".

High School Students outside the Naperville area may enter the contest thru an American Legion Post in their area. But if you know of anyone that would want to be part of this Contest, please have them contact me.

Unfortunately today's schools and students are not showing the high interest in this extra-curricular activity that was shown by schools and students in prior years. Participation in a National Speech Contest makes a good comment on a college application.

If you have questions, please contact me:
Don Hennessy, Contest Chairman
For American Legion Naperville Post 43
630-355-4679 gddh55@sbcglobal.net



Coffee "and"

Saturday Morning 10 AM



The January dates are:

**Jan 5 - Monarch Landing
Jan 12 - Brookdale - Lisle
Jan 19 - Independence Village
Jan 26 - Harbor Chase**

Don't forget our monthly visits with veterans at Monarch Landing, Brookdale - Lisle, Independence Village, and Harbor Chase. Join us 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 Harbor Chase.

Remember, all are welcome!



2019 DuPage Veterans Foundation Fundraiser

Yes, you read that right. We will again be holding our Annual "Honor Flight Chicago" fundraiser on **Saturday, May 4th** at the Calamos Hanger @ the DuPage Airport. As we draw closer more details will be forthcoming.

Last year we raised \$30,000 that went directly to Honor Flight Chicago AND Governor Rauner donated \$10,000 again this year directly to Honor Flight Chicago. But we get credit for that as he was invited and spoke at our fundraiser, which means that our event generated a total of \$40,000 to support our WWII and Korean Era Veterans to be honored at the Memorials in Washington DC.

This year Honor Flight Chicago is opening up to our Vietnam Era Veterans to go on their flights. Be sure to go on line to "honorflightchicago.org" and follow the prompts to get your application in.

As in years past we are looking for volunteers; donations of silent auction items; and of course "cash". Any amount is appreciated and all proceeds go to Honor our Veterans on their special day to see their Memorial dedicated to their fellow Men and Women that served in their era.

Thanks-Wayne Fischer

Sons of the American Legion Squadron 43

Fellow Legionnaires,



I am pleased to announce that our membership is paid and is over 100% for the year, with four new members and one transfer. To date, we have 28 members on the books and we are always welcoming new members. 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.

The Sons of the American Legion will be hosting our first ever Pancake Breakfast Fund Raiser. The breakfast will be on Sunday, February 24th and will be held at the VFW from 7:00AM until 11:00AM, so please mark your calendars. We will be asking for the Legion's support to make this a successful event.

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 stated meeting is scheduled for January 15th, 2019 and all members of the Legion and Legion Riders are encouraged to attend.

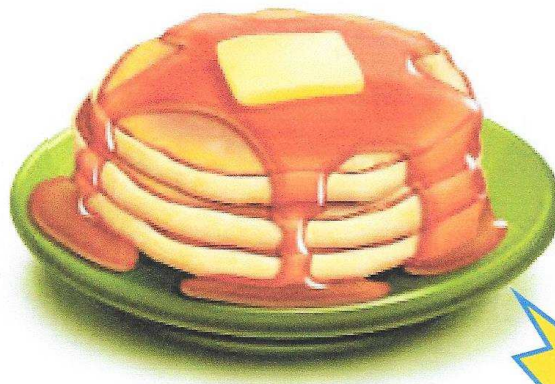
On behalf of the S.A.L, I would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year!

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

**Save the date: Sunday, Feb. 24TH
Sons of the American Legion Squadron 43 Fundraiser!**

Pancake Breakfast

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH
7 AM—11 AM**



Meal Includes: Pancakes, Sausage, OJ, Milk, Coffee

Location: VFW Hall, 908 W Jackson Av, Naperville, IL

Portion of the proceeds will help out a Veteran Organization

Seventy-fifth anniversary of the "Second Battle of Guam"

On July 21, 2019, Liberation Day will be celebrated on the island of Guam, as it is each year, much like Independence Day on the mainland U.S., with parades, parties, and fireworks. Liberation Day in Guam this year will commemorate 75 years since the "second battle of Guam". As an American territory, Guam is located in the western Pacific, about 3300 miles from Hawaii. After the Japanese sneak attack on Pearl Harbor of Dec 7, 1941, it was only a scant few hours when they overtook Guam, and then The Philippines, which at the time was also an American territory. Both Guam and The Philippines had become territories of the U.S. as a result of the Spanish-American war of 1898.

The Japanese faced minimal resistance in December of 1941, as they quickly overran the island. For the next two and a half years they were demanding and cruel conquerors, and responsible for forced labor, torture, rape, and even beheadings of the citizens of Guam. Bad memories for the few remaining oldest residents. As the Admiral Nimitz-led forces advanced across the Pacific during the war, plans were made to retake Guam. An estimated 18,000 Japanese were killed in the battles that followed, from July 21 until Aug 10, while less than 500 surrendered. After holding out in the jungle for 28 years, one last Japanese soldier Shoicho Yokoi surrendered in January, 1972.

Jayne Flores is a resident of Guam. Jayne is the daughter of long-time Legion 43 member Al Rechenmacher, and a cousin of Mike and Bob Rechenmacher, Kathy Thornton, and numerous additional Rechenmachers. In 1982 while employed as a TV reporter in downstate Quincy, she tired of Illinois winters, and seeking a more comfortable climate, accepted a similar position in Guam, where the average temperature hovers in the mid-80's.

Now married with 3 adult daughters and some grandchildren, she was in Naperville for Thanksgiving to visit with her father, and I had an opportunity to meet with her on Nov 23. She told me much about Guam. With a population of around 164,000, most of the economy is built around tourism (75% Japanese), and the military (Naval Base Guam) and (Andersen Air Force Base). Since most supplies must be imported, living costs tend to be rather high. Vulnerable to tropical storms, most housing is now built of concrete. The married daughter with children lives in Guam, another lives in Portland, and the third in San Diego.

She told me that Guam has the highest per capita rate for U.S. enlistments in the Armed Forces. It sounds as if Guam is an okay place to live! Happy "Liberation Day" to all the Guamanians, as they commemorate the Seventy-fifth year of another victory for the "Greatest Generation", to whom we are all so eternally grateful!

Lee Lindberg



VA Hotline
855-948-2311
8:00 am to 5:00 pm EDT



Chaplain's Corner

As we say good-bye to 2018, two articles appeared in December that I feel has captured our Nation's mood and the Spiritual Challenges that lay ahead. On Thursday, December 13th the Daily Herald headline read, "Some Say Halt Prayers at County Board Meetings." Apparently newly elected officials of the DuPage County Board question the now decades long tradition of opening and closing board meetings with prayer. They claim that there should be a separation of church and state. County Board Chairman Dan Cronin remarked, "DuPage has always made an effort to bring people from all faiths to perform the invocation." County board member Tim Elliott from Glen Ellyn agreed by stating, "I believe that people up there of different faiths is a sign of respect for our diversity. Faith, Elliott goes on is an important component for the vast majority of our citizens. To celebrate that is important," according to Elliott. Separation of church and state the naysayers shout out! Well tell that to George Washington as he led the Army of the Potomac into many battles for our independence recognizing the importance of faith and trust in God! He also stated in his 2nd Inaugural Address that our nation would not survive if not for God's protection and the faith of its people! Our nation has just completed one of the most divisive years in our history. We have witnessed a hostile Congress, political parties that can't resolve differences and a lack of tolerance for hearing out the views of others. God has been asked to take a back seat to those who supposedly have greater wisdom. As Sarah Palin once said, "Say how's that been working out for you lately?" What is needed is greater compassion, seeking out God in prayer, be better listeners of each other and in 2019 when we express a belief or defend a point of view lets do it with love and respect. We all need to kick back and be a little kinder and more understanding with each other.

Now, the 2nd story that caught my attention was with reference to the Bladenburg Peace Cross, which has stood in Prince George's County in Maryland for almost 100 years. The monument was built by The American Legion and women who lost their husbands and sons in WWI. Many of the families never received the remains or ashes of loved ones they lost in the war. So, this monument has served as the only place they are able to pay their respects and honor the 49 local men who made the ultimate sacrifice in serving their country during WWI. The American Humanist Association is challenging in the Supreme Court this Memorial Peace Cross as a longstanding historic symbol of sacrifice, honor and respect not only for Maryland Vets but stands as a solemn salute to all veterans! It is this 1st Amendment right and American history that these anti-Christian forces are attempting to tear down. What is at stake in this court battle says The American Center for Law and Justice which is defending the case is that every "religious" symbol that offends one person or the anti-religious atheists, every monument, marker and statue throughout the country from Arlington National Cemetery to Naperville could be at risk should the court rule that the cross must be removed. So, our country's strong religious heritage is under attack right now as you are reading this. God is being forced out of our government, communities, military and even our schools! It will continue if we let it. So, please be in prayer that this first amendment case that the high court will hear in 2019 will not allow atheists who are "upset" over this cross to tear it down. What they don't get is that tearing down that Maryland cross dishonors all veterans who served and America's rich heritage.

Now, I wish all of the Post 43 family a very happy and blessed holiday season and a most meaningful 2019. Remember, the greatest joy to be experienced not only at holiday time but year around is when you reach out to help somebody or do a kind and thoughtful act for the other guy, without expecting anything back in return! See you in the New Year, and GO BEARS – GO BEARS!!

Chaplain, Dick Komarek



Boy Scout Troop 106

Some of the events Troop 106 has been involved with during Nov. & Dec:

Sagawau Canyon Hike - Lemont, IL: Troop 106 hiked at Sagawau Canyon on November 17th.



Giftmart - Brokaw Early Learning Center, Oswego, IL: Troop 106 assisted with Giftmart at Brokaw Early Learning Center on December 15th. The troop helped families while they were looking for toys for the holidays as well as re-stocked shelves between sessions.

Anniversary Dinner set for June 15, 2019

Save the date! As part of the celebration of the American Legion's 100th Anniversary, Post 43 will host a dinner at VFW Hall on Saturday, June 15, 2019. Menu, times and other details will be announced in coming months.



Post 43 members interested in learning more about Post 43's history may find information at the American Legion's anniversary website: <http://centennial.legion.org> On the site's home page, click on Post Index under Find a Post. On the following page, click on Select a Department's drop-down menu, click on Illinois and then click on Post 43. The page contains photos, a decade-by-decade history of the post as well as a listing of Post Commanders.

Contact: Joe Strebel at 630-369-3846 or jstrebel1943@gmail.com



Come Join Us!

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. The Wednesday morning 9:30 am Yoga class at the VFW is led by Kate Fleming. Kate also has Yoga classes for Veterans on Monday (Wheaton), Wednesday (Oswego), and Friday (Winfield).

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

For additional information, contact:
Kate Fleming at giyoga@osotamerica.org

Schedule of Classes: www.giyoga.org

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

TAPS

Robert J. Chmelir
George H. W. Bush
Ernest B. Stern
John J. Mullen
Jack L. McBride
William M. Sullivan
Edward J. Dooley
John J. Gallagher
Harold Rife



SICK CALL

Paul Hogan

Chuck Biegel

Mike Walczak

Dick Knosher

Lee Lindberg

Ken Garhan

Mike Barbour





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 Ave., Naperville, IL

www.naperlegion.org

Post Officers

Commander

Don Chasteen 630-833-6102

Sr. Vice-Commander

Jack Amberg 630-544-6452

Jr. Vice-Commander

Jennifer Slown 630-803-2251

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

Lee Lindberg 239-537-3189

Joe Strebel 630-369-3846

Judge Advocate

Don Hennessy 630-355-4679

Adjutant

Nadia Rios 630-728-7519

Immediate Past Commander

Doug Deetjen 630-719-1133

Public Relations

Jim Vahle 630-864-7183

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Rich Yndestad 630-357-6444

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

Legion Trustees of Post #43

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Doug Deetjen

Bob Colby

Jim Vahle

Wayne Fischer

Jim Stoffregen

Ken Garhan

Newsletter Editor

Rich Yndestad

630-357-6444

E-mail: r.yndestad@yahoo.com

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

Post 43 Webmaster

Liz Michalski

E-mail: lizmichalski@yahoo.com

Legion Callers



John Prescott



630-420-1244

January 2019 Activities — Opportunities

Jan 3 - Post Meeting 7pm

Jan 5 - Monarch Landing

Jan 12 - Brookdale - Lisle

Jan 19 - Independence Village

Jan 19 - Dinner/Social 6pm

Jan 26 - Harbor Chase

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





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



On December 17th, Post 43 Legion Riders served as Bell Ringers to help the Salvation Army fill the Red Kettle with donations.