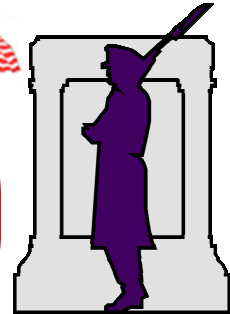




KEEPING POSTED



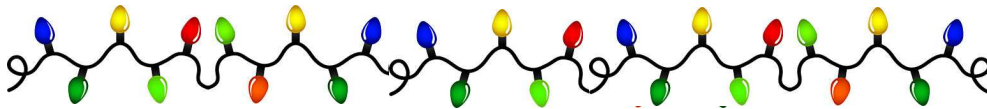
American Legion Post #43
Naperville, IL

www.naperlegion.org

Volume 15 Issue 10
December 2017

COMMANDER'S CALL

Doug Deetjen - Post Commander



Happy Holidays



WHAT A GREAT VETERANS DAY!!

On November 8th the Naperville Honor Guard with Jim Oftedal, along with Lee Lindberg, participated in a veterans program at Tabor Hills. I was sure proud that I was able to attend. They did a super job! Three Rifle Volley followed by Taps, with Rich on the Bugle. Thanks to all!!

November 9th Waubonsie Valley High School Patriotism! Our own Lou Kuelto, Korean War Veteran, spoke and did a super job! Glad I was there. Left there and went to luncheon with the Rotary Club of Naperville at the Meson Sabika Pavilion. The Rotary Club of Naperville honored five great veterans by giving each of them a quilt, from the Quilts of Valor Foundation, Susan Wing and Carol Andermann. Post 43 was well represented by Wayne Fischer (Marine), John Kunsch, Sr. (Army), Terry Jelinek (Navy) accepted by his wife Sue, Mike Barbour (Army), and Mike Rechenmacher (Navy). How Great was that!!

November 10th the Marine Birthday! School District 203 breakfast was really nice. I was asked to go to River Woods Elementary School. They had an assembly given by the Students, Band, Boys and Girl Scouts, Troop Leaders and Veterans. Thanks for all the hard work to Gina Baumgartner, Principal.

November 11th Legion Riders rode to Our Saviour's Lutheran Church for a wonderful breakfast, 14 bikes, 3 cars, 17 total to support our Legion Rider's Story and Video given by the Rider's Director Don Chasteen. The Riders left Our Saviour's and went to VFW/American Legion Hall to set up for Veterans Day Dinner. Bikes then rode to Memorial Park for Veteran's Memorial Service. Cold but wonderful turn out.

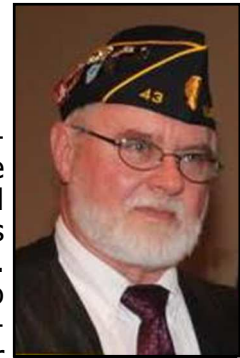
Our annual turkey dinner by the Kendall Cooks had a great turn-out! Thanks to Wayne Fischer, Mike Rechenmacher & his sisters, Sue Jelinek for Terry Jelinek and Renee Vanden Houten. A big thanks to Maria Mink (from Georgetown PTA), for the blankets she made for five of our WWII Veterans. George Hogrewe, Joe Marinello, Don O'Reilly, Jon Prescott, and Lou Weggerer. We gave Maria a Letter of Appreciation from American Legion Post 43. So many to thank, I just want to Thank You All for ALL you do!

PLEASE ATTEND A MEETING, WE MISS YOU! HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL!!

Douglas R. Deetjen, I

Sr. Vice Commander

As I write this in mid-November, we are about 100 member renewals short of 100 %, this per the membership committees list. The National has sent out two mailings to members who have not paid their dues, I have sent out e-mails to those on our list, phone calls to members without e-mails, and have knocked on some doors. What I am finding is that some members have sent their dues into National and it takes them several weeks to notify the Post committee that members have paid. The problem is that the member who has paid National does not get their new 2018 Membership card from the Post until they are notified, and I keep calling or e-mailing these members because they are still on the Posts unpaid list.



Don Chasteen

What I am trying to say is that if you have paid either National or sent a check to the Post and you have not received a new membership card with 2018 on it in about three weeks after paying, you need to find out why. If this applies to you, please send me an e-mail to dbchasteen@gmail.com so I can rectify the issue. Yes, you may need to send a copy of your canceled check or a confirmation that you paid by credit card. The whole goal here is to reach 100% renewals, but more importantly is that a member is not dropped from membership and he has a break in his Legion years of service.

Over Veterans Day weekend I attended a breakfast where I found out about the Cantigny Honor Club for Veterans. Maybe many of you already know about this club, but I did not. So I am sharing this information: Membership in the Honor Club is free. Cards need to be renewed every 5 years to maintain benefits at which time a \$5 fee is charged for the replacement card. Many benefits such as complimentary parking at Cantigny, discounted green fees at Cantigny Golf, and 10% discounts in Cantigny restaurants and shops. More information and an application can be found on line by going to "Cantigny Park", find and click "Support Us", find and click "Membership", find and click "Honors Club", find and click "Application". For general information call: 630-668-5161

Our Veteran's Day Social was a good way to start off the Holidays, good food and great fellowship. I hope everyone enjoyed Thanksgiving, and enjoy the holidays with family and friends,

Senior Vice Commander,
Don Chasteen



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



Jr. Vice Commander

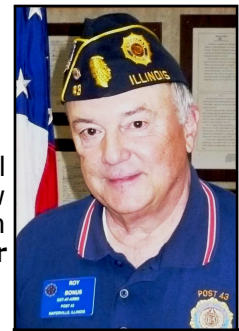
The air is colder, the sky darker and snow is looming on the horizon. All signs point to the holidays. Soon Christmas cheer and the hopes of a New Year will be with us. It is with these thoughts that your American Legion gives time for the holidays. **There is no dinner/social scheduled for December.**

We resume the New Year with our dinner/social on January 20th, 2018. The Oath of office for Legion Riders and Sons of the American Legion, along with any new members wishing to take the pledge is the main event. There is no entertainment scheduled. The food will be a delicious variety from Nicky's Catering. Expect the usual great meal. Prices for the dinner remain the same: A reasonable \$14 for adults, children 6 to 12 are \$7 and under 6 are free.

In February, we have a special treat for you listeners and dancers. The widely-acclaimed Naperville Central Jazz Band will perform for our after-dinner entertainment. Clear the floor and be ready to dance to the sounds of Glenn Miller, Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Tommy Dorsey and more. There will be modern tunes sprinkled in by the NCHS 11 piece Jazz band. This is a down-size from the 20 piece band due to the size of our hall. It will not affect the sound or the performance. Expect a grand night of fun.

In peace: Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

Roy Bonus, Junior Vice Commander, Naperville Post 43



Roy Bonus



Photos by Jim Hoch



AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER 43



With the cold weather setting in many of the Riders have already put their bikes into storage or are about to. Oil changes, gas treatment, battery removal, or trickle chargers connected are the order of the day. Getting their bikes in ship shape order for the next riding season may include purchasing new tires, windshield, seat, motor work or some doodad that they can't live without – we are all guilty of this. Some will think about purchasing a newer one, in fact one of our Riders has already purchased a beautiful 2016 Harley Davidson Limited. Who will be next, it looks like a long winter coming.

During the non-riding season the Riders will once again focus on the visits with our veterans in their assisted living homes. Also during this season the Riders are again championing the 7th and 8th Grade Essay contest. Essay information has been sent to all the Naperville Junior High Schools. We are anticipating award winning essays, like last year.

The Riders are currently involved with some internal affairs. A committee has been created to form a slate of 2018 officers, which was presented at the November Riders meeting. Nominations were accepted at this meeting and a ballot will be established, if required, and voted on at our December meeting. New officers will be installed at the January Legion Social. Also a 2018 Event Calendar and a Riders Budget will be prepared and presented to the Riders for approval at our January meeting.

The December Riders meeting has been moved to 13-December due to the Christmas Holidays.

Riders, you can earn the new Department of Illinois American Legion Riders Recruiter patch and pin by signing up two or more members to the Legion Family. This would be a great patch to have on your vest and the Legion families would really appreciate your effort.

If you are a motorcycle enthusiast who likes to support Veterans and their families and can qualify for the Legion, Legion Auxiliary, or The Sons of the American Legion, we would like to have you as a member. Come check us out at our next meeting which will be 13-December, at 7:00 pm.

Don Chasteen
ALR Chapter 43 Director
630-531-1050





AMERICAN LEGION POST 43 CALENDAR



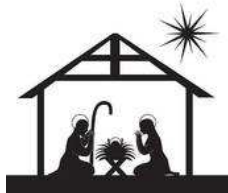
December 2, 2017	Saturday	10 a.m. Coffee at Monarch Landing
December 7, 2017	Thursday	Post Meeting 7 p.m.
December 9, 2017	Saturday	10 a.m. Coffee at Brookdale Plaza-Lisle
December 9, 2017	Saturday	Army/Navy Game 2 p.m.
December 12, 2017	Tuesday	Hines VA Visit (bus leaves at 6:15pm)
December 13, 2017	Wednesday	Legion Riders Meeting
December 16, 2017	Saturday	10 a.m. Coffee at Independence Village
December 16, 2017	Saturday	No Dinner/Social
December 23, 2017	Saturday	10 a.m. Coffee at Harbor Chase
December 25, 2017	Monday	MERRY CHRISTMAS!!



January 1, 2018	Monday	HAPPY NEW YEAR!!
January 4, 2018	Thursday	Post Meeting 7 p.m.
January 6, 2018	Saturday	10 a.m. Coffee at Monarch Landing
January 9, 2018	Tuesday	Hines VA Visit (bus leaves at 6:15pm)
January 13, 2018	Saturday	10 a.m. Coffee at Brookdale Plaza=Lisle
January 15, 2018	Monday	Martin Luther King Day
January 20, 2018	Saturday	10 a.m. Coffee at Independence Village
January 20, 2018	Saturday	Dinner/Social - New Member Initiation
January 24, 2018	Wednesday	Legion Riders Meeting
January 27, 2018	Saturday	10 a.m. Coffee at Harbor Chase



February 1, 2018	Thursday	Post Meeting 7 p.m.
February 3, 2018	Saturday	10 a.m. Coffee at Monarch Landing
February 10, 2018	Saturday	10 a.m. Coffee at Brookdale Plaza-Lisle
February 13, 2018	Tuesday	Hines VA Visit (bus leaves at 6:15pm)
February 14, 2018	Wednesday	Valentine's Day
February 17, 2018	Saturday	10 a.m. Coffee at Independence Village
February 17, 2018	Saturday	Dinner/Social - Youth Recognition
February 19, 2018	Monday	President's Day
February 24, 2018	Saturday	10 a.m. Coffee at Harbor Chase
February 28, 2018	Wednesday	Legion Rider Meeting



Chaplain's Corner

Recently, I came across an article that would be appropriate to share with you about a special veteran who carried out his mission with much courage and persistence facing at times overwhelming odds. To honor our veterans on the Veterans Day Observance just passed here is his story. I came across an article devoted to a special Marine, Sgt. Major Daniel Daly. Daly's service record with the Marines covered 3 decades. He died in 1937 with the distinction of being one of only 19 members of the US military and one of only 2 Marines to have received the Medal of Honor twice and the Navy Cross. Major General Smedley Butler, Daly's friend, and the only other Marine to have received 2 Medals of Honor described Daly as "the fightingest Marine I've ever knew." Major General John Lejeune who served as Commandant of the Marine Corps in the 1920's described Daly as "the greatest of all leathernecks and the most outstanding Marine of all time." During his tenure with the Marines Daly also received The Distinguished Service Cross and Silver Star. Inspired by Americas victory in the Spanish-American War just months before Daly enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1899 and saw his first combat in 1900 when he deployed during the Boxer Rebellion in China. He single handedly held off several enemy charges while under sniper attack while inflicting 200 casualties on the enemy. For that he earned his first Medal of Honor while deployed in Haiti. In 1915 while supporting that government battle against insurgent guerilla fighters known as Cacos on October 24, 1915 Gunnery Sgt. Daly was part of a mounted force of 38 men who were ambushed by 400 Cacos while crossing a river next to a deep ravine. Attacked from 3 different directions those Marines including Daly inflicted 75 casualties on Cacos insurgents! Daly was credited with extraordinary heroism and exceptional gallantry under heavy attack.

A historian assigned to research Daly's military career cited his calm in the face of battle, a spirit of self-sacrifice and living a life of example and concern for his junior Marines. The historian for the Marine Corps History Division, Annette Anerman, said that Daly's men "respected his abilities, his courage and that he (Daly) would not let them down. She summarized Daly's impact by noting "If you know your leader is going to be right there with you in the fight and knows how to bring you through it, then you will follow." Daly while decorated multiple times for bravery was also best known for the phrase, "Come on fellas do you want to live forever" in urging his men into battle. Daly's example and some of his experience can also serve as a life lesson for all of us. Daly was an overcomer when outnumbered in a seemingly hopeless situation. He would not quit! He went through each situation he confronted to its conclusion. That tenacity is what developed his courage under fire. He once said, "If you're going through hell just keep going and see it through." There was no quit in this Marine and I've cited just several of the more notable battles he was a part of over a 30 year military career. By the way Daly was considered for a 3rd Medal of Honor while he fought the Germans near Belleau Woods on June 8, 1918 considered one of the key engagements of WW1. However, the Allied Expeditionary Headquarters or AEF believed no one should receive 3 Medals of Honor and instead awarded Daly the Navy Cross with the inscription "For repeated deeds of heroism and great service." HOOORAH!!!

I wish all of you a blessed holiday season! 2017 was a year of much divisiveness in the country and evil acts of aggression. It is my prayer that 2018 will be a more peaceful and constructive year for our country and our families. Serve others, reach out to those less fortunate and tell each of your (Continued Page 8)

Post 43 History

Seventy-six years ago, President Franklin Roosevelt spoke to Congress, and on the radio to the nation, and uttered these immortal words: "December 7th, 1941, is a day that will live in infamy". Almost every American knows the meaning and significance of "Pearl Harbor Day", which will soon again be upon us.



December 7 of another year, 1970, is also memorable in the minds of the Rechenmacher family. It was on that day that WWII Coast Guard veteran, and Post 43 Vice Commander Richard Rechenmacher, and two other volunteer firemen, Jerry Herring and Bernard Petrowski, responding to a fire call, collided with a truckload of coal at the intersection of Aurora Ave. and Rt. 59. All 3 were killed; Rechenmacher was just 46, and had served in the Pacific in a wide variety of locations. Naperville's population was then under 23,000, and that intersection was vastly different than it is today.

Mike Rechenmacher, the oldest of 11 surviving children, 4 boys and 7 girls, and a Navy veteran fresh back from Vietnam, remembers it well. He took his father's place as the Legion Vice-Commander, and subsequently served as Post 43 Commander in 1972-73.

Firemen's Memorial Park, located at the west end of the Jefferson Street bridge, was dedicated in May of 1987. It serves as a lasting memorial to those three who lost their lives on that tragic day. May God Bless them, and offer eternal and reverent peace to all of the surviving families!

Lee Lindberg

**Coffee "and"**

Saturday Morning 10 AM



The December dates are:

**Dec 2 - Monarch Landing
Dec 9 - Brookdale Plaza-Lisle
Dec 16 - Independence Village
Dec 23 - Harbor Chase**

Don't forget our monthly visits with veterans at Monarch Landing, Brookdale Plaza-Lisle, Independence Village, and Harbor Chase. Join us on the 1st Saturday at Monarch Landing, the 2nd Saturday at Brookdale Plaza-Lisle, the 3rd Saturday at Independence Village, and the 4th Saturday at Harbor Chase.

Remember, all are welcome!

Chaplain's Corner continued from Page 6:

family members they are appreciated and loved. Lastly, love God with all your heart. Pray often and remember there is evil in the world that causes much of the pain and suffering we see! We need to remember in uncertain times like this YOU can be certain that God loves each of us and is in control. Let us be loving and caring towards each other as we enter the New Year. God Bless All Of You and God Bless The United States of America!

Chaplain Dick Komarek

BOY SCOUT TROOP 106

Troop 106 continues to meet each Monday evening at the Post 43 Home at 10W Chicago throughout the Winter months. This last month the Troop spent a lot of time cleaning out old equipment and supplies from the Post Home. November 18th the Troop is going to visit the USS COBIA at the Manitowoc, WI Submarine Memorial. The USS COBIA (SS 245) was launched on November 28, 1943, and in six war patrols, she sank thirteen Japanese vessels. The USS COBIA was decommissioned in 1970, and now is an international memorial to submariners. The Troop Christmas Party will be held on December 18th.

The two pictures are from a recent bicycling campout at Blackwell Forest Preserve.





G.I. Yoga is open to all Veterans and their families. The Wednesday morning 9:30 am Yoga class at the VFW is lead by Kate Fleming. Kate also has Yoga classes for Veterans on Tuesdays (Wheaton) and Fridays (Winfield). There is also a Saturday morning class at 9:30 am in the Rubin Center in Naperville, lead by Chitra Singh: mailofchitra@gmail.com.

For additional information, contact: Kate Fleming at kdflemingyoga@gmail.com
Schedule of Classes: www.giyoga.org



Honor Guard

Your Honor Guard has completed two years (10/6/15) of service to provide Military Funeral Service (MFS) for veterans and their family. To commemorate this event, a request was made for a flag that was flown over the US Capitol on 10/6/17. The flag and certificate have been received, and placed in an Honor Shadow Box for display next to the Tribute Jar of Military Funeral Service shell casings.

The certificate reads:

This is to certify that the accompanying flag was flown over the United States Capitol on October 6, 2017. This flag was flown for the Naperville Honor Guard, in honor of your 2 year anniversary of certification of Honor Guard. (Certificate was) Signed: Stephen T. Ayers, FAIA, LEED AP Architect of-the-Capitol.

For more information about the Honor Guard contact Jim Oftedal at [630-357-4030](tel:630-357-4030).

Color Guard

Little Friends Parade of Lights Saturday, December 2nd 7-9 pm

In order to carry all the flags and rifles we need at least 11 volunteers for this parade. This is a short parade and we need your participation. Meet at VFW parking lot 6:00pm to form up for walk to start of parade. This parade ends at Main St and Van Buren. Wear something warm and that also reflects your branch of service.



For more information contact Jim Sarns at 630-234-6292 or Wayne Fischer 630-240-8868.

ANNUAL ORATORICAL CONTEST

All Post Members are encouraged to recommend the Oratorical contest to a family member or friend who is a High School student.

The next contest starts in Naperville on Saturday, January 6, 2018 at 1:30 PM. Refer the student to our Post website:

www.naperlegion.org and click links for Youth, Oratorical, and PDF for "Essential" details. Participation in a national speech contest on the U.S. Constitution makes a nice comment on a college application. Any student, parent or teacher can contact me with any questions.

Don Hennessy, Post Contest Chairman

630-355-4679 or gddh55@sbcglobal.net

TAPS

Donald Streicher
Gary Swauger
Edward L. Pawelczyk
Robert Price Sr.
Paul E. Keiner



SICK CALL

Dave Szablewski

Charlie Vladika

Paul Hogan

Chuck Biegel

Mike Walczak

Fred Mokhiber

Dick Knosher

Doug Askren





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

Doug Deetjen 630-719-1133

Sr. Vice-Commander

Don Chasteen 630-833-6102

Jr. Vice-Commander

Roy Bonus 630-961-2724

Sgt.-At-Arms

Glenn Granat 630-209-2834

Finance Officer

Brian Light 630-369-1053

Service Officer

Mike Barbour 630-240-1645

Chaplain

Dick Komarek 630-983-6043

Historian

Joe Strebel 630-369-3846

Judge Advocate

Don Hennessy 630-355-4679

Adjutant

Tinny Bixel 630-717-1350

Immediate Past Commander

Lee Lindberg (Co-Historian) 239-537-3189

Public Relations

Jim Vahle 630-864-7183

Bugler

Rich Yndestad 630-357-6444

Legion Rider Director

Don Chasteen 630-833-6102

Honor Guard - Chair

Jim Oftedal 630-357-4030

Color Guard - Chair

Jim Sarns 630-234-6292

Sons of the American Legion

Roger Treend 630-859-9001

Legion Trustees of Post #43

Doug Deetjen

Lee Lindberg

Brian Light

Jim Vahle

Wayne Fischer

Don Hennessy

Ken Garhan

Newsletter Editor

Rich Yndestad

630-357-6444

E-mail: r.yndestad@yahoo.com

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

Post 43 Webmaster

Liz Michalski

E-mail: lizmichalski@yahoo.com

Legion Callers



John Prescott



630-420-1244

December 2017 Activities — Opportunities

Dec 2 - Monarch Landing
Dec 7 - Post Meeting 7pm
Dec 9 - Brookdale Plaza-Lisle
Dec 16 - Independence Village
Dec 23 - Harbor Chase
Dec 25 - Christmas Day

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





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



MOH recipient Col Harvey Barnum Jr. addresses those attending the Veteran's Day Memorial Service.

Photo by Jim Hoch