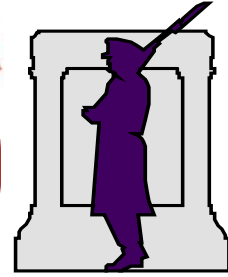




# KEEPING POSTED

American Legion Post #43  
Naperville, IL  
[www.naperlegion.org](http://www.naperlegion.org)



Volume 25 Issue 11  
NOV 2023

**Celebrating 104 Years of Service to Veterans, U.S. Military, Youth, & Community**

## COMMANDER'S CALL

### Greetings Fellow Legionnaires:

While we have a lot of events taking place this November (please see the calendar section in this newsletter), I'd like to focus on Veterans Day and pay a special tribute to every member of American Legion Post 43.

Thank you for your service. You are all rare and elite members of our society. You are selfless individuals who have shown commitment, dedication, courage and sacrifice in order to defend and protect the freedom, security and prosperity of our great nation.

As evidence of just how rare and elite you are, consider that only 11.2% of Americans served in the military during WWII, only 4.2% of Americans served in Viet Nam and less than 1% of Americans have served in the military over the past 20 years.

Service in the military creates a unique and lasting bond among those who wear the uniform. We share experiences that only fellow veterans can truly understand. We've felt the weight of responsibility, the thrill of camaraderie and, unfortunately for many, the sorrow of loss. Regardless of the branch we served in or the era we served during, this shared experience unites us all as a band of brothers and sisters.

I hope you each take a few moments to reflect on just how elite and special you are.

To my fellow veterans, living and deceased, thank you for your service. Please remember, if you need help, reach out. Let's all strive to make a positive difference in the lives of our fellow veterans and in our community.  
Semper Fidelis!

Tom Jorstad  
Commander Post 43  
(630) 215-3592  
[Tom.jorstad@yahoo.com](mailto:Tom.jorstad@yahoo.com)

**Please note that the Newsletter will be going Digital. They can be found at**  
[www.naperlegion.org](http://www.naperlegion.org)



Tom Jorstad

## Sr. Vice Commander

With the cost of seemingly everything increasing, I can save you some dough! Post 43 offers the "5 for 4" deal which you pay for 4 years of membership, but get a 5th year of membership for free! That low \$180 for 5 years of membership is a steal, especially when you factor in the increase to \$50 per year that will go into effect next year. Why pay \$250 over the course of 5 years, when you can get that same 5 year term for only \$180! To take advantage of this, just write "5 for 4" in the memo line of your check when you mail your dues in. And if you already paid for your 2023-2024 membership, you can still opt into the 5 for 4! Just email Post Adjutant Rita Kollias at [adjutantpost43@gmail.com](mailto:adjutantpost43@gmail.com) and send remaining payment.



Jennifer Slown

Don't forget membership is the lifeblood of our organization. We don't have a Legion without active members and bringing in new members is vital to our survival as an organization. Our recruitment numbers to date are 313 out of our needed 555 (56%) for our 2023-2024 membership year (runs July 2023 through June 2024). Veterans Day ceremonies and events are a great way to make a connection with local Vets that may not yet be a member. You see other Veterans in passing while shopping, out to eat, and everywhere else. Strike up a conversation, welcome them to our fold, and help us continue to serve ALL Veterans and their families in our community.

As always, if you have a particular idea for a recruiting opportunity, a way to boost our numbers, or a recruiting incentive idea, please reach out to me directly!

Semper Fidelis,

Jennifer Slown  
Senior Vice Commander, Post 43  
(630) 215-3592  
[jenniberbslown@gmail.com](mailto:jenniberbslown@gmail.com)



## Jr. Vice Commander

I hope this newsletter finds you all in good health as we continue with our beautiful fall weather and year.

Our next dinner social will be on November 11, 2023. This will be our traditional turkey dinner with all its fixings. Turkey, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, stuffing and of course an array of desserts. This will be our joint Dinner with the VFW celebrating Veteran's Day.

For reservation please contact Kristen Jungles at [kristenjungles@kw.com](mailto:kristenjungles@kw.com)

Kristen Jungles  
Junior Vice Commander Post 43  
[kristenjungles@kw.com](mailto:kristenjungles@kw.com)



### AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER 43

Riders Report—American Legion Newsletter  
September 2023



Steve Strickland

The Riders were on hand to Welcome Home Honor Flight Chicago on October 18.

Thanks to all who attended our Fundraiser Prime Ride Dinner on October 14th, the entertainment for the evening was provided by Claremont Drive. A good time was had by all.

Steve Strickland  
Director  
American Legion Riders  
Post 43, Naperville, IL



## Sons of the American Legion

The SAL Squadron 43 will hold nominations at the November 21st meeting for the 2024 SAL officers. I know we are still a few months away, but mark your calendars for February 25th, as this will be our 6th annual pancake breakfast fundraiser.

Our stated SAL meeting is every **THIRD** Tuesday at 7:00PM. We met in the lower level "patio" at the VFW hall. 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 SAL 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 SAL Squadron 43's main goals are to support our Post and support our Community.

Respectfully,  
SAL Commander  
Squadron 43  
Chris Lance  
(630) 926-1177  
[chrisjlance@gmail.com](mailto:chrisjlance@gmail.com)



Chris Lance

### Coffee With Vets Saturday Morning 10 AM



The NOV dates are:

NOV 4- Monarch Landing  
NOV 11- Brookdale - Lisle  
NOV 18- Tabor Hills  
NOV 25 - Story Point-Naperville

Don't forget our monthly visits with Veterans at Monarch Landing, Brookdale - Lisle, Tabor Hills, and Story Point-Naperville. Join us on the 1st Saturday at Monarch Landing, 2nd Saturday at Brookdale in Lisle, 3rd Saturday at Tabor Hills and 4th Saturday at Story Point-Naperville. All are welcome to Attend!!

Information: Jim Stoffregen 630-430-4966 or Jerry Cooney 630-995-5053



## Historian Report

### Significant November Dates in Military History

- \* On Nov. 10, 1775, Congress directed the raising of two marine battalions under Capt. Samuel Nicholas, marking the birthday of the U.S. Marine Corps.
- \* A crowd of 15,000 gathered on Nov. 19, 1863, for the dedication of the National Soldiers' Cemetery at Gettysburg, Pa. President Abraham Lincoln gave a "little speech," which he thought was a failure because of the audience's lack of reaction. It became known as the Gettysburg Address and is now recognized as one of the greatest speeches in our country's history.
- \* On Nov. 24, 1902, the U.S. Navy commissioned the Bainbridge, which has come to be recognized as the first naval destroyer and carries the designation, Destroyer No. 1.
- \* CPL. James B. Gresham and PVTs. Thomas F. Enright and Merle D. Hay became the first Americans to be killed in WW I during a nighttime trench battle at Bathelmont, France.
- \* On Nov. 24, 1944, 111 land-based B-29 aircraft from the 73<sup>rd</sup> Bombardment Wing bombed the Japanese capital of Tokyo.
- \* On Nov. 1, 1945, PFC Desmond T. Doss became the first conscientious objector to earn the Medal of Honor for his actions as a member of a medical detachment to help save the lives of wounded soldiers on Okinawa.
- \* The U.S. Air Force's first supersonic bomber, the B-58, made its maiden flights on Nov. 11, 1956. The aircraft became operational in 1960 and remained in service until 1970.
- \* The first major engagement between regular forces of the U.S. and North Vietnam took place on Nov. 14, 1965. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry fought a three-day battle with three North Vietnamese regiments in the Ia Drang Valley.
- \* On Nov. 18, 2002, United Nations inspectors returned to Iraq after a four-year absence to resume the search for weapons of mass destruction.
- \* An American guided missile frigate, the USS Vandergrift, sailed into Ho Chi Minh City on Nov. 19, 2003, flying the U.S. and Vietnamese flags. It was the first U.S. warship to dock in the country since the Vietnam War.
- \* Insurgents set off at least two car bombs and attacked a police station in the central Iraqi town of Samarra on Nov. 6, 2004, killing at least 29 people and wounding 40. Over 50 people were killed across central Iraq including two dozen Americans.



## AMERICAN LEGION POST 43 CALENDAR



Nov 2, 2023	Thursday		Post Meeting 7:00PM
Nov 4, 2023	Saturday		10 AM Coffee at Monarch Landing
Nov 4, 2023	Saturday		248th USMC Birthday Ball
Nov 9, 2023	Tuesday		Vietnam Wall Opening day
Nov 10, 2023	Friday		USMC 248th Birthday
Nov 11, 2023	Saturday		Veterans Day Program
Nov 11, 2023	Saturday		10 Am Coffee at Brookdale-Lisle
Nov 11, 2023	Saturday		Legion Dinner 5:00PM
Nov 14, 2023	Tuesday		S.A.L Squadron Meeting 7 PM
Nov 17, 2023	Friday		Win A dance with a Hero Fundraiser
			For Toys 4 Tots
Nov 18, 2023	Saturday		Turkey Raffle
Nov 18, 2023	Saturday		10 am Coffee at Tabor Hills
Nov 22, 2023	Wednesday		Legion Riders Meeting 7 PM
Nov 25, 2023	Saturday		10 am Coffee at Story Point
Dec 2, 2023	Saturday		10 AM Coffee at Monarch Landing
Dec 7, 2023	Thursday		Post Meeting 7:00PM
Dec 9, 2023	Saturday		10 AM Coffee at Brookdale
Dec 9, 2023	Saturday		Army Vs Navy Game at the Canteen
Dec 16, 2023	Saturday		10 AM Coffee at Tabor Hills
Dec 16, 2023	Saturday		Second Annual Holiday Gift Exchange
Dec 23, 2023	Saturday		10 AM Coffee at Story Point
Dec 25, 2023	Monday		Christmas Day
Jan 4, 2024	Thursday		Post Meeting 7:00 PM
Jan 6, 2024	Saturday		10 AM Coffee at Monarch Landing
Jan 13, 2024	Saturday		10 AM Coffee at Brookdale
Jan 16, 2024	Tuesday		S.A.L. Squadron Meeting 7 PM
Jan 20, 2024	Saturday		10 AM Coffee at Tabor Hills
Jan 20, 2024	Saturday		Legion Dinner 6:00PM
Jan 24, 2024	Wednesday		Legion Riders Meeting 7:00PM
Jan 27, 2024	Saturday		10 AM Coffee at Story Point

## Vietnam Wall of Remembrance

# VIETNAM WALL OF *Remembrance*

**NOVEMBER 9–13**  
**RIVERWALK GRAND PAVILION**

912 HONORARY SINDT MEMORIAL CT., NAPERVILLE, IL 60540

## *Event Schedule*

### **PUBLIC VIEWING**

November 9–13 from Sunrise to 10:00 pm

### **OPENING CEREMONY**

November 9 at 10:00 am

### **VETERANS DAY CEREMONY**

November 11 at 11:00 am

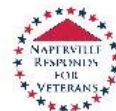
### **CLOSING CEREMONY**

November 13 at 8:00 pm

[napervilleparks.org/VietnamWallofRemembrance](http://napervilleparks.org/VietnamWallofRemembrance)



SPONSORED BY





Let's talk, yet again, about Veteran Scamming. I was under the belief that once your monthly benefits are set up and you are receiving them routinely, your concerns about scammers would vanish. Well, forget that myth. You still have to be vigilant. Scammers have found a new option, payment redirection.

Payment redirection occurs when a bad actor obtains a Veteran's Personal Identifiable Information (PII) and uses the information to unlawfully access and gain control of personal information (email or bank accounts, [va.gov](https://www.va.gov), etc.). Once the information is compromised, the scammer redirects the victim's VA benefits payments to accounts or prepaid debit cards the scammer controls. Veterans' personal information is vulnerable to phishing attempts and an array

Bad actors are leveraging publicly available information from internet sources, social media, dark web, etc., to gather PII:

With enough demographic information, they can call the National Contact Center and change Veterans' bank accounts to redirect their payments.

With stolen passwords and credentials, they can access Veterans' information through VA.gov.

So what sorts of things can you do to protect yourself? See the following:

Be alert! Identity theft is not always committed by strangers

Frequently change and maintain strong passwords and never use PII in the password

Verify your identity—obtain a VA Security PIN to secure direct deposit accounts from theft and protect PII

Be cautious of companies claiming to contact you on behalf of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) or presenting itself as having an affiliation with VA

Contact VA immediately at 1-800-827-1000 if you find a payment discrepancy or suspicious activity within your direct deposit account

Dennis Lukavsky

Service Officer:

VFW Post 3873

Legion Post 43



**VA Hotline**  
**1-855-948-2311**



### Burial Allowance

As a reminder to our membership, once a veteran has passed, another important aspect of our government's "Allowed Benefits" comes into play for which the veterans family must apply. These benefits (burial and plot costs) are offered to help cover some burial costs. The Veterans Family/ NOK (Next of Kin) must apply for these allowances. Use the link for description and steps to request benefits up to 2 years after death of your veteran.

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

The items for verification which the family/NOK must provide are:

- DD-214 and Death Certificate.

- Receipts of expenditures paid.

- Statement of Account (preferably with the letterhead of the funeral director or cemetery owner)

It is imperative that you, the VFW/AL veteran, provide this information to someone in your family to apply for these benefits. Our government has a 2 year limit, **from date of death**, for these allowances to be paid to the deceased veterans family/estate.

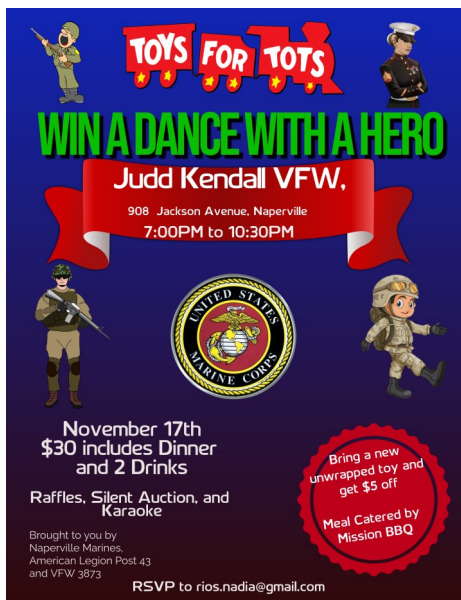
If the veteran is to be buried at Abe Lincoln National Cemetery, or any other national cemetery, review their requirements at:

[https://www.cem.va.gov/burial\\_benefits/index.asp](https://www.cem.va.gov/burial_benefits/index.asp)

Jim Oftedal - Honor Guard







Its here again, our second  
annual  
“Win a Dance with a Hero”  
Save the date November 17th.  
All proceeds from this event will ben-  
efit Toys for Tots, DuPage County.

## Riders Prime Rib Memories 2023



Photo Credit by Jim Hoch



### **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 the Post Home, 10 W. Chicago Av., Naperville, IL

[www.naperlegion.org](http://www.naperlegion.org)

### **Post Officers**

#### **Commander**

Tom Jorstad 630-305-8803

#### **Sr. Vice-Commander**

Jennifer Slown 630-803-2251

#### **Jr. Vice-Commander**

Kristen Jungles 630-816-6841

#### **Sgt.-At-Arms**

Glenn Granat 630-209-2834

#### **Finance Officer**

John Noll 630-881-6718

#### **Service Officer**

Dennis Lukavsky 630-272-9064

#### **Chaplain**

Tom Richert 630-921-4511

#### **Historian**

Joe Strebel 630-369-3846

#### **Judge Advocate**

Don Hennessy 630-355-4679

#### **Adjutant**

Rita Kollias 630-362-7210

#### **Immediate Past Commander**

Nadia Baran 630-728-7519

#### **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 Trustees of Post #43**

Nadia Baran

Richard Karbarz

John Noll

Tom Jorstad

Wayne Fischer

Don Chasteen

Todd Bertulis

### **Newsletter Editor**

The American Legion Post 43

Jason Baran

630-768-9805

E-mail: [jason.baran@gmail.com](mailto:jason.baran@gmail.com)

**Please send your reports to Jason by  
NOV 15th for Dec Newsletter**

### **Post 43 Webmaster**

Liz Michalski

E-mail: [lizmichalski@yahoo.com](mailto:lizmichalski@yahoo.com)

### **NOV 2023**

### **Activities - Opportunities**

NOV 2 - Post Meeting 7pm

NOV 4- Coffee-Monarch Landing

NOV 11- Coffee-Brookdale in Lisle

NOV 18- Coffee-Tabor Hills

NOV 25- Coffee-Story Point

**Selected Thursdays & Saturdays:**  
Help OSOT America sort & pack  
boxes at the Lisle warehouse.





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

## Women in Service



Photo Credit by Jim Hoch