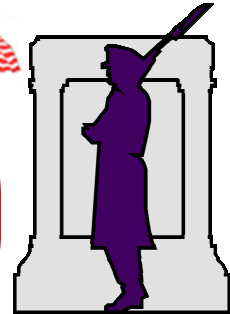




# KEEPING POSTED



American Legion Post #43  
Naperville, IL

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

Volume 16 Issue 8  
October 2018

## COMMANDER'S CALL

Don Chasteen - Post Commander

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

In this article I want to discuss membership and in all probability will encroach on the Senior-Vice report, but as I have learned membership is our most important resource. Membership sustains us in many ways. By our numbers it gives us a voice at all levels of government, the larger our numbers of course our voice becomes stronger and more influential enabling the Legion to get the proper care and benefits for our veterans. Membership dues and fundraising enable the Legion to fund the many programs that support the many programs for children and youth. Why do I bring this subject up? Membership in this Post, Our District, Our Division, and Our Department has declined through members passing on to Post Everlasting, transferring to a new Post (usually out of State), or simply not renewing. I am excited that Jack Amberg, our Senior-Vice Commander, has some new ideas on attracting younger, new members to our Post, and the Post is in the process of implementing them.



Another concern I have is the low attendance at our September Dinner/Social. The attendance was 50% less than the norm for past dinners and I hope the reason is due to the beautiful weather we had and members were enjoying their last Summer flings. These socials are not intended to be fundraisers. We keep the price of the dinners as low as we can to provide a great evening of food and entertainment, which Junior-Vice Commander Jennifer Slown succeeded in doing. Socials are a means of interacting with people in a relaxed, enjoyable atmosphere, so come to the next one and meet some new interesting people. Our Post has many interesting members that I don't know yet!

If you have any thoughts, good or bad, on the above subjects please let us know. Feedback is the only way that we can continue to move forward. My phone number as well as the Junior/ Senior-Vice Commanders are listed in the back of this newsletter.

By the way, HAPPY BIRTHDAY!! The Legion is 100 years young this year.

For the Good of the Legion,

Don Chasteen  
Commander, Naperville American Legion Post 43

## Sr. Vice Commander

Fellow Veterans, Legion members and friends of same, as we seek to add membership, we should remember a basic principle. People join, or pay for, that which gives them value. We need to be the experts on the challenges, opportunities and resources available to Veterans. During my tenure as your Senior Vice, I will share what I have learned being a Veteran and working in the Veterans Space. This month, I want to share what I have learned about the decisions that Veterans make.



*Jack Amberg*

We have all read, or known, the Veteran who does not want to go out, or leave their residence or venture very far into the civilian world. One reason that may happen is the decisions that are required to function in the service, in theater and in the civilian world.

I attended a seminar hosted by a Veteran who was also a psychologist at Jesse Brown VA hospital. In that seminar I learned that while in theatre, an average troop makes about 3000 decisions a day. This may seem like a lot, until the doctor said that the average civilian makes 9000 decisions a day. At first glance, this might seem like a disconnect, something must be wrong. In fact, there is nothing wrong, it is the way it is.

While in theater an average troop does not decide on whether to shave or not, on what to wear "(perhaps which boots to wear)" or what to eat. Troops do not select the route they will drive nor even where they will sit while in movement. However, in the civilian world, all of these are daily decisions that need to be made, in addition to a whole lot more. This has implications when Veterans return.

Upon return, many well-meaning family members ask 'where do you want to eat'; 'what do you want to do'; 'where do you want to go'. The answers can be vague to nonexistent. In addition, they may overwhelm the Veteran who can then react by hiding away from those family members. This can cause disconnects and fractures in the relationships. Understanding the decision model can reduce stress.

If someone likes pizza, and joins the military and deploys, they will like pizza when they get back. So understanding the decision model, a family member simply states that they are leaving for pizza at a given time, and the Veteran will be ready to go. The decision capacity returns quickly so this understanding is really only recommended during the first couple of weeks upon return. However, a tremendous amount of stress can be relieved. As a Veteran, this knowledge becomes key for you to be able to share with your networks. It is value, that can then be converted into an invitation to join the American Legion and other Veteran Service Organizations.

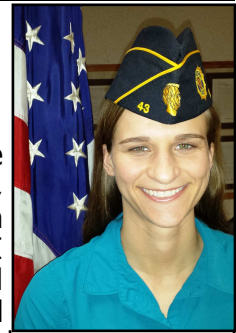
Next month, I will share the "Sheep Dog" mentality, whose understanding can again, relieve stress in relationships and provide value to others.

Senior Vice Commander,  
Jack Amberg



## Jr. Vice Commander

Well our first Dinner/Social and installation of officers is in the books! The food was delicious, the musicians were outstanding, and the company wasn't too bad either! It was absolutely a team effort getting everything set up and ready for the evening and I can't thank those that volunteered to help out enough. A special thanks to the Neuqua Valley High School Jazz Quartet that provided the evening's fantastic entertainment.



Jennifer Slown

Our next Dinner/Social will be Saturday October 20th with the theme of Oktoberfest. Dinner will include traditional German cuisine of bratwurst, schnitzel, sauerkraut, and pretzels. As always, our bartender will be serving up world class brews to accompany your meal. Entertainment will follow the Oktoberfest theme and include an "Oompah Band". This dinner will also have a brief program to celebrate "Women in the Military". All women veterans or those currently serving who attend in uniform will receive dinner "on the house". So if you know a woman veteran from any era, please encourage her to attend! An email blast will be forthcoming with additional details.

Keeping an eye to the future, November's dinner will take place Sunday November 11th and will celebrate Veterans Day. Our faithful Kendall Cooks will be preparing a succulent turkey dinner with all of your favorite side dishes. Dinner prices remain the same at \$14 per person, \$7 for children 7-12 years, and kids 6 and under eat free. If you weren't able to attend our September dinner, I hope to see you in October!

Semper Fidelis!  
Jennifer Slown  
Jr Vice Commander



Installation of new Post 43 Officers

Post 43 Newsletter wins 1st Place in State!



Photos by Jim Hoch



## AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER 43

Summer has ended and the best season for motorcycle riding is upon us. The Legion Riders love the cooler Fall weather as it sure beats the hot 90° days of Summer riding. Putting on a leather jacket and our Rider vest and traveling along roads with the leaves showing Fall colors is just an enjoyable day.



Six Riders took part in the Legion Legacy Run from Kansas to Minnesota. The highlight was when we were able to go on stage with the Legion National Commander Denise Rohan and present her with a check of \$5,200.00 for the Legacy Fund (see photo below). As you know the fund supplies educational scholarships to the children of service members whose parent has been killed or over 50% disabled serving in the military since 9/11. Post 43 Legion Commander Don Chasteen and Post 43 Rider Director Tom Dillon proudly presented the check to the National Commander. They were accompanied by Post 43 Legion Riders Doug Deetjen, Ricky Johnson, Bob Burch and Steve Strickland. We were also lucky to meet a young lady who is a scholarship recipient. It was an honor to hear her story of how the scholarship was helping her achieve her goal of becoming a nurse. The trip was great and it was our honor to represent Naperville Legion Post 43 at this event. All the monies the Riders spent on hotels, gas and food was borne by the Riders. You should know that not one penny raised by our Legacy dinner fundraiser goes to fund the Riders who participate in this event.

Besides that event, the Riders took part in the annual Naperville Labor Day parade and held flags for this years last Honor Flight at Midway airport. Of course, we also had many fun runs and rides organized by other Legion Rider Posts.

Most importantly, your Legion Riders have been very busy getting ready for our big Legion Rider fundraising dinner on 29 September 2018. A live band, \$25.00 for a prime rib dinner catered by Texas Roadhouse, great friends and a wonderful cause all rolled into one great night. You can still make a donation to this Fund by contacting Rider Director Tom Dillon at 630-803-2047. In 2019 we plan to donate \$6000.00 to the Legacy Fund. We cannot do it without your support.

Our next Post 43 Legion Rider meeting is 24 October 2018. The meeting will begin at 7:00pm at the patio of our VFW/Legion Hall. All members of the Legion or Sons of the American Legion are welcome to attend. We generally meet for a pre meeting meal at Stilin's Grill, 2029 Ogden Avenue, Lisle at about 6:00pm.

Tom Dillon  
Director ALR Chapter 43  
630-803-2047







## AMERICAN LEGION POST 43 CALENDAR



October 4, 2018  
October 6, 2018  
October 9, 2018  
October 13, 2018  
October 13, 2018  
October 16, 2018  
October 20, 2018  
October 20, 2018  
October 24, 2018  
October 27, 2018

Thursday  
Saturday  
Tuesday  
Saturday  
Saturday  
Tuesday  
Saturday  
Saturday  
Wednesday  
Saturday



Post Meeting 7 pm  
10 am Coffee at Monarch Landing  
Hines VA Visit (bus leaves at 6:15pm)  
U.S. Navy Birthday  
10 am Coffee at Brookdale - Lisle  
S.A.L. Monthly Meeting 7 pm  
10 am Coffee at Independence Village  
Dinner/Social - Octoberfest  
Legion Rider Meeting  
10 am Coffee at Harbor Chase

November 1, 2018  
November 3, 2018  
November 10, 2018  
November 10, 2018  
November 10, 2018  
November 11, 2018  
November 13, 2018  
November 17, 2018  
November 24, 2018  
November 28, 2018

Thursday  
Saturday  
Saturday  
Saturday  
Saturday  
Sunday  
Tuesday  
Saturday  
Saturday  
Wednesday



Post Meeting 7 pm  
10 am Coffee at Monarch Landing  
Our Saviour's Mens Breakfast 7:30am  
10 am Coffee at Brookdale - Lisle  
U.S. Marine Corps Birthday  
Dinner/Social - Veterans Day  
Hines VA Visit (bus leaves at 6:15pm)  
10 am Coffee at Independence Village  
10 am Coffee at Harbor Chase  
Legion Rider Meeting

December 1, 2018  
December 6, 2018  
December 7, 2018  
December 8, 2018  
December 8, 2018  
December 11, 2018  
December 15, 2018  
December 15, 2018  
December 22, 2018  
December 26, 2018

Saturday  
Thursday  
Friday  
Saturday  
Saturday  
Tuesday  
Saturday  
Saturday  
Saturday  
Wednesday



10 a.m. Coffee at Monarch Landing  
Post Meeting 7 pm  
77th Anniversary Pearl Harbor  
10 a.m. Coffee at Brookdale Plaza-Lisle  
Army/Navy Game 2 pm  
Hines VA Visit (bus leaves at 6:15pm)  
10 a.m. Coffee at Independence Village  
**No Dinner/Social**  
10 a.m. Coffee at Harbor Chase  
Legion Riders Meeting



## **American Legion Celebrates their 100<sup>th</sup> National Convention**

Our American Legion held their 2018 National Convention in Minneapolis which was where their 1<sup>st</sup> National Convention was held 100 years ago. It was a very special time to not only listen to those active in the American Legion give reports, but also to hear the history again of the American Legion and the successes we have had over these 100 years.

This year Post 43 was represented by 4 of our Past Post Commanders. They are Terry Jelinek; Mike Rechenmacher; Wayne Fischer; and Lee Lindberg. You will see their pictures below helping to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in their own way. Also this year we had 6 Riders from Post 43 participate in the Legacy Ride. They were Tom Dillon; Don Chasteen; Doug Deetjen; Steve Strickland; Ricky Johnson; and Bob Burch. Donations generated from the Ride totaled just over \$1,250,000. All of which will go to Scholarships for children of our fallen since 9-11 and children of Veterans with 50%+ Service Connected Disability. Our Riders presented a check for \$5,200 during the ride and Post 43 donated \$500 during the Convention. All in all it was a very special and memorable 100<sup>th</sup> National Convention.

Post 43 was well represented through-out this convention and we trust many more.

*Wayne Fischer*



Terry Jelinek



Mike Rechenmacher



Wayne Fischer



Lee Lindberg

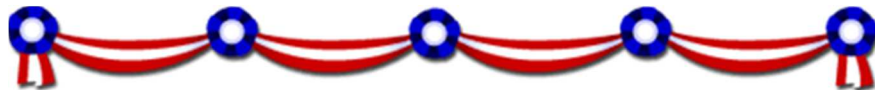
## Sons of the American Legion Squadron 43



Greetings from the Sons of the American Legion Squadron 43. As Squadron Commander, I would like to first thank all those who had worked diligently to help get the Sons off our feet. With the help of the Post and Legion Riders, we are off to a great start. For those who are not familiar with The Sons of the American Legion (S.A.L.), the organization was founded in 1932. The S.A.L. exists to honor the service and sacrifice of Legionnaires. Although S.A.L. has its own membership, the organization is not a separate entity. Rather, the S.A.L. is a program of The American Legion. We are always welcoming new members. Many Legionnaires hold dual membership 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 goal is to support our Post and Community.

Our stated S.A.L. meeting is every third Tuesday at 7pm. We meet in the lower level "patio" at the VFW hall. Our next stated meeting is scheduled for October 16<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome and encourage all to attend.

Chris Lance  
Squadron 43 Commander  
630.926.1177



### Coffee "and"

**Saturday Morning 10 AM**



The October dates are:

Oct 6 - Monarch Landing  
Oct 13 - Brookdale - Lisle  
Oct 20 - Independence Village  
Oct 27 - 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!



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



**Welcome Post 43 Family!** The upcoming year 2019 promises to be memorable for both our post and the American Legion. Both will reach the 100 year milestone in making a positive difference and significant contributions towards the 4 pillars of which we believe in and in serving our veterans and youth while supporting proudly national security and Americanism. Don't forget God has been there every step of the way in guiding our direction, inspiring our faith while providing wisdom to our officers together with blessing our efforts in serving others. It's not too early to wish Post 43 and the American Legion well on this its centennial year. **HAPPY 100<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY!!**

I came across a message recently by Robert Jeffress a well-known pastor of a Dallas, Texas based Baptist Church and would like to share it with you. Pastor Jeffress suggests we all have a story to tell or a story to share with others as to how God has made a difference in our lives whether during times of stress and suffering, during struggles with our faith (we all go thru that), during unexpected moments of joy and triumph or receiving answers as each of us contemplates what our purpose is here on earth or understanding God's will. Scripture is clear that he has a plan for each of our lives, to reach the full potential of all that we were meant to be! Each letter in the word story stands for an important element in preparing the structure of our story. "S" is for Scripture. Read God's word as it pertains to your personal story and include specific scriptures which make your story come alive with the changes you experienced, comfort you received or new lesson that was learned. "T" is for Talk to Others. Seek out friends, family or when encountering new people don't be afraid of bringing an encouraging word through telling your story. It just might show them how to cope with a situation when you give them hope by how you dealt with adversity. "O" is to follow your heart as God leads. Pray before you tell your story that you may encourage others while glorifying God. Ask God to give you the right words and attitude as you prepare to give your story. "R" is to receive the talents and special abilities God has given you and act on them. We all have been given certain gifts like patience, communication, mercy, helps, leadership, listening, wisdom, discernment, counseling or service to veterans or the poor. If you don't know what your gifts are consider taking a course offered at many churches on finding and using effectively your spiritual gifts. Finally, "Y" means to yield to the Holy Spirit. Ask the Holy Spirit through prayer to help you tell your story by giving you the right words, to guard your tongue and give you the faith and courage to effectively make a difference in other's lives. Remember, the greatest joy in life is in helping or serving others! Took me a while to discover this important truth. Good luck in developing your story. Just be yourself, and you will make a positive and even significant difference with those who share your story!

Several Saturday's ago I found myself standing in line at City Hall with many others as I awaited my turn in paying final respects to Mayor Emeritus George Pradel. He served as Mayor for almost 20 years. The Mayor had taken ill several weeks before and was admitted to the hospital. Severe neck and back pain caused by a tumor spread quickly through his body and on the morning of Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, George Pradel passed away. Also, about a week before John McCain passed away after a long battle with cancer. Both men were veterans. Mayor Pradel served in the United States Marine Corps, while John McCain served as a navy pilot during the Vietnam War. His plane shot down, he was taken captive and became a POW for 5-1/2 years; where he was interrogated and tortured at the infamous "Hanoi Hilton" prison. McCain was later released and returned to the United States where he entered politics and eventually was elected a US senator from Arizona. A final observation on the passing of these two servants and veterans. Both men loved their country and both men loved people. Mayor Pradel never really sought politics. He was everybody's Officer Friendly! Friends and family encouraged him to run, and on election night Pradel won by just over 2,000 votes. He served from 1998-2017. McCain despised political hatred and individual arrogance and self-promotion no matter what party was in office. He loved the flag! Mayor Pradel was a kind and energetic man whose affectionous and positive spirit so defined his character! Our deepest and heartfelt prayers go out to the families of these two men who believed in serving others with civility, passion and dignity, for supporting just causes and in expressing their faith in God. You both will be greatly missed!

Dick Komarek  
Chaplain



**History Lesson for This Month****Who Was Billy Williams?**

-He was born 18 years before the beginning of the Spanish-American War, to John and Harriet Mitchell. John was a wealthy Wisconsin Senator whose father founded the Milwaukee Road and the Marine Bank of Wisconsin.

-He grew up in West Allis, a suburb of Milwaukee.

-He enlisted in the army as a private at the age of 18, at the beginning of the Spanish-American War.

-Because of his influential father, he was soon commissioned an officer, and remained in the army.

-He's often referred to as the "Father of the U.S. Air Force".

-He's the only individual for whom an aircraft has been named: the Billy Mitchell B-25, of which "Doolittle's Raiders" flew 16 from the deck of the USS Hornet to bomb Tokyo in early 1942.

A unique characteristic of Mitchell was his bold and profound predictions, most of which were rarely heeded. For example, in 1906 while serving as an instructor in the Signal Corps at Ft. Leavenworth, KS, he predicted that major conflicts in the future would take place in the air, and he never held to the common belief back then that "the Great War" would be the end of all wars.

In March of 1912, after assignment to The Philippines, and touring the battlefields of the Russo-Japanese War, predicted that war with Japan was one-day inevitable.

A year before the US entered WWI, in July of 1916, he was promoted to Major, and appointed Chief of the Air Service of the First Army. He became one of the top combat pilots of the war, along with his friend Eddie Rickenbacker. He was highly decorated with the Distinguished Service Cross, the Distinguished Service Medal, and several foreign decorations. But he antagonized army administrative leaders with his arguments and criticism of their resistance to his ideas of more emphasis on air power. He insisted that a battleship could be sunk by bombing from an aircraft, even though skeptics said it would not be possible, and later was able to prove it in a pre-planned bombing of 3 leftover German ships from the war, a destroyer, battleship, and a cruiser, and 3 obsolete US ships.

Promoted to Colonel and eventually Brigadier General, and reduced in rank more than once, in 1924 after an inspection tour of military sites in Japan and other parts of Asia, he submitted a 324 page report suggesting a "future war with Japan", including an attack on Pearl Harbor, 17 years prior to when the attack eventually took place!

In 1925 he was brought to court-martial, for "insubordination after accusing Army and Navy leaders of an almost treasonable administration of the national defense." Included in the panel of 12 judges for his trial were such recognizable names as Major (then) Douglas MacArthur, Hap Arnold, Eddie Rickenbacker, and Fiorello LaGuardia, all of whom allegedly voted for acquittal. Nevertheless, he was convicted and suspended from active duty with no pay (later changed to half pay by Pres. Coolidge). He resigned from the service.

He died in 1936 at the age of 56 before he could observe several of his predictions. He posthumously was awarded the Medal of Honor, and the airport in Milwaukee is officially "General Mitchell International Airport."

*Lee Lindberg*





## Congrats on 5 Years!

G.I. Yoga is open to all Veterans and their families. The Wednesday morning 9:30 am Yoga class at the VFW is led 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, led by Chitra Singh: [mailofchitra@gmail.com](mailto:mailofchitra@gmail.com).

For additional information, contact: Kate Fleming at [kdflemingyoga@gmail.com](mailto:kdflemingyoga@gmail.com)

## Electric Wheelchair for Veteran

Post received gift of Electric Wheelchair (Scooter model) for Veterans. For free use of it please contact:

Don Hennessy [630-355-4679](tel:630-355-4679)



# TAPS

John G. Orban  
George Pradel  
Raymond J. Yackley  
William Kohley  
Paul Reidy  
Sidney Smith



## SICK CALL

Paul Hogan

Chuck Biegel

Mike Walczak

Dick Knosher

Doug Askren

Ken Garhan





## **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](http://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

#### **Bugler**

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**

Don Chasteen

Doug Deetjen

Bob Colby

Jim Vahle

Wayne Fischer

Don Hennessy

Ken Garhan

### **Newsletter Editor**

Rich Yndestad

630-357-6444

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

**Please send your reports to Rich by  
October 15th for November Newsletter**

### **Post 43 Webmaster**

Liz Michalski

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

### **Legion Callers**



John Prescott



630-420-1244

## **October 2018 Activities — Opportunities**

Oct 4 - Post Meeting 7pm

Oct 6 - Monarch Landing

Oct 13 - Brookdale - Lisle

Oct 20 - Independence Village

Oct 20 - Dinner/Social Oktoberfest

Oct 27 - 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*



**Naperville Honor Guard performs Military Honors for former Mayor George Pradel on Sep 10th, 2018.**