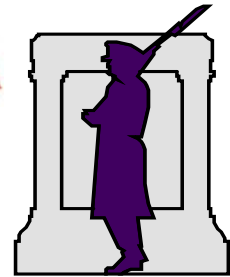




KEEPING POSTED



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

Celebrating 107 Years of Service to Veterans, U.S. Military, Youth, & Community

Keeping Posted

September 2026

Page 1

Happy Fall, Everyone!

I know, right? It feels like we skipped summer and went straight into fall! As with everything we do, we are always evolving with new ideas, events, and opportunities to make a difference in our community. This month is no different. We have some exciting events coming up, and we hope you will join us!

3rd Annual Golf Outing

Coming up is our **3rd Annual Golf Outing at Seven Bridges**. This is one of our best events—if we do say so ourselves!

This event helps raise funds for local veteran charities, our scholarship program, youth programs, and much, much more. We hope to reach our fundraising goal, and with your support, we know we can make a difference.

Membership Cards

For those of you who have been waiting on your membership cards, we have good news! We had a mailing party, and the cards were mailed out on **August 20, 2026**.

If your card says **2026**, it is time to renew! Don't let your membership benefits lapse for a year. Renew today and continue enjoying all the benefits of being a member.

Labor Day Parade — September 7

Join us for the **Labor Day Parade on Monday, September 7th**. Come march with us and show your pride and support!

Annual Judd-a-Thon — September 13

On **September 13th**, we have the annual **Judd-a-Thon**. I know you guys have been training all year for this grueling event!

Don't forget to sign up and join this incredible endeavor, which benefits **The Children's Home in Michigan**. Your participation helps make a difference in the lives of children and families who need our support.

First-Ever Prom Party — September 25

On **September 25th**, we will have our **first-ever Prom Party!**

Dust off your dancing shoes and put on your swag. This event is being hosted by our very own **Legion Auxiliary**, so come out and support them as they work to bring us a great night of fun.

Come alone, come with friends, come stag—but **come!** We can't wait to see everyone on the dance floor.

We succeed as a team, and together, we can accomplish so much more.

Here's to a great fall season filled with fellowship, fun, service, and making a difference in our community. We hope to see you at these upcoming events!

For God and Country,

Nadia Baran,

Commander

Naperville American Legion Post 43



Senior Vice Commander

Dan Sullivan



Thank you to those who helped out at the recent membership envelope stuffing event! A mass mailing was sent out last week. Members who have completed the membership process should have received their 2027 membership card in the mail.

If you did NOT receive your card or if you have any questions, please send me an email at sullivandan01@gmail.com and we will work together to complete the membership process.

Also, I plan to be at the Golf Outing on September 3rd and I plan to arrive early for the post meeting at 7:00 p.m. on September 3rd if you have questions about membership.

Please continue to encourage other veterans to consider joining Post 43. Increasing our membership will help not us not only support other veterans, but also to support our youth and other worthy service causes.

Dan Sullivan
Senior Vice Commander
Naperville American Legion Post 43

Junior Vice Commander

Dear Legion Members,

Legion Social – Saturday, September 19th

As we head into our next Legion Social, we're making a **tiny change** to our schedule. This month, we will be celebrating our **October Feast a little early on Saturday, September 19th!**

Please be on the lookout for more information from **Dennis**, who will be sharing the menu for the evening.

We will also be **installing our Riders and Sons officers**, so we encourage everyone to come early and join us for **Social Hour from 6:00–6:45 PM.**

We'll have an **Oom-Pah Band** providing entertainment throughout the evening, with dinner being served at **7:00 PM.**

Come out, enjoy some great food, music, fellowship, and help us welcome and support our newly installed officers!

We look forward to seeing everyone!

For God and Country,

Kristen Jungles
Junior Vice Commander
Naperville American Legion Post 43

Riders Report – September 2026

The Riders continue to ride and attend various Post events either to sell RED apparel or to just participate in the charity and camaraderie.

Early August we attended the Salute Honor Love Concert at Wentz Hall. The music was inspirational.

We participated in a walk-through for Teddy Lee Meredith who proudly served in the Air Force.



We had a good turnout for the Freedom Tailgate while also selling RED Apparel. Not even a few raindrops were able to hinder the live music and festivities. I am sure it was a success.

Honor Flight – We attended the Honor Flight event this past Wednesday as we welcomed John Noll and all the veterans who came home from their day in Washington D.C.

Don Chasteen and Mike Klick attended the Annual Legacy Run. Those rides can be pretty grueling. Glad they both made it back safe.

Don also attended the Eternal Flame ride that started in Woodstock and ended in Genoa.

We also have a busy week coming up with the Annual Golf Outing, the Last Fling and Labor Day parade.

We are invited with the Riders groups there to participate in the honoring of Marine Magdalena “Maggie” Jablonska. We already have that on our calendar.

Our Riders Fundraiser dinner is October 17th. It is a Prime Rib dinner with a Live Band. Tickets are on sale for \$60.00 each. This dinner supports the American Legion Riders and their events and charities. Come on out and enjoy a night of good food, live music provided by Claremont Drive, and raffles for gift baskets. You can contact Rich Frantz or Rich Tamborski to purchase these tickets.

Our Installation Dinner will be Sept 19th.

Also if you are interested in supporting this group we are looking for sponsors. You can donate in person or on our website page at naperlegion.org.

We are selling RED T-shirts along with our hats in the bar downstairs. Just ask the bartender. Those proceeds go to CampHomeTownHeroes.org

Respectfully,

Rich Frantz
American Legion Riders Post 43



Naperville “9/11” 2026 Remembrance Service

This year, 2026, is the 25th Anniversary of this horrendous “9/11” attack on our country. The objective of our “**Remembrance Service**” is for each of us to remember what happened that day and of “**All**” of the innocent Men and Woman who lost their lives. We will be there to especially “**Remember and Honor**” Our First Responders -Firemen; Police; Service Personnel and civilians lost that day in our Country, and the many lost in the Wars that followed.

Our guest speaker for the day will be Marine Charles “Lynn” Louder to share his personnel thoughts about what “9/11” truly meant to him and why we need to, and will, continue our *Naperville “Remembrance Service”*.

Our “**Remembrance Service**” will be held at our Naperville “**CMDR. Dan Shanower Memorial**” on Friday, September 11th starting at 5pm. Feel free to bring a chair as the Program is planned to last around an hour. In the event of bad weather, we will hold our “**Remembrance Service**” in the lower level of City Hall.

Yes, it may be a warm day, but let’s think about what all our Americans lost this day had to deal with because of the “**September 11th, 2001**” attacks. They didn’t have time to think about sitting down or feeling a little off. When the attacks came, they could only focus on survival. Not all survived, but I am sure those that did, are proud to be Americans as their lives had changed forever.

Hopefully you will remember what I shared in our newsletter last year regarding my friend and fellow Marine Chopper Pilot, Billy Ruth. I flew my 1st 2 chopper flights in Vietnam as his Co-pilot. After he initially crawled out from under the rubble at the Pentagon, he heard a cry for help and went back in the rubble. I cannot imagine that experience in any way. He paid the ultimate sacrifice and will be remembered for that as will all those First Responders - Firemen; Police; Service Personnel and ALL others lost. Personnel complaints were not heard.

Respectfully,

Wayne Fischer
USMC Vietnam

Naperville 9/11 Memorial Photos



Members Sunday Breakfast

Please join us on the **1st Sunday of the month** for our **Members, Family and Friends breakfast!**

And a continued Thank You to all who come out and make these breakfasts a success!

Teamwork at its finest!



Coffee With Vets

Saturday Morning 10 AM



The DEC dates are:

September 5th - Monarch Landing
September 12th - Brookdale (Lisle)
September 19th - Tabor Hills
September 26nd - 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



Post Card Scam

A new mail scam is targeting Veterans with official-looking postcards that promote a fake “Veterans Savings Program.” The postcards advertise that Veterans and their spouses may qualify for up to \$185 a month in additional Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits – including CHAMPVA, TRICARE, and dental coverage – regardless of their VA disability rating.

Scammers are implying association with the VA and pressuring recipients to call the listed number within five days of receipt. They are using flattery and praise to trick Veterans and beneficiaries into disclosing personal identifying information, including Social Security numbers and dates of birth.

VA is urging Veterans to protect themselves by applying the following guidelines:

- Never share personal or financial information with unverified contacts.
- Don't act on urgent requests from people you don't know. Legitimate VA communications will not pressure you to provide an immediate response or call you, unsolicited, for sensitive information.
- If you receive a suspicious postcard, email, text, or call, ignore them, and do NOT call the number provided or click on any links.

Always verify the sender's identity, and when in doubt, contact VA directly at **1-800-MyVA411 (698-2411)**.

Dennis Lukavsky
Service Officer, American Legion Post 43
cell:630 272 9064
[email:dlukavsky@yahoo.com](mailto:dlukavsky@yahoo.com)

Historian Report

Noteworthy Military Dates in September

September has long been a month marked by significant milestones in our nation's military history:

- **September 2, 1945** — Victory over Japan formally ended World War II.
- **September 18, 1947** — The United States Air Force was established as an independent branch.
- **September 29, 1899** — The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) was founded.
- **September 5, 1783** — The Treaty of Paris was signed, officially concluding the American Revolution.

9/11 Memorial Observances

As we approach the anniversary of September 11th, communities across the nation pause to honor the lives lost and the heroism displayed on that tragic day. Two of the most significant observances take place in New York City and Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

New York City

The New York 9/11 Memorial Ceremony begins at **8:30 a.m.** local time. Family members will gather in person to read aloud the names of the **2,983 victims** of the attacks, pausing for **six moments of silence** corresponding to the exact times of impact and collapse:

1. **8:46 a.m.** — Flight 11 strikes the North Tower
2. **9:03 a.m.** — Flight 175 strikes the South Tower
3. **9:37 a.m.** — Flight 77 strikes the Pentagon
4. **10:03 a.m.** — Flight 93 crashes near Shanksville, Pennsylvania

Beginning in **2026**, a **seventh moment of silence** will be added to honor those who have died from 9/11-related illnesses and injuries in the years since.

Shanksville, Pennsylvania

The Shanksville observance begins at **8:30 a.m.** on September 11 and concludes at **10:30 a.m.** with the reading of the **40 names** of the passengers and crew of Flight 93. The **Bells of Remembrance** will ring in their honor.

An afternoon ceremony from **1:00–2:30 p.m.** will include keynote speakers, musical tributes, and a public wreath-laying at the Wall of Names.

On **Saturday, September 12**, from **7:30–9:00 p.m.**, a **Luminaria Ceremony** will take place. Candlelit lanterns will be carried to the Wall of Names and placed on chalk portraits of each of the 40 passengers and crew—portraits created by local artists who generously contributed their talents to ensure each individual is remembered with dignity and care.

If you plan to visit Shanksville, the **Flight 93 National Memorial Visitor Center** is open **September 9–10 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.** For more information, call **814-843-6322**.

A Final Reflection

Let us never forget that **freedom is never free**. Each generation is called not only to cherish it, but to defend it—steadfastly, honorably, and at all costs.

Respectfully,

Dick Komarek

AMERICAN LEGION POST 43 CALENDAR

September 3 rd	Legion Golf Outing
September 3 rd	Legion Meeting
September 6 th	Members Breakfast
September 10 th	FOP golf outing (we are sponsors)
September 18 th	T4T golf Outing (we are sponsors)
September 19 th	Legion Dinner Social
September 25 th	Prom Party (Legion and ALA Sponsored)
October 1 st	Legion Meeting
October 4 th	Members Breakfast
October 9 th	UFO Party at the Canteen
October 17 th	Riders Prime Rib Dinner
November 5 th	Legion Meeting
November 7 th	USMC Ball
November 11 th	Veterans Day / Dinner Social
November 14	NRFV Gala
November 20	Toys For Tots Costume Party
December 3 th	Legion Meeting
December 4 th	Cookie Party (ALA and Legion Hosted)
December 11 th	Possible Spaghetti Fundraiser
December 12 th	Post Christmas Party

**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

Post Officers**Commander**

Nadia Baran	630-728-7519
-------------	--------------

Sr. Vice-Commander

Dan Sullivan	708-6010292
--------------	-------------

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

Dick Komarek	630-983-6403
--------------	--------------

Judge Advocate

Lee Gunter	
------------	--

Adjutant

Anna Barnhart	401-603-6339
---------------	--------------

Immediate Past Commander

Tom Jorstad	630-215-3592
-------------	--------------

Public Relations Officer

Tom Jorstad	630-215-3592
-------------	--------------

Bugler

Rich Yndestad	630-698-6444
---------------	--------------

Legion Rider Director

Rich Frantz	630-300-8189
-------------	--------------

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

Tom Jorstad	630-215-3592
-------------	--------------

E-mail: tom.jorstad@yahoo.com

Please send your articles to Tom by the 15th of each month!

Post 43 Webmaster

Nadia Baran

E-mail: Rios.Nadia@gmail.com

September**Activities - Opportunities**

September 5 - Monarch Landing

September 12 - Brookdale (Lisle)

September 19 - Tabor Hills

September 26 - Story Point - Naperville

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



NAPERVILLE POST 43



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

What Makes Naperville Post 43 Special?

Naperville Post 43 stands apart because we have always had a **plan** - a clear vision that began more than a century ago and continues to guide us today.

Shortly after World War I, **126 Veterans** came together with a shared purpose and filed for an American Legion charter with the State of Illinois. Their request was approved by National, and on **August 1, 1920**, Post 43 was officially born.

From the beginning, Post 43 embraced a mission of service to fellow Veterans and quickly became one of Naperville's most active and patriotic organizations. As the **43rd oldest chartered post in Illinois**, we proudly carry forward a tradition that began in 1920, endured through World War II, and remains strong today.

Our WWII Veterans took that mission to heart—using their own money to purchase our **Post Home** in downtown Naperville. From that foundation, Post 43 has grown to more than **600 members**.

That growth didn't happen by chance. It came from a deliberate commitment to building a stronger, brighter future while upholding the **Four Pillars of the American Legion**:

- Support for **Veterans**
- Service to the **Naperville community**
- Investment in our **youth**
- Advocacy for our **active-duty military**

These pillars are not just ideals—they are the framework of our plan to remain a leader among service organizations.

The vision those 126 WWI Veterans carried in their hearts still guides us today. Their legacy lives on in every program we run, every Veteran we support, and every act of service we perform.

At Post 43, we continue to honor that legacy with the same enduring promise: **Veterans Serving Veterans.**