



SHRAPNEL



Newsletter of Evanston American Legion Post 42
1030 Central Street, Evanston, IL 60201 - (847) 475-9076

APRIL 2018



JAMES M BRUSEK

“Commander’s Corner”

Serving Veterans - Mentoring Youth - Supporting Your Community

The first quarter of 2018 is in the history books! The Super Bowl party was a success. Both in the number of winners and the number of party goers, that enjoyed a fabulous buffet meal, while watching the game on the large projection screen in the main hall.

That party was outdone on March 17th, when we held our annual St. Patrick’s Day Dinner and Richard Huck Award Dinner. The traditional Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner was prepared by Chef Mo, who fed over 50 diners before the award presentation began. This year’s recipient of the Richard Huck Award was Mr. Jerry Romme. Jerry has been a Legionnaire for 33 years and has been the co-chair of the annual Poppy collection for the past 5-6 years. Under his

direction, the Poppy collection days have grown from one to five. And the funds collected (for the sole benefit of veterans) has also grown. Congratulations to the Mr. Jerry Romme.

The second quarter, as in the past, is going to be a busy one. We are going to need **VOLUNTEERS!**

On April 28th, Post 42, is once again participating in the “Rebuilding Together Service Project.” Our Post Team Captain, Karl Kunz” has been meeting with personnel from Evanston in selecting a needy Evanstonian, that needs work done in and around their home. We will definitely need painters, yard workers, garbage removal, minor repairs, and general maintenance. All this to provide a needy recipient with a better living condition and a less stressful daily life. Please, consider giving up one Saturday out of 52, to make someone’s life a little easier.

If you have never attended one of your Post’s Monthly Business Meeting, consider attending the General Business Meeting on Thursday, May 3rd. The meeting starts promptly at 1930hrs. The primary reason why I suggest you attend this particular meeting is that we will be having our Post Everlasting ceremony, honoring our Post Members who have transferred to Post Everlasting in the past 12 months.

On Saturday, May 12th, Post 42 is hosting our 7th annual Pasta Dinner & Raffle benefitting the “Lovell Legends” Disabled Veterans Wheelchair Team. This year’s

competition will be held in Orlando, Fl. July 30th – August 4th. Post 42 has raised in excess of \$30,000 for the team, in our first six years of hosting this Pasta Dinner. Tickets are \$12.00 per person, in advance, and \$15.00 at the door. Children, 6 and under eat for free. Please organize a group (neighbors, family, friends) and come out to support this worthwhile endeavor.

**VOLUNTEER / VOLUNTEER /
VOLUNTEER / VOLUNTEER /
VOLUNTEER**

From May 24th through May 28th, we need manpower to hit the streets, stores, train & bus stations to sell poppies and raise badly needed funds to support our ongoing mission of supporting veteran programs. On Wednesday, May 23rd, you can pick up your donation can, poppies and literature, and be ready to hit the streets the next day. Please consider giving, not only your money, but your time to help make this our best year ever. More volunteers means more coverage and should mean a larger collection of funds. Let's help our veterans!

On Saturday, May 26th, consider joining other Legionnaires, our Boy Scout Troops and other volunteers at Memorial Park in Skokie, to decorate, with American Flags, the graves of Veterans buried there. It's a very rewarding opportunity to give back to our departed brethren.

And last, but not least, join your fellow Post members on Monday, May 28th, Memorial Day, remembering our departed veterans. You will have two opportunities to show your respect that day. At 0800 hrs., Memorial Day Ceremonies will be held at Memorial Park, and at 1030hrs we are tentatively scheduled for Memorial Day Ceremonies at Fountain Square in Evanston. I say tentatively, because Fountain Square may still be under construction and an alternate site may be chosen. Stay tuned for update information as we get closer to Memorial Day.

I stated earlier in this column, that this calendar quarter was going to be a busy one, and I think you can see just how busy. Please consider getting involved and share in the excitement, workload, satisfaction and the richness of being a Legionnaire.

**"It isn't the price you pay
to be a member**

**It's the price you paid to
become eligible."**



**DANIEL J KELLEY
FROM YOUR SAL
COMMANDER**

During the past four years, Squadron 42 has made substantial progress in rebuilding its membership ranks. This was one of my top priorities when I assumed office as Squadron Commander. Consider the following statistics (provided by the Detachment Headquarters in Bloomington, Illinois):

<u>Paid Members</u>	<u>Comments</u>
77 (2013)	<i>Previous Squadron 42 paid membership for comparison purposes</i>
99 (2014)	New All-Time High
122 (2015)	New All-Time High
172 (2016)	Awarded the Cummings and Mitchell Trophies by Detachment of IL

180 (2017)

**Ranked #1 in the 1st
Division (Cook
County) for New
Members**

Since 2014, Squadron 42 has set new “All-Time High” records for membership each and every year. Can history repeat itself? As of today, twenty-two (22) lapsed members need to renew or an equal number of new applicants must be approved for membership in order to reach the magic number of 181, which would set another Squadron record.

Another important accomplishment is that the Squadron has made a consistent effort to issue current membership cards and collect dues on an annual basis. We have added flags and decorations to the Post Meeting Hall. Additionally, our Squadron has been certified each and every year, conducted elections for officers, participated in 1st Division meetings and represented the 7th District at the past three Detachment Conventions. We have raised funds to support Post 42 and the National Child Welfare Foundation. Since 2014 the Squadron has donated more than \$4,175.00 to Legion sponsored groups and programs.

As we approach the month of April, Squadron 42 is fast nearing the conclusion of its 25th year of existence. To commemorate our “Silver Anniversary,” a special Sons of the American Legion coin has been created. This beautiful keepsake coin features a silver colored, polished nickel finish. It is unique in that it is specific to Squadron 42 rather than the generic SAL challenge coin available to all Squadrons through the American Legion Emblem Store catalog. Our 25th Anniversary coin was especially designed for us. A limited number of these coins are available for purchase for a suggested donation of \$10.00. This is a one time offer, and it may be many years before a similar item will be available to our membership.

The only major obstacle to greater achievements by the Squadron is a lack of volunteers. Too much work is being performed by a small handful members. We need more reliable members to help us a few days per year.



**CHRISTINE CHEVLIN
CHAPLAIN'S CORNER**

How Lent Started With Passover

By
Rabbi Evan Moffic
3/20/2014

Many Christians and Jews know of the connection between Passover and Easter. But what about the connection between the 40 days of Lent and Passover?

At first glance, Passover and engaging in the discipline of Lent seem to have little in common. We find the parallel, however, when we look at Passover more broadly. Passover includes the months of preparation for the meal itself.

For Jews observing Passover, the preparation is just as important as the meal itself. We prepare by cleaning our homes of bread. We prepare by studying the Exodus story. We prepare through self-examination.

Just as Lent prepares Christians for Easter, these actions prepare our bodies and souls to experience the Passover meal.

Both Lent and Passover preparation also draw their inspiration from the Exodus story. Lent traditionally lasts for 40 days.

This number is derived from the time Jesus spent fasting in the desert after his baptism by the John the Baptist. These 40 days were preparation for proclaiming the message of salvation.

This number and purpose parallel the Israelite experience during the exodus. They lived in the wilderness for 40 years. These 40 years were preparation for experiencing redemption in the Promised Land.

The number 40 also reminds us of the 400 years of slavery the Bible tells us the Israelites experienced in Egypt.

A further connection is found in the notion of rebirth. Both Passover and Lent take place in the spring, the time when nature renews itself. Birth does not happen automatically.

Just as a baby gestates in a mother's womb for nine months, so the birth of the world requires preparation. Lent is that period of preparation. It culminates in Easter, celebrating the resurrection of Jesus and, effectively, the rebirth of humanity.

For Jews, Passover celebrates the rebirth of the Jewish people. During the four hundred years of slavery, the Israelites grew from a clan of 70 to a nation of over a million

When they left Egypt, they gained a new life in a new land with a new set of laws. The Passover meal is a time when we participate in that rebirth. We experience what the ancient Israelites experienced.

Thus, preparing for Passover is like getting ready to be reborn. So is Lent.

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Project H.O.P.E. — Help Our People Everywhere — is a community action project whose major goal is the collection

and distribution of food packages to poor and elderly Jews during Passover. Many Jews who cannot afford special holiday foods depend on B'nai B'rith members to provide matzoh and the other Passover staples.

To these people the remembrance is often as special as the needed food. Project H.O.P.E. works with the community family service agencies and local Jewish social services and with B'nai B'rith members and synagogue volunteers. Jewish organizations provide the lists of people who need packages and the facilities for collecting, storing, and packing the food.

Many Christian groups also make up Easter Baskets for the needy & elderly of their community so they can have an Easter dinner.

Hmmm, we are not all that different, are we!
Blessings to All during this special season,
Chaplain Chris



JAMES FARLEY
Service Officer

Veteran Affairs

We all enjoyed following our home town team through the Big Ten season. We have some big basketball fans at the Post, and we were able to share our fun with other veterans in February.

Post 42 hosted a group of Veterans from the V.A. James A, Lovell Hospital to a game on February 22, 2018 against the Wisconsin Badgers. Eighteen veterans from the hospital boarded the bus for Evanston to see a game at the Allstate Arena, NU's temporary home while the Welsh Ryan Arena is renovated. The NU ticket staff really took care of us. We had good seats on the mezzanine and received a welcome gift. Everybody had a great time.

SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER

Post 42 will be holding the Annual Pasta Dinner fund raiser event on May 12, 2018. This event will benefit the James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center wheel chair athletes, the "Lovell Legends". Last year our team won several medals, and we are very proud of their achievements. The Post will sponsor the team again this year and help fund their expense to compete in the national competition. We raised over \$4,000 last year and are hoping to beat that amount in 2018.

Tickets to the event are available at the Post Club Room for \$12 per person in advance or \$15 at the door, Children under 6 years are free. There will be many great raffle prizes. And silent auction items for bidding. Buy your raffle tickets at the Post Club Room. The raffle tickets are \$5 each, 6 for \$25 and 13 tickets for \$50. Mark your calendars ,and bring your friends for a fun evening.

MEMORIAL DAY

All Post members are invited to help decorate veteran's graves at Memorial Park in Skokie. On the morning of May 26th We will be placing flags on all the graves with the help of the local Boy Scout troops. We can always use more help. So please come out on the Holiday to help.

The Post will also be coordinating the Memorial Day ceremony at Memorial Park.

Look for more details on the Post website in the next few weeks.

POPPY COLLECTION DRIVE

Post 42 members will be canvassing the Evanston neighborhood passing out Poppies and collecting donations to help veterans. Poppy cans will be distributed starting May 23rd and the Collection period will be from May 24th to MAY 28th. We need many volunteers to help staff the collections teams. Please sign up at the Post and plan to give some time to this very worthwhile effort.

VA Launches Welcome Kit To Guide Veterans to the Benefits and Services They've Earned

VA's onboarding process can be overwhelming at times. Veterans who have visited a VA outreach booth, VA eligibility office, or have gone through a Transition Assistance Program know that VA has no shortage of technical handouts, benefits books and materials. But, even with all of these resources, Veterans are telling us "Where do I start?"

Now, VA can point all Veterans to the VA Welcome Kit that can found at:

<https://www.vets.gov/welcome-to-va>

No matter where you are in life, the new welcome kit will help you use the VA benefits and services you have earned. In addition to step-by-step enrollment instructions, the kit also lists points of contact for dozens of VA program offices.

There is more information available on the VA Welcome blog located at:

<https://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/44852/va-announces-new-welcome-kit-guide-veterans-benefits-services-theyve-earned>
(Courtesy Lake County VAC)

CLUBROOM NEWS

Welcome to Spring in the Club Room.

The P42 Music Jam is coming back to kick off summer on June 9th! Those of you who joined us last year know how much fun it was to listen to some great music out on the patio. Chicken Bone is Back! If you haven't seen them in person, you are missing out. Check out their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/funkychickenbone/>. We received a lot of good feedback on the Jam last year and have adjusted accordingly. Tickets will be \$10.00 with food and beverages separate. Please buy your food tickets in advance to help us plan. There will be limited food available without pre-payment. Kids tickets include laser tag from 6-8pm. To order tickets, jump over to <https://squareup.com/store/P42>. We must limit ticket sales to 300 this year so don't delay.

Haven't been to the Club Room in a while? Drop in and check out all the upgrades. Home Depot put in new flooring, fans, sconces and painted for our spectacular new look. A big thank you goes out to Home Depot who provided not only the labor but all the materials free of charge through their grant program.

Don't forget to join us for some spectacular Bluegrass concerts. To find out who is playing go to ChicagoBluegrass.com. Upcoming concerts are scheduled for April 28th & May 19th.

We continue to sell out the Evanston Live event. Try and join us April 14th for this retro-cool talk show featuring Evanston artists, musicians, chefs, local notables and historians. You can get your tickets at <https://squareup.com/store/evanston-live>.

Pin Ups on Tour is back! Mark your calendar for the show on Thursday, May 10th. Veterans & Active Duty Military are free with an RSVP. Everyone else can see the

show for only \$20.00. Tickets will be available soon on the Pin-ups website www.pinupsonstour.com/tour or the Facebook page at www.facebook.com/Pinupsonstour/. Don't miss out. You won't see anything like this in the Chicagoland area. Let's pack the house and support their tour.

Here's a little about the Pin-Ups mission:

"PIN-UPS ON TOUR is a good time for a great cause. From the moment guests enter the event, they will be treated to something special. Our goal is to recreate the magic of the Hollywood Canteen that operated during the 1940's as a club offering dancing, drinks and entertainment for service members, usually on their way overseas. The evening will feature dancing showgirls, Comedy, Variety Acts, Soulful Lounge singers, vintage candy girls and more than a few surprises! With entertainment & atmosphere around every turn, guests will feel like they stepped into another era.

OUR COMMITMENT

PIN-UPS ON TOUR is committed to providing low or no-cost entertainment for Veterans as part of our Morale Boosting Mission. In addition, proceeds from our shows go to support our work entertaining our nations veterans inside & outside our nations VA Hospitals."

As always, let me know if you have any questions or comments. You can leave a message at the Post 42 phone number or email me at:

ClubManager@EvanstonPost42.com

GOLF COURSE NEWS

MILITARY DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE AT CANAL SHORES!

Veterans now save 15% on rounds and memberships! Let the Pro Shop attendant know and show your driver's license that displays "veteran" at the bottom of it.

LEAGUES ARE NOW FORMING

Come mix and mingle in Canal Shores' golf leagues.

Tuesday Twilight League

A 12-hole competition beginning May 15th. Games and prizes every week.
Tee times between 4:30pm-7:00pm
\$50 league-only/ \$260 includes 15-round pass

Evanston Women's Golf League

A 12-hole competition on Wednesday mornings beginning May 9th
Tee times 7:30am-8:30am
\$50 dues incl opening bkfst, closing luncheon/\$210 for a 15-round pass
To register contact Kate Spector at 847-869-4218

Women's Club of Wilmette

A 12-hole competition on Thursday mornings beginning May 10th
Tee times 7:30am-8:30am
\$20 dues/\$210 for a 15-round pass
To register contact Ann Stevens, 847-869-1170, ann1208s@sbcglobal.net

A 12-hole competition on Thursday mornings beginning May 10th
Tee times 7:30am-8:30am
\$20 dues/\$210 for a 15-round pass
To register contact Ann Stevens, 847-869-1170, ann1208s@sbcglobal.net

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2018 Legion Year Officers - Post 42

Commander	James M Brusek	773-263-4726
Senior Vice-Commander	VACANT	
Junior Vice-Commander	VACANT	
Adjutant	Greg Lisinski	847-309-8074
Finance Officer	Dan Fleming	847-769-5242
Service Officer	James Farley	847-866-8486
Sergeant at Arms	David Hurwitz	323-518-3159
Chaplain	Christine Chevlin	773-685-5975
Past Commander	Greg Wilson	224-381-5010
SAL Commander	Daniel Kelley	847-226-3652

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Adam Kwiecinski Michael Wojciechowski Chris Meter

Newsletter Editor: Dan Fleming

Contributions are always welcome. Contact Dan Fleming (847) 769-5242 or by e-mail at evanstonp42@gmail.com

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POST 42 DATES TO REMEMBER 2018

PLEASE NOTE REVISED MEETING TIMES!

2018

- April 5** General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
April 18 7th District Meeting at Post 42 @ 7:30 PM
April 26 Board Meeting 7:30 PM
April 28 Rebuilding Together Service Project - Volunteers needed
May 3 General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Post Everlasting - Food afterward)
May 5 7th District Kentucky Derby Fundraiser
May 9 Canal Shores Twilight Golf League TENTATIVE (Contact ProSop)
May 12 Spaghetti Dinner and Fundraiser (Time TBA)
May 16 7th District Meeting at Morton Grove Post 134 @ 7:30 PM (Post Everlasting)
May 23 Poppy Day Can pick-up, after 3PM
May 24-28 Poppy Day Collection
May 24 Board Meeting 7:30 PM
May 26 Grave Decoration Day Memorial Park, meet at East lot, 9 AM
May 28 Memorial Day Ceremonies Memorial Park (East Lot) 8:00 AM
Fountain Square 10:30 AM
Refreshments served after ceremonies at the post
June 2 1st Division "Mini-Convention" Location TBA
June 7 General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
June 14 Flag Day – Flag Ceremony to Retire Tattered Flags 6 PM at Post
June 20 7th District Meeting 7:30
June 28 Board Meeting 7:30 PM
July 4 4th of July Parade Assembly begins 12:30 pm at starting point
Parade at 2pm
July 5 NO BUSINESS MEETING
July 26 Board Meeting 7:30 PM
August 2 General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
August 12 Post 42-SAL Golf Outing and American Legion Picnic
August 23 Board Meeting 7:30 PM
September 6 General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
September 19 7th District Meeting at Lincolnwood Post 7:30pm
September 22 Commander's Homecoming Event
September 27 Board Meeting 7:30 PM
October 4 General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
October 12 Glow-Ball Golf Tournament 7:30 PM
October 17 7th District Meeting 7:30 PM

Note: Some Dates are subject to change and marked "tentative".



2018 Pasta Dinner Fundraiser

**Raffle and Silent Auction to benefit:
"Lovell Legends"
Disabled Veterans Wheelchair Team
Captain James A. Lovell - Federal Health Care Center**

Where:

American Legion Hall
1030 Central St.
Evanston, IL
847-475-9076

When:

**Saturday, May 12, 2018
5 - 8 p.m.**

\$12.00 per person in advance

\$15.00 at the door

Children 6 and under free!

Advance tickets may be purchased in person, at Post 42 or online at
www.evanstonpost42.com

Sponsored by American Legion Post 42