



SHRAPNEL



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

OCTOBER 2018



Commander Mike Carder

KNOCKING FOR MEMBERSHIP

Illinois American Legion Family we are embarking on a new adventure. In 2019 the American Legion organization will be 100 years old and we will move into a new century of Service For God and County.

It is time for posts, districts, and divisions to plan celebrations for the Legion's 100th Birthday. Include your community, publicize your activities via the newspaper, radio, or TV. Let's let our communities know that The American Legion is alive and relevant.

While we are celebrating we must not forget who we are and what we are about. We are veterans helping veterans and their families, along with being watchful of the security of our great country. We also must continue to support our American Legion programs such as Boys State, Baseball, the Oratorical

program, the Poppy Program, Emergency Relief Fund, the Legacy Fund, Youth Police School, Gifts to the Yanks, Special Olympics, plus so many more. Here again publicize these programs, make it your goal to become the centerpiece of your community. What a great way to start the new century!

I am looking forward to **TEAM ILLINOIS** leading the way with growth in membership. Membership is the heart of our Century old Organization and our 2019 membership year begins in right now! We must immediately start **Knocking For Membership**. Don't wait for time to pass before you start knocking. If you see a flag on the porch or notice a veterans ball cap or license plate **Just Ask** them to join. Their answer might surprise you. I ask for you to continue knocking...I am happy to provide band aids.

Division Commanders: Make sure your districts are forming membership teams; they will help find membership which is especially helpful during a revitalization.

Posts: While we all are out recruiting the younger vets, invite them to your post, take the time to listen to them as well as their ideas. Ask them how to bring in the younger generation. We are a time treasured Century old organization full of great ideas, but we must be willing to accept millennial change. Technology is shaping a new generation. Cell phones are the millennials' device of choice. Make your post technically available. Don't miss out on making the social connection.

It is a great honor to serve with you this year and I Thank You for your service.

2018-2019

**Department Commander
Micheal M. Carder**



JAMES M BRUSEK

“Commander’s Corner”

Serving Veterans – Mentoring Youth – Supporting Our Community

The third calendar quarter of 2018 is, in fact, the **FIRST** quarter of the American Legion year. Yep, that’s correct! The Legion year starts on July 1st and ends on June 30th the following year. Take a second, pull your current American Legion card out of your wallet..... What’s the date on your card? 2018? Yes? Then you are **NOT** current in your membership! The date on your card should read **2019**.

There are many ways for you to renew: by mail, in person, at the Post, on the internet at the Post website or through the National website. We’ve attempted to make it easy for you to remain in the **LARGEST**, highly influential, nonprofit, patriotic veterans’ organization. Not current? Please renew today! Current, thank you for your continuing support of the American Legion.

These past 90 days saw the American Legion participating in the festive Evanston 4th of July parade. Once again, a small, loyal contingent of your comrades decorated our post trailer and either rode in it or marched in front of it. This year, the Civil Air Patrol Squadron from Haven Middle School provided our honor guard, carrying the National colors, Post and SAL flags. **THANK YOU!** You did a great job. The various Boy Scout Troops and Cub Scout packs that are sponsored by the Post also marched with us. A good time was had by all participants. Consider joining us next year..... We will be in the Parade.

August 12th was the SAL golf outing and American Legion Family Picnic. **BOTH** events were poorly attended! It was the smallest number of golfers and smallest number of picnickers! The SAL golf outing is the **ONLY** fund raiser that supports the Post. We should have a minimum of 72 golfers for this event. This year there were only 42 golfers.

The family picnic was also poorly attended, and we are miffed as to why! The cost is nominal at \$10.00. The weather was beautiful. The food was fresh and plentiful. The corn was picked two days before the picnic. The beer was cold. And there was plenty of cold water and soda. We may need to revisit these activities, because they seem to be falling out of disfavor with our membership.

As you may or may not know, The State Commander for Illinois is one of our own! He’s a member of Post 42! He was a Post commander at our post, he was the 7th district commander, he was the 1st Division commander and now the Department Commander of the State of Illinois. Commander Michael Carder!

On September 22nd, we participated in the “Commander’s Homecoming” held at the Crown Plaza hotel in Burr Ridge, IL. Post 42 was there in mass. We had two plus tables of attendees supporting the State

Commander. Chip Covington and three other Blue Grass musicians provided a very spirited entertainment for the attendees. A good time was had by all!

The Post Christmas party will be held on Sunday, 9 December 2018. Time to be determined soon. The cost will be minimal, and the food will be included in the price. Come one come all and enjoy the camaraderie of your fellow members!

“It isn’t the price you pay to be a member

It’s the price you paid to become eligible”

Evanston Post 42 Pancake Breakfast

The American Legion Post 42 will conduct its 33rd annual pancake breakfast from **7 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, November 10th, 2018** at the Legion Hall at 1030 Central St., Evanston. Advance tickets are just \$7 (\$9 at-the-door) and children 6-or-under eat free.

Proceeds go to carefully selected charities serving both veterans and families-in-need in Evanston and beyond. More than \$54,000 has been raised in recent years to provide food, clothing and toys to organizations such as Connections for the Homeless, Fisher House at Hines VA Hospital, the National Emergency Fund and Evanston Boy Scout Troop 3.

Breakfast features buttermilk pancakes with syrup, sausages and eggs cooked-to-order. Coffee is served in “bottomless” cups along with milk and orange juice. Guests can also participate in a 50/50 raffle with proceeds going to in-care veterans. Raffle tickets are \$1 each and can be purchased at the clubroom now and during the breakfast after which winners will be announced.

Volunteers are needed to help set up the serving line the afternoon of Friday, November 9th. We need volunteers to help perform various tasks during the event. A

sign-up sheet will be posted in the clubroom or contact Greg Wilson at 224-381-5010.



**DANIEL J KELLEY
FROM YOUR SAL
COMMANDER**

As of last Friday, Squadron 42 had reached 73.2% of its Membership Goal for 2019. Currently, the Squadron has 137 paid members. If fifty more individuals would renew or join as new members, we would reach 100% in record time. Once that goal is met, the Squadron could reasonably be expected to achieve a new "All Time High."

There is definitely room to reach these goals. Consider the fact that the Squadron retention rate is approximately 54%. Our numbers have been buoyed by the addition of thirty-six new members. That suggests that about one half of last year's paid members have not responded yet.

Don't delay, renew today! You can conveniently renew online at squareup.com/store/sal-post-42 or use your courtesy envelope that was sent to you with the renewal notice in late June. The 2019 Fiscal Year began on July 1, 2018.

Card checks are coming! If you do not have a current Sons of the American Legion membership card for Fiscal Year 2019, you will be asked to pay non-member prices in the club room. Discounts are for paid members who can show their 2019 cards upon request.

I want to thank everyone who helped with the Robert P. Weis "Mail Pouch Open" which was held in August. This event is our principal fund raising event of the year. After expenses, the proceeds from the golf outing were used to benefit Post 42 and two other Legion charities, the Child Welfare Foundation and the Detachment Scholarship Fund. While this year's golf tournament was fun (the weather was perfect), we could have used more golfers.

On a sad note, all of us are mourning the recent passing of Legionnaire Henry J. Kmiecik. Hank was a Life Member of American Legion Post 42 and retired from the Evanston Police Department with the rank of Lieutenant. For many years, he was a popular bar tender on Thursday nights. He was an Army veteran and was buried with military honors following a wonderful Mass at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. The Kmiecik family has requested that any donations made in Hank's memory be given to:

American Legion Post 42 (1030 Central Street Evanston, IL 60201) or the Fisher House Foundation, Inc. (12300 Twinbrook Parkway - Suite 410, Rockville, MD 20852).

For those who are unfamiliar with the Fisher House programs, the charity provides free housing for the family members of veterans receiving medical care in hospital. Oftentimes, the military hospitals or Veterans Administration medical centers are far away from the homes of these families. Over 30,000 families have utilized the accommodations at the fifty-seven Fisher Houses located at 33 VA Centers and 24 military bases. It is a most worthwhile cause.

On Saturday, September 22nd, a contingent from Post 42, including myself attended the Department Commanders' Homecoming Banquet in Burr Ridge, Illinois for Mike Carder. As I have previously written, Mike Carder is the first member of Post 42 to be elected as Commander for the Department of Illinois. His theme for the coming year is

"Knocking on the Doors" for membership. So, if you are not current, get off the sidelines and get into the game! Renew your membership for 2019 now!



CHRISTINE CHEVLIN CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Greetings From the Chaplain's Corner

Good News & Sad News to report.

Fun was had at the Evanston 7/4/18 Parade. We had a good reception from the crowds lining the street and from the Legionnaires in the parade.

It was exciting to be a part of the Convention in Springfield, to see one of our own elected as State Commander. I also attended the Chaplain's Seminar and the Basic Training Seminar. The Basic Training Seminar is also available Online & gives a good overview of the Legion for those of you who couldn't attend the Convention.

Since my last column it's with a heavy heart that I have to report we have lost 2 of our own.

George Neuhaus 7/31/2018
Henry (Hank) Kmiecik 9/18/2018

Now something to think about. Please read it to the end.

Today was the absolute worst day ever
And don't try to convince me that

There's something good in every day
 Because, when you take a closer look,
 This world is a pretty evil place.
 Even if
 Some goodness does shine through once in a
 while
 Satisfaction and happiness don't last.
 And it's not true that
 It's all in the mind and heart
 Because
 True happiness can be obtained
 Only if one's surroundings are good
 It's not true that good exists
 I'm sure you can agree that
 The reality
 Creates
 My attitude
 It's all beyond my control
 And you'll never in a million years hear me
 say that
 Today was a good day

NOW READ FROM THE BOTTOM UP

God Bless All & the United States of
 America.
 Chaplain Christine



JAMES FARLEY
 Service Officer

Veteran Affairs

**JAMES A LOVELL VA Federal Health
 Care Center
 “Lovell Legends”**

Post 42 again raised a significant amount to finance the Wheel Chair Team travel to the 38th annual National Veteran Wheel Chair competition. Post members attended a send off celebration on July 24th. After the rousing send-off, the team competed in several event and were rewarded with two gold, three silver and six bronze medals. WAY TO GO LEGENDS!



Chicago Sky Basketball

The Patients at Lovell were treated to lunch on their way to see a Chicago Sky basketball game. Post 42 was able buy the lunch for the whole bus load.

Northwestern Football

Northwestern University invited veterans to attend the Wildcats vs. Akron U. Lovell provided a bus for several patients to attend. 42 provided members to assist the veterans at the game.

Annual Thanksgiving Dinner at Post 42

We will be hosting Lovell hospital patients and their care givers again this year to help celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday. On 11/18 the Post will prepare and serve a Turkey Dinner with all the trimmings for our guests. This event is financed by the

Post and the volunteers will be Post members, Scouts and other Post Boosters. In addition to a fantastic Dinner we will have professional entertainers making the day a fun time.

**WANTED / NEEDED
WARM WINTER CLOTHES FOR
HOMELESS VETERANS
(for both men and women veterans)**

Beginning 1 October 2018, and ending on Sunday, 9 December 2018, at the Post 42 Christmas party. We will once again be participating in collecting clean, serviceable, warm winter clothes (pants, shirts, sweaters, sweatshirts, jackets, coats, hats, boots and shoes.....don't forget the belts, to keep the pants up).

The Chicagoland area has a large population of homeless veterans, both men and women. Chicago is known for brutal weather during the winter months. The homeless veterans are often suffering from PTSD and mental illness and risk getting physically sick from the lack of food, medicine and shelter.

Consider this..... once the homeless veterans have warm clothes and other personal items, how do they keep, store and move them from location to location? Look around your closets for old backpacks, suitcases, heavy duty shopping bags, and large purses, anything that the veterans can protect and carry their meager possessions.

Talk to your neighbors, extended family members, church members and anybody else that may have warm clothes for our homeless veterans! Bring the clothes up to the Legion, we will store them in the Pulaski room until the Jesse Brown V.A. hospital sends a truck to pick up the donations. It would be great if they had to send a truck up once a week!

The American Legion was chartered by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veteran's organization. Focusing on service to veterans, service members and communities.

We are **“Veteran’s taking care of Veterans!”**

Toys for Tots

The American Legion Evanston Post 42 located at 1030 Central St. will be a drop off point for the Marine Corp Reserve Toys for Tots. Starting November 1st, the donation box will be in the downstairs hallway. The toys need to be new, unwrapped and appropriate up to age 12. Thank you in advance.

CLUBROOM NEWS

Fall in the Club Room is a busy time. Please make sure to check the Post calendar to see what's happening. With football tailgates, Bluegrass, Evanston Live! and a full rental schedule, it's always lively at the Post.

October 6th Kicks off the Bluegrass season with Rebekah Long. Reserve your seats at www.ChicagoBluegrass.com

The first Evanston Live! of the season is November 17th. Get your tickets at <https://squareup.com/store/evanston-live>

We lost Hank and Bob May over the last few months and they are missed. Both contributed in their own way to what makes the Post 42 bar a unique and interesting place. The place just isn't quite the same without Hank yelling at us on Thursday night or Bob sitting on his bar stool. Both will be with us in spirit and we will still hoist a cold one in their memory occasionally.

As I turn over the Club Room reins to the new Manager, Nick Grube, I would like to thank everyone who has supported me over the past 3+ years. A lot has happened in my time as Club Room Manager and the experience has been an incredible opportunity for me to hopefully have done some good for the Post. Although I am stepping back from management, I will still

be around. I look forward to spending some time on the opposite side of the bar talking with all the great people I have met over the years. Please drop in and support Nick in the coming weeks as he tries to unravel my shoe box full of notes on how the place runs.

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 the new manager at ClubManager@EvanstonPost42.com.

GOLF COURSE NEWS



First time ever offered: SUPERTwilight ... and vets get another 15% off!

BY E-MAIL? Just send your e-mail address to: evanstonp42@gmail.com or danlmf@reagan.com and we will send it to you whenever we publish.

SHRAPNEL is a publication of Evanston Post 42, American Legion, all rights are reserved.

2018 Legion Year Officers - Post 42

Commander	James M Brusek	773-263-4726
Senior Vice-Commander	VACANT	
Junior Vice-Commander	Will Candelario	847-529-0137
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

POST 42 DATES TO REMEMBER 2018/2019
PLEASE NOTE REVISED MEETING TIMES!

2018

October 4	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
October 13	Fountain Square Rededication Ceremony 10:00 AM Evanston Fountain Square
October 17	7th District Meeting 7:30 PM
October 25	Board Meeting 7:30 PM
November 1	Monthly Meeting 7:30 PM Food served afterward
November 10	Pancake Breakfast 7:00 AM to 1:00 PM Cost: \$7.00 (6 and under, free)
November 11	Veterans Day Ceremonies Fountain Square 10:30 AM
November 18	Thanksgiving Dinner for Hospitalized Vets (Volunteers needed!) (9:00-2:00)
November 21	Board Meeting 7:30 PM (moved to adjust for holiday)*****
November 29	7th District Meeting at Morton Grove Post 134 7:30 PM
December 6	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
December 9	Post Christmas Party 2:00 PM.
December 20	Board Meeting 7:30 PM (moved to adjust for holiday)*****

2019

January 3	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
January 16	7th District Meeting at Morton Grove Post 134 @ 7:30 PM
January 24	Board Meeting 7:30 PM
February 3	Super Bowl Party 2:00 PM (until game is over)
February 7	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
February 17	Winter Golf Shoot-out Breakfast 10:00 AM Cost \$10.00 (tentative)
February 20	7th District Meeting at Evanston Post 42 @ 7:30 PM
February 28	Board Meeting 7:30 PM General Business Meeting 7:30 PM
March 2-3	Dept. of Illinois high School Oratorical contest Crown Plaza Springfield
March 7	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
March 16	Patrick's Day Corned Beef Dinner and Richard Huck Award Dinner Cocktails at 5:00, Dinner at 6:00
March 20	7th District Meeting at Morton Grove Post 134 @ 7 PM
March 28	Board Meeting 7:30 PM
April 4	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
April 17	7th District Meeting at Post 42 @ 7:30 PM
April 25	Board Meeting 7:30 PM
April 27	Rebuilding together Service Project (Tentative)
May 2	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Post Everlasting - Food afterward)
May 4	7th District Kentucky Derby Fundraiser
May 9	Canal shores Twilight Golf League TENTATIVE (Contact Golf course)
May 15	7th District Meeting at Morton Grove Post 134 @ 7:30 PM (Post

Everlasting)

May 22	Poppy Day Can pick-up, after 3PM
May 23-27	Poppy Day Collection
May 23	Board Meeting 7:30 PM
May 25	Grave Decoration Day Memorial Park, meet at East lot, 9:00 AM
May 27	Memorial Day Ceremonies Memorial Park (East Lot) 8:00 AM Fountain Square 10:30 AM Refreshments served after ceremonies at the post
June 1	1st Division "Mini-Convention" Location TBA
June 6	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
June 14	Flag Day – Flag Ceremony to Retire Tattered Flags 6:00 PM at Post
June 19	7th District Meeting 7:30
June 27	Board Meeting 7:30 PM
July 4	4th of July Parade Assembly begins 12:30 pm at starting point Parade at 2pm
July 4	NO BUSINESS MEETING
July 10-14	Department DEC & Department Convention, Springfield IL
July 25	Board Meeting 7:30 PM
August 1	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
August 11	Post 42-SAL Golf Outing and American Legion Picnic
August 22	Board Meeting 7:30 PM
September 5	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
September 18	7th District Meeting at Lincolnwood Post 7:30 PM
September 22	Post 42 100th Anniversary Celebration at Post 42
September 26	Board Meeting 7:30 PM

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