



SHRAPNEL

Newsletter of Evanston American Legion Post 42

1030 Central Street, Evanston, IL 60201 - (847) 475-9076

Volume 107 No. 2 --- Saturday, April 26, 2008

2008 MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Currently our membership renewals are now over 80 percent. If you have not as yet paid your 2008 dues, please do so as soon as you can! We still want to make it to 100 percent and we need your participation to do so.

We do what we do because you care and because you are part of the team that stands for the Veteran and for the active duty service personnel who stand in harm's way on our behalf. Thank you for what you do! Keep supporting the American Legion.

TWILIGHT GOLF LEAGUE STARTING MAY 6, 2008

In coming months, the sign up sheet for the Post 42 Twilight Golf League will be posted in the clubroom. The league begins play Tuesday, May 6, 2008 and will continue every Tuesday through the end of August. Each player is assigned a team and team scores and individual scores earn prizes at the end of the season. The fee for participation was \$35.00, but may be subject to change at the time the sign-up sheet is posted.

AMERICAN LEGION GOLF TOURNAMENT JUNE 13-15, 2008

Reservations are being taken for the Annual Department Golf Tournament hosted by Post 24 in Champaign, IL. This year, we are playing our "warm-up" round at Elks Club Golf Course in St. Anne, IL. We have a shot-gun start at 10:00 AM on Friday, June 13. Actual tournament play begins Saturday and concludes Sunday morning. The weekend concludes with a steak dinner at Post 24, served right after your round.

We have a block of rooms available to accommodate up to 40 golfers at the Best Western Hotel in Savoy, IL, which is less than a mile from the golf course. The hotel has a very nice outdoor pool. The golf committee wants you to make your reservations as soon as possible. We want to make sure that all room assignments are made in advance so that the hotel is prepared for your arrival. We will want to know your name, your roommate, and whether you require smoking or non-smoking rooms (or no preference). We also want to know who is in your foursome. Contact Bob Weis at 847-475-9076 or Greg Lisinski

847-328-3627. Look for the sign-up sheets in the clubroom when they are posted. Forms are going to be available for the foursome information and payments

Our inaugural cook-out on Saturday at the tournament was a huge success. We will once again hold the cook out on Saturday June 14 around 2PM at the hotel.

POST 42 DONATES TO CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND FOR NEEDY KIDS

The post has donated \$1,000 to a scholarship fund for sending needy Evanston children to summer camps, like Camp Echo. Commander Lisinski presented a check to Mr. David Parlin, Chairman of the TED Fund,, a not-for-profit charity which raises funds so that needy kids can participate in camps and extra-curricular school activities they might otherwise not afford to participate in.



Commander Lisinski presents a check to Mr. David Parlin, Chairman of the TED Fund

ATTENTION ALL POST 42 MEMBERS: Last call/reminder!!!!

Thanks to all of you who have sent in your POST 42 INFORMATION FORMS along with A COPY OF YOUR DD214 OR DISCHARGE PAPERS. We would like *both* forms in order to give you and/or your family the service or assistance you are entitled to in time of need. If you want to make sure both forms are turned in and on file, please contact me. Adam Kwiecinski: 847-675-4912 Service Officer, Evanston American Legion Post 42

REBUILDING TOGETHER

APRIL 26, 2008

Our Post has once again done itself proud by performing some really great service work in the community. Post 42 participated in the Rebuilding Together Project for a 5th consecutive year.

This year we visited Ms. Betty Mills Cole and helped her out by doing a few chores like: upgrading her electrical work, replacing her toilet, scraping and painting two bedrooms, cleaning the yard, repairing two sets of stairs and getting her clogged drain rodded.

We did this in conjunction with Post members, SAL members, members and parents of our own Boy Scout Troop 3 and with much appreciated assistance from the Beth Emet Synagogue and several neighbors and friends. By doing this work, we are promoting a sense of obligation to the community, just as we recite in our monthly meeting opening ceremony. To those of you who participated, a sincere thank you.



Commander Greg Lisinski, House Captain for a 2008 Rebuilding Together Project, with Betty Mills Cole

BOB NELSON NAMED 7TH DISTRICT LEGIONAIRE OF THE YEAR, 2008

Past Post Commander and Past 7th District Commander has been named by the Past Post-Commanders Club as 2008 Legionnaire of the Year. Bob has long served the Legion on many levels and in many places, first by serving as an Officer and Commander of Post 42, and then ascending to many

leadership roles in the 7th District, including Commander. Bob has also served as a President of the Past Post Commander's Club.

Bob recently retired from his job as a Firefighter with the City of Evanston. We congratulate him and wish Bob, his wife Nina and all his family the best.



Cmdr. Lisinski presents a Legion jacket to Life-Member and Past Post Commander Bob Nelson in recognition of his being named 2008 Legionnaire of the Year for 2008. The Jacket was a gift from Post 42.

POST EVERLASTING HELD

MAY 1, 2008

Every year, Post 42 remembers the fallen comrades of Post 42, who have departed this life in the past year. At the May, 2008 business meeting a brief ceremony will be held to remember the following members who have gone to "Post Everlasting". Thank you for your service and comradeship and may you rest in peace.

Poppy Day – May 22, 2008

Poppy is on Thursday, May 22nd 2008 As you well know, Poppy Day is an opportunity for the Post to raise funds to support our veteran's outreach and assistance programs. WE NEED YOUR HELP! Come to the Post on the day before, Wednesday, May 21, 2008 after 3:00 PM to pick up cans and poppies. If you need help finding a location for soliciting donations, call Whitey Johnson. The donations may be solicited between the hours of 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM. After collection return proceeds to Whitey. For information on the program, call Whitey at the Post at 847-475-9076.

Poppy Day proceeds are not used for any general expense purposes. 100 percent of the proceeds are used for Veteran's programs. By giving at Poppy Day, you are not paying the light bill or buying a bottle of booze for the club room. You are supporting hospital visits, bereavement memorials, gifts for hospitalized vets and similar things. Please be generous with your time and money

GRAVE DECORATION DAY – May 24

On Saturday, May 24, 2008 at 9:00 AM, Post 42 will host our annual grave decoration project on Memorial Day Weekend. We will assemble at 8:45am. Since we will be spending the morning placing flags on the graves, casual dress is recommended. In addition to our Post and Auxiliary members, we will be joined by members of the Cub Scout Pack and Boy Scout Troop sponsored by Post 42. We need some extra help this year as some of our regulars will be out of town. Please help in this effort to recognize the veterans that have gone to their rest.

We plan to place as many as 1,500 flags in our effort to remember our fallen comrades. All post members and their families, as well as friends of the Post, are welcome to participate. We will meet at 8:45 AM at the main gate of Memorial Park Cemetery, 9900 Gross Point Road (just south of Old Orchard Road), Skokie, IL. We expect that it will take about three hours to complete. Lunch will be served at the Post after we have completed the grave decoration.

MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONIES

As is the tradition, Post 42 will participate in two ceremonies on Memorial Day, May 26, 2008. The schedule is as follows:

8:00 AM – MEMORIAL PARK

A Memorial Day ceremony will be held near the WEST LOT of the cemetery. Enter at the Skokie Blvd. entrance. A ceremony, reflection and a few remarks by our Post Commander will be followed by a rifle salute and taps. Past Cmdr. Mike Carder always has inspiring words as our main speaker. Legion members traditionally wear the formal uniform of a blazer, tie and the official American Legion cap.

9:30 AM – PATRIOT PARK CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL AND MINI-PARADE

There is a rebirth tradition by the rededication of the Civil War Monument at Patriot Park in 2007. Virginia Beatty, long of the Evanston Garden Club and a true Patriot in her own right, is organizing another Memorial Day Ceremony at Patriot Park at 9:30 AM. Following the brief ceremony, an informal parade will be held to marshal all the participants over to Evanston Fountain Square for Memorial Day Ceremonies to be held there. This little parade will be around 10:00 AM

10:30 AM FOUNTAIN SQUARE

A ceremony will be held at Fountain Square, which traditionally includes all veteran organizations in Evanston. Participating units include American Legion, VFW, VietNow, Northwestern NROTC, and various women's auxiliaries. The traditional Master of Ceremonies is "Bo" Price, and he is expected to continue his role this year. After all, it would not be Memorial Day in Evanston without him.

The ceremony usually concludes around 11:00 AM. We will provide snacks and refreshment at our Post immediately afterward. The bar will be open for those who wish to purchase an adult beverage.

POST 42 AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL TEAM HAS A NEW HOME FIELD AT NU

Our American Legion Baseball Team will now be playing its home games at the Northwestern University Baseball Facility. The team plays in American Legion District 7 of the First Division, competing against Legion teams from Wilmette, Northbrook, Arlington Heights, Palatine, Portage Park, Elk Grove Village, and Mount Prospect. American Legion Baseball players are age 16 through 19. There are 18 players on each Legion team.

The 2008 schedule appears in this newsletter. Please come out and support our team!

GIFT AND ESTATE PLANNING FOR POST 42 AND THE FUTURE

Have considered leaving a bequest to Post 42 as part of your estate plan? A gift or bequest to Post 42 can have fantastic long term benefits to veterans, service personnel and our community.

There are so many activities and programs your Post 42 gift or bequest would support: helping veterans, visiting the sick, raising funds for the "Gifts to the Yanks" Program, sending parcels to our troops overseas, supporting Scouting in Evanston, helping to repair housing for needy homeowners, helping the community to remember its veterans through public ceremonies and public speaking, supporting Legion Programs and sponsoring Little League and American Legion Baseball. When we have large capital investment issues like boiler replacement, we would have resources to draw on. If you are interested, contact your Attorney and ask him to include us in your planning through a gift, will or codicil. Contact us for more information

Kentucky Derby Party and Raffle Fund Raiser for 7th District

The party will be held at Evanston Post 42 on Saturday, May 3, 2008 from 2-6 PM. The fifty-fifty Raffle will be held immediately after the Derby race. Tickets are \$2 apiece or 3/\$5.00. We will have snacks and food. There is a cash Bar. Proceeds benefit the programs and operations of the 7th District.

RECEIVE OUR NEWSLETTER BY E-MAIL?

Just send your e-mail address to: g.lisinski@sbcglobal.net and we will send it to you whenever we publish. You will also save the Post much time and money by allowing us to send you the e-mail version to you. All the pictures are in color, too!

A MEMORIAL DAY REFLECTION

In late 2004, I was asked to participate in a taping of the local cable show called "Our Town Evanston" in order to promote the programs of the American Legion. On the way in I was pulled aside by the woman who was running the soundboard for the production of the show.

She told me she had a neighbor that was mad at the American Legion because every Memorial Day we never seemed to plant a flag on her husband's grave at Memorial Park in Skokie. She said her neighbor told her the marker was a plain as day and there was no excuse to miss his grave marker.

"You are the guys that do that, right?" she asked. "Yes, I guess we are" I said. "What can I do to make it better? I'll tell you what, you give me the name of this man and I promise you I will personally make sure that the flag is placed there next Memorial Day."

She handed me a piece of paper with his name on it and then she told me a story. His name was Harry Puls and he served in the US Navy. Harry was killed when a kamikaze fighter dove into his ship which was operating off of Okinawa. From what I know, he never knew what hit him.

Knowing it was someone who was actually killed in action gave me a greater sense of mission. I had a plan.

On May 21, 2005 I was there with all the Legionnaires, Boy Scouts, parents and others to begin the flag placements on the graves. Grabbing a moment, I went into the cemetery office and asked for help in locating Harry's grave at Memorial Park. They pulled out one of those maps that show you the sections and then put a little circle on it with a pen. When my kids come looking for my grave some day, the office will probably give them GPS coordinates.

Off I went to look for Harry's grave.

I kind of wandered around a bit, because as you probably know the little dot on the map was not exactly to scale. Wandering south, then north, west then east, I kept wondering why it was that a "plainly marked" veteran's grave marker was so tough to find.

Then I finally noticed it. It wasn't a typical veteran's grave marker at all. It had some kind of shield on it, instead of the familiar circle with a cross or Star of David. Except for the USN carved at the top of the shield, it looked more like something out of the Olympics than the military. I could at least understand why there was an oversight. But there I was standing near Harry J. Puls; killed by a kamikaze almost exactly 60 years before. I placed the flag.

What I noticed then made me feel even sadder. For there, next to Harry, was the grave of a little girl. A little girl named Puls. She died the year before in infancy. Maybe Harry never even got to see his own daughter be born or even die, while he was far off in the Pacific. I guess I will never know. But there she was buried next to her father.

He was so far away in 1944 and 1945. I can't imagine how hard that must have been. Being overseas and hearing about the death of a child. Maybe he came home on emergency leave maybe he didn't. What I do know for sure is that after the baby died, Harry J. Puls was off the coast of Okinawa and gave his life for his country. She died so young. Then so did Harry.

And Mrs. Puls? In a very short time, she lost her baby and she lost her husband. How can you ever be the same? Mrs. Puls is a hero too. If we ever miss that flag again, she can come and personally kick me in the ass.

Every year since, the first thing I do is go right to Harry's grave. The first flag I ever place, and longest pause I take for prayer and reflection is at the grave of Harry J Puls, United States Navy, 1907 – 1945. Hero. Father, Husband.

Thank you, Harry.

Thank you to all the Harrys and Harriets.



POST 42 MEMBER INFORMATION SHEET

We are continuing to collect basic information about your military service to assist you and your family in time of need. If you have not already done so, please fill out the basic military record information below and we will keep it on file at the Post.

Member Name _____

Address, City State Zip _____

Phone Home/Work/Cell _____

E-mail address _____ Religious Preference _____

Military Serial Number (Or SSN as Applicable) _____

Branch of Service _____

Date of Entry to Active Duty _____

Date of Separation _____

Military Unit or Ship You Most

Identify Your Service

With: _____

Birth Date _____ Birth Place _____

Spouse's Name _____

Children's Names _____

Note: If you send us a copy of your Discharge, Separation Record, or DD 214, we will be able to better assist you or your family. **PLEASE NO ORIGINALS!** We can't promise they will be returned.

**Shrapnel
American Legion Post 42
P.O. Box 42
Evanston, IL 60204**

DELIVER TO:

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

POST 42 DATES TO REMEMBER 2008

January 3, 2008	Monthly Meeting 8:00 (Food, of Course)
January 24	Board Meeting 8:00 PM
February 3	Super Bowl Party 2:00 PM (until game is over)
February 7	General Business Meeting 8:00 PM (Food afterward)
February 17	Winter Golf Shoot-out Breakfast 10:00 AM Cost \$10.00
February 28	Board Meeting 8:00 PM
March 6,	General Business Meeting 8:00PM
March 15	St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef Dinner - Cocktails at 5:00, Dinner at 6:00
March 27	Board Meeting 8:00 PM
March 30	SAL Cross-country Golf
April 3	General Business Meeting 8:00 PM (Food afterward)
April 24	Board Meeting 8:00 PM
May 1	General Business Meeting 8:00 PM (Food afterward)
May 6	Twilight Golf League Starts Dinner and Raffles Begin 6:00 PM
May 21	Poppy Day Can pick-up, after 3PM
May 21	7 th district Meeting at Morton Grove Post 134 7:30 PM
May 22	Poppy Day Collection
	Board Meeting 8:00 PM
May 24	Grave Decoration Day Memorial Park meet at East lot, 9:00 AM
May 26	Memorial Day Ceremonies Memorial Park (West Lot) 8:00 AM
	Fountain Square 10:30 AM
	Refreshments served after ceremonies at the post
June 5	General Business Meeting 8:00 PM (Food afterward)
June 13-15	American Legion Champaign Golf Outing (See Dino Tonelli)
June 14	Flag Day – Flag Ceremony to Retire Tattered Flags 6:00 PM at Post
June 18	7 th District Meeting Huerter Wilmette Post 46 Dinner at 6:30 Meeting 7:30 PM
June 26	Board Meeting 8:00 PM
July 3	General Business Meeting 8:00 PM (Food afterward)
July 4	Evanston 4 th of July Parade Assembly 12:30 Parade at 2PM
July 9-12	American Legion Department Illinois Convention Springfield IL
July 24	Board Meeting 8:00 PM
August 7	General Business Meeting 8:00 PM (Food afterward)
August 10	SAL Golf Outing and American Legion Picnic
August 28	Board Meeting 8:00 PM
September 4	General Business Meeting 8:00PM Food Afterward
September 20	Installation Ceremony Saturday evening (Tentative Date)
September 21	Fall Golf Outing 10AM Registration 11AM Tee-off
September 25	Board Meeting 8:00 PM
October 2	Monthly Meeting 8:00 PM Food served afterward
October 23	Board Meeting 8:00 PM
November 1	Pancake Breakfast 7:00 AM to 1:00 PM Cost: \$7.00 (6 and under, free)
November 6	Monthly Meeting 8:00 PM Food served afterward
November 9	Thanksgiving Dinner for North Shore V.A. Hospital Patients (tentative).
November 11	Veterans Day Ceremonies Fountain Square 10:30 AM
November 20	Board Meeting 8:00 PM
December 4	Monthly Meeting (food afterward!)
December 14	Post Christmas Party 2:00 PM. Gifts for kids from tot to 11.
December 18	Board Meeting 8:00 PM

**HELP US GROW OUR MEMBERSHIP – INVITE VETERANS WHO CARE ABOUT VETERANS
NEW MEMBER APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP- AMERICAN LEGION POST 42**

To: The American Legion
P.O. Box 7017
Indianapolis, IN 46207

YES!

I'll help my fellow veterans by becoming a member of The American Legion. I certify that I served at least one day of active military duty during the dates marked below and was honorably discharged or am still serving honorably. I hereby request assignment to Evanston American Legion Post 42. My \$30.00 check or money order is enclosed (active duty members need not include payment).

Name	Phone Number
Address	e-mail
City, State, Zip	

Signature	Name of Recruiting Member (if any)
Dates of Service	Branch of Service
AUG 2, 1990—Present (Open Period of Eligibility) _____	U.S. ARMY _____
DEC. 20, 1989—JAN. 31, 1990 _____	U.S. NAVY _____
AUG. 24, 1982—JUL. 31, 1984 _____	U.S. AIR FORCE _____
FEB. 28, 1961—MAY 7, 1975 _____	U.S. MARINES _____
JUNE 25, 1950—JAN. 31, 1955 _____	U.S. COAST GUARD _____
DEC. 7, 1941—DEC. 31, 1946 _____	U.S. MERCHANT MARINE — (WWII) _____

Please check applicable "Dates of Service" and "Branch of Service": Return the Completed form to Post 42 for processing

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
(if a linear descendant of a Veteran who qualified for American Legion Membership)**

Detachment of Illinois Squadron No. 42 Birth Date _____ Date _____

Email Address _____ Enclose \$20 for 200 _____ annual membership dues

Name _____ Recruited by _____
(First) (Initial) (Last) (First) (Initial) (Last)

Address _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip) (Telephone)

Veteran through whom eligibility is established _____
Name of Veteran _____

That Veteran is/was a member in good standing of Post No. _____ Department of _____

OR (b) Above is a deceased veteran who served honorably from _____ to _____

(c) Relationship of Applicant to Veteran _____
I hereby subscribe to the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion, apply for membership, and

Detachment of Illinois
Signed _____ Eligibility certified by _____
By Applicant or Parent)

BOOSTER MEMBER APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP- AMERICAN LEGION POST 42

To: The American Legion
P.O. Box 42
Evanston IL 60204

I want to support Evanston American Legion Post 42 by becoming a **Booster** Member. I certify that I am in support of the principals and programs of the American Legion. By my membership as a Booster, I am entitled to all the privileges pertaining to my membership. I agree to abide by the rules of conduct and behavior and understand that my membership may be revoked if I violate those rules and policies.

My \$20.00 check or money order is enclosed.

Name	Phone Number
Address	
City, State, Zip	
Signature	e-mail

The Evanston Post 42 American Legion Baseball Schedule--2008

Tuesday	June 10	Glenview	H
Wednesday	June 11	Northbrook	A
Fr. Sat.	June 13-14	Northbrook	Tourney
Monday	June 16	Palatine	H
Tuesday	June 17	Mt. Prospect	A
Wednesday	June 18	A. Heights	H
Th.- Sun	June 19-22	Kenosha	Tourney
Tuesday	June 24	Morton Grove	H
Wednesday	June 25	Wilmette	A
Th Sun	June 26-29	Champaign	Tourney
Tuesday	July 1	Northbrook	H
Wednesday	July 2	Wilmette	H
Thursday	July 3	Elk Grove	A
Tuesday	July 8	Morton Grove	A
Wednesday	July 9	Elk Grove	H
Thursday	July 10	Glenview	A
Sunday	July 13	Portage Park	H (DH)
Tuesday	July 15	Mt. Prospect	H
Wednesday	July 16	Arlington Heights	A
Tuesday	July 22	Palatine	A
Friday	July 25	County tourney play-ins	
Week of July 28		County tourney	

GIFTS TO THE TROOPS OVERSEAS



Post 42 showed its support for the troops by preparing a huge stack of gift packages for those serving overseas. This continuing project, coordinated by Co-7th District Service Officer Len Jakubiak, had a stellar showing at Post 42. Volunteers represented the 7th District, Lincolnwood Post 1226, Evanston Post 42, Post 42 Auxiliary, and a great contribution by our own Evanston Troop 3.

In the attached photo you will see (front row, from left) John Miksis, Nancy Carder, Nkosi Evans, Winnie Kwiecinski, Delanie Kwiecinski (rear row from left) Zack Miksis, Dave Martensen, Mike Miksis, Josh Doo, Greg Wilson, Adam Kwiecinski, Len Jakubiak, Richard Huck and Henry Revis. (Not pictured but hiding nearby) Mike Carder.