



# SHRAPNEL



**Newsletter of Evanston American Legion Post 42**

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

OCTOBER 2016



## “Commander’s Corner”

### **Serving Veterans – Mentoring Youth Supporting Your Community**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter is in the history book, and it was a busy one - starting off with Flag day, where we, the American Legion, are charged with the responsibility to properly dispose of unserviceable American flags. On June 14<sup>th</sup>, our chaplain initiated the ceremony with a prayer, and then the burning of the unserviceable flags began. Every year we end up with hundreds of flags and we can no longer burn them ourselves. We are looking at alternative sites for proper disposal.

The 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade was, once again, a huge success! The Legion trailer was decorated and towed in the parade, while Chip Covington and his fellow musicians entertained thousands of people that lined the parade route. We could use more participants from the Legion next year!

Also in July was the Legion State Convention held in Springfield, Il. Your post

was well represented, and we brought back a plethora of brochures and useful information.

August was busy with the SAL Golf Outing and the Legion Family Picnic. Anthony Switzer did a fabulous job in heading up the picnic committee. A big thank should go to all those who made the day a great success: Chefs: Greg Lisinski & Mike Wojciechowski; food prep: Joe Port, Tony Switzer, Greg Wilson & Neil Franke. A special shout out and thank you goes out to the Boy Scouts, scout leaders and other volunteers that helped you enjoy a wonderful picnic.

Upcoming events in the last quarter of 2016:

Friday, 14 October Glow Ball Tournament

Friday, 11 November Veteran’s Day (Fountain Square)

Saturday, 12 November Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, 11 December Post Christmas Party

From 1 October through 11 December 2016, Post 42 will once again participate in the collection of warm, clean, serviceable clothing for our homeless veterans. Both male & female clothing is needed, plus any suitcases, backpacks or other containers that these homeless veterans can carry their meager belongings with them. So let’s go through our closets and find those clothing items that are out of style, or out of our current size charts, pack them up and drop them off at the Post.

I know it's early, but I want to wish everybody a great Thanksgiving holiday and a merry Christmas and a happy, healthy & prosperous new year.

Looking forward to seeing you at a general business meeting, the first Thursday of every month, at 7:30 PM.



## FROM YOUR SAL COMMANDER

A good time was had by all.

Well, almost all.

If you skipped the annual Sons of the American Legion Golf Tournament held on August 14<sup>th</sup> at Canal Shores Community Golf Course, you missed out on all of the fun (and the legendary pig roast).

On the golf links, something exceptional occurred. In addition to the divots and lost balls out of bounds, there was a three way tie for first place in the tournament after all of the scores were adjusted using the Peoria Handicap system. The dead heat resulted in three teams sharing the prize money equally. Maybe we will have to devise a "sudden death" playoff for next year's tournament. The individual golf prize winners were as follows:

Longest Drive #3 (Women) – Linda Hart  
Longest Drive #17 (Men) P. Vandenheuvel

Closest to Pin #8 H. DeZutter  
Closest to Pin #13 J. Hansen  
Longest Putt #18 R. Woodring

After expenses, the net tournament profits were donated to American Legion Post 42 by the Squadron.

I want to thank the volunteers and the Boy Scouts who helped out during the tournament and the American Legion Picnic that followed afterwards.

The 2017 Fiscal Year began on July 1<sup>st</sup>, and all members should have received their renewal notices.

If you neglected to pay your dues, please renew today by mailing your check in the courtesy envelope provided or on line by visiting.

**<https://evanstonpost42.com/membership-account/membership-checkout/>**

A word to the wise, if you choose to pay your dues in person by visiting the lounge and paying by cash, complete the entire payment envelope form and be certain to obtain a receipt! A blank envelope does not help us credit your membership account that has to be processed at the national (Indianapolis), detachment (Bloomington) and squadron (Evanston) levels. Mistakes can happen when renewing members do not provide complete information.

Random membership card checks will resume soon, so be sure that your membership card is up to date.



Service Officer James Farley

## **VETERAN ACTIVITIES**

### **Post 42 to Host the Lovell Hospital patients for Thanksgiving Dinner**

On Sunday, November 13, Post 42 members will prepare and serve a Thanksgiving Dinner with all the trimmings for the visiting patients from the James Lovell VA Hospital. This annual event is hosted at the Legion Hall. We also plan to have entertainment for the veterans attending.

### **Post 42 members attend the Canal Shores fund raiser**

On September 16<sup>th</sup> members of Post 42 attended the ‘Groovin’ on the Green’ event hosted by the Evanston Wilmette Golf Course Association. This is a primary fund raiser held annually, and the Post was able to support the event through a financial donation and attendance at the dinner. A “groovy time” was had by all!

### **LONG RUNNING AND WILDLY POPULAR PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

Headlines Post 42 Fall Program

Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup> when Post 42 will hold the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Pancake Breakfast from 7AM to 1PM. Voted the best pancake breakfast on the north shore, it’s the only one in Evanston deploying two cooks dedicated to offering eggs to order along with an extensive menu including pancakes, sausage, orange juice, coffee and milk...all for only seven bucks. Kids under six eat for free!

This is one of largest fundraisers of Post 42. In 2015 this event raised more than \$ 1,600 with all the proceeds going to charities this past year. These charities include Fisher House, P.A.W.W.S., Vet Dogs, Forrest E. Powell Foundation, and Evanston Boy Scout Troop 3.

Don’t let this opportunity to do something good for Evanston while getting a good meal pass. Contact the Legion Club Room to reserve your tickets now. We are also looking for volunteers to serve as cooks, waiters and clean-up crews. Look for the sign-up sheet in the Post Club Rroom. Thanks in advance for supporting this event through your contributions and volunteer efforts.

## **VETERAN LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**

### **Progress on Reserve Vet Status**

**Honor America’s Guard-Reserve Retirees Act** (HR 1384, S 743)  
Every year more reserve component retirees

learn to their surprise that they cannot claim to be veterans, despite part-time careers in service to the nation. These are retirees who were never ordered to active duty other than for initial training and brief periods of annual training.

In recent years the lack of veteran status for these retirees stung a bit more with every failed attempt by proponents in Congress to win for them honorary veterans status. Inevitably, it seemed, either the Senate or the House or both fumbled the initiative during a final frantic year-end rush to complete neglected work on behalf of veterans.

Particularly frustrating for backers of the Honor America's Guard-Reserve Retirees Act, which has been introduced in the last four Congresses, is that the bills have no cost. The most recent versions specifically state that the reserve component retirees being honored with veteran status **"shall not be entitled to any benefit by reason of this honor."**

The House last November passed HR 1384 by a vote of 407-to-0. Referred immediately to the Senate, it languished there until May when the Veterans Affairs Committee finally made it part of a massive legislative package called the Veterans First Act (S 2921). The showpiece of that bill is a \$3.1 billion plan to phase in for older generations of severely injured veterans the caregiver benefits enacted in 2010 for Post-9/11 veterans. That provision also might be the bill's fatal flaw if the House rejects the idea.

House Veterans Affairs Committee Chairman Jeff Miller (R-Fla.) last May signaled through a committee spokesman that he doesn't favor expansion of the caregiver program until a rash of problems with the current program, documented by congressional auditors, have been addressed.

On Tuesday a House committee spokesman also noted pointedly that 30 separate House-

passed veterans bills still await Senate consideration. The tone suggests the two chambers are far apart on how to tackle veteran reform initiatives issues, particularly with a long summer recess and elections this fall shrinking the number of days Congress will be in session.

Senate leaders allowed all of June to pass without a floor vote on the Veterans First Act and then adjourn until September. That leaves a lot less time for House and Senate conferees to reconcile very different approaches taken this year on more critical veteran issues. Time will tell if the honorary veteran status language survives to be included in a final veterans omnibus bill or if it gets ignore again during tough negotiations on a lot of other matters, including this year the caregiver expansion favored by the Senate and tougher accountability rules for VA executives sought by the House.

Source:

<http://militaryadvantage.military.com/2016/08/progress-on-reserve-vet-status-veteran-preference-initiatives>.

## HELP FOR VETERANS



Help at Home Incorporated is a nation-wide company that is committed to design and deliver a wide range of home care services to veterans throughout the United States.

Help at Home is committed to enhancing the quality of life for our clients and providing a viable alternative to living in a nursing home or long-term care facility.

We've been in business for the last thirty years and employ a large staff of trained home care aides who are readily available to provide home care services for you or a loved one.

We currently own and operate ninety-five offices and provide services in nine states, and we're committed to providing excellent services to all of the communities we serve.

Our services to YOU include a full range of home care services that are customized to meet your needs.

The following are some of the services that we provide through our homecare aides program:

~ personal care – bathing assistance and assistance with dressing and grooming

~Light Housekeeping

~Laundry

~ Meal Preparation

~Errands or Translation

~ companionship – available 24 hours a day, if needed.

An important mission of Help at Home Incorporation is to prepare and deliver our wide range of services to veterans in the state of Illinois.

Our organization can organize and complete a plan of care for you so that if, with advancing age, you acquire a temporary or long-term physical or mental disability, or if you are simply recovering from surgery or an acute illness, your needs will be met.

We are committed to improving and enhancing the quality of your life through programs such as:

~ Companions

~Home Care Aides

~Certified Nursing Assistants

~Registered Nurses

~Personal Emergency Response System (installation and monitoring)

Help at Home has many other services and systems to help you maintain your independence and provide you and your loved ones with peace mind.

Contact information:

Please contact us at [1-800-404-3191](tel:1-800-404-3191)

Email us at <http://www.helpathome.com>

For immediate attention and response, please call Georgina Dainton:

Cell: [773-554-7764](tel:773-554-7764)

Sincerely,

**Georgina Dainton**

**Supervisor / Outreach Coordinator**

**Help at Home INC.**

**4960 Dempster St**

**Skokie, IL 60067.**

**Phone:**[\(847\) 679-6400](tel:(847)679-6400)

**Cell:**[\(773\) 554-7764](tel:(773)554-7764)

**Fax:**[\(847\) 679-6459](tel:(847)679-6459)

**Email:**[gdainton@helpathome.com](mailto:gdainton@helpathome.com)

[www.helpathome.com](http://www.helpathome.com)

## **Evanston Collaborates With Post 42, Snell Post on Vets Memorial Design**

The City of Evanston is going ahead with a \$4.7 million renovation of its Fountain Square. The deteriorating popular gathering spot in the middle of downtown has traditionally been the center of public activities including rallies, protests and holiday celebrations since 1854. It is also the

home of Evanston's War Memorial; a tribute to the fallen citizens of this town who have paid the ultimate sacrifice defending our country's freedom since the Spanish American War.

Commander Jim Brusek has formed a veterans' task force to work closely with the city, its appointed consultants, Christopher B. Burke Engineering and Teska Associates, and others in designing a completely new memorial that will complement the overall remake while preserving the integrity and solemnity of its purpose.

Fountain Square will be transformed into a more expansive, modern, accommodating space encompassing more than 15,000 square feet, projecting south all the way to Grove Street. Water continues to highlight and play an important role as the fountain itself becomes a new focus with a programmable architecture scalable to suit any occasion.

Please visit the City of Evanston website for more information.

## CLUB ROOM NEWS

Welcome to Fall in the Club Room. We've had a lot going on with football tailgates, new events and Bluegrass.

Come join us for some spectacular Bluegrass concerts this fall/winter. You can always get updated information at [ChicagoBluegrass.com](http://ChicagoBluegrass.com). Upcoming concerts include Sideline Bluegrass Band on October 15<sup>th</sup>, Dave Adkins Band on October 29<sup>th</sup> and Laurie Lewis & The Right Hands on October 30<sup>th</sup>.

We had our first Evanston Live event on October 1<sup>st</sup> with a packed house. Don't miss out on the next one December 10<sup>th</sup>. This retro-cool talk show features Evanston artists, musicians, chefs, local notables and historians. You can get your tickets at <http://squareup.com/store/evanston-live>.

Green Laser Food is on break for the Fall/Winter but will be back in the Spring with more great food, drink and laser tag. Don't forget to buy your Queen of Hearts raffle tickets to help support a new 2<sup>nd</sup> floor deck project for the Legion. The pot will be over \$2,000.00 for our next drawing. Tickets are \$2.00 each, 3 for \$5.00 or 15 for \$20.00. Every Monday at 8pm we pick a raffle ticket and that person gets to turn over one of the cards on the board. If you are there and pick the Queen of Hearts you split the pot with the Legion. Each week the Queen of Hearts isn't pulled you have better odds of winning and the pot continues to increase.

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](mailto:ClubManager@EvanstonPost42.com).

## MEMBERSHIP

The 2017 Membership year has started off GREAT! We are currently at 75% for Post Membership, 57% SAL Membership and 23% Associate. Remember, the membership year started 1 July and goes to 30 June with your dues going to support our veterans, our community and our Post. We thank all of you who have already renewed and ask those who have not to please consider renewing today. You can either drop your dues off at the Post, visit our web site (see below) and following the links, or use your renewal notice for Post and SAL members.

We can be found at [www.evanstonpost42.com](http://www.evanstonpost42.com) When you visit us, you will find all the latest info, upcoming events, Post information, and a wealth of other information. For those who are more technology adept, we can be found on Face Book.

[www.facebook.com/EvanstonPost42](http://www.facebook.com/EvanstonPost42)

**RECEIVE SHRAPNEL BY E-MAIL?**

Just send your e-mail address to:  
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[danlmf@reagan.com](mailto:danlmf@reagan.com) and we will send it to  
you whenever we publish.

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**2016 Legion Year Officer - Post 42**

Commander	James M Brusek	773-263-4726
Senior Vice-Commander	VACANT	
Junior Vice-Commander	Art Saunders	312-342-6518
Adjutant	Greg Lisinski	630-309-8074
Finance Officer	Dan Fleming	847-769-5242
Service Officer	James Farley	847-866-8486
Sergeant at Arms	VACANT	
Chaplain	Karl Kuhn	773-286-2002
Past Commander	Greg Wilson	224-381-5010
SAL Commander	Daniel Kelley	847-226-3652

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Adam Kwiecinski Michael Wojciechowski Kim Cook

Newsletter Editor: Dan Fleming

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

**POST 42 DATES TO REMEMBER 2016-2017**

PLEASE NOTE REVISED MEETING TIMES!

**2016**

September 1	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
September 21	7 <sup>th</sup> District Meeting at Lincolnwood Post 7:30pm
September 22	Board Meeting 7:30 PM
October 6	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
October 14	7th District Meeting 7:30 PM
October 19	Glow-Ball Golf Tournament 7:30 PM
October 27	Board Meeting 7:30 PM
November 3	Monthly Meeting 7:30 PM Food served afterward
November 11	Veterans Day Ceremonies Fountain Square 10:30 AM
November 12	Pancake Breakfast 7:00 AM to 1:00 PM Cost: \$7.00 (6 and under, free)
November 13	Thanksgiving Dinner for Hospitalized Vets (Volunteers needed!) (9:00-2:00)
November 16	7 <sup>th</sup> District Meeting at Morton Grove Post 134 7:30 PM
November 17	Board Meeting 7:30 PM (moved to adjust for holiday)
December 1	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
December 11	Post Christmas Party 2:00 PM.
December 22	Board Meeting 7:30 PM (moved to adjust for holiday)

## 2017

January 5	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
January 18	7 <sup>th</sup> District Meeting at Morton Grove Post 134 @ 7:30 PM
January 26	Board Meeting 7:30 PM
February 2	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
February 5	Super Bowl Party 2:00 PM (until game is over)
February 12	Winter Golf Shoot-out Breakfast 10:00 AM Cost \$10.00 (tentative)
February 15	7 <sup>th</sup> District Meeting at Evanston Post 42 @ 7:30 PM
February 23	Board Meeting 7:30 PM General Business Meeting 7:30 PM
March 2	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
March 3-4	Department of Illinois High School Oratorical Contest Peoria Civic Center St.
March 11	Patrick's Day Corned Beef Dinner and Richard Huck Award Dinner Cocktails at 5:00, Dinner at 6:00
March 15	7th District Meeting at Morton Grove Post 134 @ 7 PM
March 23	Board Meeting 7:30 PM
April 6	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
April 19	7 <sup>th</sup> District Meeting at Post 42 @ 7:30 PM
April 27	Board Meeting 7:30 PM
April 29	Rebuilding Together Service Project (Tentative)
May 4	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Post Everlasting - Food afterward)
May 6	7 <sup>th</sup> District Kentucky Derby Fundraiser
May 9	Canal shores Twilight Golf League TENTATIVE (Contact Golf course)
May 13	Spaghetti Dinner and Fundraiser (Time TBA)
May 17	7 <sup>th</sup> District Meeting at Morton Grove Post 134 @ 7:30 PM (Post Everlasting)
May 24	Poppy Day Can pick-up, after 3PM
May 25-29	Poppy Day Collection
May 25	Board Meeting 7:30 PM
May 27	Grave Decoration Day Memorial Park, meet at East lot, 9:00 AM
May 29	Memorial Day Ceremonies Memorial Park (East Lot) 8:00 AM Fountain Square 10:30 AM Refreshments served after ceremonies at the post
June 1	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
June 3	1st Division "Mini-Convention" Location TBA
June 14	Flag Day – Flag Ceremony to Retire Tattered Flags 6:00 PM at Post
June 21	7 <sup>th</sup> District Meeting 7:30
June 22	Board Meeting 7:30 PM
July 4	4th of July Parade Assembly begins 12:30 pm at starting point Parade at 2pm
July 6	NO BUSINESS MEETING
July 27	Board Meeting 7:30 PM
August 3	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
August 13	Post 42-SAL Golf Outing and American Legion Picnic
August 23	Board Meeting 7:30 PM

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