



Shrapnel



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

April 2021

Commander



Commander Wilfredo Candelario after he received his first Covid vaccine, accompanied by his wife Chaplain Christine Candelario.

“Commander’s Corner”

Hello all, and Happy Spring! I hope that everyone is doing well. As we head into warmer weather, I am looking forward to more outdoor activities, as I’m sure that you are as well. Part of looking forward to being outside is a sense of a bit more normality in our lives. Another way that we can add some more normality is by each of us doing our part and making sure that we get our Covid 19 vaccinations as soon as possible. I know that many of us (myself included) have been able to receive our vaccinations, whether through VA, government sites or private providers. As more vaccine becomes available, I strongly urge everyone to get their vaccinations ASAP. We all have to do our part at protecting ourselves AND EACH OTHER!

Another sure sign of Spring is planning and preparing for some of our annual Legion events. One of these is the Department of Illinois Annual Convention. While the convention isn’t until mid-July, we must be prepared for some of the mandates that we will be receiving from Department. One item that we’ve already been told to expect is a dues increase from Department. This will be the first increase in several years. I am pleased to announce that the Board voted keep our annual dues at \$40 for the 2022 membership year. However, going forward, we will be forced to raise our dues to keep up with increases by Department. As a reminder, most of our dues are forwarded to National and Department, respectively. Post 42 receives less than \$8 from each member’s dues. One bit of good news about the early notification of a dues increase is that you can take advantage of the Legion’s 5-year membership. By purchasing a 5-year membership BEFORE July 1, you can lock in the current rate of \$40 per year through the 2027 Legion year.

That's a savings of 12.5% over paying for each year separately. (Hopefully, no more dues increases before 2027!) If you are interested in taking advantage of these savings, please contact me, Sr. Vice Dan Fleming or Post Adjutant Brian Ritz.

Spring also means it's time for our annual Board elections. As per the Post 42 by-laws, we will be holding the election at the June Business meeting on Thursday, June 3. All 5 Board Director positions, as well as the Junior Vice Commander position, will be open for election this year. Board members serve a 1-year term, with re-election possible. The Jr. Vice is normally a 2-year term, and can lead to the Sr. Vice position, and then the Commander position. (A personal word about that here. You will NOT be getting thrown to the wolves. Post 42 is very fortunate in that we have several Past Commanders, who served at different levels of Legion leadership, who act as mentors and advisors to all of us on the current Board of Directors.)

I will be appointing a Nominations Committee for these positions. If you are interested in serving the Post, please look for more information on nominations sometime in April. Anyone interested in serving on the Post Board can contact me for more information.

Other aspects of regular Legion business continue as always. We continue our work on achieving 100% membership again in the 2021 Legion year. This has of course been a very difficult year for everyone, yet we are near 90% of our membership goal, and looking to make 100% by June 1. Many thanks to all those who have helped get us this far, either by renewing their membership or by bringing in a new member to Post 42. If you haven't done so yet, please be sure to renew your membership for 2021. And please consider taking advantage of the 5-year membership before the dues increase in July.

Another aspect of our Legion work is continuing to help our fellow Vets. While many of our normal activities are still curtailed, we have been able to do some work. Service Officer Jim Farley and

Board member Bill Petty have arranged for, and taken part in, some volunteer work with the Midwest Veterans Closet. This has consisted of helping with food distribution for needy Vets and their families, and furniture collection and distribution to Vet families. Great work, Jim and Bill!



Jim, Bill and volunteers Joe Jefferson and Chaplain Christine

I want to let everyone know that the Post Clubroom is open again, with new clubroom hrs: **Mon-Sat : 5pm-11pm and Sunday : 12pm-7pm.** We have recently freshened up the displays on the walls of the Clubroom and will soon be adding some great artwork, consisting of handmade campaign ribbons representing all the major campaigns during the Legion's existence. These will match the Vietnam service ribbon that is currently on display. Please be sure to stop by the Clubroom soon.

This is all for now. Again, please do what you can to receive your Covid vaccination as soon as possible. And please be sure to renew your membership for the 2021 Legion year.

SAL



DANIEL J KELLEY

FROM YOUR SAL COMMANDER

Like so many others, I am waiting to be vaccinated and hoping that the winter of our discontent will soon be over. I am looking forward to sunnier days when life returns to normal. This also means attending Sons of the American Legion meetings that are not dominated by general announcements concerning cancellations and postponements due to the pandemic. That's for the future – there are some events that were canceled or postponed listed below.

Under challenging conditions, our Squadron membership is almost exactly where it ought to be in terms of its goals according to the published Detachment calendar. Squadron #42 is at 80% now. The retention rate is approximately 72%. New membership numbers have been down due to the Post being unavoidably closed for so many weeks.

The response to our last membership mailing in January resulted in twenty-seven cards being renewed. We need fifty-one more cards paid to reach 100% by mid-June. For those who wish to renew now, please use a personal check (\$25.00) to remit your payment. Use the courtesy envelope that was included in the mailing or hand deliver your payment to the Post. Online payments by credit or debit card have been temporarily suspended while we put a new system in place.

Unfortunately, the annual 1st Division fund raising event to benefit American Legion Baseball programs is in jeopardy. While the Chicago White Sox will be hosting games with spectators present, Chicago Mayor Lightfoot decreed that the maximum allowable capacity for professional baseball games will be 8,000 fans per game. This is less than 20% of the seating capacity of the stadium. This attendance policy calls into question whether or not the group sales department will be able to accommodate our SAL group. It is quite possible that season ticket holders will be given priority treatment. Perhaps the situation will change for the better in the months ahead. The event has not been officially canceled yet, but there is a strong possibility that it may be called off. The 2021 Chicago Wolves hockey game to benefit the National Emergency Fund was canceled since the American Hockey League opted to play its current season without any spectators in attendance at games.

Discussions are scheduled concerning the Mail Pouch Open golf tournament. The topic was on the agenda of the most recent Squadron meeting in March. It is our hope that the golf outing will somehow be resumed after a year's hiatus. A formal announcement will be made later once our meetings with the golf course superintendent and his staff are concluded. Presently, golf is going to proceed at Canal Shores subject to the same COVID-19 mitigation procedures that were in place last year. Sadly, during the interim, the tournament's formal name was revised to "The Robert P. Weis Memorial Golf Tournament" as Bobby transferred to Post Everlasting last autumn.

Legion affiliated charities supported by our Squadron during the current fiscal year have included the Oratorical Contest (Americanism and Children and Youth); the SAL Scholarship Fund (Children and Youth); and the Post #42 Poppy Fund (Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation).

The Detachment Executive Committee meeting will take place on March 27th at Post #911 in Wauconda, Illinois. Detachment Commander Phil Stander's postponed Homecoming will be held immediately afterwards. The most recent 1st

Division Meeting was postponed. The rescheduled meeting will be held on April 3rd at the #991 Marris Meyer Post in Worth, Illinois. Squadron #42 wishes to congratulate Squadron member Stephen H. Hagerty upon his successful term as the Mayor of the City of Evanston. He opted not to seek reelection and his current term will conclude in a few weeks when his successor takes office. The mayor's consistent support of American Legion Post #42 was much appreciated.

Squadron #42 extends best wishes to Legionnaires Matt Bukovac and Art Reed. We wanted both of them to make full and speedy recoveries. Get well soon fellows!



Chaplain Christine Candelario

Greetings from the Chaplain's Corner

Welcome Spring!! We made it through another Winter in the Chicago area.

Spring is a time of renewal and new beginnings. Temperatures are rising, buds are starting to show, and flowers are starting to reach up to heaven. It's our time of renewal as well. With this in mind if you haven't renewed your membership yet, now is the time to do it. Dues will be going up, consider renewing with the 5 year plan before the dues go up.

I want to add that now is also the time to share your time, talent and treasure to help our fellow veterans. I had the opportunity to help out at the Midwest Veteran's Closet (not to steal anyone else's thunder). We were handing out food to

those in need. It was a very rewarding experience for me and for all those on the giving end as well as those on the receiving end. In addition to food they also have clothing and furniture. This brings to mind: Whatsoever you do to the least of My people that you do unto Me. (Mt. 25:35-40)

Remember to stay in touch with family, friends, and neighbors. We are all in this together. Don't forget to get vaccinated, through the VA, your private physician, or an IDPH Vaccination site.

Remember to live just this one day and not add tomorrow's troubles to today's load. Remember that every day ends and brings a new tomorrow full of exciting new things.

Love what you do and do the best you can. And always remember how much you are loved by God.

God Bless You,
Chaplain Christine
legionchaplainchristine@gmail.com.



JAMES FARLEY
Service Officer

Veteran Affairs

Post 42 continues to participate in helping individual veterans but we have been limited in our main activities because of the shutdown due to the COVID virus.

We have been supporting the Midwest Veterans Closet on several events in the past few months. We have been very active on food distribution days at the Closet. Christine Candelario, Joe Jefferson, Bill Petty and Jim Farley helped to pack food boxes and load cars with all forms of donated food for needy vets.

We are looking forward to the time when we can be back in the James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center to assist patients

-James Farley

Furniture Donation

We humans are basically social creatures. We value family and friends, we network with people from far and wide, we gather in groups for comradery, but we also join groups to multiply our impact on the world. American Legion Post 42 of Evanston is one of those groups that caters to a number of human social needs.

One big need I think we all share is to “give back”. We’ve all been in the service or had a family

member who has, so we have some idea of commitment to a larger cause. Most of us are done with our active service, but the desire to continue to serve in some way always remains. What man or woman of us has not looked out at the world so full of need and not longed to give someone a helping hand?

Recently, a young man, his wife and three children showed up at the Midwest Veteran’s Closet in North Chicago. He was in need of just about everything. He had managed to rent a small home, but there was no furniture, no bedding, no kitchen utensils, little food, and his children were in need of warm clothing. Luckily for him and his family, MWVC had them covered in all areas.

Why is this story in the Post 42 Shrapnel? Good question. It just so happens that we have gotten involved with this great organization in the last four plus months. We’ve helped with a food drive in November and numerous volunteer hours handing out food, as well as providing handyman services. So far, four Legionnaires from Post 42 have served at the Closet: Christine Candelario, Jim Farley, Joe Jefferson and Bill Petty, and a fifth, Brian Ritz is scheduled for an upcoming food give away. We expect many more in the coming months.

But what makes this story so special is that the furniture this family got came from members of Post 42. About a month ago, Jim Brusek, Dan Bogojevich, Dan Fleming, Rob Dressler, and Mike Wojciechowski, arrived at the Closet’s furniture annex, on a miserable snowing day, with a truck load of furniture (and it was really nice furniture). Jim Farley and Bill Petty were already there to help unload. There were tables, chairs, couches, beds and more. Basically, there was enough to furnish a small house, and most of it came from Dan Bogojevich’s Father in law, Sgt Cecil Goghill, a recipient of 5 Bronze Stars in WWII and Korea, and one of the last surviving member of Merryll’s Marauder’s which adds even more wonder to this story. Every kind gesture has a back story for both giver and receiver and also a chain of events involving multiple people along the way.

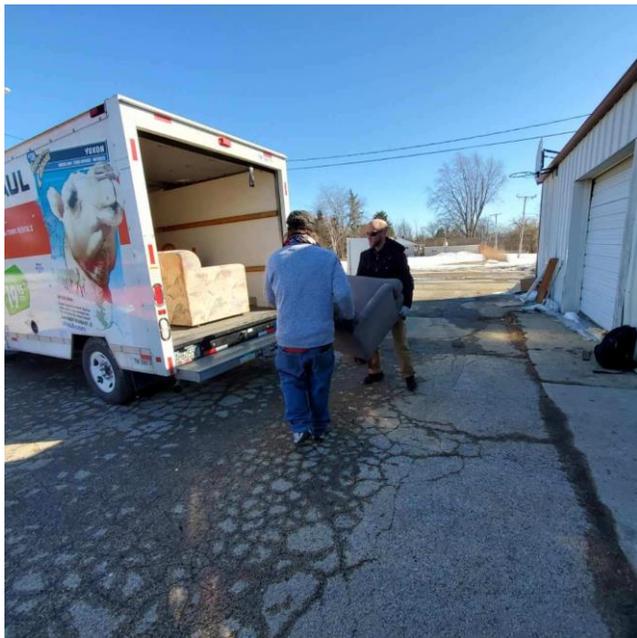
So often when we give to an organization we have no idea who will get our donation, not that it matters, but it is so much richer when we actually meet the recipient of our gift. Jim Farley and I were fortunate enough to meet the young man who got the furniture we brought up and I can tell you he was very thankful everything. The generosity of Post 42 members made a huge difference in the lives of this family.

This is a text I got from Mary Carmody who is founder and director of MWVC:

“Most of what you brought is theirs now. Thank you so much. BTW, they love it all. Last night everyone had a mattress to sleep on and food to eat.

For more information on the MWVC:
<http://www.midwestveteranscloset.org/>

-Bill Petty



Membership

This past year has been unlike any other for numerous reasons. We have had to adjust everything in trying to navigate in a COVID world. With that said, we are reaching out to our members to let them know we are still out here,

are thinking about you and to see if you need anything. Moving forward, we will be adjusting the way we conduct fundraisers and other activities to keep everyone safe and healthy. For example, we just collected over 2,000 lbs of non-perishable food that we have donated to Midwest Veterans Closet. We also delivered a truckload of donated furniture (see article above) to The Midwest Veterans Closet.

We continue to support our veterans and the local community and need your support. In order to do this, we are relying heavily on membership dues that are now more critical than ever. Many of you have been a member for many years and we greatly appreciate it. If you haven't renewed, we would respectfully ask that you do so now. For the past 2 years, we have achieved 100% membership and we would like to keep that going. For the next membership year, the board voted to maintain our annual dues at \$40....even though Department is raising the per capita by an additional \$4 from \$31 to \$34. Currently, National takes \$31 per member, District takes \$1 for each member and we pay money to division. In order to assist our membership, the State is instituting a new program that will allow you to pay forward for the next 5 years at the current rate thereby protecting you from having to pay these increases. You will then receive a gold membership card identifying you as a five-year member! If you would like to take advantage of this, you only need to write a check for \$200, made out to Evanston Post 42....if not, then the current annual rate is \$40.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any question and thank you for your continued membership!

Daniel M. Fleming
Senior Vice Commander
(847) 769-5242

Notable Quotables

Some of the more notable dates in March in American history:

March 1, 1961 Peace Corps established
Casimir Pulaski born 1747

Salvation Army established March 10, 1880
Patrick Henry quoted "Give me liberty or give me death." March 23, 1775

Of these 4 notable dates, I take a more personal reference to my military service and ethnic background to General Casimir Pulaski. Born March 6, 1745, he fought the Russians to try and free Poland. Unsuccessful, he moved to France where he met Benjamin Franklin. He was recommended to George Washington and joined the Revolutionary Army forming the Pulaski Cavalry Legion with his friend Michael Kovats. Fighting the British, Washington promoted Pulaski to Brigadier General. The Pulaski Cavalry Legion was a mix of cavalry and infantry that employed the use of guerilla warfare even back then in 1777. He is even credited with saving General Washington's life. He fought in Brandywine, Germantown, Charleston and Savanna. He was mortally wounded in Savanna and died aboard the ship Wasp. He is only one of eight people in American history that was honored with Honorary American Citizenship by President Obama in 2009.

It wasn't until 1985 that the first Monday of March became a local holiday in Illinois. In 2009, less celebration was had by public schools by $\frac{3}{4}$'s, and in 2012 it was no longer a holiday in which schools, banks and state offices were closed.

The Polish Community in and around Chicago still celebrate his loyalty and heroism to the American Revolution and its citizens by having ceremonies, parades and fairs for having given his life for a noble cause greater than that of his own.

RIP American hero, General Casimir Pulaski.
-Mike Wojciechowski

CLUBROOM NEWS

Welcome to Spring (almost)!

The Club Room is open 5-11pm Monday through Saturday and Noon to 7pm on Sunday. As we work our way out of this pandemic we hope to see you soon.

We're still at limited capacity for the rental room but hope to see more parties utilizing the space in the coming months.

The patio will be kicking off its season on April 30th. In addition to the fantastic tacos, wings and southwestern salad we'll be adding more items to the menu again this year. We're still working on the live music schedule but expect to release the calendar in May. Mike has some great bands lined up again this year. Stay tuned!

As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments.

Brett Hallongren
Club Room Manager
ClubManager@EvanstonPost42.com.

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.

**LEGION FAMILY:
IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION FOR LEGIONCARE**

**UP TO \$5,000.00
NO-COST-TO-YOU ACCIDENT PROTECTION**

For Online Activation Visit: TheLIT.com/LegionCare1


Endorsed by Your American
Legion Department



**LEGION FAMILY: IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION FOR LEGIONCARE
NO-COST-TO-YOU BENEFIT***

39594

Did you know that starting 1/1/2015, anyone enrolled in LegionCare will be covered for as long as they maintain their membership in the Legion Family – TAL, ALA, & SAL. This new “one and done” approach will save you from needing to re-enroll every 5 years. The LegionCare program will continue to cover you for \$1,000 of AD&D coverage. If the accidental loss occurs when on official Legion Family Business, we will cover you for \$5,000 of AD&D coverage.**

THERE IS NO COST TO YOU

- Coverage has been arranged on your behalf by Your American Legion Department.
- This coverage is Underwritten by Transamerica Premier Life Insurance Company, (Cedar Rapids, IA), and paid for by The Legionnaire Insurance Trust.

YOUR COVERAGE IS EFFECTIVE WHILE YOU ARE TRAVELING ON OFFICIAL LEGION FAMILY BUSINESS

- Regardless of your age, health or occupation, your acceptance is guaranteed.**
- Your coverage will become effective the date your Enrollment is received by the Administrator.

YOUR COVERAGE IS VALUABLE

We want you to know too, LegionCare is now available to all members of the Legion Family including the American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion members 18 years and

older. The Legionnaire Insurance Trust has been working hard with Transamerica to provide valuable benefits to your entire family and we look forward to continuing to serve veterans' insurance needs.

YOUR COVERAGE IS APPROVED AND ENDORSED

- This No Cost to you coverage is endorsed by your Department. It qualifies for complete approval and endorsement.
- Your Department has arranged this coverage at No Cost to you because of the need for this type of protection and the recognition that many Members may not have enough protection.

EXCLUSIONS: suicide; self-inflicted injury while sane or insane; sickness, disease, bodily or mental infirmity or medical or surgical treatment thereof; war or acts of war (declared or undeclared); while serving in the military; flying, except as a fare-paying passenger on a scheduled airline; participation in any speed or endurance contest; bacterial infections.

ACTIVATE ONLINE AT: www.TheLIT.com/LegionCare2

*For Purposes of the Legionnaire Insurance Trust, a member of the Legion Family, with current year's dues paid, could be eligible for the Accidental Death benefit if he/she is traveling to, attending, or returning from a function at which the member represents his/her local, state, or national Organization in an official capacity. Bonus Benefit Rider is not available in MN and NH.

**This is a supplemental health insurance plan that requires you to have major medical coverage, Medicare, or other health coverage that meets "minimum essential coverage" as defined by the Affordable Care Act.

Accidental death coverage underwritten by Transamerica Premier Life Insurance Company, Cedar Rapids, IA.

Coverage is paid for through the Legionnaire Insurance Trust. For more information please call 1-800-235-6943

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2020 Legion Year Officers - Post 42

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Commander | Will Candelario | 847-529-0137 |
| Senior Vice-Commander | Daniel M Fleming | 847-769-5242 |
| Junior Vice-Commander | Mike Woiciechowski | 708-296-6688 |
| Adjutant | Brian Ritz | 708-743-8821 |
| Finance Officer | Joe Jefferson | 312-339-0872 |
| Service Officer | James Farley | 847-866-8486 |
| Sergeant at Arms | David Hurwitz | 323-518-3159 |
| Chaplain | Christine Candelario | 773-685-5975 |
| Judge Advocate | Greg Lisinski | 847-309-8074 |
| Post Historian | Mike Carder | 708-990-0957 |
| Past Commander | James M Brusek | 773-263-4726 |
| SAL Commander | Daniel Kelley | 847-226-3652 |

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chris Meter Ian Darbyshire Anne Cooper Clifton Pappas Adam Kwieciwski

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 2021

PLEASE NOTE REVISED MEETING TIMES!

2021

April 1 General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
April 21 7th District Meeting at Post 42 @ 7:30 PM
April 22 Board Meeting 7:30 PM
May 1 Rebuilding together Service Project (Tentative)
May 3 Twilight Golf League TENTATIVE
May 6 General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Post Everlasting – Food afterward: Deadline for Post 42 Board Nominations)
May 8 7th District Kentucky Derby Fundraiser
May 19 7th District Meeting at Morton Grove Post 134 @ 7:30 PM (Post Everlasting)
May 23 Poppy Day Can pick-up, after 3PM
May 26-30 Poppy Day Collection
May 27 Board Meeting 7:30 PM
May 29 Grave Decoration Day Memorial Park, meet at East lot, 9:00 AM
May 31 Memorial Day Ceremonies Memorial Park (East Lot) 8:00 AM
Fountain Square 10:30 AM Refreshments served after ceremonies at the post
June 3 General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward) Election for 2022 Board to be held
June 5 1st Division “Mini-Convention” Location TBA
June 14 Flag Day – Flag Ceremony to Retire Tattered Flags 6:00 PM at Post
June 16 7th District Meeting at Morton Grove @ 7:30 PM
June 24 Board Meeting 7:30 PM
July 4 4th of July Parade Assembly begins 12:30 pm at starting point Parade at 2pm
July 8 NO General General Business Meeting
July 22 Board Meeting 7:30 PM
August 5 General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
August 15 Post 42- Golf Outing and American Legion Picnic
August 26 Board Meeting 7:30 PM
September 2 General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food Afterword)
September 15 7th District Meeting 7:30
September 23 Post 42 Board Meeting 7:30 PM
Note: Some Dates are subject to change