



July 2026

Commander



Christine Candelario

Commander's Corner

Hello Legionnaires,

This will be my final article for the Shrapnel as your Commander. It's been a privilege and honor to serve as your Post Commander. I am the 3rd member of my Army Unit, the 801st Combat Support Hospital, to serve as Post 42's Commander.

Some may remember Nancy Carder and Past Dept. Commander Mike Carder who paved the way for me. I want to thank all the past commanders for their support and guidance during my tenure as your commander, my

Executive Board, Commander David Madison and the SAL. Special thanks to Budd Webster for his work as Post photographer and Web Master. Last but not least my husband, Past Commander Will Candelario. I don't know if I could have done the job without his support. If I missed anyone it has not been intentional so thank you. My goal for the Post was to get a new sign for Central St. After much discussion I can say we accomplished my goal. It isn't quite what I had in mind but I think it's a vast improvement in what we had.



The old sign on Central Street.



The new sign on Central Avenue.

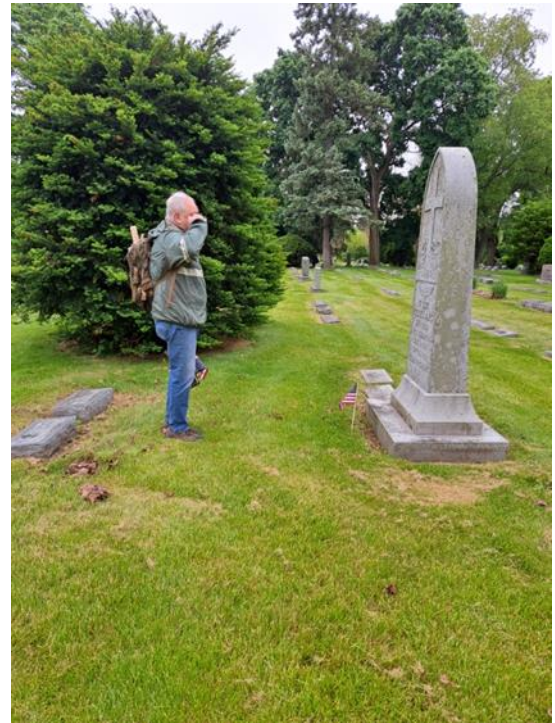
We had a nice turnout for the Memorial Day, starting with planting flags at Memorial Garden on Saturday. We had the Civil Air Patrol, friends of Post 42, as well as Legionnaires. Following the ceremony at Fountain Square on Monday we hosted hospitality to the community.



Members of the Civil Air Patrol at Memorial Park.



A community volunteer places a flag next to the Veteran's headstone at Memorial Park.



Past Post Commander Greg Lisinski salutes the headstone of a Veteran at Memorial Park.



Memorial Day reception at the Post.



Guests enjoying the food at the reception.



Members of the VFW at the reception.



Fun was had by all at the reception.



Guests at the Memorial Day reception.

Flag Retirement on Flag Day was rained out but was held the following week. We were able to teach a bit of flag etiquette to our young members of the community.



Past Commander Will Candelario and Junior Vice Commander Mike Wojciechowski retire tattered flags on June 20.



Two young children salute the flags being retired.



Junior Vice Commander Wojciechowski and Commander Christine Candelario.

Our post elections were held at the June 4th meeting. Please welcome our new leadership team and show them the support you showed me:

Commander: Peter Koerner

Senior Vice Commander: Mike Carder

Junior Vice Commander: Mike Wojciechowski

Adjutant: Ian Darbyshire

Finance Officer: Jim Farley

Directors:

Larry Pahlke, Greg Wilson, Billy Triphahn, Rory Lozano, and Neil Franke.

Immediate Past Commander: Christine Candelario

In addition to serving on the Executive Board I will be returning to my previous position as Post Chaplain. I look forward to seeing you at the August 6 Business Meeting when the newly elected officers assume their new positions.

Veterans Strengthening America,
Commander Christine

SAL Commander



David Madison

From your SAL Commander,

Summer is here, at that means it is Legionfest time again. Coming off a great event in 2025 that enabled the SAL to contribute \$6000 to the Legion, Larry, John and David are at it again. This year includes bigger bands, more food, more T-shirts, and of course more volunteering opportunities.

Summer also means we are gearing up for our annual dues drive. We voted a while back to pre-pay the \$13 to the Illinois Detachment for each active member. Of the \$40 each of our members pay, this is the amount that we must send to Detachment. We also voted to send out cards to all of existing, registered members early in the year, and will be doing so again this July, early August. We do this as both a convenience to our Adjutant and Finance Officer, but also as a convenience to our members to distribute their cards as soon as we receive them. We simply ask that in return, each of our members pays as soon as possible, ideally by using the web site referenced below. We rely on our dues money to provide operating capital for our events (including LegionFest) and to provide additional financial and other service support to our Veterans.

In closing, I wanted to follow-up with a list of

Pancake Breakfast 2025 donation recipients. I apologize for not having the list in the last shrapnel.

- The Learning Bridge
- Boys Hope Girls Hope of Illinois
- American Legion: Child Welfare Foundation
- Santa For-a-Day
- Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicagoland & Northwest Indiana
- Scouts: Pack 903
- Girl Scouts: Troop 47947
- Little League Baseball and Softball
- Reclaim13

As always:

Please pay 2026 dues (\$40) at:
<https://www.evanstonpost42.com/form-sal-renew>. This is the quickest and easiest means for us to collect the money.

Regular Meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of the month, at 7:30PM. For those that cannot attend in person, a Google Meeting has been arranged here:

<https://meet.google.com/ooi-dins-zpr>

Please join us in person or via Google Meet.
Sincerely,

David Madison
Commander, SAL Squadron 42

Jr. Vice Commander



Mike (Wojo) Wojciechowski

The Fourth of July

By: Michael I. Wojciechowski

As many of you know, both young and old citizens and patriots alike, that the founding of our nation is celebrated on July 4th. We celebrate July 4th with barbeques, parades, fireworks, and family get-togethers. Historians, veterans, and Active-Duty servicemen and women know the true meaning of the 4th of July.

The founding fathers created a nation, bound by God, fighting tyranny, corrupt taxation, and the British Military. The British hierarchy thought we were just a colony but failed to understand that we were a force to be reckoned with. Fair treatment, no taxation without representation, and protecting the rights of the New Americans.

Battles were fought, lives were lost, and a new government was formed. Representing the citizens of the United States. Some of the founding fathers lost their land, their families, and some lost their lives. Paying the ultimate sacrifice for a just cause. Many patriots rallied to the call of battle, knowing full and well what was at stake. Heroes were recognized for their valiant effort and sacrifice, protecting their families,

their homes, their fellow countrymen and women, and their country itself.

Despite the fact, that this country was founded 250 years ago, citizens and patriots alike value the momentous historical importance of 4th of July. Should we, as a whole, forget the importance of this date, we might be doomed to repeat this historical event from within.

We must focus on the understanding that we need to vote into office the right representation that shares our mutual beliefs, pass laws and protect our best interests, and not that of their own agenda of corrupt representatives.

**MAY OUR COUNTRY PROSPER AND
PROTECT THE FREE BECAUSE OF THE
BRAVE.**

News from Post 42 Charitable Foundation <https://post42cf.org/>



Warm Summer Greetings from the Post 42 Charitable Foundation. This message comes to you as we debrief from our annual golf outing. While this year's outing was cut a little short by weather, a good time was had by all. The day was capped off with a speech from US Army Veteran and Medal of Honor Winner Allen Lynch. He sent us off with a very moving speech! Be sure to check our website www.post42cf.org to see the photo album which was wonderfully prepared by our very own Budd Webster and crew.

Additionally we must give thanks to the countless volunteers that contributed in planning and preparation, on the day of the event as well as after. Events of this scale cannot be successful with our devoted volunteers. Planning for 2027

has already started. Care to join us? Please share your thoughts, ideas and support.

Supporting a veteran-serving organization strengthens the backbone of our communities. We can provide essential resources like access to health services, advocacy, financial assistance, and camaraderie. Many veterans rely on these resources after their service ends. By contributing time, funding, or expertise, we help ensure veterans are not navigating challenges alone. Our/Your support honors their sacrifice, sustains vital programs, and reinforces a culture of gratitude and responsibility toward those who have served our nation

Sincerely,
Chris Mitchell
Post 42 Charitable Foundation
Trustee/Historian

Dan Bogojevich is a Hometown Hero



Hometown Hero: Dan Bogojevic Takes the World Cup Stage

Imagine standing on the turf at Soldier Field, the roar of the crowd echoing around you, just moments after the national anthem has finished. For Dan Bogojevich, this wasn't just a dream—it was the reality of being honored as a "Hometown Hero" for the United States National World Cup soccer team.

A Mystery Nomination

One of the most incredible parts of Dan's story is that he didn't even see it coming. Sponsored by Home Depot and Coca-Cola, the Hometown Hero program recognizes veterans across the country, yet Dan remains unsure of exactly who put his name forward. He found out about the honor only a month before the June 6th event. Despite the mystery, Dan described the experience as a "great honor" and felt incredibly humbled to represent the national team.

An Insider's Experience

The day was filled with once-in-a-lifetime moments:

- The Locker Room: Dan and his wife, Elise, were invited into the inner sanctum of the U.S. team.
- The Gear: He was presented with autographed "boots" (the soccer term for cleats) and a personalized game jersey.
- Looking to the Future: His custom jersey featured his name and the number 26, a nod to the upcoming 2026 World Cup.

A Family Affair

Dan wasn't alone in celebrating this milestone. He was joined by Elise, their niece Stephanie, and her husband Mark. Mark, a self-described "soccer nut", drove up from Lexington, KY, specifically for the game, making sure he didn't miss his uncle's big moment before heading back for his and Stephanie's hospital shifts on Sunday.

The Biggest Honor

Though Dan has been recognized by various organizations throughout his life, he noted that this experience stands above the rest, calling it the "biggest" honor he has received. From the personalized video bio played on the stadium screens to the heartfelt recognition on

the field, it was a day that defined what it means to be a hometown hero.

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.

We have also created a 501(c)3 Charitable Foundation to be able to accept donations that are 100% tax deductible. This new Foundation will allow us to support veterans that need assistance as well as other organizations that provide similar support. We just completed our 1st annual charity golf outing that was an outstanding success to start off the foundation.

If you are interested, please contact your Attorney, and ask him to include us in your planning through a gift, will or codicil. You can also contact us for more information by e-mailing us at evanstonp42@gmail.com, by calling the Post Commander who is listed toward the end of this newsletter or going to our web site www.evanstonpost42.com and following the links to donate.

Supporting Military Outreach USA and their ongoing efforts to end Veteran homelessness.

By: James Brusek

Since the inception of the American Legion in 1919, it has functioned with a clear and enduring purpose that is supported by the Four Pillars: Veteran Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism and Children & Youth.

On Sunday, August 23rd, at the Post42 Family picnic, We ALL have an opportunity to participate in supporting Pillar #1. “A decent quality of life for military personnel, their families and veterans!

When a veteran leaves a shelter or transitional housing and moves to a permanent residence, they often do not have the basic items needed to set up their new home. Aside from a need for bedding and furniture they need the basic items we often take for granted.

Working in conjunction with Military Outreach USA, Veterans Exiting Homelessness, at the Family picnic, Post 42 will have a covered trailer to collect donated “Move-in-essentials.” We are requesting that whether you attend the Post 42 Family Picnic or not, you bring or drop off one or more items on the following list:

Personal Items:
Disposable razors
Towels
Wash cloths
Dish cloths
Bath soap
Paper towels
Deodorant
Toilet paper
Cleaning supplies

Kitchen:
Garbage bags
Kitchen trash can
Dishwashing soap
Windex
Pine Sol

Sponge mop
Bucket
Broom/Dust pan
Aluminum foil

Bathroom:
Tooth brush
Tooth paste
Shaving cream
Combs/brushes
Shower curtain
Toilet brush
Toilet bowl cleaner
Plunger

Miscellaneous:
Smoke Detector
Flashlight and batteries
Laundry basket
Laundry detergent
Light bulbs

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Clubroom News



Greetings from the Clubroom,

Summer is in full swing, and we are excited to be hosting you, both inside and out. We now have our south patio open and hosting events. Thank you to the volunteers who helped assemble the furniture for the patio. With our new outdoor space, you will be able to sit in the sun and be accompanied by your canine companions.

We have a number of events coming up this summer. The bar will be open after the parade on July 4th, so come out and celebrate our nation's birthday. Legionfest will be July 11th and will be a great day of concerts and fun for all ages. August 23rd will be the Family Day picnic, with food and live music. We also have a few monthly events planned. On the 1st Wednesday of the month we have a bluegrass band with professional players from Chicago and on the 3rd Wednesday of the month we have a singer songwriter series

One change you will notice in the clubroom is that we no longer have gaming machines at the north end of the room. We are currently working on a plan to make this space something that will be enjoyable for all patrons and give us more space to use inside the bar.

As always, please look at legionconcertseries.com and follow us on Instagram at post42 events and our video boards to see what events are coming up. Please reach out as soon as possible if you want to get an event scheduled. We are booking up fast!

-Phil

POST 42 DATES TO REMEMBER 2025
PLEASE NOTE REVISED MEETING TIMES!
2026

July 8-11	Department of Illinois Convention (Springfield)
July 11	Legionfest 2026
August 4	US Coast Guard Birthday
August 5	Post 42 Charitable Foundation Meeting 6:00 PM
August 6	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
August 13	SAL Board Meeting 7:00 PM
August 13	SAL Business Meeting 7:30 PM
August 23	Family Day Picnic
August 27	Post 42 Board Meeting 7:30 PM
August 28- Sept 3	National Convention, Louisville, KY
September 2	Post 42 Charitable Foundation Meeting 6:00 PM
September 3	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food Afterword)
September 10	SAL Board Meeting 7:00 PM
September 10	SAL Business Meeting 7:30 PM
September 16	7th District Meeting 7:30 PM Location TBD
September 18	US Air Force Birthday
September 24	Post 42 Board Meeting 7:30 PM
October 1	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food Afterword)
October 7	Post 42 Charitable Foundation Meeting 6:00 PM
October 8	SAL Board Meeting 7:00 PM
October 8	SAL Business Meeting 7:30 PM
October 13	US Navy Birthday
October 21	7th District Meeting, 7:30 PM Location TBD
October 22	Post 42 Board Meeting 7:30 PM
November 1	Daylight Savings Time Ends – Move clocks back 1 hour
November 3	Election Day
November 4	Post 42 Charitable Foundation Meeting 6:00 PM
November 5	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food Afterword)
November 7	SAL Pancake Breakfast
November 10	US Marine Corps Birthday
November 11	Veteran's Day
November 12	SAL Board Meeting 7:00 PM
November 12	SAL Business Meeting 7:30 PM
November 18	7th District Meeting, 7:30 PM Location TBD
November 19	Post 42 Board Meeting 7:30 PM
November 26	Thanksgiving

December 2	Post 42 Charitable Foundation Meeting 6:00 PM
December 3	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food Afterword)
December 7	Pearl Harbor Day
December 10	SAL Board Meeting 7:00 PM
December 10	SAL Business Meeting 7:30 PM
December 13	Post 42 Holiday Party (2:00 PM) ???
December 17	Post 42 Board Meeting 7:30 PM
December 25	Christmas
December 31	New Year's Eve

2027

January 1	New Year's Day
January 6	Post 42 Charitable Foundation Meeting 6:00 PM
January 7	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food Afterword)
January 14	SAL Board Meeting 7:00 PM
January 14	SAL Business Meeting 7:30 PM
January 20	7th District Meeting 7:30 PM Location TBD
January 28	Post 42 Board Meeting 7:30 PM

February 3	Post 42 Charitable Foundation Meeting 6:00 PM
February 4	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food Afterword)
February 11	SAL Board Meeting 7:00 PM
February 11	SAL Business Meeting 7:30 PM
February 14	Post 42 Super Bowl LIX Party (4:00 PM)
February 17	7th District Meeting, 7:30 PM Location TBD
February 25	Post 42 Board Meeting 7:30 PM

March 3	Post 42 Charitable Foundation Meeting 6:00 PM
March 4	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM
March 11	SAL Board Meeting 7:00 PM
March 11	SAL Business Meeting 7:30 PM
March 14	Daylight Savings Time Starts – Set Clocks Ahead 1 Hour
March 14	Richard Huck Award Dinner Cocktails at 5:00 PM, Dinner at 6:00 PM
March 17	7th District Meeting, 7:00 PM Location TBD
March 25	Post 42 Board Meeting 7:30 PM

April 1	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
April 7	Post 42 Charitable Foundation Meeting 6:00 PM
April 8	SAL Board Meeting 7:00 PM
April 8	SAL Business Meeting 7:30 PM
April 21	7th District Meeting, 7:30 PM Location TBD
April 22	Post 42 Board Meeting 7:30 PM

May 5	Post 42 Charitable Foundation Meeting 6:00 PM
May 6	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Post Everlasting – Food afterward)
May 13	SAL Board Meeting 7:00 PM
May 13	SAL Business Meeting 7:30 PM
May 17	Poppy Day Can pick-up, after 3PM
May 17-24	Poppy Day Collection
May 19	7th District Meeting, 7:30 PM Location TBD
May 27	Post 42 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 2	Post 42 Charitable Foundation Meeting 6:00 PM
June 3	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward) Post Election of Officers
June 5	1st Division “Mini-Convention” Location TBA
June 10	SAL Board Meeting 7:00 PM
June 10	SAL Business Meeting 7:30 PM
June 10	Charitable Foundation Golf Outing
June 12-18	Boys State Eastern Illinois University
June 14	US Army Birthday
June 14	Flag Day
June 16	7th District Meeting, 7:30 PM Location TBD
June 19-25	Girls State Eastern Illinois University
????	Junior State Police Training
June 24	Board Meeting 7:30 PM

Note: Some Dates are subject to change



POST 42 FAMILY APPRECIATION DAY PICNIC 2026

When: August 23, 2026 12:00 to 18:00 hrs.

Where: Post 42 American Legion
Main Hall and South Lawn
1030 Central Street Evanston, IL

Who: Legion Members, Sons of the Legion, Boosters,
Families, Guests, and neighbors are invited

Food and soft drinks, and water included
\$15 per person, \$10 teens, kids under 11 free

Zelle: Evanstonp42@gmail.com or payment at the gate
CASH BAR

***Games for the kids (and kids at heart):**
Bounce house Bocce Ball Water balloon toss
Frisbees Volleyball Corn Hole Wiffle ball
Putting contest Cherry Pit Spitting Contest

****Music performed by The Canal Jumpers****

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2025 Legion Year Officers - Post 42

Commander	Christine Candelario	773-425-1133
Senior Vice-Commander	Michael Carder	708-990-3489
Junior Vice-Commander	Mike Wojciechowski	708-296-6688
Adjutant	Peter Koerner	260-318-1408
Finance Officer	James Farley	720-244-7241
Service Officer	Joe Jefferson	847-475-9076
Sergeant at Arms	Will Candelario	847-529-0137
Chaplain	Greg Wilson	
Judge Advocate	Greg Lisinski	847-309-8074
Post Historian	Michael Carder	708-990-3489
Past Commander	Will Candelario	847-529-0137
SAL Commander	David Madison	312-953-6260

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ian Darbyshire
Larry Pahlke
James Sullivan
Neil Franke
Director Emeritus Adam Kwiecinski

Newsletter Editor: Peter Koerner

Contributions are always welcome. Contact Peter Koerner (260) 318-1408 or by e-mail at pkoerner@gmail.com