



Shrapnel



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

April 2026

Commander



Christine Candelario

Commander's Corner

Hello Legionnaires,

Happy Spring! I know it doesn't feel like it, but this is the Chicago area. Passover and Easter have been celebrated. Opening day for our favorite baseball teams has happened.

We have been busy at the Post. We had our annual Super Bowl party and cheered on our favorite teams.





Joe Jefferson and I met with The Colonial Dames of America. They are a women's organization that shares similar values as an organization with the American Legion. They made Valentine's Day Cards for our members. Joe took some to our Veterans living in nursing homes and some were sent out to other members.



We named our Legionnaire / Huck Award winner for this year, Budd Webster. Congratulations to Budd. A nice evening was had by all who attended the event. Thanks to our Post Leprechauns.





SAL Commander



David Madison

We now are looking toward Memorial Day and the activities associated with it. We will be planting flags at Memorial Park Cemetery on May 23. We will be distributing Poppies the week before Memorial Day, so mark your calendars and lend a hand. New faces are always welcome. Many hands divide the work.

Also something to think about is Elections at the Post. Please consider running for one of the post positions. We need a Commander, Senior Vice, and Junior Vice. Due to some health issues, I won't be able to run again as your commander. I will be able to revert to our Post Chaplain position at the discretion of our new Commander. Our Senior and Junior Vice positions will work alongside our current Senior and Junior Vice Commanders. The Past Commanders and I will help the new Commander.

Lastly we need to start thinking about celebrating our nation's 250th birthday. We will be marching in the Evanston 4th of July Parade. Please help Post 42 make a good showing in the parade. For those who can't march, there will be space to ride in the trailer. This year after the parade there will be refreshments at the Post. Please let me know of any thoughts or ideas. Please reach out to Jim Farley if you would like to volunteer.

Veterans Strengthening America,
Commander Christine

Happy Spring from the SAL,

It's a new quarter and we are doing well. If you haven't paid your dues yet, we will track you down. We have elected our new board, the following are our officers:

- Commander: David Madison
- Senior Vice: Larry Knox
- Junior Vice: John Hayes
- Adjutant: Jerry Ward
- Finance Officer: Brian Kearns
- Chaplain: Scott Ingram
- Historian: Vittorio Terrizzi

Congratulations to our elected board members who will take office on 1 July.

I want to give a big thank you to our board members from last year for getting this organization to where it is now.

We raised more than \$5000 dollars at the 2025 Pancake Breakfast and just voted to distribute those funds at \$500 each to ten different charities.

Again, thank you for your support and for helping us help Veterans and the Community.

Our annual Legionfest will be on July 11.

All are welcome, and we hope to have a lot of community participation. We are also still seeking volunteers, so if you would like to volunteer, please reach out to Larry Knox at knox.larry@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you there.

As always:

Please pay 2026 dues (\$40) at:
<https://www.evanstonpost42.com/form-sal-renew>

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

MEMORIAL DAY

By:
Michael I. Wojciechowski

Memorial Day was originally known as Decoration Day. It started being celebrated after the Civil War to commemorate those honorable warriors that paid the ultimate sacrifice while in battle. It became a federal holiday in 1971. The American Legion and the VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars), help coordinate with Veterans, volunteers, and Scouts, to honor all Veterans. Placing American flags on graves of all Veterans: especially the brave men and women who gave their lives for their country. There are ceremonies and services that help living Veterans, the families of Veterans, civilians, and the communities that they lived in, to remind everyone that we need to pay homage to these brave souls. Their memory lives on as an inspiration to civilians, families, and neighbors, both before and after the wars that in which they fought.

As a Veteran, I understand the history of the American Military and the number of sacrifices we make. At best, it would only be our youth that we sacrificed. But when we took the oath of office, we gave to the government a blank

check. Hoping that they never have to cash that check and paying the ultimate sacrifice. Many civilians don't understand that the oath of enlistment really has no expiration because we are true patriots, willing to shed our blood for our country, family, and its citizens.

Lest we forget the price that these valiant warriors paid to protect our country, their families, and their brothers and sisters in battle.

**MAY THEY ALL REST IN PEACE FOR A
JOB WELL DONE**

In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields, the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

-Lt. Col. John McCrae



From the Poppy Team Memorial Day 2026

Much thanks to all previous workers. Please support us once again this year. We also welcome and encourage any members of the Legion, SAL or community to participate in this year's National Poppy Day.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact our Service Officer, Joe Jefferson (see contact info below).

Service Officer



Joe Jefferson

Hello My Fellow Legionnaires,

Service Officer Joe E. Jefferson here to impart a couple of nuggets of information I want you to consider. Currently, there are a number of bad actors out there attempting to get your money and possessions, which may include your home. They deploy a variety of methods such as; in person confidence schemes, false mail and phone call solicitations, email and text misrepresentations, and a host of other ill intended actions to retrieve your personal information and property. These deceptive attempts are virtually impossible to avoid, but with your attention to details and a bit of vigilance you can help yourself prevent loss of

your assets. Here are a few scenarios and simple actions you can take to avoid some of these threats:

Scenario: An unidentified/unsolicited person shows up at your location requesting to perform a service for you without your prior knowledge or your personal scheduling to do so.

Action: Delay their action or entry without verifying their legitimacy. Call the agency/company represented via a number from a legitimate site or source. Do not use number provided by them until you can confirm the representative. Generally, most scheduled appointment will provide details on their representative prior to visits. You can always ask for information on visiting technicians in advance of scheduling an at home visit.

Scenario: You receive mail requesting payment for outstanding/overdue bills or expenses unrelated to you or requests for donations from some worthy cause(s) and you want to help.

Action: Verify! Verify! Verify! Make sure any mailer requesting money or your personal information is legitimate, as well as any organization requesting donations. If you have the capabilities check the mailing provided and the organization against the Better Business Bureau (BBB). The BBB is a good source, but should not be relied on to be the only verifying source.

Scenario: You're getting a number of unidentified text messages, emails, and unsolicited phone calls from what sounds like really cordial and thoughtful individuals. Some callers actually leave voicemail and some of the text numeric reference; 27735 as 27736, or 443 as 444, or 98234 as 98234 (not real) mimicking a legitimate reply.

Action: If you are familiar with using the "blocking feature" on your phone, use it, if you identify the text or message as fraudulent or deceptive. Do not respond as directed by the messaging request by clicking on links or

opening the message or providing your personal information, as a reply to the inquiry. Delete it! If it is an unsolicited phone call, just hang up. Always call providers by verified phone numbers and emails. Ensure websites you use are protected with the lock sign or websites with "https".

Ladies and gentlemen these are just some situations you may encounter, so be aware, be careful and diligent and most importantly develop proactive measures in these daily interactions. The aforementioned scenarios are not representative of all the nefarious activities taking place in our personal interactions and electronic transactions or the solutions to resolve them. However, I hope this help you navigate some of these challenges. I suggest you inform yourself with the latest available information on the subjects. Feel free to contact me via email with any questions or concerns. I can provide more definitive sources on the subject on request.

Last point, if you are having challenges or perhaps you want to have a generic conversation, or you would like a cheerful phone call on no particular subject, or you know of a veteran who may need a little help, I'm here, contact me to give me an opportunity to help. I cannot guarantee I can resolve the challenge, but I am willing to give it a really good try...contact me.

I am concluding these remarks by saying "Thank you for the opportunity to serve". Again, please share your comments with me preferably at jeffersonjoe@att.net. You can also contact me at 312-339-0872. If you call, do leave a short voice message, as my phone will not alert numbers via sound that are not in my contact.

Have a Great Day!

Respectfully,
Joe E. Jefferson
Service Office
American Legion, Post 42
312-339-0872
jeffersonjoe@att.net

Chaplain



Greg Wilson

Chaplain's Reflection: Honoring Service on the 250th and Memorial Day

As we mark the 250th year of our republic, the weight of history rests on our shoulders and in our hearts. For those who have served—and for chaplains called to walk beside them—this milestone is more than a date on a calendar. It is a reminder of the ideals that inspired ordinary citizens to make extraordinary sacrifices.

Memorial Day arrives each year as a sacred pause. It asks us to remember not only with words, but with the posture of our lives. In the quiet of a cemetery, the snapping of flags in the breeze are more than symbols; they are witnesses to the courage that exchanged comfort for conviction. As chaplains, we stand with brothers and sisters who carry grief, pride, and a quiet resolve—each emotion braided with service.

Patriotism in this season is not mere sentiment. It is faithful action: tending to the living who bear wounds—seen and unseen—advocating for veterans' needs and teaching the next generation the cost of freedom. It is prayer and listening without judgment. It is honoring dignity of every life laid on the line for country. To be patriotic is to remember history honestly,

Save The Date For The 6th Annual

"An Afternoon to Support Our Heroes"

GOLF OUTING



Please check the back (2nd page) for a list of Sponsorship opportunities.

Thursday, June 11th, 2026

Bloomington Golf Club

181 Glen Ellyn Rd, Bloomington, IL 60108

Registration and Super Putt Contest - 9:00 - 9:45 AM

Golf Shotgun Start - 10:00 AM

Cocktails, Program, and Dinner - 3:30 PM

Proudly Hosted by the Evanston Post 42 Charitable Foundation

Questions?

Email p42fund@gmail.com

Evanston Post 42 Charitable Foundation is a non-profit organization pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code. Please consult with your tax advisor to determine whether your donation is tax deductible in whole or in part. Nothing in this communication is intended to constitute legal or tax advice.

If you have an interest in any of the sponsorship opportunities listed on the back Please call James Brusek at 773-263-4726.

celebrate sacrifice humbly, and work tirelessly to ensure the republic we inherited remains worth of those who paid its price.

On Memorial Day, lay a hand on a gravestone, fold a flag with reverence, speak a name aloud. Let your gratitude become visible care for surviving families, for wounded warriors, for the communities that must carry forward. Let us teach our children the true cost of liberty by living lives that reflect the values our veterans defended: courage, sacrifice, and love of country expressed through service.

May this sesquicentennial landmark deepen our resolve to honor the fallen not only with ceremonies, but with policies and practices that dignify those who served. May the lessons of 250 years guide us toward a future where liberty is matched by justice, and where every veteran finds welcome, purpose, and peace.

-Chaplain Greg Wilson

Notes from the Maintenance Committee – Jim Farley

The members of the Building and Grounds maintenance group have been busy since the first of the year. Here are a couple of the projects we have worked on in the past few months:

Corner Bar Room

The Post Board approved an agreement to allow the usage of the corner bar room on the first floor to the Canal Shores team. They have been building an outdoor bar and grill on the patio and requested to use the space for storage of equipment and stock.

As part of that agreement, the Post will have unrestricted use of the South paved patio and the South lawn for our events. Canal Shores will also be separating the electrical service for the first floor and will pay for that utility going forward.

The Maintenance Committee has cleared all the Post equipment from the room and turned it over to Canal Shores.

Legion Hall remodeling

A small subcommittee of diligent workers has been working hard to make our main hall look terrific. Steve Norton, Joe Jefferson and Budd Webster imitated Michelangelo and covered the walls with a fresh coat of paint. Brushes brushing and rollers rolling for the entire day left the room sparkling. And thanks to Shadow who worked to pick up the very few drips of paint left behind. Thanks to you all for a very productive day.

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



March 20th brought us the first day of the 2026 Spring season. While Mother Nature has other plans, we keep seeing glances of better weather. Hopefully better weather gets everyone thinking about golf and most importantly, our biggest fundraiser, our annual golf outing. Thursday, June 11 will be the outing at Bloomingdale Golf Club. We need your support more than ever. We kindly invite you to consider sponsoring the event and/or assembling a foursome to participate. This link will get you to the form and hopefully motivate you to sign up! Stay tuned for registration information.

[2026 Post 42 CF Golf Outing](#)

We could also use some volunteers the day before, and the day of. Send us a note if you are interested and share your availability at this email address post42fund@gmail.com

Our members continue to engage with local Chambers of Commerce, community organizations, and our own Legion family to build partnerships and increase awareness.

Saving the best for last. The new website is live! We are very happy with the new look and we are confident that you'll find it a more user friendly, accessible, and valuable resource for the Post, Squadron and community. Special thanks to Budd Webster and Dan Fleming for their hard work and contributions. Check it out! www.post42cf.org It is a serious upgrade!

Going forward, please reach out to anyone on the Foundation Board or to our website to learn more, get involved, or contribute.

Thank you and happy Spring!

Sincerely,
Chris Mitchell
Post 42 Charitable Foundation
Trustee/Historian

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.

Clubroom News



Greetings from the Clubroom,

As most of you know, the first quarter is rough for the service industry. We have done exceptionally well due to the efforts of the SAL to get bands booked, as well as your continued patronage. YOU are the reason that our Clubroom is able to operate. Our Clubroom has managed to outperform every past year in recent history. In addition, the second quarter looks good with many graduation parties booked.

We hosted an event for the New Trier Rugby Team in March who brought in more than \$2000 dollars to be split between the team and the Post. It was an amazing opportunity to be able to give back to the community and raise some funds to support Veterans.

This Spring/Summer, we look forward to expanding out onto the South Patio and hosting events there. If you are interested, please inquire soon, because we are already booking up the space. It will be such a great space to support the Legion and enjoy the nice weather.

One of the big changes for our Clubroom will be that non-service dogs will no longer be allowed in the Clubroom. The Evanston Department of Health has made it clear that no canines, other than certified service dogs, are allowed in spaces where food is consumed or produced. Unfortunately, our canine friends will be limited to the patio.

-Phil

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

April 1	1st District Meeting 7:30PM (Cicero Post 96)
April 2	Post 42 Charitable Foundation Meeting 6:00 PM
April 2	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward)
April 9	SAL Board Meeting 7:00 PM
April 9	SAL Business Meeting 7:30 PM
April 15	7th District Meeting 7:30 PM (Evanston Post 42)
April 23	Post 42 Board Meeting 7:30 PM
May 7	Post 42 Charitable Foundation Meeting 6:00 PM
May 7	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Post Everlasting – Food afterward)
May 14	SAL Board Meeting 7:00 PM
May 14	SAL Business Meeting 7:30 PM
May 18	Poppy Day Can pick-up, after 3PM
May 19-27	Poppy Day Collection
May 20	7th District Meeting 7:30 PM (Morton Grove Post 134)
May 21	Post 42 Board Meeting 7:30 PM
May 23	Grave Decoration Day Memorial Park, meet at East lot, 9:00 AM
May 25	Memorial Day Ceremonies Memorial Park (East Lot) 8:00 AM Fountain Square 10:30 AM Refreshments served after ceremonies at the post
June 4	Post 42 Charitable Foundation Meeting 6:00 PM
June 4	General Business Meeting 7:30 PM (Food afterward) Post Election of Officers
June 6	1st Division Meeting TIME TBD (Evergreen Park Post 854)
June 7-13	Boys State Eastern Illinois University
June 11	SAL Board Meeting 7:00 PM
June 11	SAL Business Meeting 7:30 PM
June 11	Charitable Foundation Golf Outing
June 14	US Army Birthday
June 14	Flag Day
June 14-20	Girls State Eastern Illinois University
June 17	7th District Meeting 7:30 PM (Lincolnwood Post 1226)
June 21-27	Junior State Police Training
June 25	Board Meeting 7:30 PM
July 8-11	Department of Illinois Convention (Springfield)
July 11	Legionfest 2026

Note: Some Dates are subject to change

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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

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