



THE GRAF-O'HARA MESSENGER

3230 S. WAGNER ROAD PO BOX 2509, ANN ARBOR, MI 48106

Post: (734) 662-3972 - Commander: (734) 994-0444

Post Web Site: www.vfw423.org

Meetings – 2nd Monday Each Month at 8:00PM

July / August 2009

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AND AUXILIARY POST 423

Commander's Message

Summer is here. We had a great start on Memorial Day weekend at the Post. Many members and the general public stopped by to view the great museum display that Quartermaster & Curator Milton Davis organizes for the Post. See the included photos. Great job Milton. And great job to all the volunteers who helped set-up and at the end repack all the items to be stored away for the next event.



John K. Vietnam 66-67

Then we had a very nice installation of officers dinner. Thank you new voted in members for stepping up and helping lead our Post. It is especially great to have Iraq War Veteran 1LT Adam Betz take on the position of Post Junior Vice Commander. Welcome aboard Comrade Betz. We all look forward to having a good year at our Post. We have a committee assigned to work to make our Post an All-State Post, which would be the first time and great for our Post. We all may need to help the committee in certain ways.

Now it is picnic time, and our Post has two coming up soon. Please try to make it out to at least one of them. First, we are putting on a Post picnic for Post 423 members and families. It will be Sunday, July 19th from 1 to 4 pm at our Post 423. We hope you can make it out and visit.

Then on Sunday, August 2nd from 1 to 4 pm our Post will be putting on an "All Area Veterans Picnic". We are inviting Veterans of all ages, to include all from WWII to Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans. If you know of any local Veterans, please invite them and maybe we will get to sign some of them up as members. This should be a fun event.

Auxiliary President's Message - Marilyn West

I'm very glad to be the President of the Ladies Auxiliary for another year. My officers are as follows;

President: Marilyn West	734.971.4567
Sr. Vice: Regina Liedel	734.876.3991
Jr. Vice: Sharon Kish	941.518.1587
Secretary: Madeline Lothamer	734.662.5775
Treasurer: Ann Liedel	734.428.8032

We would like to have a family pot-luck on August 9, 2009 at 1:00 PM. Bring a dish to pass and meat will be supplied. Please call Kay Davis at 734.428.7874 or Marilyn West at 734.971.4567 if you will be attending.

Marilyn West

Announcements

Folks, its that time of year again for our Post picnic.

When: July 19th

Time: 1 PM

Where: You guessed it. Right here at Post 423. The post will provide hamburgers, hotdogs, and sloppy-joes along with sweet corn (if available) and beverages. Bring your family and have a good time at our wonderful Post.

August 2nd is our third annual Veterans Picnic for all area veterans. This year we are honoring all veterans. Food will be provided for the veteran and one guest. Please RSVP to Kay Davis, 734.428.7874 or Marilyn West at 734.971.4567.

September 17th at 1 PM Pot-Luck Dinner. Everyone bring a dish to pass. The Post will provide hotdogs, hamburgers, sweet corn and beverages

Kay Davis

We ask Veterans to bring a photo of them in uniform to share with others, along with humorous service stories.

In the past couple years we have had several Post 423 comrades pass on. Richard Saltzmann, Korean War Veteran and two time past Post Commander passed away recently. Many members were able to attend the visitation and place poppies at his casket as part of our Post recognition of our deceased Post 423 comrade. After the funeral service, we had a nice luncheon gathering at our Post in his honor. Our sincere wishes go out to his family and his love, Gloria. May he rest in peace. And since I began getting material together for this newsletter, Comrade Raymond Loy has passed away. Our most sincere wishes go out to his family too. – Commander Kinzinger

Send us your writing

We invite members to submit articles for future printing in our newsletter. Maybe it is a story about your service time you would like to share, or maybe it is a short ‘Readers Digest’ type humorous one. We would be interested in hearing and reading articles from other members. Maybe some of you living out of state would like to let us know what you are doing. We would like to hear from you too. – Commander Kinzinger

Car Show For Vets

On August 1st from 9am to 3pm some local groups (Vietnam Veterans of America, UAW Region 1-A and the Motor City Muscle Care Club) are putting on their second annual Car Show For Vets. The first, last summer, was a big success. All the proceeds, \$25,000, went to the Ann Arbor VA Voluntary Services office for personal care projects for hospitalized Veterans.

This year the proceeds are going to three different organizations, Ann Arbor VA Voluntary Services, Pride and Honor Flight (flying WWII Veterans to D.C.) and a Homeless Veterans Stand Down (major help project).

The ‘Car Show For Vets’ will be at the UAW Local 735 Hall on Michigan Avenue, just east of Denton Road near the Hydramatic Assembly Plant at Willow Run. Admission is free. There

will be an estimated 350 muscle cars on display. There will be food sales, auction sales, live entertainment, lots of door prizes and much more.

A major addition to this year’s event is a large “Welcome Home” event for Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans.

If you like the 1960s to 1980s hot rods, you will like this show. So, come on out and enjoy the afternoon with a large group of patriotic folks. – Commander Kinzinger

Museum Display

Memorial Day Weekend was a great success. We had over 350 guest plus post members visit our museum display. The weather was great and a good time was had by all. I would like to say thanks to all that helped cook and clean up. Thank you all!!!

Some military items and uniforms were donated from a veteran who served in Panama and one from a veteran who served in China with the Flying Tigers.

Hopefully, in the near future I hope to have a plan to have a building to house the vast collection of military items I and the Post have collected over the years. Again, thanks to all that helped.

If you missed the Memorial Day weekend event please try and make it next year. There are other events planned for the rest of the year (see pages one and 4) so please come out and enjoy your Post.

Milt Davis



Guess Who??? See back page for the answer

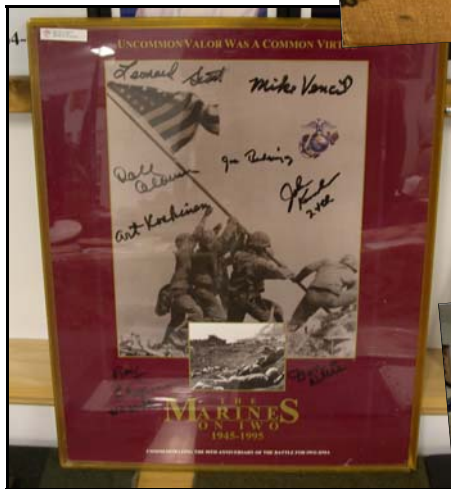


Some of the images from our Memorial Day Open House Weekend at the Post. If you missed it, you missed a great exhibit of military items from boots, purses, uniforms, weapons, covers and helmets.



You should try and attend next year. This is probably the finest collection of military

gear in the mid-west.



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VFW Post 423
PO Box 2509
Ann Arbor, MI 48106



Taps

June 17th. Past Commander Richard Saltzmann. US Army Korean War Veteran. Received the Bronze Star for his work making maps during heavy combat with changes by the hour.

Boyd Maynard, 77 years old. Korean War, US Army.

April 23rd. Edgar Shirey, 83 years old. WWII. US Marine Corps. Served in China to assist the Nationalist Chinese

Raymond Loy, 83 years old. US Army Military Police. Recipient of the Purple Heart

Calendar of Events

July 19th Post Picnic 1 PM

August 2nd - Veterans Picnic for all local veterans. 1 to 4 PM.

August 9th Family Pot-Luck 1 PM

September 17th Pot-Luck Dinner 1PM at the Post.

October 11 Past Commander and Past Auxiliary Presidents Dinner.

October 31: Post Halloween Party

Guess Who??? Horace Fraizer, Jr.

Post Web Site

Comrade Margaret Gersh is our web master. She has created a very nice Post web site that has pictures of past events and our newsletters for you to view online or download. Please take a moment and check out our site at www.vfw423.org. Her email address is VFWPost423@gmail.com.