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-September 2010

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AND AUXILIARY POST 423

Commander's Message - John Kinzinger

John K. Vietnam 66-67

Comrades, I am honored to have been elected to a fourth term as Commander of VFW Post 423. I look forward to working with you to continue to grow our Post and help our fellow Veterans and those serving overseas in harm's way.

At our June meeting, the place was pretty full. It is great to see all of you come out and attend each month. It is also great to see our group of younger Veterans continue to grow. You are the future of our Post and we want you to be part of the planning of the future of our Post. We are all Veterans, which makes us a special and almost elite group of Americans.

We older members may be somewhat set in our ways and find change a little difficult, so patience may be needed at times. However, we are interested in hearing every member's comments and suggestions. So please come to the meetings, speak up and let us come together on the planning of the future of our Post. If you are not involved and do not attend meetings, it is difficult for us to hear your voice, suggestions or requests.

VFW Post 423 was just awarded ***"All State"*** status by the VFW Michigan Department office. (*see commander page 2)*

Message From Marilyn West
Past President:

I would like to take a moment to thank you to all the members of Post 423 and the Ladies Auxiliary for all the help you have given me during my years as President of the Auxiliary. Although I have had to ease back a little this year, please know that if there is any thing I can do for you, just call. I love you all of you.

Post Picnic:

The Post will be having our annual picnic on July 11. This is for Post members and family only. This year we will be cooking steak and western ribs. If you are going to attend you must call Kay @ 428-7874 or Marilyn @ 971-4567 to let them know if you want steak or ribs. **They must know by July 6th.** We will also have baked beans, potato salad and corn on the cob. Please bring a dish to pass. If you would like to help cook or setup please call Kay. We will be eating at 1 pm. This is a chance to visit the post and enjoy some good company. I hope you all can make it.

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"*We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them."*
Albert Einstein

I am told this was the first time for our Post. So, that gives us a special distinction and something to be proud of. This was done through all the work we do in our community and support we give to other organizations. A major factor was the vigilance of our Quartermaster Milton Davis. Thank you Milton and Matt David. Membership is a big factor, and we made our 100% for the year which really helped out. We do need to keep bringing in more members, so join in our effort to keep the "All State" status at our Post. Talk qualified Veterans into coming out and checking us out.

We have some special summer events coming up. These are opportunities for you to come out and enjoy your Post and the other members and families. So, check out the dates and events in articles in our newsletter.

Our Care Package program continues. Before the June meeting we packed over 20 packages and mailed them to different troopers in Iraq and Afghanistan. We do this every other month. Our next packing will be at 6:30 pm before our August meeting. Come on out and help with this ongoing project to let our troopers know we support them. At our last meeting, one of our members who had recently returned from his deployment, told our members how important it was to him and those he served with to receive Care packages from our Post. We are making a difference with our Care packages. They give a morale boost to many in each unit who receive them.

A special thank you and congratulations goes out to the Davis and West families for organizing and manning our Post over the long Memorial Day weekend. Milton organizes several Post members to help setup and teardown at the end of the weekend. To all the volunteers we thank you too.

If you have not been to our Post in the past couple months, you have missed the wonderful flowers blooming around the Post. Thanks to many folks led by Kay Davis for buying, weeding, planting and watering the flowers to make our Post more beautiful. Good job by all. So, come on out when you can, and enjoy your Post and get involved in some way.

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All State Post:

For the first time in 80 years, VFW Post 423 received the *All State Post Award*. Horace Frazier and I attended the State Convention On June 25, 2010 to accept this award and several other awards presented to the post. Ian Waters from Saline, the Eagle Scout the Post nominated, won the state award as *Eagle Scout Of The Year,* The post received a 100% in membership banner for this year.

Milton J. Davis

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Memorial Day:

We had another successful museum display over Memorial Day Weekend. There were 250 plus visitors who visited our Post over that weekend. We had a lot of positive comments about our displays. I would like to thank everyone who helped set-up and tear drown the museum display. Special thanks to Kay, Marilyn and Marvin for all the work they did. I hope you had a chance to see the museum display. Thanks to all who came out to visit.

Milton J. Davis

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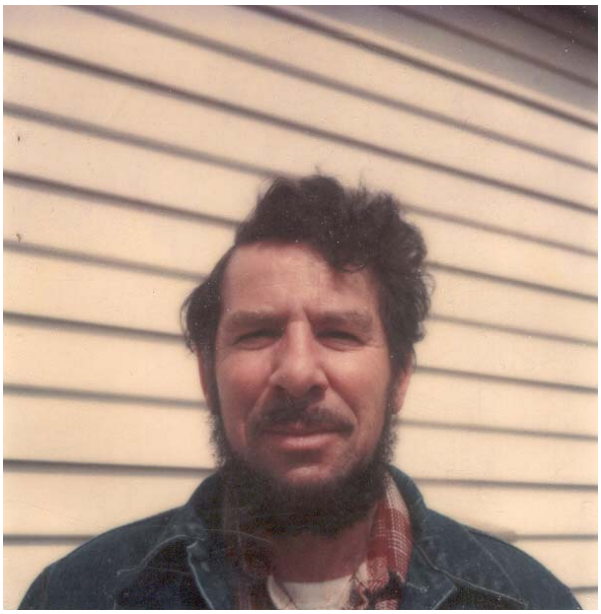
"Honesty is the first chapter in the book of wisdom.' Thomas Jefferson

Guess Who?



This one is too easy, so the first one to guess incorrectly gets a free cup of coffee at the next Post meeting.

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Officers 2010-2011

Commander:
John Kinzinger 734.994.0444
Sr. Vice Commander:
Adam Betz 734.442.8230
Jr. Vice Commander:
Horace Frazier, Jr. 734.485.1089
Quartermaster/Adjutant:
Milton Davis 734.485.1089
Post Advocate:
Bob London 734.429.3434
Chaplain:
Murl Eastman 734.975.2482
Surgeon:
Marvin Konkle 734.971.3361
1 Yr. Trustee:
William Estepp 734.428.0866
2 Yr. Trustee:
George Perrault 734.429.1246
3 Yr. Trustee:
Matt David 734.482.5070

Memorial Home Board

Commander:
John Kinzinger 734.994.0444
1 Yr. Trustee:
William Estepp 734.428.0866
Quartermaster:
Milton Davis 734.428.7874
Committee Members:
Bob London 734.429.3434
Dale Burgess 734.971.5738
Reginal Liedel 734.669.8352
David Ney 734.771.3422

Ladies Auxiliary Officers 2010-2011

President:
Regina Liedel 734.669.8352
Sr. Vice President:
Marilyn West 734.971.4567
Jr. Vice President:
Kay Davis 734.428.7874
Secretary:
Madeline Lothamer 734.662.5775
Chaplain:
Madeline Lothamer 734.662.5775
Treasure:
Ann Liedel 734.428.8032
Conductress:
Madeline Lothamer 734.662.5775
Guard:
Kay Davis 734.428.7874
Historian:
Regina Liedel 734.669.8352
1 Yr. Trustee:
Kay Davis 734.428.7874
2 Yr. Trustee:
Ester Starnal 734.327.1065
3 Jr. Trustee:
Marilyn West 734.971.4567

GRAF-O'HARA
VFW Post 423
PO Box 2509
Ann Arbor, MI 48106

July 11th Post Picnic 1 PM
RSVP by June 6th

VFW Post 423
Museum Display