

**VFW Graf-O'Hara
Post 423 Year
In Review 2011**

**Merry Christmas
And
Happy New Year**

Commander's Message

I'd like to take a few moments of your time to say thanks to the VFW Post 423 membership, Ladies Auxiliary and our surrounding community of family and friends that add to the success of our endeavor to serve our troops at home and abroad and our community. It is truly an honor to serve as your Commander, you all continually teach me how to give of ones self in deeds of nobility, grace, hard work, sacrifice and humor. Your patriotism is recognized and most appreciated for all you've done and yet to do in the future to help our post to reach higher goals of success. In the future we need more participation of the membership in the post events, sponsored project, fundraiser, membership recruiting and etc. It is in my prayers that each one of you have a most wonderful Merry Christmas and Happy New Year in 2012.

Commander Horace Frazier Jr.

Ladies Auxiliary President's Message

I would like to thank all of you who helped with Christmas Party. We have had a good year this year. I would like to welcome the new members to the auxiliary and thank you for help and commitment to the veterans we are here for. I hope you will come and help with the up coming events we are planning for this next year. Thank you once again to those of you that helped and thanks to all who are not members but help at events this last year.

Auxiliary President Regina Liedel

2011 Post Christmas Party

Our Christmas party was a big success!! We had about 40 children and about 70 adults. The Ladies Auxiliary spent more money this year on gifts and some very nice things were bought for each child. The food was really good from what I hear. I know there was not much left over.

I hope everyone had a good time and thank you so much for coming.

I would like to thank Lois Perrault, Jane Kinzinger and Genie Hecker for putting up the decorations. We purchased a new tree and ornaments this year and it just looked beautiful! I would like to thank everyone who brought a dish for the lunch and a special thank you to everyone who helped clean up after the party.

Santa and Mrs. Clause would like to wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

Kay Davis

2011 Year In Review

This last year was a very successful one for VFW Post 423. The Post received All State Honor for the second time hopefully we can do that again this year. We had a very good Poppy Days the post receive about \$2900.00 in donations to the relief fund to help Veterans and their family in need. In April we had a breakfast at the post, we had a good turn out, maybe we can have a few this coming year.

After five years we elected a new commander, Horace Frazier, he took over the reins from John Kinzinger who for five years did an outstanding job. Thanks John for all the years of leadership.

The post had 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in the VOD and Patriots Pen programs, Memorial Day Weekend Open House and Museum Display was a great success this year, we had over 300 people come out and visit. The Veterans and post picnic were well attended and all had a good time. Thanks to the members who rang bells for the Salvation Army, we raised \$560.34 this year. I look forward to this coming year and all the times the membership will come together to enjoy our friendships, if there is anything you would like to see the post do please let one of the officers know.

We packed about 300 boxes this year for the troops. Thanks to all the members and to the people who came out to the post to help. The post received a lot of donations from individuals to whom we say thank you, and from the Bell Tower Hotel, Walgreen's in Ypsi, Borders and 340 cases of cookies from the Girl Scouts to name a few. Thanks to John for keeping the addresses up to date and to George for taking all the boxes to the Post Office. This last year we did a lot of things, did you know less than half our membership visited the post this past year? Hopefully more will come out this year, it is your post, and it's here for you.

Members We Said Goodbye To

The following are members we lost this last year, may they find peace.

Fidel Grammatical, 92, WWII
Robert Fiske, 87, WWII
Jack Sofia, 62 Vietnam
Ken Parks, 60, Vietnam, Iraq
Gary Mannor, 67, Vietnam
Robert Hatto, 86, WWII

Theodore Tangalakis, 94, WWII
James Mulligan, 87, WWII
George Hynes, 87, WWII
Gary Lillie, 70, Vietnam
John Kokales, 86, WWII
Earl Papkie, 86, WWII

On behalf of the officers of VFW Graf-O'Hara Post 423 and the Ladies Auxiliary I would like to say thank you to everyone who helped at the post this last year. There are too many of you to name here but we hope we have said thank you to each of you over the year, if we have not, we say thank you now. If we all work together we can make a difference in this world. We would also like to say thanks to each of you for serving our country and welcome home.

May you and your family have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Milton