



## A Message from the Commander

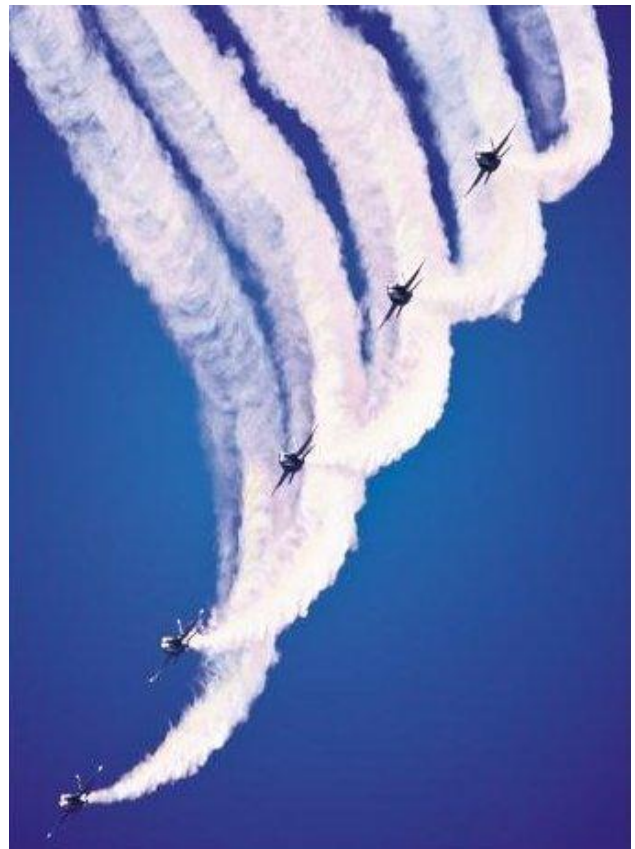
By Commander John Milton

As I sat down to write this article I thought about the old familiar building that we call the “Post” and the “V” and realized that it is embarking upon its 81st year. Within its old walls soldiers from both World Wars, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf War, Afghanistan and Iraq have shared camaraderie with each other, their friends and their families.

But the Post is far more than just a building. It’s a group of people who share a common goal—honoring our veterans and providing assistance to veterans and their families. Post members, Ladies Auxiliary members, and Men’s Auxiliary members all strive toward that goal in individual and joint efforts. And, each member of these Post units contribute in their own way—some are content to know that their annual dues help maintain VFW national veteran assistance programs. Others seek a more hands-on effort and volunteer their time and talents to specific events and programs.

Just as there are many diverse personalities within the Post’s 600+ members, there are many different ways of achieving the common goal. As we begin our 81st year, I hope that we will continue to be different individuals, but all the same organization.

I’m reminded of this image of a team of jet pilots. Working in unison, the team creates an impressive pattern in the sky that no single jet could achieve.



### TEAMWORK

COMING TOGETHER IS A BEGINNING...KEEPING TOGETHER IS PROGRESS...WORKING TOGETHER IS A SUCCESS.

Image courtesy of [Successories, Inc.](#)



## 2012-2013 Officers



### POST

*Commander: John Milton*  
*Sr. Vice Commander: Tom "Tex" Tracy*  
*Jr. Vice Commander: Sam Maggio*  
*Quartermaster: Tim McNally*  
*Chaplain: Jim Lopez*  
*Judge Advocate: Lew Youngs*  
*Surgeon: Bill Nates*  
*1-Year Trustee: John Meschi*  
*2-Year Trustee: Jerry Douglas*  
*3-Year Trustee: Scott Olsen*  
*Service Officer: John Milton*



### LADIES AUXILIARY

*President: Pam Turner*  
*Sr. Vice President: Tawn Williams*  
*Jr. Vice President: Linda Sane*  
*Treasurer: Heather Klemm*  
*Secretary: Mary Richter*  
*Chaplain: Shirley Vega*  
*Conductress: Char Wiedel*  
*Guard: Amanda Naickilath*  
*1-Year Trustee: Cheryl Chandler*  
*2-Year Trustee: Karen Augustyn*  
*3-Year Trustee: Linda Sane*



### MEN'S AUXILIARY

*President: Art Gutierrez*  
*Sr. Vice President: Albert Baker*  
*Jr. Vice President: Owen O'Reilly*  
*Treasurer: Herb Johnson Jr*  
*Secretary: George Flaherty*  
*Chaplain: John Dawson*  
*1-Year Trustee: Ted Schab*  
*2-Year Trustee: Richard Augustyn*  
*3-Year Trustee: Stanley Garrett*  
*Sergeant at Arms: John Ascher*

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*God Bless America.*  
*God Bless the Comrades & Sisters*  
*of this Great Organization.*

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

### Ladies' Auxiliary News

The Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars was established in 1914. Today, with more than 520,000 women, its members provide valuable support to veterans and active-duty military through its numerous programs.

#### Veterans & Family Support and Hospital

This program assists veterans and their families by ensuring a suitable standard of living through financial and moral support. Through the Hospital program, tens of thousands of Ladies Auxiliary members volunteer more than a million hours in VA medical centers, nursing homes and hospitals each year.

#### Cancer Aid & Research

Established in 1947, this program raises millions of dollars to provide fellowship grants to those researching potential cures for cancer and to support members dealing with the day-to-day stresses of cancer treatment.

#### Youth Activities and Scholarships

Numerous programs recognize the contributions and encourage the potential of young Americans. Multiple scholarships are awarded each year through the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest, Junior Girls Scholarship Contest and others.

For more information on the Ladies Auxiliary organization log on to [www.ladiesauxvfw.org](http://www.ladiesauxvfw.org).

Post 2164 Ladies Auxiliary meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm.

### Men's Auxiliary News

Members of the Men's Auxiliary share the belief that military veterans deserve recognition and support for their service to our country.

We are a diverse group of individuals with a common thread of having a parent, spouse or sibling who served in harm's way. Some of the men in the Auxiliary are also veterans but their military service was not in a place or time to qualify for membership in the VFW.

Our major fundraising events are the Pancake Breakfasts served at the VFW Post. Other events through the year also help us raise money to fund causes that we feel will help local veterans and other members of our community.

We are proud to present a check each year to "Rockin' for the Troops," which benefits the programs of Operation Support Our Troops. The entities that we support are wide-ranging and include the Lowell Elementary School in Wheaton, Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans in Wheaton, cancer walks, SIDS research, and various school events.

We take pride in working with the VFW and the Ladies Auxiliary on events that they host including breakfast fundraisers, Las Vegas Night and bingo. We work together on fun things for children like the Easter Egg Hunt, Halloween and Christmas.

All of this is possible only with the help of local businesses that give their time and money to help our cause. Please patronize our sponsors whenever you can. All are from Wheaton except where noted.

*Carlson Paint Glass & Art Stores, The Cellar Bistro, Cozymels, Crystal Earth Rock Shop, Dominicks Finer Foods, Egg Harbor Café, Egg'Lectic Café, Graham's Fine Chocolates, Hollyhocks Fine Floral & Gifts, Houlihan's, Ivy Restaurant, Lynfred Winery (Roselle), McDonald's, Pal Joey's (West Chicago), Rooster's (Bloomington), SportClips, Starbuck's Coffee, The Sky Box @ Studio 209, Studio Movie Grill, Suzette's Creperie, Target, Tasting DeVine, Tate's Ice Cream, Ultra Foods, Wok'nFire.*

### Welcome New Members!

*Paul Chillemi, Wheaton, IL / Men's Auxiliary*

*Michael Garrett, Wheaton, IL / Men's Auxiliary*

*John Klacza / Post*

*Loen Naickilath, Bolingbrook, IL / Men's Auxiliary*

*David Potter, Bloomington, IL / Men's Auxiliary*

**July 2012**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3 Carpenters Meeting	4 <b>Independence Day</b> Wheaton Parade	5 Ladies Auxiliary Civil War	6 Fish Fry	7
8	9 Post Board Meeting Hines Hospital	10 Post Meeting Men's Auxiliary	11 Bingo	12 Civil War	13 Fish Fry	14
15	16 Blind Night	17	18 Bingo	19	20 Fish Fry	21 <b>Rockin' For the Troops</b>
22	23	24 Marine Corps	25 Bingo	26	27 Fish Fry	28
29	30	31				

**August 2012**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Bingo	2 Ladies Auxiliary Civil War	3 Fish Fry	4
5	6	7 Carpenters Meeting	8 Bingo	9 Civil War	10 Fish Fry	11
12	13 Post Board Meeting Hines Hospital	14 Post Meeting Men's Auxiliary	15 Bingo	16	17 Fish Fry	18 Post Golf Outing
19	20 Blind Night	21	22 Bingo	23	24 Fish Fry	25
26	27	28 Marine Corps	29 Bingo	30	31 Fish Fry	



## VFW National Home for Children

*A National Military Services Program*

Since its founding in 1925, the VFW National Home for Children has grown from an old frame farm house to a sprawling campus in Eaton Rapids, Michigan. The campus is comprised of playgrounds, park areas, and multiple buildings, including single-family homes, a community center and gymnasium, child care center, guest lodge, chapel and administrative offices.

The National Home's services have also evolved to meet the changing needs of America's military and veterans' families. Through our Helpline and our on-campus programs, we are able to help families and children through times of crisis, both here on our beautiful campus and in their own communities nationwide.

The National Home Helpline (800-313-4200) is staffed by dedicated professionals who work directly with callers from anywhere in the country to help them and, if needed, be their advocate to find solutions to their pressing issues and concerns.



*Fourth of July 2011 Bike Parade*

All photos courtesy of [VFW Kids](http://www.vfwnationalhome.org)



*Heading to the Scout Cabin to register for the Fishing Rodeo held on the campus*

The VFW Department of Illinois and its Ladies Auxiliary sponsor two homes on the campus. Our Post's Ladies Auxiliary helps maintain the interiors of both homes and the Post's donations to the homes help maintain the outside of each.



*Illinois 1 House  
Constructed in 1929 / 2,874 sq.ft.  
4 bedrooms, 2 baths*



*Illinois 2 House  
Constructed in 1959 / 3,850 sq.ft.  
4 bedrooms, 3 baths (1 in the basement)*

To learn more about the VFW National Home for Children, visit [www.vfwnationalhome.org](http://www.vfwnationalhome.org) or call 866-4VFWNHC.



DuPage Memorial Post 2164  
0N731 Papworth  
Wheaton, Illinois 60187

2011-2012 ALL-AMERICAN POST  
Incorporated June 1931

## Rockin' for the Troops

In its seventh year, [Rockin' for the Troops](#) has become one of the premier troop support events of the year—reaching a sell-out crowd of more than 11,000. A Ravinia-like atmosphere, the magnificence of Cantigny Park and the patriotism of a Fourth of July celebration create a "feel-good" event that your whole family can enjoy!

[Operation Support Our Troops - America](#) (OSOT America) was founded in 2003 by Deb Rickert (mother of a West Point cadet) and other military moms with a mission to support the troops deployed overseas in harm's way. They began collecting donations of snacks, toiletries, and other "creature comforts" not readily available



to the troops and sending boxes of these items using Deb's dining room table as the base of operations. Since then, OSOT America has sent over one million pounds of comfort and care packages to troops serving in harm's way, raised money to expand the veteran's care programs at Hines VA Hospital and Fischer House, and developed programs to support families of the deployed as well as returning combat veterans.

**Saturday, July 21, 2012**

Cantigny Park / Wheaton

*Featuring Gary Sinise and the Lt. Dan Band*

Gates open at Noon / Beer Garden 3-9 pm

\$25 / [Buy Tickets](#) / Tickets also available at Jewel-Osco stores