

**Graf-O Hara VFW Post 423**  
**3230 S. Wagner Rd.**  
**P.O. Box 2509**  
**Ann Arbor, MI. 48106**

Minutes of: Oct 8, 2018

Next Meeting: Nov 12, 2018

7:00 p.m. Meeting called to order by Commander Brinker\_with appropriate ceremonies.

Roll Call of Officers: Present, Absent, Excused

Commander Brinker	P
Sr. Vice Cdr Lewis	P
Jr. Vice Cdr Doyle	P
QM/Adj David	P
Advocate London	P
Chaplain Kinzinger	E
Surgeon Frazier	P
Trustee 1 Year Winter	P
Trustee 2 Year Matte	P
Trustee 3 Year Ward	P

New Members:

1. Motion by Matt David to accept new member Michael Wise  
Second by Gene Liedel  
Motion carried

Deceased Members:

1. Pete Belaire passed away. The Charter was draped with ceremony.

## Minutes of previous Month:

1. Motion by Milt Davis to accept the minutes from the previous meeting.

Second by Bob London

Motion carried

## Quartermasters Report:

1. Motion by Gene Liedel to accept the Quartermasters report.

Second by Nate Powell

Motion carried

Family in distress: None

Service Officer Report: See attached

Hospital Report: None

MVTF Report: None

Memorial Home Assn: None

Membership Report: None

WCCV: None

## Unfinished Business:

Snow plowing. Bob London reported that his son would accept \$4,000.00 for his Suburban and a blade would cost \$9,000.00 including installation. Received offer of snow plowing from MacIntosh Landscaping to plow snow as needed for meeting and events for \$1.00.

1. Motion by Milt Davis to accept offer.

Second by Ralph Winters

Motion carried

## New Business:

1. Motion by Milt Davis to donate \$1,000.00 to the trust fund for the children of Justin Pratt, an Afghanistan Vet, one it has been established.  
Second by Gene Liedel  
Motion carried
2. Motion by Nate Powell to donate \$300.00 for the Pioneer High Student Dinner with Veterans.  
Second by Dave Draper  
Motion carried
3. Motion by Matt David to donate \$100.00 to VA Patient care packages every month.  
Second by Gene Liedel  
Motion carried
4. Motion by George Perrault to donate \$200.00 to the Saline New Horizons Band.  
Second by Bob London  
Motion carried
5. Motion by Dave Draper to approve American Legion sign, pending approval by Township.  
Second by Bob London  
Motion carried

Good of the order:

1. Nate Powell spoke about the First Responders event. We should do it again but scale it back. Need to advertise more. Maybe wait a year before doing it again.
2. Milt Davis spoke about Camp Liberty. Need volunteer to work there.
3. Milt Davis request help at Glazier Hills for their Veterans Day ceremony on 11/12/18 @ 10:30.

4. Roy Hall requested the use of the Post on 12/09 for a family Christmas party.
5. Milt Davis asked about the status of the Liberty Street property. Cdr Binker will call a meeting of the committee.
6. Robert Bull spoke about the need for volunteers to help bring VA patients to chapel services on Sunday at the VA Hospital.
7. Horace Frazier spoke about the Past Cdrs/Pres dinner and what a great time it was.
8. Dale Burgess will turn 96 on 10/26/18, send a card.
9. Mark Rosiek invited members of the Post to the SVA Tailgate party prior to the EMU/Army game on 10/27/18 at approx. 9:00am.
10. Cdr Brinker informed everyone that if you are not a Life Member to indicate NL after your name when you sign in.
  - A By-Laws committee will be formed to review the Post By-Laws
  - Veterans Radio will be broadcasting from the Post on Veterans Day
  - Jack McCleary's son requested that the Post put on a birthday party for Jack. He is turning 100.
  - The Post will celebrate its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary on 01/04/2019. A dinner is being planned in celebration.
11. Ralf Winters won the 50/50
12. George Perrault won the Life Membership raffle from the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of last admin. year. Clint Ward won the Life Membership raffle from the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of this admin. year.

Closing Prayer

Meeting Adjourned

Present at meeting:

Matt David	Michael Horsch	Robert Bull NL
Doug Brinker	Gene Liedel	George Perrault
Wayne Doyle	Roy Hall	Ralph Winter
Bill Estep	Milt Davis	Dennis Davie
Dave Draper	George Betz	Bob London
Horace Frazier	Anthony Lewis NL	Nate Powell NL
Mark Rosiek NL	Unknown	

Matthew David

Quartermaster/Adjutant

Graf-O'Hara VFW Post 423

## Service Officer Report

1. Veterans may be eligible to receive care from a provider outside of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). This is known as 'community care.' To see if you qualify: (1) schedule an appointment with a VA provider; (2) your VA care team will determine if you are eligible for community care; (3) Important: make sure VA confirms you are authorized; (4) find a community provider in the VA's network, and make an appointment; (5) arrive promptly for your appointment; and (6) if you need to schedule a follow-up appointment, check with your community provider to make sure VA authorized the care. For more information, read the [VA Vantage Point Blog](#).
2. TRICARE coverage of eligible dependents extends to [college students](#). Children are eligible for TRICARE benefits until age 21. But coverage extends up to age 23 for unmarried children of TRICARE-eligible sponsors, if both: (1) the child is a college student enrolled in a full-time course of study at an approved institution of higher learning; and (2) the sponsor provides over 50 percent of the child's financial support.
3. TRICARE has added to a list of circumstances under which users are permitted to switch plans, in anticipation of a new rule taking effect later this year. Currently, military families enrolled in [Tricare Select](#) or [Tricare Prime](#) can change plans for any reason.
4. **VA-enrolled Veterans Eligible for Free Flu Shot:** Now through March 31, 2019, all VA-enrolled veterans are eligible for free annual flu shots at their local Walgreens or Duane Reade pharmacy. While this immunization program is limited to VA patients, Walgreens offers flu shots to most VFW members and their families through other coverage programs, such as TRICARE, Medicare, and many health care plans.
5. **Senate Must Pass Blue Water Navy Bill:** On Wednesday, the VFW joined other veterans service organizations in sending a [letter to the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs](#) urging the Senate to pass H.R. 299, the *Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2018*, which would provide long-overdue benefits to Blue Water Navy and Korean DMZ veterans. It would also expand benefits to the children of veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange in Thailand and commission more research on Gulf War Illness. The VFW calls on its members and supporters to [contact their Senators](#) and urge them to pass this important bill.

## Michigan Veteran Financial Benefits

### **Income Tax**

Active duty and retired pay is not taxed.

### **Property Tax Waiver**

100 percent permanently and totally disabled veterans (and their unremarried surviving spouses) may be exempt from paying taxes on their home. The veteran must have an other-than-dishonorable discharge and be a Michigan resident.

### **Vehicle Registration**

100 percent permanently and totally disabled veterans may be eligible to register one vehicle with a disabled veteran plate for free, there is a \$5 administrative fee when the plate is first issued.

## Michigan State Employment Veterans Preference

Veterans' preference will be given to veterans and certain veteran spouses for initial employment with the state.

## Michigan Children of Veterans Tuition Grant

The grant provides undergraduate tuition assistance for natural or adopted children of veterans who are permanently and totally disabled or died as a result of military service. Children must be between 16 and 26.

## Michigan Veteran Recreation Benefits

### **Active Duty Hunting and Fishing**

Michigan active duty residents can get hunting and fishing licenses for free.

Non residents stationed in Michigan can get licenses at the resident rate.

## **Disabled Veteran Hunting & Fishing Licenses**

Permanently & totally disabled veterans can get any resident hunting or fishing license for which a lottery is not required, free of charge.

## **State Parks**

100 percent permanently and totally disabled veterans get free entry into Michigan state parks.

## **Veterans' Burial Expenses**

Under state law, eligible veterans and some spouses/surviving spouses, who meet residency and asset limits, may qualify for \$300 for burial expenses paid by the County Board of Commissioners or the Board of County Auditors.

**On-Base Shopping Privileges to Expand:** The *National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019* includes a provision to open on-base commissary, exchange and MWR privileges to stateside Purple Heart recipients, former prisoners of war, and those with service-connected disabilities and their caregiver spouses. Once implemented on Jan. 1, 2020, the new beneficiaries will be allowed to use these facilities on the same basis as any service member, dependent or military retiree, although a new user fee might be created for this population to offset additional expansion expenses.