

VFW



News and Notes

An organization of Veterans
Who have fought
America's foreign wars
on land and sea and in the air

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Volume 9 No. 12 December 2020

**EDITORIAL COMMENT - *Merry Christmas to all!* DECEMBER TYPICALLY IS HIGHLIGHTED BY CHRISTMAS — THE VERY BEST TIME OF THE YEAR!!
*LET ALL ENJOY — CHRISTMAS, 2020!!***

VFW...REMEMBERING, CARRYING ON

FOUNDED OCTOBER 12, 1988



 **FROM THE COMMANDER VFW Post 10523**

FROM THE COMMANDER: With our 8th month in a row for meeting in our quartermaster's garage and with the newest restrictions just put in place by our Governor, we will be finishing out the year with only 10 of us attending post meetings. Although the past 8 months have been difficult to do what we normally do for our fellow veterans, we still managed to make donations and celebrate Veterans' Day in Canal Winchester. My thanks to all of you that participated in the march, most notably our color guard and rifle squad. Our keynote speaker, Pat Durbin, gave a very moving and patriotic speech that was well received by all in attendance. If you recall the weather in years' past, we couldn't have asked for a prettier day. Unfortunately, our annual post Christmas meeting/party has been cancelled as well. There is no way to assemble and social distance to keep us all safe, let alone find a place to allow us to meet. Our annual visit to the VA Chillicothe Hospital has been cancelled, but we can still donate fruit, Christmas cards, and canteen gift cards for the patients. Staff at the hospital will distribute the donations. Our Voice of Democracy program, chaired by Blake Firestone, was a total success with 63 essays from 3 local schools received. Blake and his judging committee picked 4 students to represent our post at the district level. We hope our winners can do well at the district level and it would be great to have one advance to the state level. The normal banquets to honor all the students for the district and state winners has been cancelled as well. As in past years, we will be donating to the Canal Winchester Human Services Food Pantry and Adopt-a-Family program for Christmas. Due to the pandemic, the need is greater this year and the post is glad to help out our community in need. I know that the past 8 months have not been ideal for what we as a post normally do for our fellow veterans and the community, but there is light at the end of the tunnel and the year 2021 will soon be here and will hopefully be a better year for all - keep the faith. I will close for now and I wish all continued safety and a very Merry Christmas.

"Veterans in Action - Because we Care."

J. Rick Williams, Commander
VFW Post 10523



**It's beginning to look a lot like
Christmas
Soon the bells will start
And the thing
That'll make 'em ring
Is the carol that you sing
Right within your heart**

THE HISTORICALLY POPULAR MEREDITH WILSON COMPOSED THIS APPROPRIATE CHRISTMAS CAROL IN 1951. IT HAS BEEN A GREAT INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTMAS ALL THROUGH THE YEARS.

CHRISTMAS IS TRULY — A JOYOUS SEASON OF THE YEAR — A SEASON OF HAPPINESS AND GOODWILL TO ALL... IT IS A TIME TO HONOR THE CHRIST-CHILD, FAMILY, AND...GOOD FRIENDS. BOUNTIFUL FAMILY GATHERINGS TOP IT ALL OFF!!

Merry Christmas, Everyone!!

 **The 2020 Christmas Party is** 
— CANCELLED —
WE ARE DEEPLY SADDENED TO REPORT
— THE 2020 CHRISTMAS PARTY IS
— CANCELLED —
"We will truly miss everyone and the festive Christmas spirit."
Merry Christmas to all!!



Post 10523 ACTIVITIES CANCELLED — COVID-19— 1ST HALF VFW FISCAL YEAR



MAJOR POST ACTIVITIES CANCELLED

JULY

CW BLUES & RIBFEST (VFW INVOLVED)

SEPT

CW LABOR DAY FESTIVAL (VFW INVOLVED)

OCT

HALLOWEEN PARTY FOR KIDS

COLUMBUS NEEDY VETS STANDOWN

NOV

VETERANS DAY (WEEK ACTIVITIES CURTAILED)

POPPY DISTRIBUTION (SALES)

CW CITY VETERANS HONORS (CURTAILED)

DEC

2020 CHRISTMAS PARTY CANCELLED

CHRISTMAS VISIT, CHILlicothe VA HOME

ADDITIONAL CANCELLATION PROBLEMS INCLUDE SERIOUS POST OPERATIONS, AS WELL AS MID-LEVEL ACTIVITIES, MEETING LOCATIONS, MEMBER PARTICIPATION AND MORE.

IT'S A PROBLEM — BUT OUR STRONG POST MEMBERSHIP KEEPS POST 10523 ON A FIRM BASIS.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES STRONG IN 2020



VFW HAS LONG HAD ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT YOUTH — Voice of Democracy (VOD) — A written patriotic contest for High School students

Patriots Pen — A written patriotic essay contest for Jr. High School students.

The “VOD” contest has always been active in Post 10523. 2020 has been one of the best ever, with 64 High School students participating!!

VOD WINNERS IN 2020 ARE —
EMMA BOND... PICKERINGTON H.S. - SENIOR
SOFIA GUGLIEMOTTO...BLOOM CARROLL H.S.- JUNIOR
FARDUS FAGI... CW H.S. - JUNIOR

The Patriots Pen Award is being revived in 2020 after a period of no participation; results will be forthcoming.

NOW HEAR THIS...



SUMMARY OF NOVEMBER POST MEETING



- 1:00 P.M. Commander Williams opened the November Post Meeting
- November Meeting held in Vance garage
- Summary of CW Veterans Day Honors
 - Guest Speaker Pat Durbin — Exceptional
 - Veterans Day program at CW Indian Trail Elementary — Limited
- Post 10523 donated to Human Services for Christmas Family Support
- Post made donation to Human Services General Fund
- VOD Participation — Strong in 2020 —
 - 64 Participants...Most in recent history
 - Blake Firestone chaired
- VFW's “Patriots Pen” youth contest had participation for first time in recent history
- Full Christmas visit to VA Home, Chillicothe — CANCELLED — Fruit baskets will be taken for residents
- 2020 Christmas Party must be CANCELLED
- 2:00 P.M. — Meeting adjourned



NEXT VFW POST 10523 MEETING



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10

VANCE HOME

CANAL WINCHESTER, OH 43110

DATE: Thursday, December 10, 2020

TIME: 1:00 PM

FOR: VFW BUSINESS SESSION, COMRADESHIP