

# The John Lyon Gazette

Volume 27, Number 6-7

December 2021 – January 2022



**Veterans of Foreign Wars**  
**John Lyon Post #3150**  
**2116 North 19<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Arlington VA 22201**  
**703-525-0108**  
**<http://www.vfw3150.org>**



The John Lyon Gazette: Winner of 1999, 2003, 2004, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2016 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 Clair B. Poff Public Relations Award for Outstanding Newsletter, and Winner of National Awards for 2010, 2011



## *A Happy Thanksgiving!*

<<< John Lyon members and US Coast Guard volunteers prepare to distribute Thanksgiving “baskets” to enlisted personnel families in need of assistance at nearby Ft Myer-Henderson Hall. The “baskets” provided the families with turkeys and all the fixings for a traditional Thanksgiving dinner and a second meal. Seen are (l to r) J.Gary Wagner, Fritz Gottschalk, Cathy Graham, Nancy Springer, four volunteers from the USCG Cyber Command (IS1 Maurice McCombs, IS2 Caelyn Charlton, AET3 Jouhan Rivera, IS1 Chris Bertini)

and Ft Myer Coordinator, Carla Moss. LT Sierra Huemme also helped with the shopping for the food (top left, left), and LTJG J. L. Benton and IS1 Matt Gruzzo (top right, second and third from the left) helped sort the food supplies. Thanks to Coast Guard members for helping out with this special annual event. (Doc Crouch was photographer.)

## ***From the Commander:***

Hello Comrades and Auxiliary Members---

I want to begin by thanking the Comrades and Auxiliary Members who volunteered their time and energy to the Post this past month! Your work made a difference by keeping the Post home maintained, opening the Canteen for our Comrades to connect and enjoy some camaraderie, and distributing Poppies, reminding people of the sacrifices our servicemembers make on behalf of our nation.

As we near the end of this year with its colder weather and several significant Holidays, I encourage you to reach out to a Comrade and ensure he or she is all right. Remember, we have lived the entirety of 2021 alongside COVID. That fact and the continuing delays in returning to our pre-2020 “normal” lives continue to exacerbate stress and strain in peoples’ lives. Comrades may be living with food or housing insecurity or may need support in other areas. Make that connection and encourage Comrades to reach out for the assistance they need. Food insecure people can reach out to DC Chefs Giving Back, a non-profit organization that cooks and packages individual heat-n-serve meals in the Post kitchen for no-cost distribution to the food insecure. Sign up for their service via this web link, no questions asked: [DC Chefs Meals](#). For other food needs, the Ft Myer DFAC allows a variety of non-active duty military people to patronize their facility. Additionally, our Post Service Officer, Zac Mathews, stands ready to assist Comrades in accessing the benefits they earned. You may reach him via the Post webpage at [Post Service Officer](#) Hit the “Contact the Post Service Officer” button once in the webpage.

Of note, in late October, a benefactor donated a substantial amount of money to the Post for our facility repair needs, funding our entire exterior project list (roof, siding, etc.)! With that list cleared, the House Committee compiled an interior list that will enhance safety and functionality inside the Post home. Also, Comrade John Dingeman took charge of improving the parking lot and grounds. This donor, who wants to remain anonymous, wants to establish a long term relationship with the Post and routinely provide funding for our emergent requirements. Things are definitely looking up for our 100-year-old Post home! Come over and see what’s new!

Next, I want to compliment everyone on his/her recruiting & retention efforts. Truly, the Post is the Members and the Members are the Post. Currently, we have recruited and/or retained 98.10% of last year’s membership total, first in 10<sup>th</sup> District! I challenge all of you to contact at least one eligible Veteran or active duty servicemember in your personal networks, inform him/her of the VFW and invite that person to join us. Every new Member increases the clout of VFW National when it advocates on our behalf, and every new person at the Post reaps the benefits of camaraderie and connection with fellow Veterans and servicemembers. However, that being said, retention of our current Annual Members is also a critical part of maintaining a strong Membership foundation. Please reach out to our current Comrades and encourage them to remain on the Post team. Also, please contact me ([johnlyon3150@mail.com](mailto:johnlyon3150@mail.com)) or the Membership Committee Chairman, Senior Vice Commander Wong if you have a passion for recruiting or retaining our Comrades and would like to get actively involved in shaping our Post for the future.

In conclusion, I want to wish everyone Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays! 2022 Here We Come!

Yours in Comradeship,

Nancy A Springer  
Post Commander, VFW Post 3150

## ***From the President of the Auxiliary:***

I wish to offer Merry Christmas, Happy Hannukah, Kwanzaa, and New Year to all in this 2<sup>nd</sup> year of Coronavirus. We are approaching the halfway point in my year as President, now is the time to start thinking about running for office. All positions are available, if you would like some more information about any position, contact me at [cg12dc12@outlook.com](mailto:cg12dc12@outlook.com). I would like to thank some of our Auxiliary members who stepped up and helped with our meetings and in keeping this Auxiliary running: Jodie, Dennis, Gail, Wauleah, Shirley L. and Emilie. Whenever possible they volunteer and Skype our meetings so we can continue our assistance to our veterans and their families. If you want to participate in our meetings send me an email before our next meeting on Dec. 21 and I will be more than happy to include you in the Skype call.

I would also like to congratulate Sean and Brice for helping those with food insecurity in the DMV area through their non-profit DC Chefs giving back. Check out their website and Facebook page on how you can help them feed people.

There are two Auxiliary programs coming up with deadlines that offer scholarships; The Continuing Education Scholarship and The Patriotic Art Scholarship. The Continuing Education Scholarship is open to Auxiliary members and their immediate family and the deadline is February 15 to National. The Patriotic Art Scholarship is open to grades 9-12 and the deadline is March 31 to the Auxiliary. Further information about both these scholarships and the entry forms are available at the National [vfwauxiliary.org](http://vfwauxiliary.org) website under Programs, then Scholarships. There is an art program for K-8 called *Illustrating America*. The deadline for this program is also March 31 to the Auxiliary. Information for this program can be found at the National website under Programs, then Youth Activities, then *Illustrating America*. It is important to maintain one's connection with learning and scholarships help make that reachable.

The Winter Council meeting January 7- 8 is in Portsmouth, VA. Those wishing to attend in person can do so or you can Zoom via computer or phone. Check the VFW Auxiliary Department of Virginia website, [vfwauxva.org](http://vfwauxva.org), for contact information. The Department Voice of Democracy, Patriot Pen and Teacher of the Year winners will be announced and their awards will be presented by the Department Commander and President at the Banquet on Saturday January 8.

Since last year, we have been operating via computers and phone calls which allows us to maintain contact although that is not the same as in person contact. It lets us support our veterans and their families. We have been successful in providing Thanksgiving Baskets to families from the Joint Base FT. Myer-Henderson Hall. We will be providing Christmas food baskets to the same families and having Santa Claus arrive to provide a little bit of normal to these families on the 11<sup>th</sup> of December.

As always look out for the elderly, the sick and those living alone; Happy Birthday and Anniversary to all those celebrating in December and January.

Loyally yours,  
*Cathy Graham*  
President, VFW Auxiliary 3150

## Welcome to Our New Members

Welcome to new Post members Craig Brown (Navy - DesertShield/Storm / GWOTEM / Armed Forces ExPed) (transfer) \*, Marc Koblentz (USAF – Korea Defense – GWOTEM)\*, Patricia Jernigan (Army - Vietnam) (transfer)\*, Andrew Moreshead (Army – Afghanistan / Korea)\*, Michael Podratsky (Army – Iraq)\*, /Clay Pettit (Army – Iraq / Afghanistan) (transfer)\*, and Jaime Williams (Navy – Afghanistan), all elected at the November meeting. Some still needing to provide documentation. Membership cards for those with completed applications should be arriving in the next weeks.

## Marching Off...



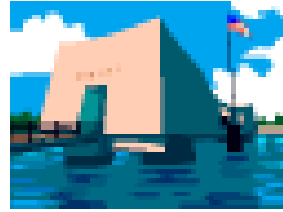
**Carol L Rawlings**, thought to be 73, on 16 November, in Alexandria or Arlington, after a long illness. Carol was married to the late Wilbur Rawlings, a President of VFW Men's Auxiliary 3150. Carol and Wilbur were Canteen Managers and bar managers for Post 3150 for a number of years. Burial information has not yet been released.

## Newsletter via email and Weekly Email

If you are one of the few who still receive a printed newsletter and would like to receive it earlier and in color from our website via an email notice, please send an email to [johnlyon3150@gmail.com](mailto:johnlyon3150@gmail.com). You can also receive our weekly email by requesting it at the same John Lyon email. And to change your email address.

## Awards Day Ceremonies

The Post Awards Day is scheduled for 2 pm on 22 January. In case of snow the awards will be on 29 January. Come help honor our award winners in several categories.



**Pearl Harbor  
Day Remembrance  
Ceremony  
Tue, 7 Dec, 7 pm**

## Children's Christmas Party

The annual Children's Christmas Party will be held Saturday, 11 December, 11 am.. Visits by the Santa family will highlight each party. The Christmas dinner food baskets will be prepared that morning. Gift wrapping will occur Thursday evening, 9 December at 6 pm. Gift wrappers encouraged to help out.

## Many Members Set to Expire

We started a new membership year on 1 July. Many memberships are set to expire during the next months. Check your membership card for your expiration date and renew if necessary. Go to [www.vfw3150.org](http://www.vfw3150.org), then click on BECOME A MEMBER, then RENEW or go to [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) and click Renew in upper right corner for VFW members For Auxiliary, go to <https://vfwauxiliary.org/>, then Malta for Auxiliary. Or send check for \$40 (\$25 for Auxiliary) to Post address on page 1.



## Take it easy when clearing snow

## Comedy and Music Nights

Music Open Mic Night / Guitars for Vets and Comedy Night are on hiatus for several weeks at least. Check the weekly email for updated information.



## Prevent Fires over the Holidays

**Check for frayed and broken wires  
on your tree lights!**

## Have You Moved? New Email?

Post and Auxiliary members, if you are not receiving the VFW magazines, please send an email with your new address to [johnlyon3150@gmail.com](mailto:johnlyon3150@gmail.com). Also notify us if you have a new email address. Army.mil addresses are bouncing back.

## Mid-Winter Conference

January 7 – 9, 2022, Renaissance Portsmouth Hotel  
~ Portsmouth, Virginia ~ 757-673-3000 ~  
\$94.00 Per night. (Hotel Group Rate Deadline is  
December 6th) <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1620421775100&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

To book via phone, please call Central Reservations at 1-888-839-1775 and ask for the 'VFW' group rate.

## In-Person and Skype Meetings

We are currently meeting in person and via Skype. If you are not attending meetings, but would like to via Skype, send an email to one of the following to get access. Post members: to [johnlyon3150.org@gmail.com](mailto:johnlyon3150.org@gmail.com). Auxiliary members: to [cg12dc12@outlook.com](mailto:cg12dc12@outlook.com) with subject line "Meeting" New VFW Post members since February 2020 who have not received their VFW lapel pin are encouraged to attend in person.

## Sunday Zoom Yoga

New code info:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83991078673>

Meeting ID: 839 9107 8673

Passcode: 074240

No experience necessary. No expectations. No pressure. Do what you can do.

## Need a Gift Idea?

Gift your spouse a Lifetime membership in the VFW or VFW Auxiliary.

### VFW Life Membership Fee Schedule

Age on 12/31	One time payment	12 months plan
< Age 31	\$425.00	\$40.39
31-40	\$410.00	\$39.02
41-50	\$375.00	\$35.84
51-60	\$335.00	\$32.20
61-70	\$290.00	\$28.11
71-80	\$225.00	\$22.20
81 and over	\$170.00	\$17.20

Post 3150 annual dues are \$40.

### VFW Auxiliary Life Membership Fee Schedule

Age on 12/31	Fee
Through Age 20	\$253
21-25	\$242
26-30	\$230
31-35	\$219
36-40	\$213
41-45	\$201
46-50	\$196
51-55	\$184
56-60	\$173
61-65	\$161
66-70	\$150
71-75	\$132
76-80	\$109
81-85	\$86
86-90	\$69
91 and over	\$58

VFW Auxiliary annual dues are \$25.  
First year is \$30.



DC Chefs Giving Back (l to r) Brice Crackel and Sean Swasey deliver some of their dinners to a shelter serving food insecure people in the Metro Washington area.

## Meals from DC Chefs Giving Back

DC Chefs Giving Back have been getting great reviews. And for every purchase of a meal for \$10 they will give another meal to an in-need person, veteran or non-veteran. Meals can be picked up at the Post anytime we are open. (Add \$1 to cover taxes, etc, if you pay at the Post.) Go to this link to sign-up for a no-cost meal: <https://gofund.me/95442ac7>

## VFW 10th District Meeting, 12 December

The VFW Tenth District will conduct its next meeting on 12 December at 1pm at Falls Church Post 9274, 7118 Shreve Road, Falls Church. All VFW members are invited to attend. Auxiliary members will not meet

### Hours for Post Canteen

The Post Canteen scheduled hours as follows  
Friday from 6-10 pm  
Saturday from 6-10 pm  
Sunday from 3-6 pm  
Special additional hours. See calendar or below.

### Post Open Additional Hours

The third week every month, the Post canteen will be open from 4 – 7 pm Monday – Thursday.

## Schedule Updates

For the frequently updated openings, hours, end events, go to our post website at [vfw3150.org](http://vfw3150.org) and click Calendar or Announcements, to our Facebook page at John Lyon VFW Post 3150, or check our weekly email. Or for info on activities, email to [johnlyon3150@gmail.com](mailto:johnlyon3150@gmail.com). or call 703-525-0108. during open hours.



**If you travel,  
prepare your car for  
winter before driving and  
stay aware of conditions  
during your trip.**

**Get there safely!**

## Artists, Scouts, Students, Fire, Law Enforcement

The following is an overview of VFW programs and contests for artists, students, scouts, and First Responders.



**Continuing Education Scholarship.**  
The VFW Auxiliary sponsors a scholarship for an Auxiliary member or the spouse or child of a member. Deadline to apply is 15 February 2022. Website same as Patriotic Art above but final click on Continuing Education.



may provide opportunity for additional trip for the Scout. For info and forms, go to [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org), then Community, then Youth and Education, then Scout of the Year.

**Scout of the Year:** Any recipient of an Eagle Scout, Girl Scout Gold Award, Venture Summit Award, or Sea Scout Quartermaster Award may qualify. Deadline is March 1, 2022. Early submission / interest

**VFW Auxiliary's Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest:** grades 9 - 12. Deadline is March 31, 2022. Go to



<http://www.vfwauxiliary.org>, then Scholarships, then Young American Creative Patriotic Art Brochure. Follow above link to see winners since 1979, including last year, There is an art program for K-8 called **Illustrating America**. The deadline for this program is also March 31 to the Auxiliary. Information for can be found at the National website under What we Do, then Youth Activities, then Illustrating America



**Firefighter, EMT, Law Enforcement Nominations: (NOTE: Requirements changed as seen below)**

Nominations for Public Service Awards --- Law Enforcement Officer, Firefighter, and EMT of the Year --- are due at the Post by December 10<sup>th</sup>.

1. Nomination letter containing the candidate's name, title, address, telephone and identifying the award for which the individual should be considered. \
2. Include justification outlining background in field, accomplishments and awards.

For info email [adjpost3150@vfwva.org](mailto:adjpost3150@vfwva.org)

Above awards are presented at post, district, state, and national levels and can add up to thousands of dollars. Deadlines are to Post 3150 (or your local post). Forms and information may also be obtained at <http://www.vfwva.org/>, then Programs. Email [adjpost3150@vfwva.org](mailto:adjpost3150@vfwva.org) for further info.

\* \* \* \*

## Donate On-Line or by Check

If you make end of the year charitable donations, consider sending a donation to the Post at [www.vfw3150.org](http://www.vfw3150.org), then DONATE, or by sending a check to VFW Post 3150, 2116 North 19th Street, Arlington VA 22201. The VFW --- and Post 3150 -- are IRS Code 501(c)19 tax exempt organizations and your donation is tax deductible. All donations to the Post are restricted to Post projects and expenses. The post could use the assistance to resupply its accounts for next year and, in this year of COVID-19 are needed. You may designate your choice of projects

## New Events!

### Trivia and Board Games Nights

Trivia Night continues on the second Friday of the month, 10 December and 14 January, at 7:30 pm.at Post 3150. And Board Games Night will start at 7 pm on third Saturday: 18 December and 15 January. Bring your favorite board game.

# ***Recent Events Around the Post***



## **Buddy Poppies**

<<< Carthy Graham was one of five volunteers who distributed Buddy Poppies during the week prior to Veterans Day and accepted over \$2800 for the Post and Auxiliary Relief Funds, which is restricted to Veterans Relief and promoting Americanism and Patriotism. John McCarthy was project chairman for the successful drive.

## **USMC Birthday**

Cutting the cake for the 246<sup>th</sup> birthday >>> of the U.S. Marine Corps, Commander Nancy Springer, Oldest Marine Gary Stines and the Youngest Marine Capt Devin Davis prepare to eat the first pieces of the cake. A large number of members and guests attended the birthday celebration on the eve of Veterans Day.



## **Post 3150's 87<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

<<< Following a brief history revue of the Post by Fritz Gottschalk, Post members gather to cut the cake on John Lyon Post's 87<sup>th</sup> birthday. From the left are J.Gary Wagner, Fritz Gottschalk, Nancy Springer, Nick Knowles, and Marc Koblentz (with daughter who loved the cake!).

# *Recent Events Around the Post*



## **Veterans Day**

<<< Attending the Veterans Day ceremonies at Clarendon War Memorial were John Lyon members (l to r, front) Tim Lyons, Cathy Graham, Nancy Springer, Christopher Alexandria, (back) Bonnie Britten, J.Gary Wagner, and Bill Kelly.

Pausing with the wreath >>> at the Cherrydale War Memorial (AKA the “John Lyon Memorial”) on Veterans Day are (l to r) Tommy Saunders, Bonnie Britten, Nancy Springer, Cathy Graham, J.Gary Wagner, Dennis Gerrity, and Royes Gernandt.



● \* \* \* \*



<<< Team Red White and Blue and Post 3150 met recently to reinvigorate an older partnership which faded due to various personnel departures. The meeting provided information on each organization and the post provided a location and Red White and Blue provided a band for the evening.

# VFW 3150

## December 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 Karaoke, 8 pm	4
5	6	7 Pearl Harbor ceremony 7 pm	8 GRIST mtg, 7 pm	9 Christmas Party Gift Wrap 6 pm	10 Trivia Night, 7:30 pm Deadline to Post for Police, Fire, EMT Awards	11 Children's Christmas Party, 11am
12 VFW 10th District Mtg: Leesburg Post 1177, 1 pm	13 House Committee / Post O Call 7 pm Post Open 4 - 7pm	14 Post Open 4 - 7pm	15 Post Open 4 - 7pm	16 Post Open 4 - 7pm	17	18 Board Game Night, 7 pm
19 Football Viewing Party, 1pm	20 Post mtg 7:30pm	21 Auxiliary Meeting 7:30 pm	22	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE	25 CHRISTMAS DAY Post Closed
26	27	28	29	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE	

***VFW3150.org*** or email to ***johnlyon3150@gmail.com*** for info

# VFW 3150

## January 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 NEW YEARS DAY
2 :	3	4	5	6	7 Karaoke ?8 pm  Winter Council, Portsmouth VA	8  Winter Council, Portsmouth VA
9  Football Viewing Party, 1pm Winter Council, Portsmouth VA	10  House Committee / Post O Call 7 pm	11	12  GRIST mtg, 7 pm	13	14  Trivia Night, 7:30 pm	15  Board Game Night, 7 pm
16	17  MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DAY  Post Mtg, 7:30 pm Post -Open 4 - 7 pm	18  Auxiliary Meeting 7:30 pm Post -Open 4 - 7 pm	19  Post -Open 4 - 7 pm	20  Post -Open 4 - 7 pm	21	22  Post Awards, Ceremonies 2 pm
23	24	25	26	27	28	29  Post Awards, Ceremonies, 2 pm (Snow Date)
30	31					

**Keep up with the latest: Check Facebook or Post website.**

**Probable: Super Bowl Party on 13 February**



**JOHN LYON POST # 3150**

**“All American Post”**

**Veterans of Foreign Wars**

**2116 North 19<sup>th</sup> Street**

**Arlington, Virginia 22201-3514**

**Dated Material Please Do Not Delay**

**December 2021- January 2022**



***2021 Post Christmas tree***

***Merry Christmas,  
Happy Hanukkah  
and Kwanzaa and a  
Happy New Year!***

**From all the Members of  
John Lyon VFW Post 3150  
and the Auxiliary,  
our very best wishes  
for the Holiday**