

# The John Lyon Gazette

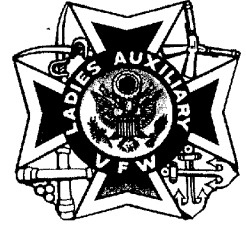
Volume 4, Number 10

April 1998



Veterans of Foreign Wars  
John Lyon Post #3150  
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## Lyon's Den Reopened; Commanders Return

The Lyon's Den reopened in the basement of the Post Home on 28 Feb, just in time --- literally --- for the Mid-Winter Conference Spaghetti Dinner. The Lyons Den proved popular with guests wanting to linger after their dinner and experience more of the noted John Lyon hospitality and camaraderie. With more than a few details remaining to be completed, Jack Nye spent the last hours before the dinner touching up the paint and laying down some donated carpeting. Rich Hoffman, one of the hosts in Lyon's Den that evening, said the room was standing room only for most of the evening. Eric Anderson, Vince Cesnauskas, Herman Cruz, Paul Custred, and Rich Hoffman were also part of the crew, which had stripped the floors, put in a new ceiling, etc., in the days and hours beforehand. A few touches still remain to be completed and Post and Auxiliary members look forward to the Den's full use.

### Commanders Return

A focal point of the Lyons Den is the newly restored Gallery of Past Commanders gracing the knotty-pine walls. A number of long-time Post and Auxiliary members have enjoyed recalling days gone by when visiting the room in recent days.

### Darts Score a Bullseye!

The Lyon's Den is also proving popular with John Lyon members who have rediscovered the two dart

boards in the room. On any given evening a mini-tournament, pick-up game, or just practice session may be found in progress.

### Outside Work Complements Basement

Part of the work on the Lyon's Den was actually done outside: the "civil engineering team" has installed some recently donated gutters and reworked the drainage system to divert the unusually wet winter weather away from the building. The den and the entire basement is noticeably dryer and warmer.



### The John Lyon Duck

Those who went hunting for the infamous John Lyon Duck in the Desert Storm era will be pleased to note that the knook of the beloved fowl has not been disturbed by any of the recent renovations. The John Lyon Duck can still be found by the determined seeker.

## FROM THE COMMANDER

The most important issue facing us in the coming month is the election of Post Officers. While nominations have been made in the last regular meeting, those nominations will remain open until the next regular meeting in April. Those who wish to participate and contribute to the legacy and vibrancy of John Lyon Post 3150 are encouraged to "toss their hat into the ring". This post like all others depends on comrades who are willing to take up the mantle of office and dedicate time and effort toward maintaining the high ideals that have been and always will be reflective of the history and tradition of our Post.

We have had another good month of progress from the standpoint of our physical plant in the post home. Other projects are in the planning stage and it is hopeful that all plant projects will be completed before years end. This has been and will be accomplished through professional assistance as well as volunteers. Volunteerism is a key with our post— some have administrative skills, some have craft skills, some of us help out as best we can in other capacities. All assistance is welcome and helps us to bring about a post viability that we can be proud of and that exemplifies the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

In a word on membership, an ACTIVE membership is key to maintaining our ability in keeping our patriotic, community and youth activities alive. I would ask that each of you take a VFW membership application with you each day and actively recruit new members. Without new members and a newer voice we do not progress, and as you all well know, we want to progress not only for John Lyon post but for the Veterans of Foreign Wars as a whole.

Our house committee is looking toward hiring a full-time canteen manager that will allow us to open Monday through Friday at eleven. The position would be a paid position and would run from three to six months to test its effectiveness. This is another effort to open the Post and all of its assets to the membership. Anyone interested in the position should contact Comrade Griswold (HHC).

In closing, I would like to extend my deep appreciation not only from myself but from all members to those volunteers and officers that have made so much of an effort to maintain and improve the operation of our post.

Yours in Comradeship,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C.D. 'Doc' Crouch". The signature is stylized and cursive.

C.D. "Doc" Crouch

## **FROM THE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT**

April is here and we can see all the signs of Spring around us. The days are getting longer by the minutes and the cherry blossoms around the Tidal Basin will be in full bloom by the time you read this. But even as the months of Winter are behind us now there is still much ahead for us to look forward to. One of the most important events coming up this month will be our annual election of officers for the 1998-1999 year. Please, Ladies, think about the importance of this. The officers you elect are the Ladies you depend on to keep **your Auxiliary** viable and productive. Each office and chairmanship is vital to the continued success of our organization. Without a strong and dedicated corps of officers, we cannot continue to move forward with the programs that are essential in supporting our veterans and our community. So, once again, I am encouraging you to think about what you might be able to do to help us all in our efforts. Elections will be held on **Thursday evening, April 16<sup>th</sup>, at 8:00pm**. If you are interested in holding an office or chairing a committee, please let me know. You must either be present at the elections, or indicate in writing, beforehand, that you are willing to accept the nomination for a specific elected position. We all need each other and I speak from the experience of this current year, that we cannot do it without you. One additional note here: April is also the month we elect delegates and alternates to represent our Auxiliary at the District level. The District is our vital link to our Department representatives so we also want to put our best foot forward at this level. If any of you should have questions about any positions within our organization, please just give me a call and I'll be happy to answer any questions that you may have. I'll look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our April meeting.

On a lighter note, the plans for our annual "Sock Hop" on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, are well underway. We're looking forward to a fun evening with great music, delicious food, and some very nice prizes. This event will be our primary Spring fund raiser, and for only \$5.00, I can guarantee you will have a good time. For those of you who don't think of yourselves as the dancing type, or if you can't be here with us, we're still interested if you have a good idea to share with us for a good hors d'oeuvre recipe! Just drop me a note or give me a call.

Jeannie Gibadlo has reported that we have received 47 entries for the annual "Youth Essay" program, which is the parallel program to the "Voice of Democracy" program we conducted during the late Fall. This program is open to all 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students. This year's theme, "What Patriotism Means To Me," has generated a terrific response. Judging will be later this month, and we'll let you know the final results in our next newsletter.

Happy Birthday to all of our April birthday celebrants and special thoughts and prayers to those of you who are not feeling well or have suffered a recent loss of a loved one. May Easter bring sunshine, chocolate bunnies, and renewed happiness to all! God bless.

  
Cathy Kerns  
President

## **From the Senior Vice Commander:**

There's not a lot to say this month that hasn't already been said --- elections for the Officers to represent John Lyon Post in the VFW's Centennial year, Community Programs continuing with Adopt-A-Highway and Hospital Visit, continued improvements to the structure and habitability of the Post from active Post members and loyal friends of the Post --- the list goes on.

One of my favorites is that Spring has sprung. After a relatively mild, but very wet, winter many of us are looking forward towards getting outside for yard work, titivation and even some exercise in the form of chasing the little white ball. Regrettably, golf and other relaxing undertakings often come after the hard work around the house. The same can be said with the Post.

Over this past year, it has been an honor to serve with Commander Doc Crouch, who believes, as I do, that the Post belongs to the members. Doc and his lieutenants have done a lot of the "Spring cleaning" and titivation and are looking forward to less trying days ahead. I whole-heartedly support this fine gentleman in his nomination to repeat as John Lyon VFW Post Commander.

By the same token, no man is an institution. Nominations for all offices are still open and we need to build experienced members who can lead when the time comes. If you're like me, work and family absorb most of your time. But for a few hours a month, you can make a difference. Get involved and enjoy the comradeship of your peers and inner warmth which is it's own reward for helping the community.

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### **Change of Address for Newsletter:**

Send to post address on top of page 1 or email Adjutant at: [103636.1543@compuserve.com](mailto:103636.1543@compuserve.com)

## **From the Junior Vice Commander**

Dear comrades and friends,

Time sure does fly when engaged in busy pursuits. The new year does not seem that old and already we are cruising towards April and May. Speak of April, please mark Saturday, 25 April, on your calendar. We will be conducting a Lee Highway clean-up between 0900 and 1200; that is, our "adopted" stretch of Lee Highway between Veitch St. and Nash St. We'll muster around 0830 at the Post and rest assured that hot java and energy filled donuts will be served to the crew. With at least eight volunteers on the road, the job really should not be that difficult.

Kudos to the galley crew and all helpers who made our St. Paddy's Day dinner and celebration a rousing success. A fun time was had by all!

On a final note, we wish our former post commander, Gene Miller, a speedy convalescence from his recent surgery.

Yours in comradeship,

Mark M. Pando, JVC  
703-418-3477  
Email: [pando@erols.com](mailto:pando@erols.com)

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### **Post Canteen Hours**

Monday – Friday	1600 - 2100
Saturday – Sunday	1200 - 1800
2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Sundays	0900 - 1800
Open 0900 for Brunch	

### **Scottish Roots**

Much of the population in this area has Scottish roots. If you're one of them, you will interested to learn that on Friday 20 March, the U.S. Senate passed legislation to name 6 April of every year national Tartan Day. Dig our your plaids and show your pride in your Scottish heritage!

## Doubled!! Tapes Top \$16,000

The Giant, Safeway and Superfresh cash register tape collection effort topped \$16,000 and nearly doubled last year's John Lyon total of \$8300. Commander Crouch delivered the thick bundle of grocery store receipts to our neighborhood Key Elementary School in mid-March in time for their consolidation. The cash register tapes go to providing computers, electronics, sports equipment, etc., for the local schools. The Superfresh cash register tape drive lasted until the end of March so our total will go up a bit more with late Superfresh additions. Thanks to all who contributed!

## 1998-99 Nominations and Elections

With **Post** Elections for the 1998-99 year scheduled for the 9 April 1998 meeting (Thursday, 8pm), nominations for the coming year were opened at the March meeting with those of the nominating committee. Nominations remain open and will be accepted at the next meeting, just prior to the election for each office. Those nominated so far:

Commander	C.D. Crouch
Senior Vice Commander	Michael C. Agresti
Junior Vice Commander	Mark M. Pando
Quartermaster	Kenneth Jansen
Chaplain	James R. Wilkinson
Surgeon	Herman Cruz
Advocate	George C. Mansfield
Three Year Trustee	James P. Griswold
Two Year Trustee	Eugene D Miller III
One Year Trustee	Robert M. Wasserman

Officer positions not included above are appointed positions.

The **Ladies Auxiliary** will accept nominations and hold elections at their 8 pm meeting on 16 April 1998. See the President's Column for more details.

## Easter Sunday Brunch

The usual Sunday Brunch will be held on Easter Sunday, 12 April. Rumor is there will be an added special surprise. Bring your children and grandchildren.

## Welcome to Our New Members

Welcome to new Post members elected at the March meeting: Scott A. McCollough, Edward F. Potkonski, Alan J. Waiss, and Loran V. Ward.

## Marching Off

Recently deceased: Comrade Thomas G. Horvath, who had been living in Fort Smith, Arkansas.

## Sock Hop

The Ladies Auxiliary will be hosting their annual Spring fund raiser Sock Hop on Saturday 18 April starting at 7 pm. D.J. Richard Hoffman will provide the music. The \$5 admission goes to support the many Auxiliary programs during the year.

## Adopt-A-Highway

You may have seen the Adopt-A-Highway signs featuring John Lyon Post 3150 on Lee Highway near Veitch Street (eastbound) and leaving Roslyn (westbound). Saturday 25 April will be the next time 3150 Post and Auxiliary members turn out to spruce up this stretch of Lee Highway. Join us with long pants, gloves, and solid-soled shoes or boots to help out --- and to hear the "thank you's" from passing motorists and pedestrians.. Trash bags and orange safety vests are provided. We will have you on your way to your normal Saturday activities before noon. We will gather at the Post Home beginning at 0830.

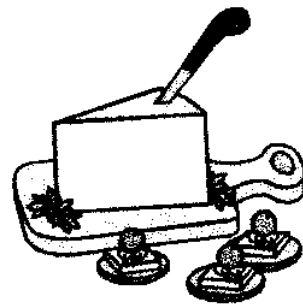
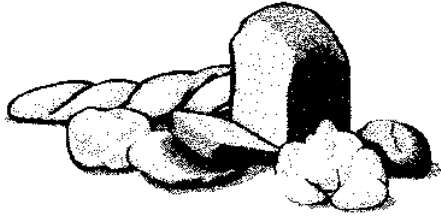
## Spaghetti and Corned Beef

Quartermaster Jansen reports 207 spaghetti dinners were served during the recent Mid-Winter Conference and 84 corned beef and cabbage for St Patrick's Day. Many thanks for your participation.

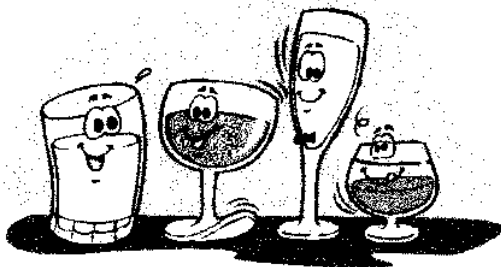
## More Jansens!

Speaking of Quartermaster Ken Jansen, he actually has five children, two boys and three girls. Also Ladies Auxiliary members are daughters Christina Bilyea and Danielle Bilyea currently residing in Germantown, Maryland..

# Food Prizes




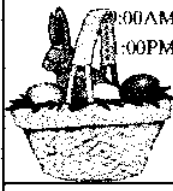
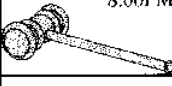
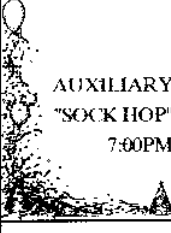

**Ladies Auxiliary  
to VFW 3150  
SOCKHOP  
Saturday  
18 April 1998  
7PM to ?**



*Dancing to DJ  
music by  
Rich Hoffman*



# April 1998

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 APRIL FOOLS DAY	2	3	4
5 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS  PALM SUNDAY	6	7	8	9 POST MEETING AND ELECTIONS 8:00PM 	10 GOOD FRIDAY	11
12 EASTER BRUNCH 9:00AM-1:00PM 	13	14	15	16 AUXILIARY MEETING AND ELECTIONS 8:00PM 	17 AUXILIARY "SOCK HOP" 7:00PM 	18
19	20	21	22 SECRETARIES DAY	23	24	25
26 SUNDAY BRUNCH 9:00AM-1:00PM 	27	28	29	30		