

# The John Lyon Gazette

Volume 5, Number 3

September 1998



Veterans of Foreign Wars  
John Lyon Post #3150  
2116 North 19<sup>th</sup> Street  
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<http://www.webspawner.com/users/vfw3150>



## POW / MIA Recognition Day

### 18 September 1998

John Lyon Post will mark the day --- actually Sunday, 20 September, 4 pm --- with a ceremony replacing the older POW / MIA flag, which has been getting faded and torn, with a new one donated by our Comrade Roy Story, a POW in the Korean War. The Ladies Auxiliary will again distribute their special POW/MIA stickers to draw attention to the day. We will also have a POW movie on Tuesday, 15 September (starting at 1845 hrs). In preparation, check the *VFW* magazine for a likely article or two examining the issue. You can also search the Internet (Search for POW/MIA from <http://www.yahoo.com> for 24 sites for starters) to explore MIA issues and read biographical sketches of POWs and MIAs from World War II to Korea to Vietnam to the Gulf War.

**From The Commander:**

Many of us remember 2 September 1945 when the world's largest conflagration came to an end. Few of us experienced the turmoil and conflict of September 1918. More of us understood the Septembers of the Korean War and even more of us came face to face with the Septembers of Vietnam. Veterans all and eligible for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

However, on a moonlight night, 23 September 1779, crowds of people gathered at the heights of Flamborough Head to view the engagement between HMS Serapis and the Bonhomme Richard (USS was not a designated term at that time). This was one of the first occasions that war had been taken to an enemy outside the limits of what would become the United States of America. The Captain of the Bonhomme Richard was John Paul Jones, considered the Father of the American Navy and rightly so. His determination that night and his forcefulness brought about a victory which was face to face, sailor and marine against sailor and marine. Something that can be honored in victory and defeat because of a sense of Professionalism and Pride on both sides. It is said that John Paul Jones returned Captain Pearson's sword and invited him to his shattered cabin for a glass of wine.

War as we know it is horrific. Admirable as it was for Captain Jones to offer a glass of wine to his vanquished adversary, it would not apply to our day and times.

There is a dark and insidious force that faces the Armed Forces and our nation today. That force is terrorism. Let us not take counsel of our fears, but let us take up a resolution to surmount the trials and tribulations that may come before us. Let us support in all ways the young men and women in our Armed Forces to enable them to support our great and wonderful nation. We as Veterans of the Foreign Wars of the United States owe this to them and our Country.

Yours in Comradeship,



C. D. "Doc" Crouch

P.S.: Payback's a medevac.

## **FROM THE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT**

It may be difficult to believe it but here it is September again, and all of us are surely wondering where the time is going. I remember as a child, it seemed the day would never end; now there are hardly enough hours in the day to get everything done. Of course, with the arrival of Fall, the daylight hours will get shorter but our Auxiliary still has lots of projects and events planned for the upcoming months. As I mentioned in last month's newsletter, the Auxiliary officers met with the Post officers on August 9<sup>th</sup>, and set firm dates for many activities that we'll be involved in over the next several months. As has been the case all along, we will continue with the Sunday brunches on the second and fourth Sundays of each month, and the Post will continue to sponsor the Tuesday night movies that start at 6:45pm. A new feature this Fall will be "**Monday Night Football at the Post**" with special munchies featured to help all the fans cope with the drama transpiring on the TV field of play! Everyone is hoping that this will be another opportunity for members and their guests to join us for some fun and relaxation! The Post is also planning a **Labor Day** cookout on the 7<sup>th</sup>. This will be the "unofficial" close of our summer season as the calendar will start to reflect some of our more traditional Fall projects and events.

On September 13<sup>th</sup>, Gail Hoffman, Joy Neher, and Jeannie Gibadlo will join me at the 10<sup>th</sup> District's first meeting of the 1998-1999 year at the Springfield VFW. The meeting will start at 1:00pm. If any of you would like to join us, please come along. These District meetings are important for our Auxiliaries; they give us a unique opportunity to share ideas, problems and solutions, and provide us an excellent opportunity to gauge our progress throughout the VFW year.

September 18<sup>th</sup> is the **U.S. Air Force Birthday** and the 19<sup>th</sup> is **POW/MIA Recognition Day**. Once again the Auxiliary will acknowledge the plight of those still missing or unaccounted for by distributing POW/MIA lapel stickers throughout the weekend, culminating on Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, with a ceremony jointly honoring the Air Force and our comrades who have not yet come home. The time is set for 4:00pm. Please join us in this special event.

Auxiliary Secretary Jeannie Gibadlo and I will be leaving early Friday morning, September 18<sup>th</sup> to attend the Department Fall Council/Conference Meeting, which is being held in Lynchburg, VA. It is at this meeting that we are given all the important information applicable to the Programs that the Auxiliary is required to participate in in order to secure that coveted Banner that we all strive for each year. We will return on Sunday and I promise to share with you all of the information that we acquire.

The month of September also commemorates two very important days in the VFW year. September 17<sup>th</sup> marks the anniversary of the founding of the Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW and September 29<sup>th</sup> is the 99<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the VFW. Happy Birthday to all members of both the VFW and the Ladies Auxiliary!

In closing, just a quick reminder: don't forget we're working on our membership renewals now. Please remember we want you on the team! I'd also like to send a sincere "**thank you**" to those of you who have sent in a donation to our "Cancer Project." Happy Birthday to all of our celebrants in the month of September, and prayers and thoughts for those of you who have been feeling not so well or who have recently suffered the loss of a loved one.

  
Cathy Kerns  
President

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

There is a plethora of lesser known-to-the-general-public commemorative and patriotic recognition days in the month of September. Most people recognize Labor Day (September 7) as another three-day weekend and traditional end of the summer season. We need only refer to the newspapers or radio to learn that Autumn begins on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. And many a veteran recognizes September 2 as VJ Day.

The Pledge of Allegiance was adopted on September 8, 1892, and "The Star Spangled Banner" was written by Francis Scott Key on September 14, 1814. The Constitution was approved on September 17, 1787, now known as Citizenship Day. And our organization traces its beginning to September 29, 1899, while the VFW Ladies Auxiliary was organized on September 17, 1914.

Probably the most poignant commemorative day of September is POW/MIA Recognition Day - September 18. (The Post will observe it on the Sunday the 20<sup>th</sup>).

As always, visiting vets have found a warm and friendly home away from home in our canteen, but it is when our own members, who have been "missing in action," return to the Post that we are truly enriched. In that regard, we were pleased to see "Dirty Dan" Arnette down south from down east Maine last month. Sadly, Dan received the same answer about a good number of Post and Auxiliary members, as well as friends of the Post, of whom he inquired - deceased. They are the true "missing" from our ranks. It is their spirit that inspired us and helped build John Lyon into that home away from home that has become our reputation across this great land.

How often have we heard the old saw: "Membership builds programs and programs build membership?" Membership, even if they can't participate fully because of family or job commitments, is the key to a strong VFW. Early Bird enrollment ends September 30. The Early Bird Dinner is tentatively scheduled for October 17.

As we move past September and into the Fall with a full calendar of community events - Lite-a-Tyke, Highway Clean Up, Thanksgiving and Christmas Baskets for the less fortunate, Hospital Visits and Children's Christmas Party - membership is foremost, because without members, these programs can not occur. Please renew early and seek other worthy veterans for membership.

Happy Birthday, U. S. Air Force (September 18, 1947).

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e-mail: connie.agresti@lmco.com, or  
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### **From the Junior Vice Commander:**

We completed a successful visit to the VA medical center/nursing home on 18 July. My thanks go to Imogene Robinson, Ginny LePage, and Nina and Jim Wilkinson for making it happen! Nina's visiting cousin from Poland also came along for the ride. Thanks to Jim's van, we were able to transport much of the stock of old books and magazines to the Vets. Thanks, Comrade Chaplain! We also visited Virginia Musselman at the U.S. Soldiers, Airman's, and Seaman's home. She is doing reasonably well and sends her best to the post membership.

We are still soliciting ideas on how to participate in the upcoming Arlington County "Neighborhood Day" activities to be held 3 October. This year's theme is focused around serving the youth in our community. One suggestion has been to conduct a "light a Bike/Tike" campaign in concert with this theme. Our highway cleanup will probably be scheduled in connection with USA Magazine's "Make a difference" day on 24 October. As usual, we will be looking for able-bodied volunteers for this task. No one will be sent off without the obligatory coffee and donuts to be served at the Post!

Mark M. Pando, JVC  
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email: pando@erols.com

## Welcome to Our New Members

Welcome to new Post members elected at the August meeting: Carl Colon, Donald J. DuPuis, Joseph J. Jardot, Robert D. MacLeod Franklin M. Meadows, and Dean R. Montanye.

## Congratulations to...

Comrade Paul S. Polanski who was recently selected for promotion to Chief in the U.S. Navy; to Comrade Stan Darroch and his wife Tracy for their new daughter, Theresa, born on 30 June.

## Happy Birthday to...

the VFW which was begun following the Spanish American War on 29 September 1899, and to the Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW which was organized on 17 September 1914.

## Campbell's, Swanson's labels

We're still collecting labels from Campbell's, Swanson's and related products to benefit the National Home in Eaton Rapids, Michigan. There is a box in the Post Home for you to drop your labels or place them in an envelope and mail them to the Post.

## Lunch Specials in Canteen Meatloaf to Make Encore Appearance

The Post canteen offers lunch every weekday from 1130 to 1500. The regular menu offers deli sandwiches such as ham, roast beef, and turkey. A soup of the day is also available. Occasionally there are specials such as spaghetti or the meat loaf and mashed potatoes which was a smash hit last month. The meatloaf, mashed potatoes, and vegetable special (\$3.25) will be repeated on Tuesday, 15 September. And remember, with the parking lot, there is never a problem finding a place for your car.

**Be an Early Bird!**  
**Renew your membership today!**


## Corporate Meeting

The owner of the property at 2116 North 19<sup>th</sup> Street is the corporation of VFW 3150 members. The Post officers are dual-hatted as corporation officers. The corporation must meet periodically as a corporate entity. Such a meeting will be held in connection with the Post meeting on Thursday, 10 September. All Post members are urged to attend.

## Air Force Birthday

John Lyon members of the U.S. Air Force, to include its roots in the Army Air Service, the Army Air Corps, and the Army Air Force, will celebrate their birthday on Sunday 20 September at 1600 hrs. While the 18<sup>th</sup> is the actual birthday of the USAF, a number of Post and Auxiliary members will be at the state Fall conference meeting over the weekend, but should be back in town by late Sunday afternoon. And the Sunday celebrations have begun to attract a large attendance over the last several service birthdays. All John Lyon members are invited and urged to join in. A short POW / MIA remembrance will also be included as has been done with recent AF birthdays.

**Army Air Corps**  
**Army Air Force**  
**USAF**



**Birthday  
Celebration**

**Sunday**

**20 September 1998**

Cake cutting at 1600  
VFW Post 3150, Arlington VA  
2116 No. 19th St., 525-0108

ACTIVE DUTY. RESERVES. RETIREES.  
VETERANS. SPOUSES. TOO!  
Bring your AF friends.

## From the House Committee:

What's new at your "Post Home"?

To start with, we have five new picnic tables, donated by the Ladies Auxiliary --- thank you, Ladies! --- so we can enjoy the fair weather and camaraderie of our friends and families. The 500+ pound cement slab in the backyard has been moved to the front of the barbecue pit.

We also have a new air conditioner in the Lyon's Den making a more pleasant atmosphere during the summer months.

In the works, is to install a new door at the entrance to the Lyon's Den and to move the juke box to the canteen area. We're still getting bids for the east wall.

For those who don't know, Pull Tabs are here. Come on down, support your "Home" and go home with a little more green. One new game we have, for you die-hard Washington football fans, is for a leather Redskins jacket. Get those winning tickets while they last.



### **Labor Day Cookout**

Coming up, is the Labor Day cookout on 7 September. Chicken, burgers, hot dogs, and all the fixings. Bring your family and friends and enjoy a great day for \$5.00 each.

Many thanks to all of those who have helped with your time and donations.

Eric Anderson  
Chairman of House Committee



## **Life Membership?**

If you renew your Post membership and then decide to "go Life", your renewal payment will be counted towards your Life membership up to the middle of December. Current Life membership rates are:

Through age 30	\$245.00
31 - 40	\$235.00
41 - 50	\$215.00
51 - 60	\$195.00
61 - 70	\$165.00
71 - 80	\$125.00
81 and above	\$ 85.00

## **Newsletter Deadline**

Articles to be considered for inclusion in *The John Lyon Gazette* should be submitted by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month.




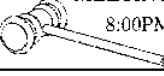


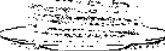

## **Register Now!**

In November we will turn our attention to "Getting out the Vote". But are you eligible to do so? This month is a great time to think about getting registered if you have not done so already. It only takes a few moments to fill out the forms the next time you drive by your county courthouse!

## **The Watering Crew**

The "Post Horticulturist" wishes to thank the "watering crew" of Cathy Graham, Gigi and Frankie Cruz, and Jack Nye for ensuring the planters in front of the parking lot have received the necessary water to keep everything green and colorful during summer's hot weather. Their attentive work has also given the shrubbery a head start in developing the necessary root system for the future.

# September 1998

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>Come join us for a Pizza here at the Post!</i></p> <p>*****</p> <p><i>Served anytime during regular hours.</i></p>		1	2	3	4	5
		VFW MOVIE NIGHT 6:45PM	VJ DAY (1945)			
6	7 LABOR DAY COOKOUT 1:00PM-5:00PM MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL 	8 HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING 6:00PM-??? VFW MOVIE NIGHT 6:45PM	9	10 POST MEETING 8:00PM 	11	12
13 10TH DISTRICT MEETING AT SPRINGFIELD VFW AT 1:00PM SUNDAY BRUNCH 9:00AM-1:00PM	14 MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL 	15 LUNCH SPECIAL MEATLOAF PLUS \$3.25!!! VFW MOVIE NIGHT 6:45PM	16	17 NATL VFW LADIES AUXILIARY EST. (1914) AUXILIARY MEETING 8:00PM 	18 VFW FALL COUNCIL MTG. U.S. AIR FORCE BIRTHDAY 	19 VFW FALL COUNCIL MTG. POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY
20 VFW FALL COUNCIL MTG. U.S. AIR FORCE POW/MIA CEREMONIES 4:00PM	21 MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL 	22 VFW MOVIE NIGHT 6:45PM	23	24	25	26
27 GOLD STAR MOTHER'S DAY SUNDAY BRUNCH 9:00AM-1:00PM 	28 MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL 	29 VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS ESTABLISHED 1899 VFW MOVIE NIGHT 6:45PM	30	<p><i>Lunches served daily Monday through Friday from 11:30am to 3:00pm.</i></p> <p>*****</p> <p><i>Special lunch on Tuesday, Sept. 15th! Meat Loaf, mashed potatoes w/gravy, vegetables, and roll - \$3.25</i></p>		