

# The John Lyon Gazette

Volume 6, Number 3

September 1999



Veterans of Foreign Wars  
John Lyon Post #3150  
2116 North 19<sup>th</sup> Street  
Arlington VA 22201  
703-525-0108

<http://www.knight-hub.com/vfw3150>



The John Lyon Gazette: Winner of 1999 Clair B. Poff Public Relations Award for Outstanding Newsletter

## *John Lyon VFW 3150 Celebrating the Centennial*

### **VFW Turns 100!**

As veterans returned from the Spanish-American War, they formed into several veteran's organizations for a variety of reasons. In the following years these groups began to merge into the American Veterans of Foreign Service formed on 29 September 1899. At the 1909 convention, they were told "You are the natural successors to the Grand Army of the Republic. They are rapidly passing away and it is up to you to keep up the military and patriotic spirit of the nation." The name was changed to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States on 1 August 1914. In the years since, the VFW has been a leading voice of the veteran and has been instrumental in achieving such things as the G.I. Bill. The VFW is the nation's oldest veteran's organization.

VFW Post 3150 was chartered on 20 November 1934, and Ladies Auxiliary 3150 on 19 February of the following year. Together they have served veterans and their families in Arlington as well as the community itself. John Lyon Post was named an All-America Post in 1991 and has been at least ten times an All-State Post, most recently in 1998-1999. The Post was named for LT John Lyon of Arlington who served in France in World War I.

John Lyon Post will celebrate the Centennial of the VFW with a dinner dance on Saturday, 2 October. Further information will be forthcoming.



## FROM THE POST COMMANDER

If the past few weeks are any indication of the status of life here at John Lyon Post #3150 then it is safe to say we are indeed alive and well. The pace has been steadily picking up as we all move forward in what will be another active, productive, and successful VFW year.

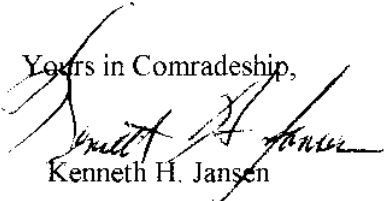
The Post, in partnership with our Ladies Auxiliary will continue to move forward with a full schedule of projects and activities for this month. As we undertake these projects, I would remind you that the measure of our success depends a great deal upon you and your support. Your input, involvement, and participation will very much determine to what extent we can continue to improve our service to our veterans, their families, and the community. Volunteers are the backbone of this organization and I am convinced that there are many of you who have talents and skills that can be utilized. I am not one to say "no" to anyone who is willing to lend a hand. Step forward and join us in making a difference. When too few try to do too much, quality suffers and that is not an option we will accept here at John Lyon!!

On Thursday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 12:00 Noon, Auxiliary President Jeannie Gibadlo and I will be attending ribbon-cutting ceremonies at Francis Scott Key Elementary School to celebrate the opening of the school's new building and facilities. At that time, on behalf of the Post and the Auxiliary, we will present the school with 36 new American flags for each of the classrooms. Members of the Post and Auxiliary are encouraged to attend. This is a perfect opportunity to show the community that we are here and want to be an integral part of our children's educational pursuits, especially as it pertains to their understanding of patriotism and freedom. There will be additional ceremonies on Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30pm. If you can't make it on the 2<sup>nd</sup> then certainly plan on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

Our next hospital visit will be on September 18<sup>th</sup> at the V.A. Nursing Home in Washington, DC. I hope you will join me in showing our comrades how much we appreciate their sacrifices. It seems eminently appropriate that as we remember our POWs and MIAs on the 17<sup>th</sup>, we share some time with our hospitalized veterans on the 18<sup>th</sup>!

While our Air Force comrades celebrate their 51<sup>st</sup> anniversary on the 18<sup>th</sup>, the National VFW and its Ladies Auxiliary both reach major milestones this month. On September 17<sup>th</sup>, the Ladies Auxiliary celebrates 85 years of service to veterans, their families, and the community, not to mention their unwavering support of the VFW and its goals! Then, on September 29<sup>th</sup> the VFW will earmark 100 years of commitment, dedication, and service to veterans and the community. Congratulations are, indeed, in order for all. However, keep in mind, as we move into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, if we are to continue to move forward, we will need to recruit new members to carry on. Membership is the key to our success and will be our most challenging undertaking. This will also be our ultimate goal! It is my hope that 1999-2000 will be the year to mark the beginning of a new era for John Lyon Post #3150 and the Ladies Auxiliary.

Yours in Comradeship,



Kenneth H. Jansen

## **FROM THE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT**

Well Ladies, believe it or not, here it is September again, and your Auxiliary, with the continuing support of the Post membership, is off and running! If you take a look at the attached calendar for this month, you will see that we have a full schedule of upcoming events. The first activity on the calendar on **Thursday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>**, is a very special event, inasmuch as it demonstrates not only our commitment to promoting patriotism but also our interest in our youth and our community. Commander Jansen and I have been invited to attend ribbon-cutting ceremonies to celebrate the re-opening of the newly renovated Francis Scott Key Elementary School just around the corner from the Post home on Veitch Street. At this time, the Commander and I, on behalf of the Post and the Auxiliary, will present the school with 36 new American flags for the classrooms, as well as a new outdoor flag. The ceremonies will begin promptly at noon and I think it would be a great demonstration of our genuine support for our children and the community if you would join us. If you cannot make it on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, then try to join us on **Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm**, when we will again join with our neighbors and the school PTA for a second ribbon-cutting ceremony. These are significant events for us to be involved in because they represent the renewed commitment that John Lyon is making to be a more active participant in community events, and they provide us with the unique opportunity to show the community what the VFW is really all about.

On **Monday, September 6<sup>th</sup>** the Ladies Auxiliary will sponsor the annual **Labor Day Cookout**. This year the Auxiliary wanted to give the Post a much deserved break from the responsibilities in the kitchen and at the barbecue grill so we will flip the burgers, grill the dogs, and cook up the best boneless chicken breasts, not to mention all the other goodies that will be on the table! Please join us and bring your friends. There will be plenty of food to go around. There will be a sign up sheet at the canteen and the cost is only \$6.00!

The weekend of September 17<sup>th</sup> through the 19<sup>th</sup> is an especially busy one this year. There are several things going on simultaneously. On **Friday** evening, in honor of **POW/MIA Recognition Day**, at 7:00pm we will once again take a moment to acknowledge the plight of our comrades who have not yet come home or are unaccounted for. The Auxiliary will be distributing lapel stickers to pay tribute to those who have sacrificed so much and have not yet had the opportunity to see or hear our thanks. On a lighter note, following the tribute to our missing comrades, the Auxiliary will ask everyone to join us in celebrating the 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the establishment of the Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW. Ladies, we should take pride in the accomplishments of this organization. The work we do in support of the VFW really does make a difference for our veterans. Come and celebrate with us! And while we celebrate, let's remember that Friday, **the 17<sup>th</sup> is also Citizenship** day, so be sure to fly your flag and do something special in your community to show that you care. On **Saturday, the 18<sup>th</sup>**, we have scheduled a **Hospital Visit to the V.A. Nursing Home in DC**. The Commander and I are hoping that more of you will be able to join us. This is the year we want to renew our commitment to remember those who served our country and sacrificed their health in the process. Also, we should not forget that **September 18<sup>th</sup>** is the **U.S. Air Force Birthday** and on behalf of the Auxiliary, I want to wish all of our Air Force personnel best wishes.


On **September 19<sup>th</sup>**, Gail Hoffman, Joy Neher, Cathy Kerns, Lois Cook, and I will be attending the **10<sup>th</sup> District's first meeting of the 1999-2000 year at the Springfield VFW**. The meeting will start at 1:00pm. I should remind you that Gail is the President of the 10<sup>th</sup> District Auxiliary this year and I am sure she would appreciate your support in her efforts to guide the Ladies of the 10<sup>th</sup> District in their endeavors on behalf of veterans and the community. If any of you would like to join us, please come along. These District meetings are important for all of the 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.

Keeping up with the pace, several of us will be leaving early Friday morning, **September 24<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 our coveted Banner. It also gives us the opportunity to get acquainted with all of the Department Program Chairmen, who provide us with guidelines and suggestions to help facilitate the success of projects we may undertake in the course of the year. We will return on Sunday and I promise to share with you all of the information that we acquire.

The one event of special note worthiness this month is the **100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the establishment of the VFW on Wednesday, September 29<sup>th</sup>**. For the past 100 years, the Veterans of Foreign Wars has promoted service, dedication, commitment, and patriotism. We have reached out to our veterans, their families, and the community, and we have taken a strong stand with our legislators to assure that those who have served our country are treated with care and concern. These traditions have made the VFW more than just a veterans organization. Be proud of this fine group of men and women and please take a moment to salute all of our members on this auspicious occasion.

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 can't think of anything that would please me more than to know that you will be with us for what I know will be the best year ever for our Auxiliary! If you know someone who may be interested in joining us, please encourage her to contact us. And don't forget, we are going try to help the Post in their recruiting efforts this year. Let's make John Lyon Post #3150 and the Ladies Auxiliary the "Dream Team" of the VFW!!!

Our prayers and thoughts are with each of you, especially if you are currently under the weather or have recently experienced the loss of a loved one. And please remember the children are back in school now, so keep an eye open.



Jeanne M. Gibadlo  
Auxiliary President

### **School of Instruction (Meeting Protocol)**

First in a series of helpful advice for those attending VFW Post meetings: at the start of the meeting the Officer of the Day is enjoined to verify the eligibility of all present to remain for the meeting by sighting their current VFW membership card. Once the card has been viewed, the member should retake his or her seat.

### **Welcome to Our New Members**

Welcome to new Post members James Flannery and William Wilson, and transfer members Ray Blaylock and Thomas Jansen, elected at the August meeting.

### **Busy Mid-September!**

The middle weekend in September is always busy at Post #3150. This year's calendar highlights:

#### **Friday, 17 September:**

- POW/MIA Ceremony at 7:00pm
- 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ladies Auxiliary at 8:00pm

#### **Saturday, 18 September:**

- Hospital Visit to VA Nursing Home in DC at 12:30pm

#### **Sunday, 19 September:**

- 10<sup>th</sup> District Meeting at Springfield VFW at 1:00pm

#### **Monday, 20 September:**

- Air Force Birthday Ceremony at 7:00pm

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

The days are still hot but the Post is cool thanks to the new air conditioning. Bring a friend, co-worker or acquaintance down and sign them up for membership.

As an added boon to the annual membership plea, VFW National has announced a drawing for anyone who signs up a new or re-instated member during the 1999-2000 VFW Year. There are three prizes which will be paid to both the member and the new member: First Prize: 2000 Buick Century; Second Prize: \$5,000 travel voucher from Veterans Travel Service to the destination of your choice; Third Prize: \$2,500 travel voucher to the destination of your choice.

We continue to receive wonderful comments from all visitors about the friendliness and activity of the Post and Auxiliary. We also continue to hear from members and former members (who we hope will renew their membership) from around the world. Please remember that our armed forces are stretched to the limit so plan now for upcoming holiday recognition or cards to be sent to them.

With the Fall community activities (e.g., Adopt-a-Highway, Lite-a-Tyke, Voice of Democracy, Arlington Community Day Parade) picking up, this is also a reminder that active duty and reservist members who actively participate can earn credit for award of the Outstanding Military Volunteer Service Medal. The Post will be only too happy to document sustained and direct participation to Commanding Officers.

School is starting. Drive carefully and respect school zones and stopped school buses.

M. C. "Connie" Agresti  
Senior Vice Commander  
e-mail: mcaii@aol.com  
(h) 703-516-7984

## **Marching Off...**

Life member, Marche Rothlisberger, as reported by National Headquarters.

## **Ladies Auxiliary Fundraiser**

Every year the Ladies Auxiliary undertakes various projects to raise funds to help defray the expenses involved in the promotion and execution of programs that help veterans, their families, and the communities. As was mentioned in last month's newsletter (August 1999, p.6.), the Ladies will kick off their fund raising efforts this year by raffling off a beautiful handcrafted king size quilt, detailed with candlewicking throughout. If you are an arts and crafts type of person, you will easily recognize the extraordinary time and effort reflected in the handwork of this beautiful bed covering. The quilt is cream colored and would fit beautifully in any type of decor. It would also be a lovely gift for someone special and, with the approach of the holidays, would be a wonderful gift for a friend or loved one to find under the Christmas tree. Tickets will go on sale on Monday, September 6th, in conjunction with the annual Labor Day Cookout and will be available through the Veterans Day Weekend. The winning ticket will be drawn on Sunday, November 14th, immediately following our Sunday Brunch. Tickets are \$1.00 a piece or six tickets for \$5.00. For those of you who reside out of the area but would like to participate in this fund raiser, please contact either Auxiliary President Jeannie Gibadlo or Sr. Vice Cathy Kerns. They will be sure that you have the opportunity to own this lovely handcrafted quilt.

## **Golf Tournament Big Success**

Participants called Post 3150's recent golf tournament at Andrews AFB a big success. Eighty-eight golfers teed off in 22 foursomes. While many kept an eye on the scorecards, and several trophies and plaques were awarded to top and bottom golfers, most professed to simply enjoy the mostly warm and sunny day on the links. Winter rules, due to the effect of the current drought on the golf course, kept the pace moving right along without the congestion one might expect with the large number of duffers. Jim Conen, a member of VFW Post in Fountain, CO, and currently on active duty with the Navy in the Washington area, summed it up for the participants: "I had a really good time at the tournament...had a great time."

## **Voice of Democracy Audio/Essay Program Seeking Arlington High School Students**

John Lyon Post #3150 and the Ladies Auxiliary are now seeking eligible students in grades nine through twelve who are currently attending high school here in Arlington County to participate in our annual Voice of Democracy scholarship program. This national audio/essay contest is designed to give high school students the opportunity to voice their opinion on America and their commitment to our future. Local, District, Department (state level), and National scholarship awards last year totaled over \$2.6 million, with \$132,000 awarded at the National level alone! This year's theme is "America's Role for the Next Century," and the deadline for student entry at the Post level is November 1, 1999. If you are a parent, grandparent, relative, or friend of an Arlington

County high school student, we need your support in getting our students involved. Encourage them to contact Jeannie Gibadlo or Eric Skrzypczak, VOD Chairmen for 1999-2000, at the Post and we will assist them through the proper school officials.

## **WIMSA Brief at August Post Meeting**

BG Wilma Vaught, USAF(ret), and HMC Pat Childers, USN(ret), recently presented a briefing on the Women in Military Service to America Memorial, located at the entrance to Arlington Cemetery. The presentation, prior to the August Post meeting, was similar to last season's briefing on the Selective Service Administration, and was well attended by Post and Ladies Auxiliary members. We thank the ladies for the presentation and appreciate their taking the time to be with us.



## **John Lyon Tee Shirt & Cap Day**

As part of our Centennial program, we wanted to remind the community that we were here by placing John Lyon's picture and "3150" in front of them all day long. All members were urged to wear their John Lyon tee shirts or sweatshirts --- especially those with John Lyon's picture --- and / or baseball caps all day long and wherever we went in Arlington on 31 July. Some participants reported being stopped and asked about the VFW, the Ladies Auxiliary, and John Lyon Post. Many of the 3150 family dropped by the Post Home in the afternoon for a group picture ---- still wearing their John Lyon shirts and hats. And a colorful one it is with the gold, red, grey, and a single blue! (See color photo in the Post Home.) While we probably did not quite blanket the county with our presence, the day seemed a success, especially for an inaugural event, and we expect to make it an annual event.

## The 1999 John Lyon Annual Golf Tournament

The following noted merchants have graciously sponsored or donated door prizes for our 1999 VFW John Lyon Post 3150 Golf Tournament. Please spread the word among friends and family that our sponsors and donors are helping John Lyon Post 3150 in our most worthy fund-raising event. Tell them to go out of their way to patronize these establishments.

Alpine Restaurant	LBC, Inc.
Arlington Autocare, Inc.	Long John Silver's Restaurant
Belmont TV	M&M Motors
Bergmann's Cleaning	Mama's Italian Cuisine/Tino's Sports Bar
Bob and Edith's Diner	McInturff Plumbing and Heating, Inc.
Boeing	Memphis Bar-B-Q Company
Cherrydale Auto Parts	MT. Vernon Honda
Comfort Zone Heating and Air Conditioning	Nam Viet
Crystal City Sports Pub	National Acceptance Corp.
Dave Bunting at BVI Services	Omar Uresti
Dusty Rhodes Home Improvements	Outback Steak House
Forest Inn Restaurant	Red Top Cab & Sedan Service
Glebe Radio & Appliances, Inc.	Rio Grande Café
Hard Times Café	Rockland's Bar-B-Q
J. Randal Corporation (Fire Protection)	Scotty's Custom Painting
J.K. Auto Parts	Southeastern Printing And Lithographing
Jay's Saloon and Grill	Virginia Commerce Bank
John Carbaugh Jr.	Westover Market
Lange Plumbing	

The 1999 John Lyon Golf Tournament was a GREAT success due to the participation of members and friends as well as all of the community-minded businesses listed above. We fielded 88 golfers and finished in five hours. Almost every player returned to the Post Home for food and refreshments. The following are the winners of this year's tournament:

Closest to the Pin Winners were:

Hole # 3 - Chuck Van Horn  
Hole # 7 - Dan Mansey  
Hole # 15 - Jay O'Kieffe

Calloway Winners were:

1st Place - Tom Kelly  
2nd Place - Kevin White  
3rd Place - Mike Winters

Handicap Winners were:











1st Place - Don Thrasher  
2nd Place - Herb Spivey  
3rd Place - Sonny Flynn

Gross Winners were:

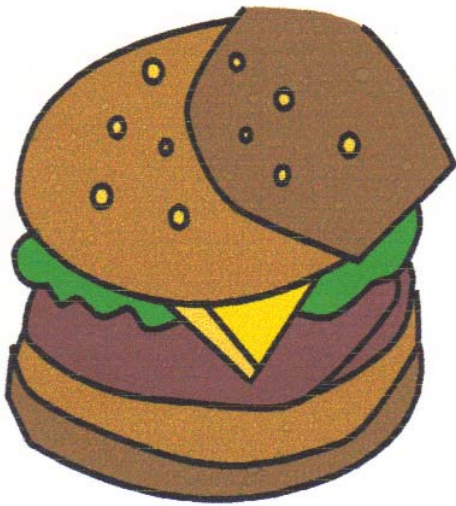
1st Place - Chris Dlugokenski  
2nd Place - Wayne Scarborough  
3rd Place - Tom Folliard

Congratulations to all of the 1999 VFW John Lyon Post 3150 Golf Tournament Winners.

# September 1999

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>PLAN AHEAD!</b>  <i>Circle October 2nd on your calendar and plan on joining us in celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the VFW. There will be dinner followed by a dance. Check with the Post for additional details and reservations.</i></p>			1	2 RIBBON CUTTING AND FLAG PRESENTATION AT KEY SCHOOL 12:00 NOON VJ DAY (1945)	3	4
5	6 LABOR DAY COOKOUT 1:00PM-5:00PM 	7 HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING 6:00PM 	8	9 POST MEETING 8:00PM 	10	11
12 SUNDAY BRUNCH 9:00AM-1:00PM 	13 MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL 	14	15 RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONIES AT KEY SCHOOL W/FACULTY, PTA AND FRIENDS 6:30PM 	16 LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING 7:30PM 	17 POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY - 7:00PM CEREMONIES NATL LADIES AUXILIARY 85TH ANNIVERSARY	18 HOSPITAL VISIT 12:30PM U.S. AIR FORCE 51ST ANNIVERSARY
19 10TH DISTRICT MEETING AT SPRINGFIELD VFW AT 1:00PM	20 USAF BIRTHDAY CAKE-CUTTING 7:00PM MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL 	21	22	23	24 VFW FALL COUNCIL MTG. IN LYNCHBURG	25 VFW FALL COUNCIL MTG. IN LYNCHBURG
VFW FALL COUNCIL MTG. GOLD STAR MOTHER'S DAY SUNDAY BRUNCH 9:00AM-1:00PM	26 MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL 	27	28 VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS 	29	<p><b>SCHOOL IS BACK IN SESSION!            STAY ALERT AND WATCH OUT FOR OUR CHILDREN'S SAFETY!</b></p>	
				30		



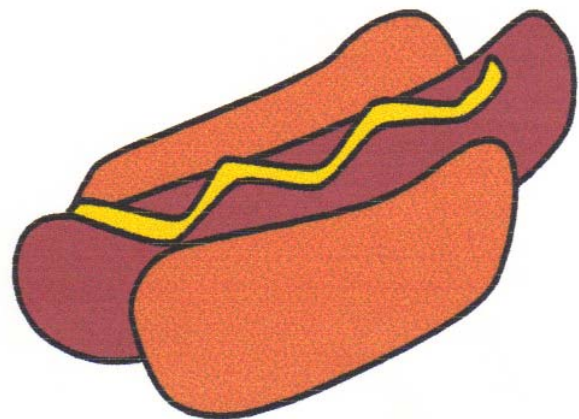


**Ladies Auxiliary  
Labor Day Cookout  
6 September 1999  
1 TO 5 PM**

**Check  
this  
price  
out**

**Hamburgers  
Hot Dogs  
Grilled Chicken Breast  
Pasta Salad  
Cole Slaw  
Deviled Eggs  
Corn on the Cob  
Desserts**

**\$6.00**





## POW / MIA Recognition Day

**17 September 1999**

Army Air Corps  
Army Air Force



# USAF

Birthday  
Celebration  
Monday

**20 September 1999**

Cake cutting at 1900  
VFW Post 3150, Arlington VA  
2116 No. 19th St., 525-0108

ACTIVE DUTY. RESERVES. RETIREES.  
VETERANS. SPOUSES, TOO!

**Bring your AF friends.**



**JOHN LYON POST # 3150**  
**"ALL AMERICAN POST"**  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
2116 North 19th Street  
Arlington, Virginia 22201-3514

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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