

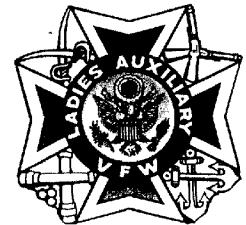
The John Lyon Gazette

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



The John Lyon Gazette: Winner of 1999 Clair B. Poff Public Relations Award for Outstanding Newsletter
Ladies Auxiliary Award: Best Newsletter in Virginia, 1999, Best Newsletter in the Nation, 1999

Commander-in-Chief, National President Visit Post 3150

VFW Commander-in-Chief, John W. Gwizdak, and Ladies Auxiliary National President, Patricia Jankowski, both visited John Lyon Post in separate visits on Sunday 8 April 2001. At right, Commander-in-Chief Gwizdak presents Commander Ken Jansen with the Honor Post Banner, signifying Post 3150 has met the 100% membership goal for the year.



Left, National Ladies Auxiliary President Patricia Jankowski, Auxiliary President Jeanne Gibadlo, and Department of Virginia President Patricia Jurgensen engage in a moment of conversation.

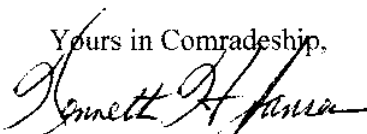


FROM THE POST COMMANDER

Our 2000-2001 VFW year is winding down now, as we wrap up programs and projects around the Post home. We have accomplished much here at John Lyon this past year but contrary to what one may think, the real work is never done. Reaching out to our veterans and our community is an ongoing effort that does not diminish as the months slip away. With this in mind, the members of the Post have already taken the steps to assure that as the new year commences in July, we will be well positioned to carry on the traditions that have made our VFW family stand out in our commitment to serve our veterans, their families, our community, and our youth. I want to take this opportunity to extend my congratulations to our new Commander-Elect for the upcoming year, Connie Agresti, and to pledge my support to Connie and the entire incoming corps of officers recently elected at our April meeting. I would also want to stress that our new officers will need all of our continued support as together we move forward. Please remember that in order for us to continue to fulfill the stated goals of the VFW, cooperation and teamwork are critical. It is only with your help that we will be able to move forward and maintain the standards and traditions that have made John Lyon the great Post that it truly is! Congratulations are also extended to Cathy Kerns, who will be stepping forward as the President of the Ladies Auxiliary. I would also like to invite you to join your new officers of both the Post and the Ladies Auxiliary at the Installation of Officers for the 2001-2002 year, which will be held here at the Post home on Saturday, May 19th, at 1:00pm. Installation ceremonies will be followed by a reception and your presence would be an honor for each of the officers who will be installed.

The month of May is a busy one for all of us here at John Lyon. May 1st is Loyalty Day and I would encourage each of you to pause for a moment and recognize the privilege each of us share in being citizens of this great country. We will honor our mothers this month with a special "Mother's Day Sunday Brunch" on the 13th; we also recognize our servicemen throughout the world on Armed Forces Day, which is on May 19th; as is the upcoming Installation of Officers. The 10th District Convention will be held on Sunday, May 20th, at 1:00pm at the Dale City VFW, and as we move closer toward the end of the month, we will again take pause to remember the sacrifices of the men and women who have served our country as we participate in activities and ceremonies during the Memorial Day weekend. The members of the Post and the Ladies Auxiliary will again join together as we pay tribute to our deceased brothers and sisters when we decorate graves at Arlington Cemetery on Saturday, May 26th. If you would like to join us, we will meet at the Post at 8:30am and go together to the Cemetery. On Monday, the 28th, Post and Auxiliary members will participate in Memorial Day ceremonies at both the John Lyon Memorial in Cherrydale at 10:30am as well as joining with the American Legions 85 and 139 at joint ceremonies at the Clarendon War Memorial at 1:00pm. Of course, we will have our traditional holiday cookout, as well as acting as host for our many out of town guests throughout the weekend. Please mark these days on your calendar.

As we move forward into this new month, wrapping up old projects and planning new ones, let us together continue to maintain the wonderful traditions of our VFW here at Post #3150.

Yours in Comradeship,

Kenneth H. Jansen

FROM THE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

April was a month of many important events within the Auxiliary. First, and most important, your Auxiliary elected officers for the upcoming 2001-2002 VFW year. Elections are one of the most important events your Auxiliary conducts in the course of the year, as they determine those ladies who will be most responsible to insure that we continue to carry on the ideals and traditions that support the goals of the VFW as well as those of our own Auxiliary. For the past two years I have had the honor of serving our Ladies Auxiliary and our Post as your President and I have had the good fortune to have been supported by a wonderful group of Ladies, as well as the finest Commander and Post in the VFW organization. During this time, we have all shared ideas, hard work, and the mutual satisfaction of seeing the positive outcome of our efforts. For me personally, it has been an incredible learning experience; understanding that when we work together for a common goal, nothing is impossible. However, I felt it was time to step aside to make way for new opportunities and experiences for all of us. We have so much talent and many fresh, new ideas to promote and it is with great pleasure that I will soon be turning over the gavel of the office of Auxiliary President to Cathy Kerns. As most of you know, Cathy has done this before so we can be sure that she will once again lead us forward in promoting the ideals and traditions that have made our Auxiliary what it is today. Of course, Cathy will not be able to do this alone, and so she, as well as the other newly elected officers, will need your continued support. Please join me in congratulating Cathy and all the Ladies who will serve you in the upcoming 2001-2002 year. In addition to Cathy, your officers for the upcoming year are:

Sr. Vice: Jeannie Gibadlo
Jr. Vice: Marian MacIntyre
Secretary: Gail Hoffman
Treasurer: Cathy Graham
Chaplain: J.C. Hotter
Conductress: Muriel Sue Kerr

Guard: Juanita Diggs
Patriotic Instructor: Connie Perry
Historian: J.C. Hotter
1 Year Trustee: Joy Van Horn
2 Year Trustee: Jodie LaFreniere-Dajc
3 Year Trustee: Elsie Weeks

Related to the recent elections, I want to extend an invitation to each of you to join us in the Installation of Officers of both the Post and the Auxiliary. Our Installation will be held on Saturday afternoon, May 19th, at 1:00pm. The joint Installation ceremonies will start promptly at 1:00pm, with a reception immediately following. Please join us. It is a very lovely ceremony and underscores the real reason we are here. Also I want to take this opportunity to congratulate Commander-Elect Connie Agresti on his election as Commander of John Lyon Post #3150 for the next year. Connie is dedicated and well-versed in the ideals and goals of the VFW and I am sure he and Cathy will continue the team effort to do all that can be done to serve the best interests of our veterans, their families, our youth, and our community.

On Saturday evening, April 7th, I was afforded the privilege of attending the National VFW and Ladies Auxiliary "2001 Celebration of Achievement Banquet" at the Hyatt Regency in Crystal City, VA. This was a wonderful experience and allowed me the opportunity to hear Ms. Lindsey J. Liberatore, the National Voice of Democracy Grand Prize Winner, deliver her incredible and moving speech. I was just sorry that each of you could not be there. Rest assured, though, that our young adults are very much aware of what the veterans of this country have done for them, and if what I was able to observe is any indication, the future of this country will be in good hands. We have much to be thankful for when we can see the impact our support has on the young people we are able to help through all of our youth programs in the VFW.

Another big event that occurred this past month was the visit of our National Ladies Auxiliary President, Patricia Jankowski to our John Lyon Post home on Sunday, April 8th during Sunday Brunch. President

Jankowski, accompanied by our Department President Patricia Jurgensen, joined us for coffee and conversation. It was a delightful and informal visit where Madam President took advantage of some "down time" and had the chance to relax for a time and just visit with all of us. Our Commander was particularly pleased when President Jankowski insisted on joining him in the kitchen so that she could see, firsthand, just how efficient an operation we really have here at John Lyon! It was a wonderful compliment to our Auxiliary that President Jankowski took the time to stop by and say hello.

There are a lot of activities coming up this month. May 1st is Loyalty Day. This is the perfect day to demonstrate your patriotism and fly your American flag, and it is an appropriate way to set the tone for the traditional events that come up later in the month!


Also, this month, Arlington County is going to again celebrate "Neighborhood Day" on Saturday, May 12th. This annual event has been so successful in recent years in bringing together the residents and the local businesses and organizations of the community that it has now become a favorite day on the Spring calendar. We are again planning to participate in the parade, carrying the Colors and the banners of the Post and the Auxiliary. If you would like to join us, please be sure to let me know by May 9th.

We will have our traditional "Sunday Brunch" on the 13th, which is also Mother's Day (Happy Mother's Day to all of our mothers!). We'll also have a Sunday Brunch on Memorial Day weekend so be sure to add that to your calendar!

The 10th District will be having their annual Convention on Sunday, May 20th, at 1:00pm at the Dale City VFW on Minneville Road. It is during this particular meeting that the District conducts a lovely memorial service to honor our recently deceased Sisters of the 10th District who have passed away this past year. As you may already know, Auxiliary #3150 is well represented in the District with six of our own Auxiliary members serving as District officers. If you would like to join us, please let me know. We will be sure you have transportation if you need it.

As you know, it is during the month of May that all of us pause to remember those who have paid the ultimate price in service and sacrifice to insure our freedom. Following Loyalty Day on the 1st, Armed Forces Day is on May 19th, and Memorial Day this year will be observed on May 28th. To commemorate Memorial Day, members of the Post and the Ladies Auxiliary will once again gather to decorate the grave sites of our Comrades and Sisters on Saturday, May 26th, between 9:00am and noon. Those of you who can join us should meet at the Post Home at 8:30am. Please contact either me or call the Post at (703) 525-0108 to let us know if you will be participating in this event inasmuch as we will need to arrange for car passes with the administrative offices at Arlington Cemetery. We will all go together to Arlington Cemetery. The Post and Ladies Auxiliary will also be participating in memorial services at 10:30am at the John Lyon Memorial in Cherrydale, and again at 1:00pm in joint services with the American Legions 85 and 139 at the Clarendon War Memorial. Be with us and show the gratitude that we all feel for those who sacrificed to insure our continued freedom.

As I wrap this up, I would again like to wish each mother a very Happy Mother's Day. To those of you who have suffered an illness or the loss of a loved one, our prayers are with you. And, of course, Happy Birthday to all of our May celebrants!


Jeanne M. Gibadlo
Auxiliary President

From the Senior Vice Commander:

“I fear that we have awoken a sleeping giant, and filled him with a terrible resolve.” So stated VADM Isoroku Yamamoto, following Japan’s infamous attack on Pearl Harbor. The same may be said for the recent mid-air collision of a Chinese Communist fighter jet with an American EP-3 surveillance aircraft last month. Rarely, in recent history, have we seen the galvanizing, nearly unanimous resolute anger and determination against another country as we have seen against the People’s Republic of China (PRC) for precipitating this incident, a country whose human rights abuses surpasses those of many other totalitarian regimes.

Equally resolute, however, is the determination of law-abiding, conscientious citizens to rid our streets of crime. I was proud that our John Lyon VFW and Ladies Auxiliary family helped our community in many ways during our Earth Day Adopt-a-Highway clean up. Not only did the record turnout help beautify our neighborhood, but among the detritus of life that we recovered was the wallet of murdered Stars and Stripes Editor David Butler. His wallet has been turned over to Arlington’s Finest and we are sincerely hopeful that there’s some truth about all that television hoopla about forensic science being able to process some concrete clues so that we can bring his cowardly murderer(s) to justice.

May is Buddy Poppy month. We have thousands of poppies for distribution and have been granted permission to distribute them, along with membership literature at the Pentagon on Friday, May 25. As with last year, I will have bags made up of 200 poppies and two cans each for those who want to participate elsewhere in the week leading up to Memorial Day and that weekend.

We expect our AOL “Namvets” chat room to use us as a forward operating base again this Memorial Day. This is a great opportunity to meet veterans from around the country. Also, a new movie entitled “Pearl Harbor” is due out in theaters Memorial Day weekend. I hope to see you all at one or more of these events, or our commemorative ceremonies on Monday, May 28.

Thank you all who contributed to making our membership 100%. Don’t rest on your laurels - we’ll simply need more members next year. With this increased membership, however, is the resolve that was so fearful to Japan 60 years ago and should be fearful to criminals today, whether they be street thugs, or repressive regimes like the PRC.

M. C. "Connie" Agresti
Sr. Vice Commander
(h) 703-516-9784
e-mail: vfw3150svc@aol.com



HELP THE BUDDY POPPY TEAM!

John Lyon members will be distributing Buddy Poppies over Memorial Day weekend plus the week leading up to the holiday. There will be some assembled kits available in the Post Home. If you are able to help out for several hours, sign-up and pick up a kit in the Post home or contact Senior Vice Commander Agresti for additional information.

**Longer Days = More Kids on Streets.
Watch Out for Kids!**

Agresti and Kerns Elected Installation Scheduled

Michael C. Agresti and Catherine A. Kerns were elected as Post 3150 Commander and Ladies Auxiliary President, respectively, for the coming year during April elections. See below for complete election results. Installation of these officers and their staffs will be held on Saturday, 19 May at 1 pm. All members, family, and friends are invited to attend. A reception will follow the ceremonies.

Post Officer Elections

The Post held elections for the coming year during the April meeting. Congratulations to the following:

Commander: M.C. "Connie" Agresti
Senior Vice Commander: C.D. "Doc" Crouch
Junior Vice Commander: Carl Colon
Quartermaster: Keith "Joe" Weeks
Chaplain: to be filled
Advocate: George Mansfield
Surgeon: Mark Pando
Three Year Trustee: Kenneth H. Jansen
One Year Trustee: James M. Gibadlo

Ladies Auxiliary Officer Elections

President: Catherine A. Kerns
Senior Vice President: Jeanne M. Gibadlo
Junior Vice President: Marian MacIntyre
Secretary: Gail Hoffman
Treasurer: Cathy Graham
Chaplain: J.C. Hotter
Conductress: Muriel Sue Kerr
Guard: Juanita Diggs
One Year Trustee: Joy Van Horn
Two Year Trustee: Jodie LaFreniere-Dajc
Three Year Trustee: Elsie Weeks
Patriotic Instructor: Connie Perry
Historian: J.C. Hotter

Welcome to Our New Members

Welcome to new Post members, Mary Krebs and Tom Owen, and new Ladies Auxiliary members Barbara Gibson, elected at the April meetings.

Happy Mother's Day

Happy Mother's Day to all of our Mothers and wives! Wherever you are, you are close to our hearts.

Sunday brunch will be served on Mother's Day, 13 May, from 0900 - 1300. Members of the Post will take over as waiters to give some of our favorite ladies a well-deserved break from their normal routines. Bring your favorite lady and join us.

Post Chaplain to be Elected

The nominee for the Post Chaplain had to decline the nomination due to an unexpected job transfer. As there were no immediate additional nominations, nominations for the post of Chaplain will be made next month with election to follow. If you are interested, please contact the commander-elect, or one of the present or elected officers or attend the May meeting on 10 May 2001.

District Convention

The Tenth District Convention will be held at 1 pm on 20 May at Dale City Post 1503 (14631 Minnieville Road, Dale City VA 22193, 703-670-4124). All Post and Ladies Auxiliary members are invited to attend. Various awards are expected to be presented and / or announced and District elections and installations will be held. Several John Lyon Post and Auxiliary members will be moving forward in office or will assume appointed positions on both sides of the house.

Cancer Aid and Research

Donations for Cancer Aid and Research are being accepted by the Ladies Auxiliary during May and early June for presentation during the Department Convention in June. If you care to donate, send your check to Treasurer Joy Van Horn at the Post address.

From the John Lyon Past...

The following article appeared in the Northern Virginia Sun on 28 April 1965...

VFW to Observe Loyalty Day

“ARLINGTON -- Loyalty Day Saturday will be co-sponsored in Arlington by John Lyon Post 3150, Veterans of Foreign Wars, in cooperation with other organizations. Loyalty Day is intended to dramatize citizens' fervent rededication to the patriotic defense of American freedom ideals.

“Ned Allred, Commander of the Post, explained today that Loyalty Day had been given official recognition by the United States Congress and the President.

“The Veterans of Foreign War created Loyalty Day to counteract Communist demonstrations against our American way of life,’ Commander Allred declared. ‘The Reds were using May Day for special celebration of their revolutionary drive against all freedom principles. It was their number one day on which to shout hatred for our ideals and to wave their hammer and sickle flag under our noses.”

John Lyon to March in Arlington Parade

Members of Post 3150 and the Ladies Auxiliary will again march in the Arlington County “Neighborhood Day” Parade on Saturday 12 May. Those who marched in last year's parade had a great time and the route was as easy walk, extending from Clarendon to Court House. Come and join us as we show our colors to our hometown. Call the Post for last minute details.

Canteen Tidbits...

Some food service will be available every afternoon or evening throughout the Memorial Day Weekend. A Lunch Special is served every weekday from 11 am to 2:45 pm.

A John Lyon Hello ...

to George Mansfield and Gene Miller, Marcie Olson, Imogine Robinson, Virginia Musselman, Peggy Bassford, and Patricia Jurgensen, our Past Commanders and Past Presidents from the 1980s.

Buddy Poppy

Enclosed you will find a Buddy Poppy with the compliments of John Lyon Post and Ladies Auxiliary. Wear it proudly over Memorial Day weekend. If you care to donate to the Relief Fund, an envelope is enclosed for your convenience. All such funds go to support veterans, their widows and orphans.

Post Reaches 100%

The Post reached 100% of our membership goal in early April. Thanks to all who renewed their membership, either annually or life, or joined the VFW and John Lyon Post and helped us reach that goal. To the several members out there who have not renewed yet, be aware that your membership will cease in another month. Insure your continued membership by sending a \$20 renewal check to National Headquarters or to the Post. Do it today!

Thanks to Picker-uppers!

Junior Vice Commander Eric Skrzypczak extends his thanks to all those who turned out Saturday morning, 22 April for the Highway Cleanup. We had a record high group take part this time. We hope to have a photo for next month's newsletter.

And thanks to those who pitched in for the Post Clean-up / Fix-up Day on 7 April.

PLEASE let us know when YOU move!

Recent Activities Around the Post

Community Activities Conference Spurs April Visits

The 2001 National VFW and Ladies Auxiliary Community Service Conference was held April 5 - 8 at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Arlington. Several members of the Post 3150 and Ladies Auxiliary attended some of the meetings and events, including the announcement and presentation of the National VOD winners and presentation of such awards as the Fireman of the Year, and others. At the end of the conference, the Commander-in-Chief and National President did a series of visits throughout the state of Virginia beginning with a stop at Post 3150.



Above, left to right, VFW Commander-in-Chief John W. Gwizdak, Auxiliary President Jeanne Gibadlo, Commander Ken Jansen, Department of Virginia Commander Early Ray Chappell during the visit to Post 3150.



Left, National President Patricia Jankowski ventures into the kitchen during Sunday Brunch to watch the kitchen crew in operation and chat with Commander Ken Jansen, while President Jeanne Gibadlo observes.

Right, among the visitors to Post 3150 during the conference were our “old friends” from the Department of Connecticut: front: Bob Cornell, Department Chief of Staff; rear: Bill Riley, Director of Hospitality; Woody Woodbury, Department Commander; Carol Johnson, Public Relations Representative; Bob Priest, District 4 Senior Vice Commander; Bob Stevens, Past Department Commander; Donald O’Connell, Department Chaplain; and Tom Deer, Department Senior Vice Commander.





May 2001



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		 1 LOYALTY DAY	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 POST MEETING 8:00PM 	11	12  ARLINGTON COUNTY NEIGHBORHOOD DAY
13 MOTHER'S DAY SUNDAY BRUNCH 9:00AM-1:00PM 	14	15	16	17 AUXILIARY MEETING 7:30PM 	18	19 VFW JOHN LYON POST/AUX INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS 1:00PM ARMED FORCES DAY
20 10TH DISTRICT DEPT. OF VA CONVENTION 1:00PM AT DALE CITY VFW	21	22	23	24	25  GRAVE DECORATIONS 12:30PM	26  GRAVE DECORATIONS 8:30AM-NOON
 27 MEMORIAL DAY BREAKFAST BUFFET 9:00AM-1:00PM POST COOKOUT 4:00PM-7:00PM	 28 MEMORIAL DAY JOHN LYON CEREMONIES 10:30AM CLARENDON CEREMONIES 1:00PM	29	30	31		

Memorial Day 2001



Left, the grave of a Post 3150 comrade on Memorial Day weekend. The tombstone is marked by flowers, the American flag and a John Lyon wreath during last year's holiday weekend. Post 3150 and Ladies Auxiliary members place a John Lyon wreath on the graves of members in Arlington National Cemetery, Columbia Gardens, and National Memorial Cemetery during Memorial Day weekend.

Post 3150 Memorial Day Weekend Schedule 25 - 28 May

Fri: 12:30 pm: Meet at Post for Columbia Gardens and National Memorial Cemetery graves decoration.

Sat: 8:30 am: Meet at Post for Arlington Cemetery graves decoration.

Sun: 9 am - 1 pm: Special Buffet Brunch
4 - 7 pm: Post Cookout

Mon: 9:30 am: Principals meet at Post
10:30 am: "John Lyon Memorial", Cherrydale
1 pm: Clarendon War Memorial

Throughout: Buddy Poppy Distribution