

The John Lyon Gazette

Volume 8, Number 2

August 2001



Veterans of Foreign Wars
John Lyon Post #3150
2116 North 19th Street
Arlington VA 22201
703-525-0108 / fax 703-525-8055
<http://www.vfw3150.org>



The John Lyon Gazette: Winner of 1999 Clair B. Poff Public Relations Award for Outstanding Newsletter, and Winner of Second Place Award for 2000, 2001

Ladies Auxiliary Award: Best Newsletter in Virginia, 1999, 2001; Best Newsletter in the Nation, 1999



John Lyon Post Named Official Korean War Commemorative Community

Post 3150 recently received word from the Korean War Commemorative Committee: "Congratulations! Your Commemorative Community application has been approved. You should receive your information packet via regular mail soon." That packet has been received and the official flag, seen above, is now hanging in the Post home. The Post will feature various activities commemorating the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Korean War in the months ahead. Any members with ideas and / or interest in joining in the planning those activities are requested to contact Commander Agresti or Junior Vice Commander Colon.

From the Commander:

The dog days of summer are upon us and while August is traditionally a “slow” month compared with others, the change in command at the Post has kept many of us busy as proverbial bees. Shortly after taking the helm (sorry, I was a sailor) at John Lyon, I attended the Department of Virginia School of Instruction. A number of topics were discussed that I wish to share with you.

We were reminded that the VFW offers \$1,000/\$1,500 Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance to all members free of charge. If you haven’t signed up for this, or if you desire to change your beneficiary, forms are available at the Post. For more information please contact Joe Weeks, Gary Wagner, myself, or call 1-800-821-2606, M-F, 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM, Central Time.

In the initial mailing of annual member renewal notices, National indicated that members could renew annual membership with a credit card. This was in error. Cash, check, or money order remain the only ways to renew annual membership. Department has made provisions to process those renewals citing a credit card but the process is laborious and denies the Post of its share of the dues for a period of time.

The Post will be receiving a supply of special MIP (Military Initiative Program) enrollment forms. The MIP Program is designed to expose eligible active duty, Reserve, and National Guard personnel to the VFW by offering them a one-year free membership. Additionally, a number of new Commander-in-Chief Recruiting Awards have been established this year for recruiting as few as three new or reinstated (non-MIP) members.

Lastly, there have been some personnel changes in the Canteen. Barbara Brickhill will be assuming the daily bartender duties formerly performed by Barbara Gibson. I have also appointed Ms. Brickhill to the position of Canteen Manager. Volunteers are still (and always) needed for evening bartender. If you can spare one or more evenings a week, please let Barbara know. She can be contacted at the Post.

The other recent appointment that I have made was to name our Junior Vice Commander, Carl Colon, as Chairman of the House Committee. Volunteers to serve on the House Committee are also sought on a continuous basis. Comments and suggestions are always welcome but routines ones should be made at Post meetings under the Good of the Order.

We will be conducting a Cook-Out on Sunday, August 5 (12 noon through 4:30 PM) in honor of the Coast Guard Birthday (August 4) and National Purple Heart Day (August 7). I will be out of town that week and Senior Vice Commander “Doc” Crouch will preside at that event and the August Post meeting.

Be careful swimming and boating and watch your sun exposure.

M. C. “Connie” Agresti

FROM THE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

HAPPY BIRTHDAY U.S. COAST GUARD

Established on 4 August 1790 as part of the Department of Treasury, the U.S. Coast Guard is now part of the Department of Transportation, protecting U.S. interest at home and around the world, patrolling shores, saving lives and protecting property. The Coast Guard is like its motto, Semper Paratus, ALWAYS READY.

A special big THANK YOU to everyone who helped out on the 4th of July cookout. It was a great turnout. Also for those who were not there, the post and auxiliary participated in the "Let Freedom Ring Ceremony" at 2 p.m., a nationwide ceremony in which you ring the bell 13 tolls, one for each of the 13 original states.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE: Ladies in the past couple years we have conducted a drawing for early bird renewals of continuous members. We are planning this again for the membership year 2001-2002. Eligible members who have renewed (\$20.00) by 30 September 2001, will have 3 chances to be chosen for having their membership paid for the 2002-2003 year. Also life members are reminded to pay for their cancer insurance (that is \$9.90). You may send your dues and cancer insurance to our Treasurer, Cathy Graham, 9691 Lindenbrook Street, Fairfax, Virginia 22031, if you have any questions regarding membership you may call Cathy at 703-319-0845. Also if you know anyone who is interested in becoming a member of the Ladies Auxiliary, please let us know. If you have any questions regarding membership or any other program you may reach me at 703-979-5268 and my e-mail is Ckerns@attglobal.net.

There are several activities at the Post this month: On the 5th of August we will be having a cookout at the post to celebrate the U.S. Coast Guard Birthday (4 August) and National Purple Heart Day (7 August) followed by a cake cutting. On the 12th and 26th of August is community breakfast. On the 16th of August is our monthly Auxiliary meeting at 7:30 pm. Just a reminder, if you can help out at any of the breakfasts please let me know, even if it is for a couple of hours. 18-24 August is the National Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Do you have a John Lyon hat or shirt, if so then wear it on the 11th of August for John Lyon Day at the post?

Happy Birthday to those who are celebrating a birthday this month. For those that can't be with us due to distance or illness you are in our prayers and our thoughts are with you. .

Cathy Kerns
Auxiliary President

From the John Lyon Past

The following article appeared in the 6 August 1948 issue of *The Northern Virginia Sun*:

“Junior Rifle Club Formed by V.F.W.

“John Lyon Post’s new V.F.W. Junior Rifle Club will hold its second meeting Tuesday evening, August 10, at 7:30 o’clock at the Washington-Lee rifle range. Organized August 3, the club is open to any boy 12 through 18 years whose parents are U.S. citizens.

“Eleven boys have signed the charter, which is still open, and officers are Wallace Fortney, president; Wesley Dalby, vice-president; Gordon Harlow, secretary; George Ebersole, treasurer; and Donald Mattmueller, executive officer. Harold J. Ebersole, post junior activities chairman, is senior instructor and may be reached at CHestnut 4172. Edwin G. Speakman, post chaplain, is assistant instructor and may be called at GLebe 7462.

“The club is chartered under the National Rifle Association and members will conduct their own meetings. Competent instructors will be present at each meeting.”

‘New’ Post Renewal Procedures

VFW annual members should have received a renewal notice from National Headquarters by now. You may have noticed a change from last year’s test of mailing your dues to National. The results were broadly disapproved by Virginia Posts and we return to the “old” way of sending dues to the Post Quartermaster. If you did not receive a renewal form, you can renew by sending a \$20 check to the Post Home. Mark check “2002 dues”.

Labor Day Cookout Monday, 3 September 1 - 5 pm

John Lyon Shirt and Cap Day

John Lyon Shirt and Cap Day will be repeated this summer on Saturday, 11 August. All 3150 members are urged to wear their John Lyon shirts and caps wherever they go in Arlington that day in an effort to show the people of Arlington that we are here. Last year’s effort prompted towns folks to ask about the Post and Auxiliary. All participants are asked to stop by the Post for a group photo at 5pm. Be prepared by digging your tee-shirts and caps out of the closet or getting a new one at the post home if you need one.

Life Membership Program for Annual Members

Last year Post 3150 initiated a goal of attaining 100% Life Members over the next several years. The Post will again hold a special drawing from all annual members who have renewed, joined, or “Gone Life” by 30 September. The drawing will include one from each age group and the winners will receive a Life membership in the VFW. To qualify for the drawing, ensure you have renewed early.

World War II Vets

The World War II Veterans Committee, a recently established veterans service organization, will conduct its fourth annual conference at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Washington, DC, November 8 - 10, 2001. Interested individuals may contact the organization at 1030 15th Street, N.W., Suite 700, Washington, DC 20005. Phone: 202-777-7272. Fax: 202-408-1087.

Thanks!

The editor wishes to thank all who contributed to the success of the *John Lyon Gazette* during 2000 - 2001 and helped obtain the recognition from the Department VFW organization.



Meet John Lyon, the man for whom our Post was named.

Meet the Post Officers of VFW Post #3150. The John Lyon Ladies Auxiliary is one of the most active and dynamic in the state. Our VFW Post is involved in quite a few Activities. Information about the Post's Location is available online. Post Commander, Connie Agresti, has quite a passion for updating the Veterans Links section. If you'd like to leave us with some feedback try signing our Guestbook.



Check out the Special Features Section to view photos of local monuments and memorials.

*Veterans of Foreign Wars - John Lyon Post #3150
 2116 North 19th Street, Arlington, VA 22201
 703-525-0108*

Webmaster: Eric Skrzypczak

The John Lyon Webpage

We hear many things about the Internet and webpages. But those without access to the Internet may not be aware of what is going on. Above you see the opening page of the John Lyon VFW Post # 3150 webpage. Clicking on the underlined words (with that "mouse" gizmo) will take user to the described section. The John Lyon webpage currently has eight different sections: John Lyon, Post Officers, Ladies Auxiliary, Activities, Post's Location, Veterans Links, Guestbook, and Special Features Section. Veterans Links takes the user to such places as other VFW Posts, the VFW State of Virginia webpage, VFW National webpage, places to obtain VA Forms and information on burials, etc., as well as the five Service webpages. The Guestbook allows the visitor to leave a message. And the Special Features Section is a quick look at Arlington and Washington, D.C. points of interest.

The Post 3150 webpage is at <http://www.vfw3150.org>

3150 is quite thankful for member Eric Skrzypczak's skill, talent, and dedication in providing John Lyon with one of the best webpages around.

U.S. Coast Guard Birthday Purple Heart Day

The U.S. Coast Guard will mark its 211th birthday on Saturday, 4 August. Tuesday, 7 August is Purple Heart Day. John Lyon Post will mark these events with a special cookout on Sunday, 5 August, from 12 noon to 4:30 pm. Ceremonies will be held for both events. "Coasties" and recipients of the Purple Heart are especially invited to mark this day with comrades and sisters of Post 3150.

Past Presidential Greeting...

"Hi to every one --- especially the "older" ladies... writes 1955-56 John Lyon Ladies Auxiliary President Mary Alexander Neel from her home in Arizona.

Locker Rentals Due

Quartermaster Keith "Joe" Weeks would like to remind those members who have rented a locker in the canteen that it is time to renew. Please send \$10 to the Quartermaster for the next year. If anyone chooses not to renew, he/she should return the key.

Welcome to Our New Members

Welcome to new Ladies Auxiliary member, Rose Young, elected at the August meeting.

Best Kept Secret in Arlington?

Those who don't like to go out after dark may like to know that the second best kept secret in Arlington (after the existence of John Lyon Post, of course!) is that the US Marine Corps does a dry run of their summer Evening Ceremony every Tuesday MORNING from about 8 - 9am at the Iwo Jima Memorial. The regular ceremony is every Tuesday evening at 7 pm.

Ladies Auxiliary Yard Sale

The Ladies Auxiliary is looking to hold a Yard Sale at the end of September. Watch for details in next month's newsletter. If you have items to donate, contact President Cathy Kerns or Chairman Barbara Brickhill.



Swimming?

Be alert at the pool.

Be Safe!

Thanks to your dedicated service to our community, John Lyon has placed first in the State for Posts in our size category for Community Service each of the last two years. Last year we were second overall in the State of Virginia. Number one in the State is within reach. Working together, we can grasp the Gold. If you perform community service in the course of your day, as a VFW or Auxiliary member that service can be credited to the Post. Please take a moment to complete, detach, and mail the attached form to report such services. (And send pictures, if avail)

Community Activity Report

Hospital Visit _____ Church Volunteerism _____ School/Youth Volunteerism _____
Community Service (e.g. Meals on Wheels, Elderly Support, etc) _____
Safety Activity _____ Blood Donation _____ Other _____

Number of People _____ Time _____ Miles Driven _____ Cost _____

Mail to: Junior Vice Commander, John Lyon VFW 3150, 2116 N. 19th St, Arlington, VA 22201

Recent Activities Around the Post



<<< Joe Weyraugh and Jim Conen look on as Connie Conen places a wreath on a grave at Arlington National Cemetery during Memorial Day Weekend.



>>> Some of the members of the Key Science Focus Lightning soccer team, sponsored by John Lyon Post, attended Memorial Day ceremonies at Clarendon War Memorial. The ceremonies are a joint effort between John Lyon Post and the two American Legion Posts in Arlington.



<<< 2000 - 2001 President of the Ladies Auxiliary, Jeanne Gibadlo, and 2000 - 2001 Post Commander Ken Jansen stand ready to answer questions at the John Lyon table prior to ceremonies at the recent Arlington County Schools Partners in Education. John Lyon again received recognition for its assistance to Key Elementary and Science Focus Schools.

>>> 2000 - 2001 Commander Ken Jansen and President Jeanne Gibadlo flank recent winners of the D.A.R.E. essay contest. The program is a nationally-recognized program for Drug Abuse Resistance Education.



Recent Activities Around the Post



<<< The Post Home is decked out in red, white and blue to celebrate Independence Day recently.

>>> If there's a line of Arlington County Police motorcycles and cruisers in the Post 3150 parking lot, it must be a special holiday, such as the Fourth of July. Arlington's Finest stop by the Post for lunch before continuing their day long duties keeping Arlington's residents and visitors safe on the holiday.



<<< The Post 3150 parking lot has finally been completed. One of the special features is the handicapped parking space seen above and a ramp into the backyard, just outside the picture to the left. The picture above also show the new space striping.

>>> Buddy Poppy Chairman, Connie Agresti, counts up the donations for Buddy Poppies following the recent Memorial Day distribution and donation period.





**US Coast Guard Birthday
4 August 2001**



**Purple Heart Day
7 August 2001**

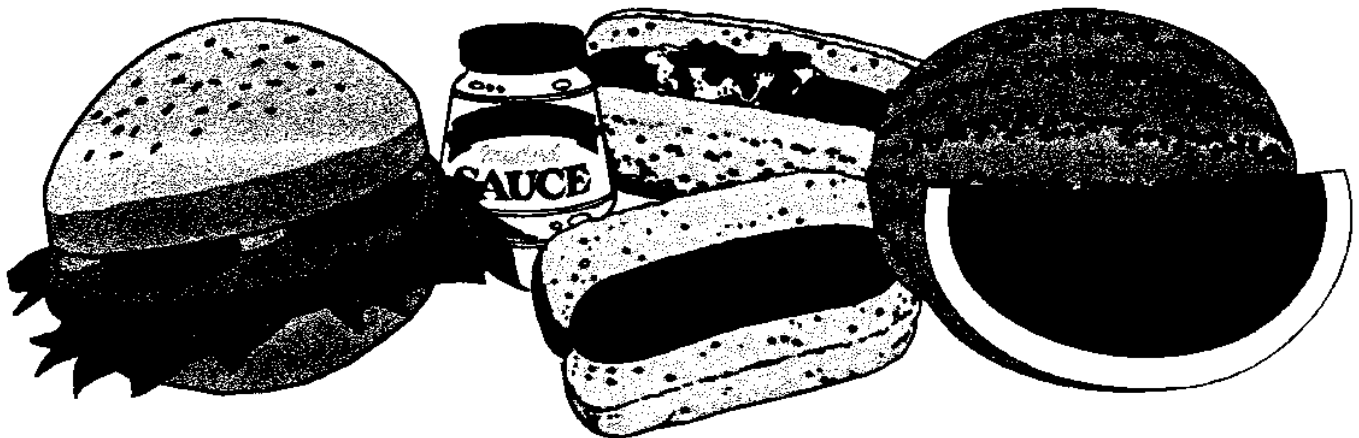
**Cookout
Ceremonies
Sunday, 5 August 2001
12 - 4:30pm**

**LADIES AUXILIARY
LABOR DAY COOKOUT
SEPTEMBER 3, 2001
1:00PM TO 5:00PM**







**Cheeseburgers
Hamburgers
HotDogs
(and all the trimmings)**

**Along with:
Potato Salad
Baked Beans
Deviled Eggs
Ice Cold Watermelon
Desserts**

**CHECK THIS PRICE OUT!!!
ONLY \$5.00**



August 2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 U.S. COAST GUARD EST. 1790
5 PURPLE HEART DAY COAST GUARD DAY COOKOUT 12-4:30 PM	6	7 NATIONAL PURPLE HEART DAY 	8	9 POST MEETING 8:00PM 	10	11 JOHN LYON (T-SHIRT & HAT) DAY 
12 SUNDAY BRUNCH 9:00AM-1:00PM 	13	14 JAPAN SURRENDERS ENDING WWII (1945)	15	16 AUXILIARY MEETING 7:30PM 	17	18 AUSTRALIAN VIETNAM VETERANS DAY VFW NATIONAL CONVENTION IN MILWAUKEE
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
VFW NATIONAL CONVENTION IN MILWAUKEE	VFW NATIONAL CONVENTION IN MILWAUKEE	VFW NATIONAL CONVENTION IN MILWAUKEE	VFW NATIONAL CONVENTION IN MILWAUKEE	VFW NATIONAL CONVENTION IN MILWAUKEE	VFW NATIONAL CONVENTION IN MILWAUKEE	
26 SUNDAY BRUNCH 9:00AM-1:00PM 	27	28	29	30	31	



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
P A I D
Merrifield, VA
Permit No. 9209

Dated Material Please Do Not Delay

Address Service Requested



Boating?

Be Sane...and

Be Safe!