

The John Lyon Gazette

Volume 9, Number 2

August 2002



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>



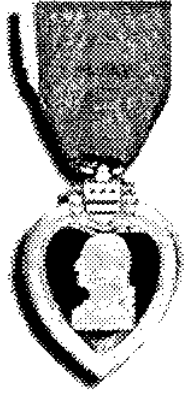
The John Lyon Gazette: Winner of 1999 Clair B. Poff Public Relations Award for Outstanding Newsletter, and Winner of Second Place Award for 2000, 2001

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



Post Facelift

The facelift of the VFW 3150 Post Home has been largely completed with several actions during the last month or so. The activity began some time ago with the replacement of the roof and siding over the entire building. The landscaping has gradually been upgraded with the addition of azaleas and evergreens near the front door. Small retaining walls reach the street from the front steps and lower door and plants placed along the edge. The final touches included the refinishing of the canon and repainting the mailbox. Just before the Independence Day, the flagpole was repainted and the hardware replaced and new flags raised. Left, the Post is shown decked out in bunting and new flags for the Fourth of July.



From The Commander...

On August 4th the Post will observe the U.S. Coast Guard's Birthday and Purple Heart Day. August 4th is the 212th Birthday of the U.S. Coast Guard and August 7th is designated as National Purple Heart Day.

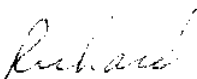
Many members of our Post were awarded one or more Purple Hearts, our nations' award for Merit. To the person, each would have been glad to not have received this high honor. The citation reads "THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO ALL WHO SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS, GREETING: THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA HAS AWARDED THE PURPLE HEART ESTABLISHED BY GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON AT NEWBURGH, NEW YORK, AUGUST 7, 1782 TO (the individual who was wounded) FOR WOUNDS RECEIVED IN ACTION IN (location of injury) ON THE (date of the injury)."

The Purple Heart Medal's roots are embedded in our country's revolution against British tyranny. In creating the Badge of Merit in 1782, General George Washington said, "Whenever any singularly meritorious action is performed, the author of it shall be permitted to wear on his facings over the left breast, the figure of a heart in purple cloth or silk, edged with narrow lace or binding."

In 1932, at the urging of General Douglas MacArthur, President Franklin Roosevelt recast it as the Purple Heart Medal. The oldest U.S. military decoration currently in use, the Purple Heart is awarded to soldiers who were wounded or died as a result of the act of an opposing armed force, an international terrorist attack, or peacekeeping operations.

The medal, so far awarded to approximately 1.8 million American veterans, stands as a highly recognized and respected tribute to the courage of military men and women.

The United States Coast Guard, one of the country's five armed services, is also one of the most unique agencies of the federal government. Tracing their history back to 4 August 1790, when the first Congress authorized the construction of ten vessels to enforce tariff and trade laws, prevent smuggling, and protect the collection of the federal revenue. Known variously as the Revenue Marine and the Revenue Cutter Service.


Richard R. Hoffman



From the Auxiliary President.....

Each and every Auxiliary member holds her own key to success. As an individual and a team we can unlock many doors and continuously move forward. Do not ever be afraid to use your key to unlock a door. This holds true in your personal life, your professional career and your Auxiliary participation. Only you have the power to make the decision to use your key. Don't let a valuable opportunity pass you by because you failed to use your key.

Membership is a vital component of the Auxiliary at all levels. It starts at the Auxiliary level and moves up the chain through the District, the Department and National levels. Each year our own Auxiliary holds a membership lottery drawing for continuous members. Three names are selected from early bird renewals with the winners receiving their next year's dues paid by the Auxiliary. This has been successful in obtaining membership goals earlier in the year and ensuring our banner.

This year we are increasing the incentive for continuous members to renew early. In addition to the lottery for the next year's paid dues, we will be offering a lottery for a life membership to those continuous members who renew before October 30, 2002. In fact we will be giving multiple chances for a continuous member to obtain a free life membership. If a continuous member renews her membership by August 30, she will have 5 chances for the life membership drawing; by September 30, she will have 3 chances; and by October 30, she will have 1 chance. So, the earlier you renew the more chances you receive for the free life membership. Those continuous members who are not lucky enough to win the life membership this year, don't despair. The remaining continuous members who have renewed by October 30 are automatically included in the lottery drawing for next year's free membership dues. We will hold the lottery drawings, 1 life membership and 3 continuous memberships, at our November meeting. For those of you who have already renewed, congratulations you already have 5 chances for a life membership. For those of you not yet paid, you also still have the opportunity to also receive 5 chances if you renew by August 30, 2002. Dues can be forwarded to Treasurer Cathy Graham at 9691 Lindenbrook Street, Fairfax, VA 22031. Don't lose this opportunity to use your "key"!!!

Our thoughts and prayers are extended to anyone who may be under the weather or who has suffered a personal loss. Also, we send warm wishes to all of those who will be celebrating another milestone in their annual trek through life. Enjoy the summer days and use your "key" every chance you get.

Gail Hoffman

From the Senior Vice Commander:

The Post lost 25 members last year, mostly due to death with several transfers out. For the new membership year, which began on 1 July, we are off on a good pace for 2002-2003. Quartermaster Jansen sent 21 new and renewed member transmittals (paperwork) and three new MIPs to Department HQ the other night. This pretty much gets us back to zero. Thanks to those who have joined us or responded so quickly to their renewal notices. Remember that all new and renewed members are eligible for the Life Membership drawings to be held at the Early Bird Dinner in October. Seven names will be drawn, one for each age category. (See below) If you renew or join and "go Life" and your name is drawn, you will be reimbursed the cost, so there is no reason not to consider an investment if Life membership now. It might be the best investment you can make this month!

If you have not received a renewal notice for 2002-2003, please send a check to Post 3150 for \$23. Write "2002-2003 Dues" in the lower left corner. Send it to the mailing address on the front page of this newsletter.

Thanks to all of you "Early Birds"!

J.Gary Wagner
Senior Vice Commander/Membership Chairman
email: 103636.1543@compuserve.com

John Lyon Shirt and Cap Day

John Lyon Shirt and Cap Day will be repeated this summer on Saturday, 17 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 town 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.

Welcome to Our New Members

Welcome to new Post members, Donald K. Gordon (Life) Joseph Krebs (transfer), Steven McLaughlin, Joseph G. Pollicino (Life transfer), elected at the July meeting. And to new Ladies Auxiliary members Randi Edwards, wife of Post member Richard Edwards, and to Sara McGrail, daughter of Post Advocate Joe McGrail.

Father-Daughter Post Members

In what is, in all likelihood, a 3150 first, we have a father-daughter duo as Post members. Mary Krebs, a Desert Storm veteran, transferred into John Lyon Post when she moved to the Washington area in Spring 2001. She recently sponsored her father, Joseph Krebs Jr, a Korean War veteran, into Post 3150. He was previously a VFW at-large member.

A John Lyon Hello ...

To Stan Darroch, recently named as Virginia Commissioner for the Scottish Clan Donald, USA organization.

House Committee Nominations Set for August Meeting

Nominations for seats on the Post 3150 House Committee will be made during the August Post meeting, starting at 8pm on 8 August. Elections will be held at the September meeting. Interested members are invited to attend the meeting or inform one of the officers of their interest in helping to run the Post facility.

**Coast Guard Birthday
Purple Heart Day
Cookout, Ceremonies
Sunday, 4 August 2002
2 - 4 pm**

U.S. Coast Guard Birthday Purple Heart Day

The U.S. Coast Guard will mark its 212th birthday on Sunday, 4 August. Wednesday, 7 August is Purple Heart Day. John Lyon Post will mark these events with a special cookout on Sunday, 4 August, from 2 to 4 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.

"VA Raises Education Reimbursement Levels for Veterans

"The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is providing veterans a major boost in the monthly educational payments offered under the Montgomery GI Bill...Rates are adjusted for veterans enrolled part-time or for those with limited military service. In addition to covering traditional two-year and four-year college studies, a new VA program taking effect next fall is aimed at high technology courses. It will allow veterans to use a lump sum from their benefit for certain expensive courses such as those leading to certification of computer network professionals. Coverage of up to 60 percent of the cost of such high-tech courses will begin Oct. 1, 2002.

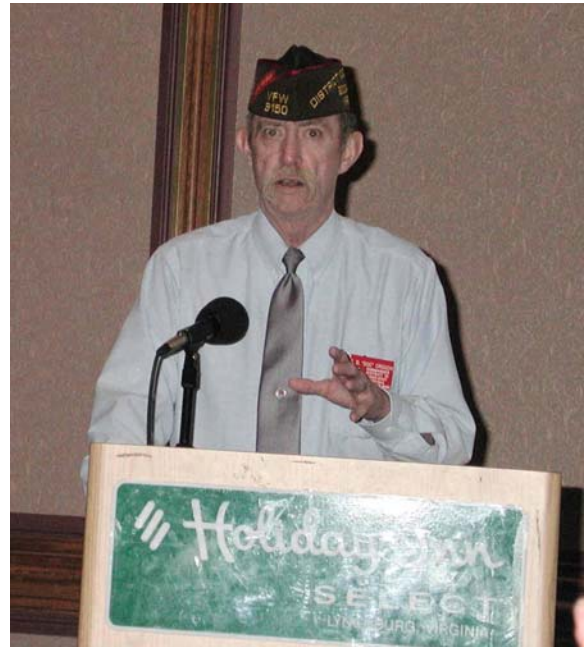
"The new law, the Veterans Education and Benefits Expansion Act of 2001 (Public Law 107-103), also improves educational assistance for eligible spouses and children of certain veterans, including veterans who died or are permanently and totally disabled as a result of a service-connected disability."

For more information about veterans educational programs, call VA at 888-442-4551.

From Virginia Department of Veteran Affairs Department News, July 2002. The newsletter is available at www.vdva.vipnet.org.

Labor Day Cookout Monday, 2 September 2 - 5 pm

John Lyon Members Named to State Positions



Department POW/MIA Chairman "Doc" Crouch, above, presents an update on POW/MIA matters at the Department School of Instruction held recently in Lynchburg, VA. *Photo by VFW Department of Virginia Historian Kim DeShano.*

Five Post 3150 members have been named to Department Chairmanships in the state of Virginia for the Year 2002 - 2003. The appointments appear in the July General Orders. M.C. "Connie" Agresti has been named Military Assistance Program Chairman. And C.D. "Doc" Crouch as POW/MIA Coordinator; Kenneth H. Jansen as Disaster Relief Chairman; James S. Kerr as Veterans Advocacy Chairman (previously Diversity Chairman); and J.Gary Wagner Americanism Chairman. Kerr and Crouch repeat their chairmanships from the previous year, and last year Jansen was a member of the Audit Committee. Agresti was also named a member of this year's Audit Committee, Kerr a member of the Legislative Committee, and Jansen a member of the Time and Place Committee.

The Ladies Auxiliary 3150 is also represented at the state level. Jeanne M. Gibadlo was appointed as Department Membership Chairman; Catherine A. Kerns as Department Flag Bearer; and Muriel Sue Kerr as Department Programs Coordinator. Last year Kerns was Patriotic Instructor and Gail Hoffman was Assistant Guard.

Life Membership Program for Annual Members

Two years ago 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. If the member whose name is drawn had gone Life when renewing or joining this summer, he/she will be reimbursed for that Life Membership and so will not be penalized for going Life now. To qualify for the drawing, renew early.

“New Mastectomy Compensation Regulation Issued

“The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has issued a final regulation that awards special monthly compensation to women veterans with service-related loss of one or both breasts. Such anatomic losses may include simple, modified or radical mastectomies. The regulation is based on provisions of the Veterans Benefits and Health Care Improvement Act of 2000. Federal law provides a special monthly benefit of \$80 for certain service-related disabilities suffered by veterans...The new regulation became effective March 18.”

From Virginia Department of Veteran Affairs Department News, July 2002. The newsletter is available at www.vdva.vipnet.org.

VFW Lapel Pins for Members

Post members who have not been “obligated” and have not received a VFW lapel pin, are asked to attend the 8 August Post meeting and take the “Oath of Obligation” during a short “induction ceremony”. The Oath of Obligation is the same statement on the application form and which applicants sign.

“Big George”

Past Commander Bill Jackson remembers when the cannon in front of the Post home, an artillery piece from World War II, was brought to 3150. Past Commanders J.T. Vance (1948-49) and Buddy Speakman (1949-50) went to Aberdeen Proving Ground about 1950 --- when they were releasing military surplus to veteran organizations --- and towed the cannon back to the Post. The plate on the cannon identifies it as “No 2196 NEF (?) Mechanism, Recoil 3 Inch Gun...M9A1 Rock Island Arsenal 1944” A 1991 shows it with the inscription “Big George” on the gun barrel. The inspiration for of the inscription, as well as when it was added, is unknown, however 4 of 15 Post Commanders by 1950-51 had the name “George”, including the then current Commander, George E. Wey.



If you're driving through the Midwest this summer, watch for the Veterans of Foreign Wars Memorial Highway --- Interstate 70 in Ohio. Several of the rest stops have the signs dedicating the highway to VFW members.



But...

**Use caution.
Be safe.**

**No matter how
you travel!**

Recent Activities Around the Post

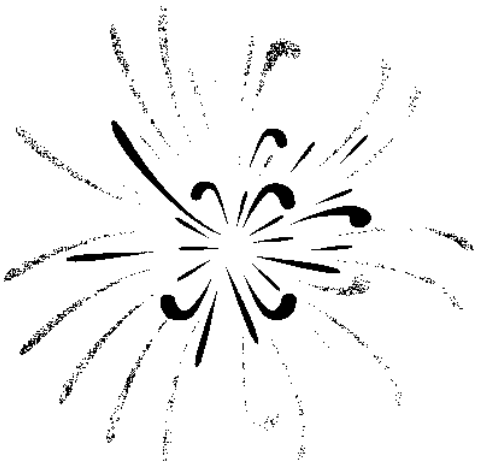


<<< President Gail and Commander Richard Hoffman, Ginny LePage, and Mark Pando prepare to leave for the VA Hospital in Washington, DC. They took along several cases of fruit and some books and magazines on the recent visit to veterans in the hospital nursing home. Next visit will be in September

Richard Hoffman, Joe Repasch, Bill >>> Wolverton, and Carl Colon reset the flagpole in front of the post home after it had been repainted and fitted out with such new equipment as pulleys and ropes. New lighting is still planned for the flagpole.



<<< New post member Bruce Quinn (on the right) joins Mark Bayuk (center) and an unidentified person for the barbecued chicken on the Fourth of July. A large number of the John Lyon family turned out to celebrate the nation's birthday on a hot and steamy July afternoon.



Labor Day Cookout

Hosted by the
Ladies Auxiliary

Date: Monday, Sept. 2nd

Time: 2:00p ~ 5:00p

Cost: \$6.00/per person

Beef Barbecue Ribs	Bratwurst/Sauerkraut
Corn-on-the-Cob	Potato Salad/Cole Slaw
Beans	Desserts

**** Ice Cream Cones \$.75 ****

**** 50/50 Raffle ****

Sign-up Sheet at the Canteen

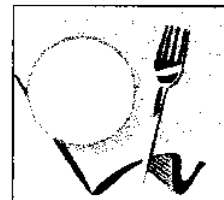
Stop by or call up
to have your name put on
the only list in town!!!!



August 2002

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Chili Mac	2 Seafood	3
4	5 Pork Chops	6 Meatloaf	7 BBQ Ribs	8 Chili Mac	9 Seafood	10
11	12 Baked Chicken	13 Spaghetti	14 BBQ Ribs	15 Chili Mac	16 Seafood	17
18	19 Pork Chops	20 Meatloaf	21 BBQ Ribs	22 Chili Mac	23 Seafood	24
25	26 Baked Chicken	27 Spaghetti	28 BBQ Ribs	29 Chili Mac	30 Seafood	31

Lunch Served 11 to 3 Monday - Friday
Ask About Our Specials





"OPEN TO ALL THOSE WHO LOVE TO PLAY THE GAME OF GOLF"

**The "Old Guard" Association
Proudly Presents
The 5th Annual Golf Tournament
To Be Held At**



Andrews Air Force Base South Course

Thursday, September 12, 2002

ENTRY FEE: \$ 60.00

**Includes: Green Fees, Golf Cart, Lunch, Special Prizes, Cash Prizes
All Golfers are invited to the Hospitality Room after Play**

4-Man Captain's choice

0800 hrs Shotgun Start

Check in Time is NLT 0730

Participants may compose their own team of four for the Captain's choice format

Sign up now! Space is limited, Registration will be handled on a first come first serve basis.
For More information go to our web page at: www.oldguard.org and click on reunion.

*Bus transportation will be provided from the reunion motel
(DAYS INN across from Henry gate)*

REGISTRATION FORM MUST BE RECEIVED NLT, 6 SEPTEMBER

*Send this section
(Please Print)*

GOLF REGISTRATION FORM

Send this section

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Handicap(s): _____

Make checks payable to TOGA (Golf)

Mail to: Tom Twomey, 1923 Wendover Dr. Fayetteville, NC 28304-1429

August 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
 4 U.S. COAST GUARD EST. 1790 COOKOUT 2:00PM - 4:00PM	5	6	7	 8 NATIONAL PURPLE HEART DAY POST MEETING 8:00PM	9	10
 11 SUNDAY BRUNCH 9:00AM - 1:00PM	12	13	14	 15 AUXILIARY MEETING 7:30PM ARLINGTON COUNTY FAIR	16	17 JOHN LYON SHIRT/HAT DAY ARLINGTON COUNTY FAIR
18 "LONG TAN DAY" AUSTRALIAN VIETNAM VETERANS DAY ARLINGTON COUNTY FAIR	19	20	21	22	23	24 VFW & LADIES AUXILIARY NATIONAL CONVENTION BEGINS IN NASHVILLE, TN THRU 08/30/02
 25 SUNDAY BRUNCH 9:00AM - 1:00PM	26	27	28	29	30 VFW & LADIES AUXILIARY NATIONAL CONVENTION ENDS	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

US Coast Guard
Birthday
4 August 2002



Purple Heart Day
7 August 2002