

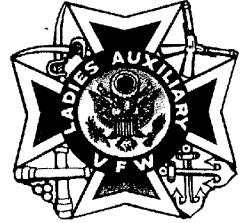
The John Lyon Gazette

Volume 9, Number 9

March 2003

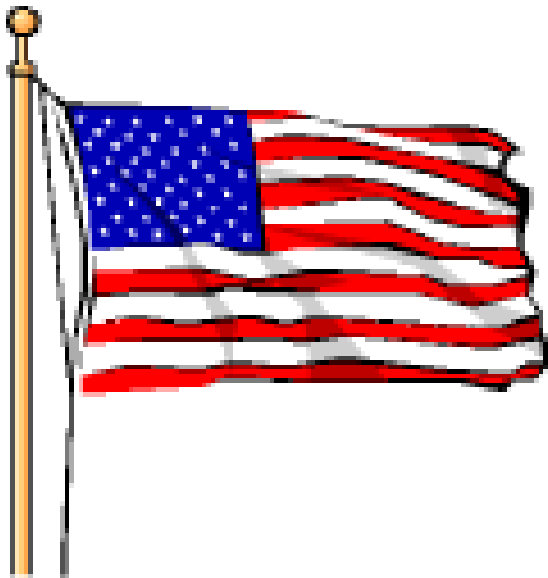


Veterans of Foreign Wars
John Lyon Post #3150
2116 North 19th Street
Arlington VA 22201
703-525-0108 / fax 703-525-8055
<http://www.vfw3150.org>



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



“...Oh, say does that star-
spangled banner
yet wave
O'er the land of the free
and the home of the brave?”

3 March

“Star Spangled Banner” Day

Written by Francis Scott Key during the War of 1812,
it was made the U.S. National Anthem in 1931.

From The Commander



Hey it's March already. We should be feeling the winds and thinkin' 'bout flyin' a kite. Looking forward to more days out on the golf course, I need to protect my 36 handicap and mostly enjoying the sun. Spring is on its way.


On March 3, 1915 Congress formally created a Federal Naval Reserve, the ancestor organization of today's Naval Reserve. U. S. Navy Seabee's Birthday is March 5, 1942. Happy 61st Birthday Seabees.

This month at our Post meeting we will open nominations for the Post Officers for the 2003 - 2004 VFW year. Be sure to attend the meeting and support the members you want to lead us next year.

Many of us will be attending VOD banquet Dinner with the hopes our VOD entry winner wins the National honors. This will be the first time John Lyon has a National VOD competitor. Keep your fingers crossed.

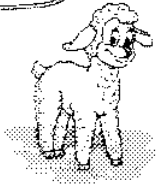
On March 29th we will have our visit to the VA Nursing Home. It is always a good feeling to see the men and women residents smile when we visit. So if you need a lift in your spirits join us for this most worthy of our programs.

How many of you care what the French think as far as that goes how many of you care what Germany thinks. As a matter of fact who care what the world thinks. We are the only country in the world which has the ability to stay right within our borders and need nothing from anyone. I remember from history 101 we enjoyed building the industrial revolution and were pretty good at isolationism. We avoided being drawn into the worlds problems until we were forced to get involved. And when we did we solved those problems. Twice for the French and twice against the Germans. We are the most powerful country in the world. We should stay home, keep our money here at home and fix the problems we have here. Just think of all that could be done in our own country with all the money we send to all those who don't like us. And what are they doing with all that money. They are buying guns not buying butter. The people this money was intended to help are not benefiting for it. While here our politicians keep scaring the elderly during campaigns that there will be no money for medicare or social security. I've got a good idea where we can get all the money we need for those programs as well as feed the hungry and house the homeless in this country. There must be something wrong with my thinking.


Commander



From the Auxiliary President.....



Well the month of March has arrived and with it the coming of Spring – longer days, warmer temperatures and more outdoor activities. It has been a challenging winter and like everyone else I am looking forward to better days.

March holds several activities for the Post and Auxiliary. Members of the Post and Auxiliary will be attending several activities during the National Legislative & Community Services Conference in Washington DC. There is the VOD Parade of Winners on March 9th and the VOD Banquet Dinner on March 11th. Our Post/Auxiliary, District, State winner, Mr. Lee Hagy will be in attendance to receive recognition for the State of Virginia.

The Post will be hosting a St. Patrick's Day Dinner on Sunday, March 16th. Don't miss out on this great annual event. Please call or come by the Post to sign up. Check the calendar for other activities and events.



The Auxiliary would like to wish one of our members a fond bon voyage. Rita Beatty will be heading north to the state of New York to be closer to her family. On a personal note, I would like to thank Rita for her assistance, support and good times throughout the years. Rita, you will be missed and we wish you all the best!!!!

The Auxiliary will be hosting a Crab Cake Dinner on Friday, April 4th to raise funds for Cancer Aid & Research. This has become a favorite event at our Post Home and we hope you can join us for good food and a good cause.

Due to popular demand, Karaoke will become a monthly activity. The "Infamous J.P." will be hosting Karaoke the 4th Friday of every month. If you haven't been to one of these, you don't know what you are missing. Stop by and check out the action. I can guarantee that you will not be disappointed.



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. Have a safe and very Irish St. Patrick's Day!



Gail Hoffman

3150's Patriot's Pen Entrant Takes Third Place at District

Stephen P. Dronfield, 7th grade home schooled student from Herndon, Virginia, winner of the Post 3150 essay contest, took third place in the Tenth District Patriot's Pen competition. The yearly contest for 7th and 8th grade students is designed to foster patriotism and promote Americanism. This year's theme was "My Pledge to America". Stephen was honored at the recent Tenth District meeting in McLean. Other district winners, including 3150's VOD and Teacher of the Year entries also received recognition at the District meeting.

St Patrick's Day Dinner

John Lyon will go green again this year on *Sunday*, 16 March 2003, with its renowned corned beef and cabbage dinner. Salad, potatoes, and dessert will complete the meal, which will be served from 4pm to 7pm. Price is \$7.00. Reservations are a must for this popular event: call the Post Home at 703-525-0108 or sign up in Canteen by 14 March to get your name on the list.

Hospital Visit

A Hospital Visit to the Washington VA Hospital Nursing Home is scheduled for Saturday 29 March. Meet at the Post at 1230 and car pool to the hospital. Come help us bring a bit of cheer to our veterans.

Marching off... (correction)

Post Life Member John H. "Jack" Nye, who died on 6 December. Jack was a Navy veteran of the Korean War and a former member of Post 9274 in Falls Church. He was buried 13 January in Arlington National Cemetery.

VA Urges "Thank You" Signatures for Troops

WASHINGTON (Feb. 13, 2003) - Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi has urged Americans to sign a special "Thank You Note" to the men and women of the U.S. military. The note is available on the Internet at a site -- **www.defendamerica.mil** -- maintained by the Department of Defense.

"Whether deployed to the Middle East, serving shipboard in the Indian Ocean or supporting operations at hundreds of facilities around the world, the men and women of our armed services need to know that we understand - and value - their contributions to the security of our nation and the well-being of every American," Principi said.

About 4.5 million Americans have already visited the DoD web-site on the Internet, where they signed a simple message: "Dear member of the U.S. military: Thank you for defending our freedom."

"The Department of Veterans Affairs stands ready to assist our newly deployed troops with a wide range of programs and services when they return home," Principi said. "We all pray that will be soon."

DefendAmerica.mil is the Defense Department's official Web site for news on the war on terrorism. The site provides coverage of top national security leaders, while featuring up-to-date photographs, information on weapons and equipment, personality profiles and human-interest features.

Post Awards Ceremony 2 March

John Lyon Post will hold an awards ceremony honoring our Post participants and winners in VOD and Patriot's Pen essay, Patriotic Art, and Teacher of the Year competitions on Sunday, 2 March at 2 pm. Everyone is invited to join us in our congratulations and thanks to these outstanding individuals.

VFW Washington Office

“Our Mission... by prevailing upon the US Congress and Administration to fulfill this nation's commitment to care and provide for her defenders and their dependents in their time of need and to ensure that the United States remains ever vigilant while maintaining a strong national defense.

Our Philosophy...Ensure veterans are provided all the care, entitlements and compensation that they have earned through their service and sacrifice in defense of our nation in a prompt and compassionate manner by the Department of Veterans Affairs and other concerned Departments and Agencies.

Ensure legislation is advanced in the Congress and signed into law that reflects the VFW's pro-veteran, pro-national defense and pro-America goals; and protect veterans from proposals detrimental to them and the nation.

Ensure employment opportunities for America's veterans are supported by lawmakers, the private sector and all concerned governmental entities through enhancement of veteran' preference legislation, training and education programs.

Ensure a firm foreign policy that guarantees our integrity as a nation, promotes our democratic ideals and interest abroad and seeks the fullest possible accounting of our comrades missing from all wars; and is backed by a strong military which provides for the well-being and quality of life for those men and women in uniform.”

For more information about the VFW Washington Office, or to subscribe to its weekly newsletter, see <http://www.vfwdc.org/>

Karaoke on 4th Friday

The “Infamous J.P.” brings his Karaoke machine to the Post on the fourth Friday of every month. He will play for your singing and listening pleasure from 7 - 11 pm. Come by and find “your song” in his vast collection and let your inner Frank Sinatra or Janice Joplin shine through.

VFW National Winter Conferences in Washington, D.C.

VFW's two national winter conferences will be held in Washington, D.C. this coming month: The combined Community Service / Legislative Conference, March 8-13, 2003 will be held at the Omni-Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC. VFW and Ladies Auxiliary members are invited to attend these conferences. Among the events is the “Parade of Winners” on Sunday, 9 March at 6pm. Lee Hagy, the Post 3150 entry, won first place in the state of Virginia Voice of Democracy contest and will be introduced during the parade. The VFW and Ladies Auxiliary “Achievement Awards” banquet on 11 March will honor the national winners of Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, Patriotic Art, Teacher of the Year, etc.



Lights! Camera! Action!

Three members of Post 3150 were interviewed by members of Sky Channel Productions about their experiences in Vietnam. Jim Griswold, left in photo above with the production crew, and Steve Cobb and Richard Hoffman shared their experiences for a television production on Special Operations and various other actions during the Vietnam War. The end result will be a “History Channel” type program that will air at a later date in Europe. Mr Bill Royster, an associate of the company, will attempt to get a copy of the program for the Post library. A notice will appear in the newsletter when it becomes available for viewing.

From the John Lyon Past...

The 22 February 1935 edition of *The Northern Virginia Sun*, included this story about the forming of the 3150 Ladies Auxiliary:

“Mrs. Burnett Heads

VFW Auxiliary in Arlington County

“Clarendon. Mrs. Loretta M. Burnett was elected president of the auxiliary to John Lyon Post, No. 3150, Veterans of Foreign Wars, at the home of Mrs. Hattie Musselman in Clarendon last night.

Other officers are Mrs. Nettie Wolf, senior vice president; Mrs. Carrie Goldstein, junior vice president; Mrs. Ruth Middleton, chaplain; Mrs. Hattie Musselman, conductress; Mrs. Helen Toone, treasurer; Mrs. Eleanor Twomey, guard, and Miss Virginia Musselman, patriotic instructor.

“The officers were installed by the State department president, Mrs. Minnie B. Taylor of Roanoke.” (Several typos above were corrected.)

Note: Virginia Musselman is a current member of the 3150 Ladies Auxiliary and is an original charter member.

Post Officer Nominations

The 13 March meeting of the Post will include nominations for officer positions for the next year. Nominations will be made for the Commander, Junior and Senior Vice Commanders, Quartermaster, Chaplain, Advocate, Surgeon, and Three Year Trustee. Dust off your talents and volunteer for one of these or one of the appointed positions to be filled by the new commander. Post nominations will be made at the March meeting and elections will be held in April. The Ladies Auxiliary will nominate and elect in April. While the new officers will be installed in May, they will assume their duties when the new state officers are installed at the end of the state convention in Richmond in June.

A John Lyon Hello...

To Shirley Burnett, wife of Post Life Member Walter Burnett, who was recently hospitalized. Walter is the nephew of the first Post Commander William Burnett and first Ladies Auxiliary President Loretta Burnett.

And a special Hello to our active duty members currently stationed overseas. Our thoughts and prayers with you.

Swapping Stories in Jr. High

Steve and Tanya Cobb recently participated in the Swapping Stories project at Gunston Middle School. The Swapping Stories program is a project involving students and senior citizens (preferably veterans), who exchange stories, and re-tell them to an audience. The project has received support from a number of community groups in Arlington, and was featured in the May issue of the Virginia Journal of Education.

The project began with a rehearsal on January 6 and the actual story telling on January 10. The workshops and stories were video taped and edited for cable broadcasting and should be shown on Alexandria Public Television Channel 30 at a time to be announced. To learn more about Swapping Stories, see www.swappingstories.org.

Steve's story was about survival techniques in combat in Vietnam. His student counterpart's story was about the lessons he learned on the dangers of the ocean during his last summer vacation. There were no set rules as to the types of stories to be told.

VFW Membership Qualifications

A reminder that the qualifications for membership in the VFW now include those members of the Armed Forces who receive special pay for duty subject to hostile fire or imminent danger.



<<< 3150 Ladies Auxiliary Treasurer Cathy Graham and President Gail Hoffman cut the birthday cake while member Cheri Taylor looks on. The 3150 Ladies Auxiliary celebrated its 68th birthday on 19 February.

March 2003

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Lunch Specials

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

Lunch Served 11 to 3 Monday - Friday
 Also available: various deli sandwiches, etc.

Auxiliary Crab Cake Dinner



Friday, April 4th

5:00p - 8:00p

Crab Cake Sandwich	\$7.00
Crab Cake Dinner (1) with 2 Sides	\$9.00
Crab Cake Dinner (2) with 2 Sides	\$11.00
Sides: Cole Slaw, Wild Rice, Green Beans	

All Proceeds Will Go Towards

Cancer Aid & Research

50/50 Raffle

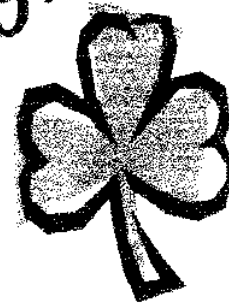
Reservations Required

Sign Up Sheet at the Canteen

St. Patrick's Day

Corned Beef & Cabbage

Dinner



Sunday, March 16th

4:00p - 7:00p

\$7.00/Person



Reservations
Required

Sign Up Sheet at the Canteen

March 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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**DON'T FORGET TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS
FOR OUR ANNUAL ST. PATRICK'S DAY
CORN BEEF AND CABBAGE DINNER
ON SUNDAY, MARCH 16TH, FROM 4-7PM.
SIGN UP AT THE CANTEEN OR CALL THE POST.**

						1				
 VOD PATRIOT'S PEN PATRIOTIC ARTS TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARDS CEREMONY 2:00PM	2	3	4	5	6	7	VFW/LADIES AUXILIARY COMMUNITY SERVICE AND LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE THROUGH MARCH 13th	8		
SUNDAY BRUNCH 9:00AM - 1:00PM VOD "PARADE OF WINNERS" AT OMNI SHOREHAM 6:00PM	9	10	VFW/LADIES AUXILIARY "ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS BANQUET" AT ONMI SHOREHAM 5:00PM	12	 POST MEETING AND NOMINATIONS 8:00PM	13	14	15		
 ST. PATRICK'S CORN BEEF AND CABBAGE DINNER 4:00PM - 7:00PM	16	 ST. PATRICK'S DAY	17	18	19	 AUXILIARY MEETING 7:30PM	20	 FIRST DAT OF SPRING	21	22
 SUNDAY BRUNCH 9:00AM - 1:00PM	23	24	25	26	27	 KARAOKE NIGHT AT THE POST 7:00PM - 11:00PM	28	 HOSPITAL VISIT AT V.A. MEDICAL CENTER NURSING HOME 12:30PM	29	
	30	31								



JOHN LYON POST # 3150
"All American Post"
Veterans of Foreign Wars
2116 North 19th Street
Arlington, Virginia 22201-3514

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Dated Material Please Do Not Delay



St. Patrick's Day
Dinner
Sunday
16 March 2003
4 - 7pm

Reservations Required