

# The John Lyon Gazette

Volume 10, Number 3

September 2003



Veterans of Foreign Wars  
John Lyon Post #3150  
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Arlington VA 22201  
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<http://www.vfw3150.org>

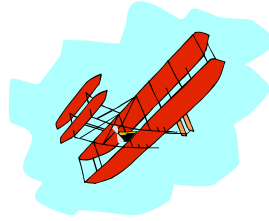


The John Lyon Gazette: Winner of 1999 and 2003 Clair B. Poff Public Relations Award for Outstanding Newsletter, and Winner of Second Place Award for 2000, 2001  
Ladies Auxiliary Award: Best Newsletter in Virginia, 1999, 2001, 2003; Best Newsletter in the Nation, 1999



Official POW / MIA Recognition Day poster from  
Department of Defense  
Defense Prisoner of War / Missing Personnel Office

**POW / MIA Recognition Day**  
**Friday, 19 September 2003**  
**Remembrance Ceremonies**  
**VFW Post 3150**  
**7:30 pm**



***“Together We Soar”***

**From the Commander:**

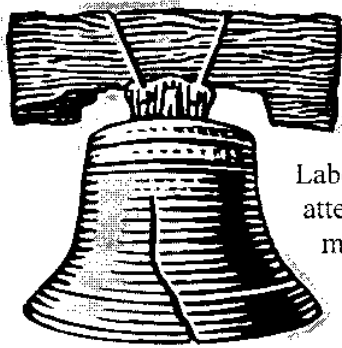
September will be a busy month with several solemn commemorations, several fun ones, and a couple of meetings for your officers --- and all others interested. The solemn ones include Patriot’s Day, the two year anniversary of the 11th of September attacks on our country, and POW/MIA Recognition Day on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Gold Star Mothers Day is at the end of the month. The more fun ones include the Labor Day cookout, the Air Forces Birthday, and the 104th anniversary of the VFW and the 89<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ladies Auxiliary. Having just returned from the VFW National Convention in San Antonio at the end of August, some of us will turn around and attend the Tenth District Meeting in Springfield and the state Fall Council Meeting in Lynchburg. You are all invited to attend any of these. Check the calendar or stories in this issue.

Thanks to those members who have brought their renewals to the Post or sent them in to National Headquarters. As I write this the Post is about 77% for the 2003-2004 year, including about 294 Life Members which National has not yet put up the their website. This posting should be done in September. (Any of you can check where we stand, incidentally, by going to the National website at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org). Then click on “Membership”, “Member Tools”, and then “Member Stats”. You can use Post or District Statistics, inputting “3150” under Post section, or “10”, “Virginia”, “View Posts” under the District section and you can see where we are individually or in comparison with the other posts in Tenth District.) Remember that if you have renewed or joined by 30 September, you are eligible for the Early Bird Dinner in October AND for the Life Membership drawings to be held at that night. Life Members are automatically “renewed” for the year, of course, and qualify for the dinner.

Turning to a different topic, I recall what past commanders of the post have said: The post does not belong to the commander or the officers, it belongs to ALL of the members. In this light, I should like to ask everyone to keep his/her eyes open and pitch in when they see something which needs to be done. This can be as simple as straightening the chairs in the dining room when you make a trip to the restroom. Or grabbing a broom to sweep the sidewalk, or picking up a bit of trash in the parking lot, or replacing a burned-out light bulb. Or on warmer days, giving a drink of water to a drooping plant in the yard outside. If you’re not sure how or if something needs to be done, just ask. No one person can do it all. In this light, I would like to thank Eric Skrzypczak and Ralph Huston for cutting the lawn recently, Joe Repasch for hosing down the cans used for aluminum recycling, and Shirley McAlhaney for sweeping up debris from the parking lot. And everyone else who has done something when few people --- if any --- were watching. Give these folks a hand and help keep our post in ship-shape condition.

The newsletter is going out a bit earlier this month. And now as I write this, six of us are making final preparations for our trip to the National Convention in San Antonio. This is not really an awards trip; they don’t give that many at National for one thing. Still we have our hopes that last year’s Commander and President, Richard and Gail Hoffman, will bring back a prize trophy --- you will recall that John Lyon was named Virginia’s nominee for Community Service Post of the Year. We’re up against posts from all the other departments, some 53 of them. But keep your fingers crossed. We will have a report in next month’s newsletter.

J.Gary Wagner



## *From the President*

As September dawns, we are gearing up for another full and exciting month of activities for the Auxiliary. We begin the month with a celebration of the achievements of the people of our country. The Labor Day cookout is on September 1<sup>st</sup> from 2 pm to 5 pm. If you wish to attend and have not already done so, please call the Post to RSVP. While most of us consider Labor Day to be a final farewell to summer, it is actually a tribute to the contribution of workers to the strength and prosperity of this great land.

The United States is the economic force throughout the world today as a result of the strength of our economy. No matter where I have traveled in the world, I have seen our franchises and corporations. Our strength and economic might is the cause of envy throughout the world. As we saw just two years ago on September 11, this envy can manifest itself in horrible ways. As a tribute to those who lost their lives two years ago in the terrorist attacks, we will gather at the VFW Post at 7 pm on September 11<sup>th</sup>. September is also the time that we recognize the sacrifice of those who have yet to return home. Those who are able, please come to the Post on September 19<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm for our POW/MIA Recognition Ceremony.

The Air Force, the Ladies Auxiliary, and the VFW celebrate birthdays this month. Our Auxiliary meeting has moved to Tuesday September 16<sup>th</sup> due to the Fall Council Meeting in Lynchburg September 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>. The Auxiliary birthday will be recognized in conjunction with our September 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. As many of you already know from the Commander, both he and I have ties to the Air Force. Please come help celebrate the 56<sup>th</sup> Air Force birthday with a cake cutting ceremony on Thursday September 18<sup>th</sup>. September 28<sup>th</sup> is the 104<sup>th</sup> birthday of the VFW. This is a brunch Sunday, so please stop by for brunch and to congratulate the Post on their milestone as an organization. It is also Gold Star Mothers Day. In honor of the Gold Star Mothers and the VFW, we will have a cake cutting ceremony at 3 pm.

I also want to take a moment to remind annual members that you still have plenty of chances to win a life membership in our drawing if you renew this month. Your renewal is \$25; please send your renewals to Cathy Graham via the Post home or her address. Life members should also begin thinking of transmitting their \$9.90 cancer insurance to Cathy.

Finally, as classes begin for the 2003-2004 academic year, we will also begin our promotion of the Voice of Democracy and Young American Creative Patriotic Arts programs. If you know a high school student, please mention these important programs to them. The theme for VOD is "My Commitment to America's Future." For 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students, there is the Patriot's Pen program and its "My Dream for America" theme. Please pass the word about these programs. If either you or students have questions about the programs, I invite them to look on the VFW and Auxiliary web pages or leave a message at the Post for someone to return your call regarding the programs. As a former Voice of Democracy program participant, I know that it is an opportunity for students to learn something about their country, its veterans, and themselves.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jodie".

## Welcome to Our New Members

Welcome to new Post members Otto W. Helm, Paul B. Malone III, Paul B. Malone IV, (all Life) and Kevin J. Palgutt (transfer) elected at the August meeting. Otto Helm appears to be the father-in-law of Malone IV, making these three a family affair. The new members cover the entire range of eligibility from World War II (Helm, a Pearl Harbor survivor), Korean War and Vietnam (Malone III), Desert Storm (Malone IV), and Bosnia (Palgutt). The Ladies Auxiliary meeting was scheduled after our early deadline this month, and new members will be reported next month.

### *Marching off...*

...H.Dale Starnes, 66, Life Member, and an Army veteran who was in Germany during the post-World War II occupation years; Roland J. Dostie, 78, a Post 3150 member for nearly 40 years, and an Army veteran who received a Purple Heart while with the 45<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in Italy during World War II.

### **Charge Your Renewal On-Line Also Change Address, Replace Lost Card**

Post members who would like to charge their annual renewals may do so on-line at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org). Once you reach the national VFW webpage, click on "Membership", then "Member Tools". You will then see a list of member options which will allow you to pay your annual dues or sign up for Life Membership. You can also obtain a duplicate life or annual membership card or change your address. You will need your membership number, found on your membership card for any of these transactions. (If you need help finding your membership number, give the post a call.)

And remember that the sooner your dues are paid, the sooner you will qualify for the Post's Life Membership drawings in early October.

## Air Forces Birthday

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### **Commemorating the Army Air Corps, Army Air Force, U.S. Air Force**

#### **Ceremonies**

**Thursday, 18 September 2003  
7:00 pm**

### **Early Bird Dinner Scheduled**

The Early Bird Dinner is scheduled for 4 - 7 pm on Saturday, 4 October. This is a no-cost "thank you" for all renewed and Life members of the Post and Ladies Auxiliary. There will be a charge for non-Early Birds. Call the Post for further information and to signup.

### **Last Month for VFW Life Membership Drawings**

The Post will again hold a special drawing during the Early Bird Dinner from all members who have joined or renewed 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 having "gone Life". To qualify for the drawing, you must join/renew at the Post by 30 September or National must have posted Direct Dues renewals by 3 October.

### **Reminder to Members**

Members of both the Post and the Ladies Auxiliary are reminded to show their membership cards to the on-duty manager when entering the Post home. Membership remains a privilege to be guarded. And ABC Rules require it!

## *From the John Lyon Past...*

The Joint Installation Program for John Lyon Post Officers Installation on May 17, 1980, lists the following officers:

### Post 3150

Commander	Curtis D. Drake
Sr. Vice Commander	George S. Mansfield
Jr. Vice Commander	Jimmy LaChapelle
Quartermaster	Elwyn C. Moore
Advocate	Harold Ebersole
Surgeon	Roy Story
Chaplain	Walter A. Beers
3 year Trustee	John H.H. Turner, Jr
2 year Trustee	Manuel Vieira
1 year Trustee	Robert L. Bassford
Adjutant	Gene Gross
Service Officer	George S. Mansfield
Color Guard Captain	John H.H. Turner, Jr.

### Ladies Auxiliary 3150

President	Martha Olson
Sr. Vice President	Martha Tingler
Jr. Vice President	Imogene Robinson
Secretary	Vi Haislip
Treasurer	Margaret Dozier
Chaplain	Virginia Musselman
Conductress	Hazel P. Bassford
Guard	Thelma McDowell
Patriotic Instructor	Gladys Kelley
Historian	Vi Haislip
3 year Trustee	Eloise Thorp
2 year Trustee	Gladys Kelley
1 year Trustee	Virginia Hughes

## **Need Help with a VA Claim?**

VFW service officers can assist veterans seeking assistance with a wide variety of veterans' needs, such as discharge upgrades, record corrections, education benefits, disability compensation, pension eligibility, etc. The VFW recently added the Tactical Assessment Center to its Washington D.C. office. This is a 24-hour help line for veterans with questions or concerns about VA entitlements. Call **1-800-vfw-1899** or see the National website at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org)

## **District Meeting and Department Fall Council Meeting**

The VFW and Ladies Auxiliary Tenth District will hold their quarterly meetings at 1 pm on Sunday, 7 September at Springfield Post 7327. The Department Representatives will be State Commander Pete Snelling for the VFW and Department Conductress Pam Goode for the Ladies Auxiliary.

The Department Fall Council meeting for VFW and Ladies Auxiliary members will be held 19 – 21 September in Lynchburg, VA. Meetings will be held at the Holiday Inn Express. Rates are \$69.00; phone 434-528-2500.

VFW and Ladies Auxiliary members are invited to attend either or both meetings.

## **Old Guard Golf Tournament**

The "Old Guard Association" will hold its 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament at the Fort Belvoir Golf Club on September 17, 2003. A shotgun start at 8 am is planned. Entry fee is \$60. Entry forms are available at the Post Home or at [www.oldguard.org](http://www.oldguard.org)



## **Back to School Time**

### **Watch out for Kids**

**And Slow Down! The Police  
watch the streets near Key  
Elementary School for speeders.**

**In case of illness or death, please notify the Post Commander or Adjutant or Ladies Auxiliary President or Secretary. The Post address / phone number are shown on the front page.**

## **More on the World War II Registry at the National World War II Memorial.**

Last month we included an article on the Registry for World War II Veterans which will be made available at the National World War II Memorial to be dedicated next Memorial Day weekend. At least one reader reported back that the registration system works well.

The VFW National website ([www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org)) provides additional information: "Any American that served in the armed forces or contributed to the war effort on the home front, whether in factories and shipyards or farms and neighborhoods, is eligible.

"There is no charge to place a name in the Registry. Individuals can be enrolled through the web site ([www.wwiimemorial.com/](http://www.wwiimemorial.com/)) or by calling the memorial's toll free number at 1-800-639-4WW2...

"There is no charge to enroll a member of the WWII generation in the Registry, although there is a \$5 processing fee for a certificate of the enrollment and a \$10 fee to add a photograph of the individual to the record."

### ***A John Lyon Hello ...***

...and THANKS to all those members of John Lyon who pitch in regularly --- or even occasionally --- to help with Sunday Brunches, cookouts, etc, to those who help with the newsletter mail-out, to those who just grab a broom and sweep the sidewalk or parking lot, shovel the snow, etc., etc.

**Labor Day Cookout  
Monday, 1 September  
2 - 5 pm      \$6.00  
Barbeque Ribs Bratwurst  
Sauerkraut Cole Slaw  
Potato Salad  
Baked Beans  
Call Post for Reservations.**

## **VFW Organizations Birthdays**

The VFW as an organization will mark 104 years of serving veterans, their families, their communities, and the nation on September 28<sup>th</sup>. And the like-minded VFW Ladies Auxiliary will be 89 years old on September 17<sup>th</sup>. The occasions will be marked during the Ladies Auxiliary meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> and the Post at 3 pm on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

## **VFW Life Membership for 2003 - 2004**

Year of birth:

1973 or later = \$245  
1963 through 1972 = \$235  
1953 through 1962 = \$215  
1943 through 1952 = \$195  
1933 through 1942 = \$165  
1923 through 1932 = \$125  
1922 or earlier = \$85

Any applicant whose 31st, 41st, 51st, 61st, 71st or 81st birthday will occur after the date of application and on or before December 31st of the current calendar year, shall pay only the fee that would be required on his next birthday.

Any member who has renewed for the year as an annual member, may have his/her renewal fee applied towards Life Membership until the middle of December.

### **Gold Star Mother's Day**

Gold Star Mother's Day is Sunday, 28 September. Gold Star Mothers are those mothers whose sons or daughters died in combat, and who made, next to those who did not return, the greatest sacrifice for the nation. At least two members of the 3150 Ladies Auxiliary are Gold Star Mothers. We salute these valiant ladies.

# Canteen News

## Dining Room

To better meet the needs of the Post as well as provide continued service during lunch time, the daily specials will be changed during September. Reflecting the buying patterns of post patrons, deli-sandwiches and salads will be offered on three days of the week, while the ever popular BBQ ribs and the seafood specials will be retained on Wednesday and Friday, respectively. Barbara, the Canteen Manager, always welcomes your suggestions and will consider them carefully.

We are also looking at offering microwave sandwiches and snack pizzas during the evening hours. See the newsletter next month or check with the night manager in the meantime.

## New Canteen Hours

Beginning 1 September, the Post Canteen will adopt new hours as follows:

Sun (1 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> )	12 noon – 9pm
Sun (2 <sup>nd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> , "Brunch")	9 am – 9pm
Mon - Thurs	11 am – 9 pm
Fri	11 am – 11 pm
Sat	12 noon – 11 pm

The Night Manager may opt to keep the canteen open later if participation warrants. Closing time for special events also may be later.

A Saturday daytime bartender is needed. If interested, call Barbara at the Post.

## September 2003      - - - - -      Lunch Specials

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 LABOR DAY	2 Deli Sandwiches	3 BBQ Ribs	4 Deli Sandwiches	5 Seafood	6
7	8 Deli Sandwiches	9 Deli Sandwiches	10 BBQ Ribs	11 Deli Sandwiches	12 Seafood	13
14	15 Deli Sandwiches	16 Deli Sandwiches	17 BBQ Ribs	18 Deli Sandwiches	19 Seafood	20
21	22 Deli Sandwiches	23 Deli Sandwiches	24 BBQ Ribs	25 Deli Sandwiches	26 Seafood	27
28	29 Deli Sandwiches	30 Deli Sandwiches				

Lunch Served 11 to 3 Monday - Friday  
 Various deli sandwiches available every day.



# Recent Events Around the Post



<<< Past Ladies Auxiliary 3150 (1980-1981) and Tenth District (1981-1982) President Marcie Olson Dawson (second from the left) recently visited the post with her parents Martha and Jim Tingler (right --- also Past President of LA 3150 and the Tenth District and Past Commander, respectively). Other out of town John Lyon members who recently “returned home” were Lloyd Van Lanen, Tim Dennis, and Kenneth and Theresa Kuch.

## US Coast Guard Birthday Purple Heart Day

Stephen Cobb and Bill Wolverton make >>> the first cut in a cake marking the US Coast Guard Birthday and Purple Heart Day. Recent ceremonies honoring each group were held separately. The day was completed with a cookout



<<< The post backyard was enhanced recently with a donated swing and picnic tables and new umbrellas to give a festive spot for cookouts or just relaxing. Stop by the post and check it out.



# 50th Anniversary, end of Korean War



<<< Some of Post 3150's Korean War veterans made the first cut into a cake marking the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the end of the Korean War during recent ceremonies at the post home. From left to right are William E. Pearson, Irving W. Munroe, William G. Wolverton, K.A. "Joe" Weeks, and James G. Tingler.

After a brief review of aspects of the >>> war, Post Commander J.Gary Wagner and Ladies Auxiliary President Jodie LaFreniere-Dajc read the names of 3150's Korean War veterans during the recent ceremonies at the post. Behind them is part of the Korean War exhibit which was on display for nearly two weeks at the post.



<<< Past Post Commander James G. Tingler looks over the Korean War exhibit at the post. In the lower right corner is a special cake for the occasion and which featured the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Korean War flag



# Ladies Auxiliary Labor Day Cookout

Monday 1 September  
2:00-5:00 pm










Barbeque Ribs, Bratwurst  
Cole Slaw, Potato Salad, Baked Beans  
Plus all the Associated Fixin's

Only \$6

Sign up by stopping by or calling the  
Post at (703)525-0108



# September 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>1</p> <p>LABOR DAY</p>  <p>AUXILIARY COOKOUT 2:00PM - 5:00PM</p>	<p>2</p> <p>V. J. DAY</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>7</p> <p>10TH DISTRICT MEETING 1:00PM AT SPRINGFIELD VFW</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>POST OFFICERS' CALL AT 7:30PM</p> <p>HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING 8:00PM</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>PATRIOT'S DAY 9-11 SECOND ANNIVERSARY CEREMONY AT 7:00PM</p>  <p>POST MEETING 8:00PM</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14</p>  <p>SUNDAY BRUNCH 9:00AM - 1:00PM</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>  <p>AUXILIARY MEETING 7:30PM</p>	<p>17</p> <p>U.S. CONSTITUTION SIGNED IN 1787</p>  <p>CITIZENSHIP DAY</p>	<p>18</p>  <p>U.S. AIR FORCE 56TH BIRTHDAY CAKE CUTTING AT 7:30PM</p>	<p>19</p> <p>POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY CEREMONY AT 7:00PM</p> <p>FALL COUNCIL MEETING IN LYNCHBURG</p>	<p>20</p> <p>FALL COUNCIL AND CONFERENCE MEETING IN LYNCHBURG</p>
<p>21</p> <p>FALL COUNCIL AND CONFERENCE MEETING IN LYNCHBURG</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>  <p>FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>  <p>KARAOKE 7:00PM</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p> <p>GOLD STAR MOTHER'S DAY SUNDAY BRUNCH 9:00AM - 1:00PM</p> <p>VFW CAKE CUTTING 3:00PM</p>	<p>29</p> <p>104TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VFW</p>	<p>30</p>	 <p><b>School is back in session!</b> <b>Please take extra care and watch for our Children's safety.</b></p>			

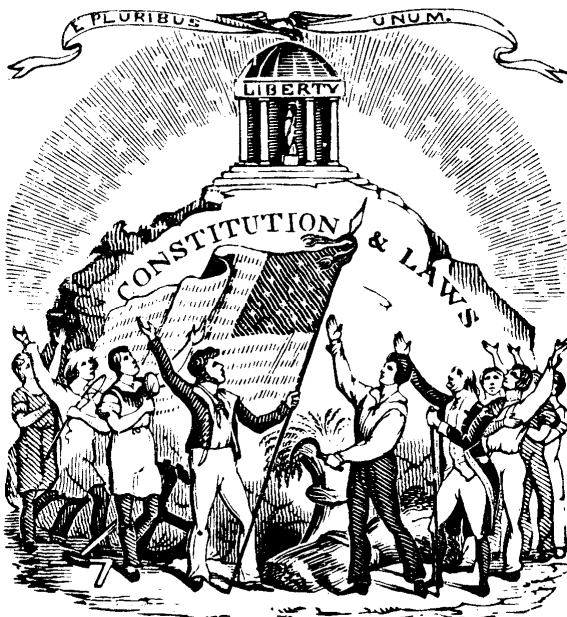


**JOHN LYON POST # 3150**  
**"All American Post"**  
**Veterans of Foreign Wars**  
**2116 North 19<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Arlington, Virginia 22201-3514**

**NON-PROFIT ORG**  
**U.S. POSTAGE**  
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**Merrifield, VA**  
**Permit No. 9209**

**Dated Material Please Do Not Delay**

**Address Service Requested**



**Citizenship Day**  
**17 September 2003**

**U.S. Constitution**  
**Approved**  
**1787**