

The John Lyon Gazette

Volume 12, Number 10

April 2006



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, 2003 and 2004 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; 2004; Best Newsletter in the Nation, 1999

VFW Post 3150 in 2006

This issue makes the sixth annual look at the makeup of John Lyon Post. This year's tally of Post 3150's membership shows that, on the whole, we are well represented across the board. Persian Gulf / Desert Storm veterans make up our second largest block after Vietnam vets. World War II veterans now rank third, and all Korea vets tally fourth. About one third of our current members have qualified since Vietnam vets came home. Considering the relative size of the different branches of the services, we are fairly well represented there, too. To keep our tallies comparable from year to year, those were counted who were on the membership roster last July 1st plus new members who have joined since. Some members were in more than one service or war so the numbers don't add up exactly. The results, shows that we were in the...

Army	203	Libya	4
Navy	114	Grenada	4
USMC	76	Lebanon	13
USAF (including AAF)	69	Cuba / El Salvador / Panama	3
USCG	3	Persian Gulf / Desert Storm	79
		Haiti	2
		Somalia	3
		Bosnia / Kosovo	13
World War II	77	Afghanistan / GWOT	7
Post War Europe/Occupation	11	Iraqi Freedom	23
Post War Asia/Occupation	3	Other Expeditionary	6
Korean War	43		
Taiwan Straits	2	Above includes eleven women:	
Dominican Republic	2	Post WW2 Occupation	1
Vietnam / Southeast Asia	208	Persian Gulf / Desert Storm	6
Korean Expeditionary	5	Korea / Bosnia / Somalia	3
Korean Service	27	GWOT / Iraq	2

From the Commander:

I'm so proud of the accomplishments and work we do at our post. A group of us attended the awards banquet at the Washington National Conference. In attendance were post members Doc Crouch, Connie Agresti, Mike Holtz, J.Gary Wagner, Sam Stafford, me, and Auxiliary members Kathy Graham and Janet Moscatel. Also in attendance were five post guests. This awards banquet was to recognize the national winners of the VFW Voice of Democracy oratory, Patriots Pen essay, and Teacher of the Year contests. The top winner of the Voice of Democracy contest received \$25,000. Along with the local awards they pick up if they win, that sure sounds like it should be enough incentive to encourage local students to participate. VFW Post 3150 had one student make it to the national level about four years ago.

This past Saturday, we held a St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner. This dinner required some dedicated members to step up to ensure success. On Friday, Richard Hoffman came in to the post at the quiet hour of 4:00 am to begin preparations. The next day, our Chef (and Commander nominee) Eric Anderson arrived at the post at 5:00 am for work. Our Master Chef Ken Jansen (Past Commander) wasn't able to make it to help out due to the death of his father. Ken had already done the advising and ordering for the dinner before he left to go to the funeral. The Ladies Auxiliary ensured success when they arrived early Saturday afternoon in full support of the project. All and all, we served about 80 dinners.

During the past few years, Post 3150 has been supplying the color guard for the Arlington Little League opening games ceremony. This year we are planning to do the same. The opening games ceremony will be on Sunday April 2 at 2:15 pm. If anyone would like to participate, just contact the post using the information on the front page of this newsletter.

We will have our April post meeting and election of officers for the year 2006-2007 on Tuesday the 11th instead of our regular Thursday meeting.

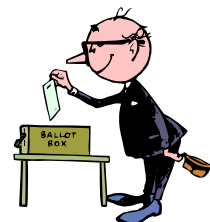
Our next highway and post cleanup is planned for Saturday April 22. We start the project off with coffee and donuts served at 8:30 am and a group photo at 9:00 am to start it off. The post supplies reflective safety vests, gloves, and EZReacher pick-up tools. Everyone is invited to join us in this worthwhile project.

Looking forward, we're planning to march in the Arlington Day Community Parade on May 13. If anyone is interested in participating, contact the post and leave your contact information.

Yours in Comradeship,

/s/

Greg Moscatel
Commander VFW Post 3150



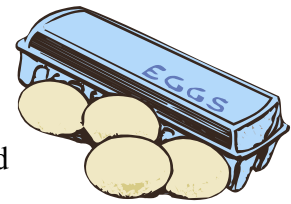
From the President

It is springtime and the flowers are popping up all over the area. The weather is getting warmer and children are playing more outside. We are reacting the same way by cooking more out on the grill and just enjoying the delightful temperatures.

The patriotic awards ceremony went well. The students, their families, the teachers, their families and the police officer of the year all enjoyed the occasion. The National Community Service banquet was also attended by some of the teachers and their families where the national winners were announced and their speeches given. The dollar amounts for the Voice of Democracy and the Patriot's Pen were raised this next year to \$30,000 and \$10,000 bond, respectively, for first place. Enough of the rehashing.

Ladies, we are hosting a crab cake dinner on Friday April 7th from 5 to 8 p.m. As usual we have our cooking crew consisting of Cathy and myself with Ruthie, Elsie, Lola, Gail and everyone else who participates. We usually have a good time cooking and serving while our loyal patrons who sign up enjoy the food. Richard has agreed to spin some tunes again. The funds we raise here also will go toward Cancer Aid and Research.

We have breakfast on Sunday April 9th and April 23rd. We can always use additional help on the floor and in the kitchen. On Saturday April 22nd we will assist the post in the highway cleanup and the post cleanup. If we have enough volunteers, it normally takes only 1 hour. So show up at the post and help us keep our community clean.



April is the time of new beginnings also. The election of officers for the next year 2006-2007 will take place at our April meeting. If you desire to hold an office you must be present or send a letter or note to the President letting me know what office and that you would be willing to serve out the term of that office. Also, if you would like to hold a chairwomanship, that can be arranged by letting the incoming President elect know after the April elections. Holding an office or chairing a committee means that we have more people involved and more ideas to act upon what we as an auxiliary can accomplish. Just because it is always the way we have done it, does not mean another more efficient or economical way does not exist. The more people we have inputting ideas at our meetings the more options we have to accomplish our mission of honoring the dead by helping the living.

April is also the last calm month before we start swinging into action as the pace picks up. May is the month we use to accomplish the beginning and the end. Installation of officers for the new year is in May and we have Memorial Day. We also have the Golden Age Games occurring from 7 – 12 May. Mother's Day, the Arlington Day Parade along with the 10th District Convention where we elect and install the new officers, and the Armed Forces day all are in May.

Finally, I wish all those celebrating a birthday in April a Happy Birthday. With Daylight Savings time beginning, be careful and watch for the children playing.

/s/

Catherine M. Graham

April Post Meeting Moves to Tuesday, 11 April

Due to the beginning of the Easter and spring holidays on Thursday, the important Post meeting scheduled for Thursday, 13 April, has been moved forward to Tuesday, 11 April. The meeting will begin, as usual, at 8 pm and will include elections for the next year.

Post Officer Nominations

The March meeting of the Post included the following nominations for officer positions for the next year:

Commander: Eric Anderson
Senior Vice Commander: Thomas R. Kane
Junior Vice Commander: Michael Holtz
Quartermaster: Richard Hoffman
Chaplain: Ralph Huston
Advocate: M. Conrad Agresti
Surgeon: Mark M. Pando
3 Year Trustee: Gregory E. Moscatier

3 Year House Committee: G. E. Moscatier

Post nominations remain open and several shifts may be expected. Further nominations may be made at the **April meeting --- Tuesday, 11 April --** - when elections will be held.

The **Ladies Auxiliary** will nominate and elect at their meeting on **20 April**. All new officers assume their duties when the new state officers are installed at the end of the state convention in Richmond in June.

Welcome to Our New Members

Welcome to new Post members Duval Diaz (Army - Afghanistan), Felipe Mendoza (Army - Vietnam), and Brett Osiewicz (Army - GWOTEM-Gitmo), elected at the March meeting.

We also welcome new MIP member to the VFW: Kimo Shearin.

Berke Named State Police Officer of the Year

Lt Brian Berke, Arlington County Police Department, was named VFW Police Officer of the Year for the state of Virginia. The competition is part of the VFW's Police Gold Medal Award competition. Lt Berke's nomination, originated by Post 3150, was forwarded to national for further competition.

Corporate Meeting

The annual meeting of the John Lyon Corporation will be held in connection with the Post meeting on Tuesday, 11 April. Corporation officers will be elected.

Andrew Jarvis: 3150 Eagle Scout

Bishop Denis J. O'Connell High School junior Andrew E. Jarvis was named Post 3150's Eagle Scout of the Year. Andrew's nomination will proceed to the Tenth District competition. He will receive his award at a time to be determined.

Marching off...

Claude Bean Jr, 84, on Monday, 20 March. He was a Navy World War II veteran, assigned to the Pacific area with Ship Repair Unit Navy 3002. No arrangements are known at press time.

Crab Cake Supper

The 3150 Ladies Auxiliary will again hold its annual Crab Cake dinner this spring. The dinner will be Friday, April 7th, from 5pm to 8 pm at the Post. There are three dinner packages available: a crab cake sandwich and 1 side dish for \$7, one crab cake and two sides for \$9, or two crab cakes and two sides for \$11. Reservations must be made in advance, by calling or stopping by the Post. In order to ensure that we have an adequate number of crab cakes available, please specify your meal choice at the time of your reservation.

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.”

Newsletter Online

The John Lyon Gazette may now be downloaded or read from the post website at www.vfw3150.org. You can expect to find it on the first page of the website near the first of each month. It will be in PDF format. You can download a PDF reader for free from the Internet.

No VFW Membership Card?

While most renewed VFW members have received their membership cards, several have reported not receiving theirs. Any member who has renewed and has not received his/her membership card for 2006 is asked to notify the post so we can get you one.

Post Membership 98%

Post membership is about 98% --- still short of our goal of 100%. If you haven't renewed your membership for 2006, yours may just be the one to push us over the top. Please send your renewal TODAY and help us reach that 100% mark! And thanks to all those who earlier sent theirs in! We can also use a few new members. Is your buddy or brother --- OR SISTER --- qualified to become a VFW member?

Post / Highway Cleanup Scheduled

Highway Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, 22 April. Meet at the Post at 8:30 am for coffee and doughnuts. Wear long pants and hard-soled shoes. The Post has gloves, safety vests, and levered pick-up sticks for those of us who find bending over a lot is a sure way to some stiff joints and a sore back. With a good turnout, we can be done in about 90 minutes. Come help us earn those “Adopt-a-Highway” signs on Lee Highway. If you don't want to walk the roads and fields, drop by the Post for Post Cleanup that same day.



16 - 22 April National Volunteer Week

**Be a Volunteer!
Join us for
Highway Cleanup
on Saturday, 22 April**

What the VFW Does for You

The VFW maintains an office on Capitol Hill in Washington D.C., which “allows the VFW to monitor Congress and to administer our Veterans' Services program. The VFW has more than 100 trained service officers to assist any veteran, or their dependents, obtain federal or state entitlements.

“The VFW’s service officers also assist veterans seeking discharge upgrades, record corrections, education benefits, disability compensation, pension eligibility and other veterans' needs. Field representatives regularly inspect VA healthcare facilities, regional offices and national cemeteries. In addition, civil service and employment specialists monitor laws concerning veterans' preference in federal employment and represent veterans in grievances regarding employment in the federal, state and private sectors. A recent addition to the Washington D.C., office is the Tactical Assessment Center, a 24-hour help line for veterans with questions or concerns about VA entitlements. **(1-800-vfw-1899)**

“VFW's National Legislative Service office monitors all legislation affecting veterans. It alerts VFW membership to key veterans' legislation under consideration and actively lobbies Congress and the administration on veterans' issues. It often assists congressional staffs in preparing veterans' legislation.

“VFW's National Security and Foreign Affairs office monitors national security and foreign affairs issues.” Source: VFW website. Go to www.vfw.org, click on “VFW Capitol Hill”.

Ooops!!

The printed edition of March newsletter had the incorrect email for the post’s webmaster. If you would like to receive the post’s periodic updates and reminders of upcoming events and other information of note to members via email, send an email to the webmaster at tcobb144@aol.com. Your request will be forwarded to the Adjutant who will add you to the list. Email updates are sent “blind” so your email address will not be visible to other recipients.

A John Lyon Hello ...

To all Post and Ladies Auxiliary members who work long hours feeding our members and guests. During the last month, this has included the great kitchen and dining room staffs who worked the St Patrick’s Day dinner and two Sunday Brunches. Thanks to you for all you do!

And to Carl Colon, Jack Turner, Doug Wentzel, and Bill Yeager who are recovering from illness or surgery.

And to Ken Jansen who recently lost his father.

Your Membership Has Expired!

If you have not renewed for the Year 2005-2006, your membership expired at the end of December. Please send in your dues for 2006 now. If you cannot find your renewal notice, mail a check for \$30 (VFW) or \$25 (Ladies Auxiliary) to the address on the front page of the newsletter. Your membership card tells the date membership expires, however, if you accidentally renew twice this year you are credited for next year.



Three generations of Post members mix during the recent Afghanistan / Iraq veterans and 40 and under members’ night held at the Post. From the left are (kneeling) Greg Moscater and Max Taylor, (standing) Duval and Mercedes Diaz, J.Gary Wagner, Al Quaye, Ralph Huston, Mike Holtz, Paul Dougherty, Richard Hoffman, Jessica Short, and Ken Jansen.

Canteen News

The canteen is open for lunch Monday through Friday 11 am - 3 pm. Lunch specials include meatloaf on Wednesday and fried shrimp or cod on Fridays. Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday offer soup and sandwich or other specials. Prices are \$4.50 or \$3.50

The Post Canteen is open as follows:

Sun (1 st , 3 rd , 5 th)	12 noon – 9pm
Sun (2 nd , 4 th , "Brunch")	9 am – 9 pm
Mon - Thurs	11 am – 9 pm
Fri	11 am – 10 pm
Sat	12 noon – 10 pm

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

On-duty Manager

With the departure of Herman and Gigi Cruz to their retirement home in North Carolina, the Post is looking for someone to work weekends in the post canteen. This is a paid position. If you are interested, or know someone who might be, please call Canteen Manager Sue Smith at 703-525-0108 or drop by the post weekdays between 11 am and 3 pm to see her.

Sunday Brunch

Sunday Brunch continues into the Spring on the second and fourth Sundays of the month, from 9 am to 1 pm. All you can eat from our menu for \$5.00. Children under 10 eat free.

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. ABC Rules require it!

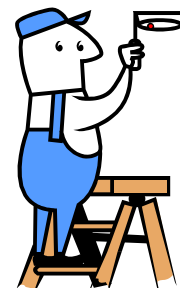
John Lyon Color Guard to Open Arlington Little League Ceremonies

A John Lyon Color Guard will lead the parade of teams at the opening ceremonies of the Arlington Little League season, on Sunday, 2 April. The opening ceremonies are scheduled for 2:15 pm at Field #1 on Barcroft Park, 4200 South. Four Mile Run Drive in Arlington. All members are invited to attend the ceremonies and the opening game.

This is the fifth year the post has sponsored a team. Following our initial sponsorship of the Majors 2 Orioles ---- which won the tournament championship --- the last three years we sponsored the Majors 2 Rangers. The schedule of games has not been released as we go to press. It will be available in the Post and you can also check the Little League website at www.arlingtonlittleleague.org/

Hospital Visit

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



Daylight Savings Safety

Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, 2 April. This is the ideal time to check the batteries and operation of your smoke detectors. BE SAFE!

Recent Events Around the Post



Senior Vice Commander in Chief Visits Post 3150

<<< VFW Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Gary Kurpius (center) stopped by Post 3150 en route to his Virginia appointments. Here he signs the Commander's Book while Greg Moscatar and Mike Holtz look on.

Max Taylor, Al Quaye, Mike Holtz, and >>> Paul Dougherty (l to r) discuss a point during the welcome to Afghanistan and Iraq veterans & 40 and under members night held recently at the post. The event, intended to introduce the younger members to each other, was deemed a success and further such events will be planned.



<<< John Lyon members and friends dig into the corned beef, cabbage, and boiled potatoes during the St Patrick's Day Dinner recently held at the post. About 70 meals were served of the traditional Irish meal. In the foreground are Anna and Jim Lint.

VoD, Patriot's Pen, Teacher, Police Gold Medal Awards



**Patriot's Pen First Place
Robert Andrew Schwartz
Home Schooled**



**Voice of Democracy First Place
Ashley Kallaragal
Bishop Denis J. O'Connell**



**High School Teacher of the Year
Andrew Mills
Bishop Denis J. O'Connell**



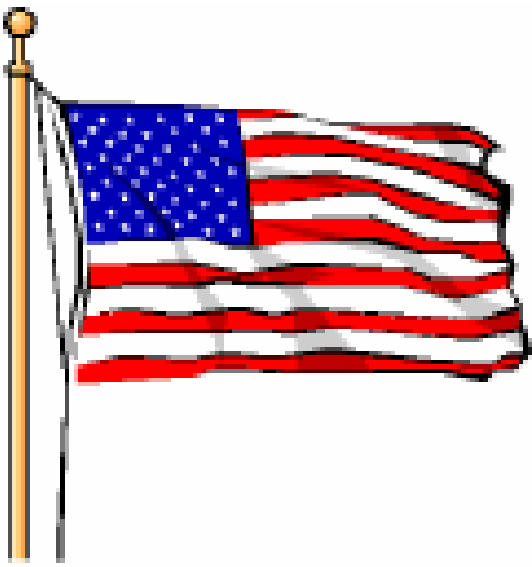
**Elementary School Teacher of the Year
Paul Maxfield
Key Elementary School**



**Vida Kharrazian
Queen of Apostles School
Middle School Teacher of the Year
(Unable to attend)**

**Police Gold Medal Award
Lt Brian Berke
Arlington County Police Department
(left)**

**Awards presented by Commander Greg Moscater
and Senior Vice President Karen Stewart.**



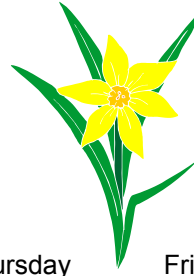
Loyalty Day
1 May 2006

VFW Post 3150
and
Ladies Auxiliary 3150



VFW 3150

April 2006



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Daylight Savings Time Starts Arlington Little League Opening 2:15 pm	3	4	5 Movie Night	6 Scottish Tartan Day	7 Auxiliary Crab Cake Supper 5 - 8 pm	8
9 Sunday Brunch 9 am - 1 pm	10 House Committee 7:30 pm Post O Call 8 pm	11 SPECIAL NIGHT Post Meeting 8 pm ELECTIONS	12 Movie Night	13 Post Meeting on Tuesday, 11th	14	15
16 EASTER SUNDAY	17 TAX DAY	18	19 Movie Night	20 Ladies Aux Meeting 7:30 pm ELECTIONS	21	22 Highway Cleanup 8:30 am
23 Sunday Brunch 9 am - 1 pm	24	25	26 Movie Night	27	28	29 VA Hospital Visit 12 noon
30	1 May LOYALTY DAY					

Dinner RSVPs: 703-525-0108



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

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**Post Elections &
Corporate Meeting**
Tues, 11 Apr 06
8 pm



Ladies Auxiliary
Elections
Thurs, 20 Apr 06
7:30 pm