

The John Lyon Gazette

Volume 22, Number 9

April 2016



Veterans of Foreign Wars

- **John Lyon Post #3150**
- **2116 North 19th Street**
- **Arlington VA 22201**
- **703-525-0108**
- **<http://www.vfw3150.org>**



The John Lyon Gazette: Winner of 1999, 2003, 2004, 2007, 2009, 2010, and 2011 Clair B. Poff Public Relations Award for Outstanding Newsletter, and Winner of National Awards for 2010, 2011

VFW Post 3150 in 2016

Iraq - Afghanistan vets remain #1

This issue makes the fifteenth 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 still well represented across the board. Iraqi Freedom / Afghanistan / GWOTEM vets remain the largest block if counted together, passing Vietnam vets four years ago, our largest group when this survey started in 2001. Persian Gulf / Desert Storm veterans make up our third largest block. 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 and completed all their paperwork. Some members were in more than one service or had multiple deployments and are counted for each, so the numbers don't add up exactly. And we still lack some data from an earlier disk crash which has not yet been recovered. Current memberships total 544. The results show that we were in ...

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------|-----|
| World War II | 17 | | |
| Post War Occupation | 16 | | |
| Korean War | 25 | Army | 292 |
| Taiwan Straits | 2 | Navy | 115 |
| Cuba / Grenada | 2 | USAF (including AAF) | 88 |
| Vietnam / Southeast Asia | 191 | USMC | 108 |
| Korean Exped / Service | 69 | USCG | 5 |
| Libya | 3 | | |
| Lebanon / Beirut | 10 | | |
| El Salvador / Panama | 4 | | |
| Persian Gulf / Desert Storm | 111 | Includes 59 women: | |
| Haiti | 5 | Post War Occupation | 3 |
| Somalia / Horn of Africa / Chad | 4 | Korea Service | 14 |
| Bosnia / Kosovo | 32 | Persian Gulf / Desert Storm | 12 |
| Afghanistan / GWOTEM | 157 | Haiti / Cuba | 2 |
| Iraqi Freedom | 184 | Bosnia / Kosovo | 5 |
| SSBN | 2 | Iraq / Afghanistan / GWOTEM | 43 |
| Other Expeditionary | 21 | | |

From The Commander:

Greetings comrades, auxiliaries, and friends. So spring has finally arrived and even though the weather is still a bit confused winter has come and gone.

March has been an exciting and productive month for VFW 3150. We started the month by welcoming many VFW state commanders and friends with a spaghetti dinner during the national legislative conference. The feedback from this event was extremely positive. I would like to say thank you to the post and auxiliary members that stepped up to help represent 3150. We continued the month with another successful UFC night that brought in several new members and a fantastic event put on by our new friends at World of Beer in Ballston.

With April around the corner we will once again gather for a night of comradery and music on April 9th. VFW 3150 will join IAVA, Guitars 4 Vets, and Orange Line Living for another open mic night. If you haven't been to the post in some time this is your time to come out and get yourself reacquainted.

April brings us two very important events with regard to veterans and their families. April 5th is Gold Star Wives Day and the entire month of April is the month of the military child. The two

important events signify the importance of the families to our active duty soldiers and veterans.

Children of military or military brat as they are affectionately referred to often give up so much growing up. One day mom or dad are here then they next they are gone for months at a time. Ball games, birthdays, recitals, and much more are just another in a long list of events these children sacrifice sharing with their parents during this time. So during this month keep these children in your thoughts. Let them know their sacrifice does not go unnoticed.

When speaking of sacrifice we can never allow ourselves to forget what our gold star wives have given to their country. Being a current army spouse my mind does allow me to contemplate the emotions I would be subjected to should I ever receive that knock on my door.

So during this month of April when thinking of all the ways we can assist our active duty members and veterans keep their families in your heart as well. Our families are high among the reasons we continue our fight and always will be.

Yours in Service
Clifton F Clevenger
Commander, VFW Post 3150

From the President of the Auxiliary:

Well, April is around the corner and already the May flowers have arrived. (In between the snow showers and chilly temps. Those poor Cherry Blossoms.) With it comes the reminder that the Post and Auxiliary elections for Officers are just around the corner. Think about who you would like to see in Officer's positions for the coming year. Sadly, I will not be running for a third term, as physically I'm just not able to participate in many of the functions the auxiliary performs, and also caring for Mom and the house take quite a bit of time. I can only hope that I did half as good a job as our past Presidents have done before me. While on this subject I must thank the ladies who have so

wonderfully represented me at functions throughout my two years in office. Cathy Graham, Gail Hoffman, Lola Kane, Karen Stewart, and Belle Woods. Thank you all so much for stepping up to the plate (or up the stairs in some cases) to stand in for me when I was unable. You all have been extremely generous in helping me when I needed it. I can never thank you enough. You are exactly what makes this organization such a success. Though sometimes it may be hard to believe, I value your help and friendship very much! Thank you again! We are also going to miss Belle, Gary, and the girls when they move to Oregon soon. We are so sad to be losing them, but by the same token happy they will be home close to their family.

Now is the time to get out, work in your garden, have some family outings and enjoy this great weather we have been seeing every couple of days. You can find Mom and I on the road again soon, as we jaunt across the country for several weeks visiting family and friends. This time we are headed the southern route, visiting Mom's family in AK, MO, OK, and friends in AZ, and TX. I told her when we were in Tuscan we are only six hours from 29 Palms, CA. (affectionately known as 29 Stumps). It's the largest Marine Corps Base in the world. My favorite base growing up, we played with the lizards, snakes, and bugs, stuck them up in Mom's face screaming "Look Mom!" and loved watching her jump 10 feet into the air screaming like a crazy woman! We climbed on the tanks, cracked eggs on them, watching them fry in a matter of a few seconds, and of course played on the artillery range. We loved picking up those huge shells that looked like bullets! I can still hear Dad as if it were yesterday yelling he better never catch us on the artillery range! We were stupid of course because there we were, playing on the range. Nothing scared us, so God looked out for us idiots and kept us from being hurt or worse handing those live shells that had never exploded. Not every kid

was as lucky as us to have a 1000 square mile playground of sand! Thinking back, it's a wonder I ever survived my childhood, that those live rounds didn't take me out, and so many other things I did, or my Dad killing me for doing such crazy stuff he told me not to do when he caught me! God really does look out for fools!

Well, time to end this and yet as usual I have run off in a weird direction. Hope you don't mind the story of my playground there. Until next month stay safe, and enjoy the weather when you can. Be sure you check on our elderly, see if they need anything, make their day and yours. Have a Happy Birthday and/or Anniversary if celebrating one of those this month! Please come out to game night the third Friday of the month and enjoy the Auxiliary's dinner we are planning to have to help support our programs.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Weeks
President, VFW Auxiliary 3150

Loyalty Day?

You will notice elsewhere in this newsletter that May 1st is Loyalty Day. "What is Loyalty Day?" some of our newer members may ask.

In April 1965, Post Commander Ned Allred explained in the *Northern Virginia Sun*: "The Veterans of Foreign War created Loyalty Day to counteract Communist demonstrations against our American way of life...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."

According to *History - Department of Virginia - Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States - 1919 - 1969* (page 219): "Designed to stimulate and promote nationwide expression of Americanism and Patriotism, May 1st was established by the National V.F.W. in 1947 as 'Loyalty Day'; as an occasion for general observance and reaffirmation of our country's basic concepts of Freedom...Gaining in significance and recognition yearly, it has within two decades developed into the Nation's most outstanding observance of its character, to become declared by Congress as 'a special day for public reaffirmation and demonstration of strong loyalty to country by all true citizens.'" Recent events in the Ukraine, the Middle East and elsewhere around the world continue to make Loyalty Day as appropriate for the Twenty-first Century as for the previous one.

**Post Elections &
Corporate Meeting
Mon, 18 Apr 16
7:30 pm**

**VFW Auxiliary Elections
Thurs, 19 Apr 16
7:30 pm**

New Officers to be Selected

Nominations for all Post officers for the Year 2016-2017 will continue during the 18 April meeting. Nominated at the March meeting were: Commander – Mike Rau, Senior Vice Commander Brenna McVaney, Junior Vice Commander – open, Quartermaster – Jim Bertine, Chaplain – Mike Ross, 3 Year Trustee – Brendan Gehrke, and Three Year House Committee – Alex Nobles (yet to be accepted). All positions are open to be nominated. Additionally, the new commander will appoint positions such as adjutant (admin), advocate (parliamentarian), surgeon (welfare and hospital), officer of the day, guard, and publicity chairman. Holding office is a way to bring your ideas for the Post's future! All members are urged to consider one of the positions. Contact the Commander or one of the other current officers for more information. The **Auxiliary** will nominate and elect at their meeting on **19 April**.

All new officers will be installed in May but will not assume their duties until the new state officers are installed at the end of the state convention in June.

Corporate Meeting

The annual meeting of the John Lyon Corporation will be held in connection with the Post meeting on Monday, 18 April. Corporation officers will be elected.

Welcome to Our New Members

Welcome to new Post members Aaron P Alonso (USMC - Iraq/Afghanistan)(Trans), Patrick Hanley (Army – Iraq), Todd L Mack (Navy – Kosovo), Abby Malchow (Navy- Iraq), Ronald Maslen (Navy – Desert Storm/Afghanistan/Iraq/ GWOTEM) (Life), Samuel Reeder (USMC - Iraq), Joseph Simonelli (Army – Desert Storm)(Life Trans), Mark Walters (Army – Iraq/Korea Service/GWOTEM) (Life Trans), and Auxiliary member Jintana S. Calibo, all whose paperwork is complete and who were elected at the March meetings. And a welcome back to new Life Member Paul Benfield.

Marching Off...

Dorothy Rodier Moran, 89, on 24 February 2016, in Vienna Va. She was Ladies Auxiliary President in 1958-59. Three of Dorothy's siblings, were John Lyon members, the late Mary Martin, Ruth Rodier and Vernon Rodier.. Her husband, the late George M Moran; was Post Commander in 1958-59. Interment was at Andrew Chapel Cemetery in Vienna.

Iraq/Afghanistan/GWOTE Vets Happy Hour

The Post will host a welcome happy hour for Iraq, Afghanistan and GWOTE veterans Thursday, 14 April from 5 – 8 pm. All members invited. Your vet friends are welcome to join you.

Open Mic Night w/ Guitars For Vets

Open Mic night with Guitars For Vets, IAVA, and Orange Line living will be on the 9th of April. Come by for an evening of music and Camaraderie. If you, or any of your musically inclined friends, would like to play for the group that night please have them email Joseph at guitarsforvets.dc@gmail.com.

Aux Dinner & Game Night, 15 Apr

Taxes are done. Celebrate with pulled pork sandwich, cole slaw, and chips for \$6 from 6 to 7:30 pm on Friday 15 April. And stay for Game Night at the Post at 7:30 pm. We have some, games but feel free to bring your own game to share. This will be a monthly event on the third Friday of every month.

Moved? Newsletter in Color

To insure you receive the newsletter in color by email send an email to the Adjutant at adjpost3150@va.vfwebmail.com Send address changes to the same email address.

State Convention

Comrades,

...I received a call from our hotel Ft Magruder to inform us that they will be in the middle of a major renovation at the hotel in June and will not be able to have us at their hotel. I will be working with our Time and Place Chairman to find us another venue for our convention. As soon as we find a location I will notify all of you so you may make your hotel reservations.

Yours in Comradeship

Kim DeShano, State Quartermaster



National Convention

The National Convention will be held 23 – 27 July 2016 in Charlotte NC. The assigned hotel for Virginia is Le Meridien Special Room rates are available until 13 June. For info or to reserve, go to <http://www.vfw.org/convention/>

Tax Scams

It's income tax time again and the scammers are trying to get the rest of our money. The government does NOT do business via the phone or email. Do NOT respond to phone or email requests for your bank account, social security number and other similar info.

Trap Shooting Event

Tenth District will host a Trap Shooting Event, 2 April, 9 am - 1 pm at Bull Run Shooting Center, Centreville. Contact Nelson Betancourt for info.

Hours for Post Canteen

The Post Canteen is open as follows:

Monday - Tuesday: Closed

Wednesdays: 5pm - 8pm

Thursdays: 5pm - 8pm

Fridays: 3pm - 10pm

Saturdays: 3pm – 10pm

Sundays: 1pm - 6pm

Post may stay open later depending on people there, and if not three or more there may close early.

Desert Storm Cease Fire

The anniversary of the Persian Gulf Cease Fire at the end of Operation Desert Storm will be marked by a short ceremony on Monday, 11 April at 7:00 pm prior to the House Committee meeting. All members, but especially those veterans of the 1990s Iraq war, are invited to attend.



John Lyon Color Guard to Open Arlington Little League Ceremonies

A John Lyon Color Guard will present the National Colors during the opening ceremonies of the Arlington Little League's 30th Anniversary season, on Sunday, 3 April. The opening ceremonies are scheduled for 2:00 pm at Field #1 on Barcroft Park, 4200 South Four Mile Run Drive in Arlington. A Post 3150 Honor Guard will present the colors. Members are invited attend the ceremonies and the regular season baseball games.

**We are on Facebook: "Like" us at
"John Lyon VFW Post 3150".**

Movie Night is Back

The Post will resume Movie Night at 6:30 pm on all except the second Wednesday evenings of the month.

Post Cleanup Date 16 Apr

Devote an hour or two to help with Post Cleanup at 10 am on Sat, 16 April. We will work both indoors and out weather permitting.

Highway Cleanup 23 April

Highway Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, 23 April. Meet at the Post at 10:30 am. Wear long pants and hard-soled shoes. The Post has gloves, safety vests, and levered pick-up sticks. With a good turnout, we can be done in about 90 minutes. The rain date for highway cleanup is 30 April.

Upcoming Next Month

Not counting Sunday brunches and the normal meetings, the following are the highlights of next month's calendar. See next month's newsletter for more details.

Fri, 1 May: Loyalty Day

Sat, 7 May: Kentucky Derby Day, 5 pm (tent)

Sun, 8 May: Mother's Day

Sun, 15 May: District Convention, Post 1503, 1 pm

Sat, 21 May: Installation of Officers, 2 pm

Fri, 27 May: Grave Decoration, National Memorial & Columbia Gardens, 12:30 pm at Post

Sat, 28 May: Grave Decoration, Arlington National Cemetery, 9 am at Post

Mon, 29 May: Memorial Day Ceremonies:

Cherrydale "John Lyon" Memorial, 11 am

Clarendon War Memorial, 1 pm

**Warmer Spring Days.
Watch out for
children playing
outdoors.**



\$5.00 each

Permit Number G-17-03033-039171

No. 27037

VFW Department of Virginia Fund-Raising Raffle

The drawing will be held June 18, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. in Williamsburg, VA
at the Fort Magruder Hotel and Conference Center
6945 Pocahontas Trall, Williamsburg, VA 23185

Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Virginia
403 Lee Jackson Highway, Staunton, VA 24401 • (540) 886-8112

(List of prizes on back)

1. HENRY GOLDEN BOY .22 CAL \$529.99
2. YETI ROADIE \$264.99
3. SAVAGE 16 .243 CAL \$720.79
4. QUANTUM BAITCASTER OUTFIT \$211.98
5. THUNDER HAWK CROSSBOW \$635.99
6. OA OCEANMASTER REEL W/BS \$233.18
7. RUGER 10/22 .22 CAL \$275.59
8. FRONTIER REVOLVER .45 CAL LC \$561.79
9. COSTA 560P SUNGLASSES \$179.14
10. \$500.00 BPS GIFT CARD \$500.00
11. MINN KOTA TROLLING MOTOR \$116.59
12. CHAR-BROIL PROPANE GRILL \$370.99
13. TEKNETICS METAL DETECTOR \$296.79
14. BUSHNELL BINOCULARS \$105.99
15. \$500.00 BPS GIFT CARD \$500.00
16. REMINGTON 870 \$349.79
17. RUGER MK111 \$455.79
18. ASCEND C156 CANOE \$604.19
19. PARKER ENFORCER C-BOW \$529.99
20. \$500.00 BPS GIFT CARD \$500.00
21. BROWNING TWO BURNER \$127.19
22. YETI HOPPER 20 \$317.99
23. TKKA T-3 .308 CAL \$635.99
24. HENRY BIG BOY .44 MAG \$847.99
25. WINCHESTER S&K T3GA \$1,006.99
26. LANDMAN FIRE PIT \$211.99
27. BASS PRO RAIN JACKET \$201.39
28. \$500.00 BPS GIFT CARD \$500.00
29. BASS PRO CAMP KITCHEN \$148.39
30. \$500.00 BPS GIFT CARD \$500.00
31. ORVIS FLY OUTFIT \$188.54
32. YETI TRUNDRA .45 \$370.99
33. MASTERBUILT ELECT. SMOKER \$508.79
34. REDHEAD 10 GUN SAFE \$349.77
35. BROWNING BPS 12GA \$635.99
36. TRAEGER PELLET GRILL \$476.99
37. PENN BATTLE II & OA BAG \$180.18
38. BROWNING ROD STORAGE \$158.99
39. YETI 125 \$582.99
40. \$500.00 BPS GIFT CARD \$500.00
41. BASS PRO BAITCAST \$275.58
42. BUSHMASTER .223MSR \$847.99
43. BASS PRO 4 P'SN TENT \$127.19
44. BROWNING SPINNING CB \$74.19
45. YETI 65 \$423.99
46. \$250.00 BPS GIFT CARD \$250.00
47. UBIRITE .45CAL PISTOL \$455.79
48. PENN SENATOR R&T \$296.79
49. \$250.00 BPS GIFT CARD \$250.00
50. BROWNING MAXUS 12GA \$1,430.99

The VFW Department of Virginia will hold a raffle in connection Bass Pro Shops in June. Tickets, which are available in the Post, cost \$5. If you win one of the 50 prizes, your ticket goes back in the hopper and you could win again. **And the Post receives \$1 for each ticket we sell.**

Recent Events Around the Post

The Post hosted State Commanders >>> and Presidents at a spaghetti dinner during the 2016 Legislative Conference in early March. Among those attending was Virginia State President Georgette Dausey, front row third from left, and two female state commanders. Other state officers from the various states also attended. ..



<<< Post members and friends gather in front of the stage at during a special fund-raiser hosted by World of Beer and DC Brau and Star Hill Breweries. A portion of each veteran-friendly attendee's bill went to the post as well as a donation from the two breweries.

Commander Cliff Clevenger presents >>> a certificate of appreciatuon to Ms Kat Kitzmiller, manager of World of Beer, for their hosting the fundraiser for the Post on 17 March.



Recent Events Around the Post

Ceremonies were held at the Post to honor the winners of the post's essay contests and Teacher of the Year.

Chairman Brendan Gehrke and Past President Jodie LaFreniere-Dajc presented the awards after everyone had eaten lunch and been welcomed by Post Commander Cliff Clevenger. The two missing awardees were presented with their awards at a later time and the photos are not yet available.



Patriot's Pen 1st Place: Emily Dajc



VoD (Voice of Democracy)
2nd Place: Sean Bergmann



Patriot's Pen 2nd Place: Aurelia Klunder



High School Teacher of the Year:
Lester Albers, Washington-Lee HS



Patriot's Pen 3rd Place: Cameron Fisher



(left) Les Albers was named Tenth District High School Teacher of the Year and will compete at the State level. He is presented with the certificate and check by Tenth District Commander Gary Kelch and Tenth District Auxiliary President Betty Gimble at the recent district meeting.

VFW 3150

April 2016



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| | | | | | 1 --→ 10 D Trap Shooting Event, 9am, Bull Run | 2 Lt John Lyon born 2 Apr 1893 |
| 3 3150 Color Guard at Arlington Little League Opening 2 pm | 4 | 5 | 6 Movie night, 6:30 pm | 7 | 8 | 9 Open Mic Night at Post 3150, 6 – 10 p |
| 10 | 11 Persian Gulf Cease Fire 7 pm House Committee / Post O Call 7:15 pm | 12 | 13 GRIST mtg, 7 pm | 14 GWOTE Happy Hour, 5 – 8 pm | 15 INCOME TAX DAY Auxiliary Dinner and Game Night, 6 – 7:30 pm, 7:30 pm | 16 Post Cleanup, 10 am |
| 17 Buddy Poppy Distribution, Fort Myer, 8 am – 2 pm | 18 Post Meeting 7:30 pm ELECTIONS | 19 Auxiliary Meeting 7:30 pm ELECTIONS | 20 Movie night, 6:30 pm | 21 | 22) | 23 Highway Cleanup 10:30 am |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 Movie night, 6:30 pm | 28 | 29 | 30 Highway Cleanup 10:30 am (raindate) |



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

Dated Material Please Do Not Delay
April 16

Address Service Requested



Lt John Lyon
2 April 1893 – 16 October 1918