

The John Lyon Gazette

Volume 14, Number 12

June 2008



Veterans of Foreign Wars
John Lyon Post #3150
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The John Lyon Gazette: Winner of 1999, 2003, 2004 and 2007 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, and 2006; Best Newsletter in the Nation, 1999, Second Place 2006

All State!

At the Tenth District Convention held on Sunday 18 May, District Commander M.C. "Connie" Agresti announced that six Tenth District posts were selected as an All-State Post, Post 3150 among them. The designation is limited to the top twenty posts in the state and reflects all aspects of Post life including membership, certain administrative requirements, community activities, and other programs, including participation Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, and Teacher of the Year programs. This was the eighteenth time in the last twenty years that the Arlington Post has been so honored. The announcement reflected the phone call Post Commander Anderson received from Department of Virginia Commander Jimmy Lee Wallace the previous day. The Tenth District has also been named an "All American District" base on membership for the year 2007-2008. Congratulations to Commander Agresti!



Post 3150 Commander Eric Anderson, left, receives the Honor Post Banner from Tenth District Commander M.C. "Connie" Agresti and Department Commander Jimmy Lee Wallace, right, during the recent Tenth District Convention. The banner is presented to posts which reach 100% of their membership goal for the year.

The District Convention also saw the election of new officers to lead the district in the next year. Margo Sheridan of Post 7327 was elected District Commander. As the first female ever to be elected district commander in Virginia, she will also be the first female member of the State Council of Administration, according to Past Department Commander, George E. McCracken, her installing officer.

From The Commander:

May, of course was, as you have already read in the May calendar, a busy month. Then again what's new? We stay busy, as a team, ensuring you Post objectives and requirements are met.

It's been a couple of great years, serving as your Commander. The counsel I've received from the past Commanders and individual members/guests has enabled this Post to achieve the level it has. I want to thank, from the bottom of my heart, all of you for allowing me to be a part of that. Thank you.

What I want to do now, is move into the next item, which is thanking some comrades whom I've had the pleasure to serve with. Some of this will be old news, especially for those who attended the installation of your Officers, but for those of you who couldn't attend, you will possibly gain some insight on what your comrades do for your home.

First I'd like to thank District Commander M. Conrad Agresti, Past Ladies Auxiliary President Jodie LaFreniere-Dajc and Past Commander Richard Hoffman for being the installing officers for the Post, the Ladies Auxiliary and the Men's Auxiliary. Superb job to all of you. A very special thank you to the following, and in no special order. To all the past commanders, who have given me guidance and counsel throughout the course of the year, keeping my head just above the water line. They kept me out of trouble. To J. Gary Wagner, Adjutant, who kept track of administrative requirements and membership, to Tom Kane, who served wherever he needed to, to Jerry Peterson, JVC, for keeping track of membership and assisting us to get where we need to be, to Past Commander Ken Jansen, who did a great job insuring the post was well supplied with food and supply essentials and is the reigning Head Chef, to Mike Holtz, SVC, responsible for Post programs (VOD/Patriots Pen, Teacher, Police Officer, and Scout of the year), to Connie Agresti, Advocate, who kept us up to speed on the legal aspects and protocol, also served as the Buddy Poppy and Military Assistance Program coordinator, to Mark Pando, Surgeon, who insured Hospital Visits were scheduled and accomplished, and who personally visited all the patients, To Richard Hoffman, Quartermaster, who insured all funds were accounted for, to the penny, and that all transactions were appropriate, and to the Trustees, whom through their audits, made sure we did things right.

For those I didn't name --- you know who you are --- I want you to know that your time, energy, and volunteerism was and is extremely appreciated, and that you are and will always be an integral part of what we do. Thank you.

Without the team work and joint "Helping Hands" effort, and I include the Ladies and Men's Auxiliaries, we couldn't of had such a successful year: "**ALLSTATE**" once again.

Several of you will be attending the State Convention in Richmond later this month. I sincerely hope that all the hard work all of you have put in this past year is recognized by State and that you will bring home some goodies. Anyway, it has been a grr r r r eat year.

Let us to do it again under your future leadership.

Thanks again for your support.

Yours in comradeship,

Eric Anderson
Commander, VFW Post 3150

From the President of the Ladies Auxiliary:

This is my final newsletter to all of you. I have experienced a very busy, very rewarding, very fun filled two years as President at Ladies Auxiliary 3150. To the my Sisters at 3150, thank you all for your support, your kind words of encouragement, your counsel, and your willingness to assist in our many projects and fund raisers. We the Auxiliary, the Post and the Men's Auxiliary, work very well together -- I know we will continue to do so in the coming year to assist the incoming officers. I am looking forward to doing new things --- work in my garden (if it EVER quits raining), visiting friends and relatives in Ohio and PA, getting back to birding and photography!

One of our Post members has offered to teach interested female Auxiliary members self-defense and personal safety awareness techniques. In this crazy world we all need to be aware of our surroundings as we go about our daily activities. We need talk to Eric and will get with incoming Commander Tom Kane and our Quartermaster to set a time and date. Look for more info on this subject in the next newsletter. Once it is scheduled there will be a sign up sheet at the canteen for those who are interested.

I am writing this a couple of days before the Memorial Day weekend --- and what a busy weekend that will be. It's a grand time seeing old friends and making new ones. For those of you in Arlington---- join us at Ballston Mall on Saturday, June 7, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., as we hand out flags and ask for pledges to fly Old Glory on Flag Day. Please see the June calendar of events at the back of the newsletter.

Punxsutawney Phil is alive and well --- along with his den mate aka wife --- in their spacious, air conditioned, den beneath the Community Center in Barclay Square e in downtown Punxsy. My cousin and I visited him on a recent trip home. You would have thought he could have warned us about the rain, particularly, after our drought of last year. Punxsy is a charming little town in Central Western Pennsylvania, visit it should you get up that way! Only go in the summertime.

Happy Birthday to those of you with birthdays in June! Hope to see you at our brunches or other events here at the Post. Elsie Weeks will be penning the next newsletter and will do so with gusto!

/s/

Karen A. Stewart
President, Ladies Auxiliary 3150

Ballston Commons and Flag Day: Cancelled

Unfortunately, the corporate headquarters of Ballston Commons Mall in Arlington has chosen to not participate in Flag Day's "An Old Glory*ous Celebration" event this year. So all other references to this activity should be ignored. We can hope that the corporate headquarters will have a change of heart and we will be able to participate in this event --- distributing a small flag in exchange for a pledge to display the U.S. flag on Flag Day --- again in the future.

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, 4 Jul: National Bell Ringing Ceremony, 1:50 p
Cookout, 3 - 5 pm

Sun, 13 Jul: Post/Auxiliaries Planning Mtg, 2 pm

Sat, 26 Jul: Highway Cleanup, 8:30 am

Sun, 27 Jul: Korean War Veterans Armistice Day
ceremony, 3 pm

Sun, 27 Jul; VFW School of Instruction, Dale City
VFW Post 1503, TBA

From the President of the Men's Auxiliary:

Hello to all,

During our joint Post installation held on 17 May 2008 the Men's Auxiliary Charter was presented to our Auxiliary by Commander Eric Anderson. I had the privilege to hang our charter beside the Post and Ladies Auxiliary Charters.

I would like to congratulate Commander Eric Anderson for making John Lyon Post 3150 an All State Post for 2007- 2008 calendar year. Also congratulations to President Karen Stewart for attaining Banner President for the 2007-2008. I would like to thank the both of them for their support and encouragement to our auxiliary.

Our Auxiliary had the honor to serve Mother's Day Brunch. We served a total of 205 breakfasts. Brunch is normally served by the Ladies Auxiliary and I for one have a new found respect for the work they do.

We do have some Community and Post events upcoming for the month. They include. An Old Glorious Celebration (Flag Day) Ballston Commons Mall on the 31 May and 7 June from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Come out and help distribute flags.

On 10 June in observance of Flag Day, there will be a ceremony at our Post starting at 6:45. Also the cake cutting ceremony for the U.S. Army's 233rd Birthday at 7:00 pm. Our monthly Men's Auxiliary meeting will follow starting at 7:30.

Flag Day is on 14 June, be sure to show your patriotism by flying your American flag.

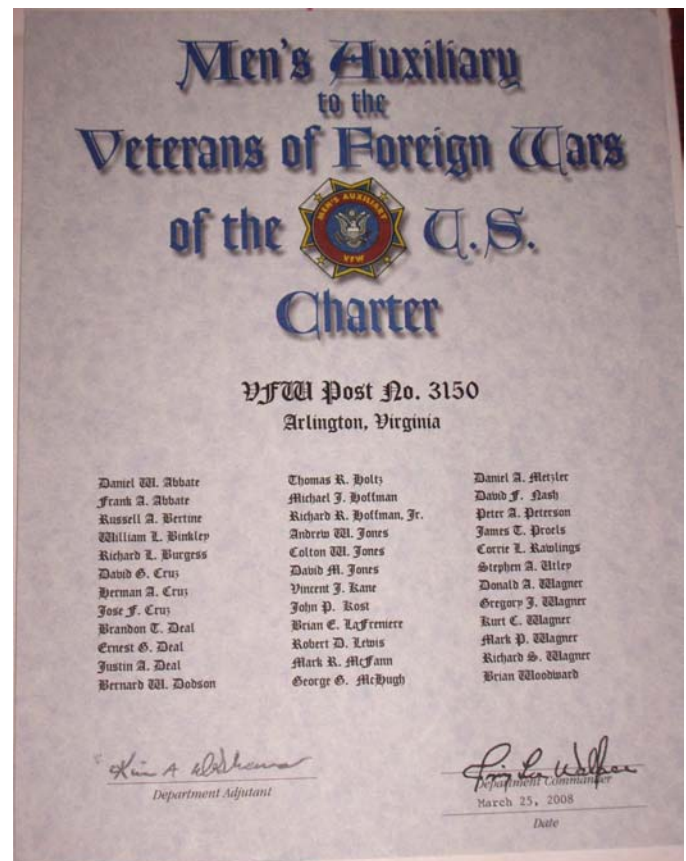
To all the Dads I would like to wish you a very Happy Father's Day.

Be sure to keep our service men and women in your prayers and whenever you see a veteran make sure you thank them for their service.

Ernie Deal, President, Men's Auxiliary 3150



President Ernie Deal hangs the Men's Auxiliary Charter alongside the Post and Ladies Auxiliary charters. Deal was presented it from Post Commander Eric Anderson during the recent Installation of Officers for 2008-2009. Members who joined in the first 90 days are considered Charter Members and their names appear on the document, seen at right.



Marching off...

Past Post 3150 Commander John “Jack” H.H. Turner Jr., 78, on 6 May in Arlington. He served in the Korean War with the 1st 90mm Anti-Aircraft Battalion and retired as a Gunnery Sergeant from the U.S. Marine Corps. About 1958, he started his sign company, Jhh Turner & Co, Inc., and for years painted the sign hanging near the Post front door. Jack served as Post Commander from 1979 - 1980 and in the following years, he served with many other John Lyon members on various Arlington County Parade committees. Jack was perhaps most visible with his frequent playing of “Taps” on his bugle at the “John Lyon” and Clarendon War Memorial ceremonies on both Memorial Day and Veterans Day. He was father of Post 3150 member John H.H. Turner III. He will be buried in Quantico National Cemetery.

An Open Letter from the District Commander to the Members of Tenth District:

Comrades,

As I prepare to pass the mantle of Commander on to my successor, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate you on making this District All-American for the first time in a number of years. The Tenth District is a leader both within the Department of Virginia and the Nation. We are the largest District within our Department and have the highest membership percentage to boot. Many of our comrades hold highly responsible positions within our Nation’s government and others lead our VFW organization in their Washington office. The Commander is merely the elected representative --- a figurehead --- of the District; all 4,850+ comrades. Representing you as Commander has been the pinnacle of my 20 years of VFW membership. I want to thank you for your support and wish you all --- especially those on active duty and in harm’s way --- Godspeed.

Yours in comradeship,

M. C. “Connie” Agresti
Commander, Tenth District

Lt. Colonel Barksdale to thank 3150 for Iraq Support on 9 June visit

Lt. Colonel Dane Barksdale, the Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion; 76th Field Artillery Regiment; Third Infantry Division; US Army, currently deployed in Iraq will be making a presentation to our Post and Ladies Auxiliary on Monday June 9 at 7:30 for the support we have provided his Battalion over the past several months. Lt. Colonel Barksdale will return to Iraq on Tuesday June 10. He will be accompanied on this visit by his wife who will be visiting wounded soldiers at WRAMC that day.

Post 3150 has provided several hundred pounds of individually wrapped candy to help his soldiers win the friendship and support of the Iraqi children in finding insurgents as well as 100 soccer balls for the schools in his Area of Operation.

Ladies Auxiliary 3150 has taken on the support of the ten “Ladies of the Patriot Battalion” through their Women to Women Support project of providing articles the women are unable to obtain through local supply channels.

Flag Day, Army Birthday moved to Tuesday, 10 June, Post Meeting to Tuesday, 17 June

Due to the VFW Department Convention’s scheduled beginning on Thursday, 12 June, the Post meeting has been moved to Tuesday, 17 June at 8 pm. The post’s observance of Flag Day and the U.S. Army’s birthday, both on 14 June, have been moved to Tuesday evening, 10 June. Flag Day observance will begin at 6:45 pm, followed by the Army’s birthday at 7 pm. The Men’s Auxiliary meeting will begin at 7:30 pm. In previous years, John Lyon members from all services gathered for the first of the service birthdays and continued this tradition throughout the year.

Welcome to Our New Members

Welcome to new Post members, Aletha Coetzee (Navy - GWOT/Desert Storm) (Life), Charlie Delph (USMC - Jordan/IDP) (transfer), Russell Dixon (USMC/Army) (Afghanistan) (Life 24), David Gurney (USMC - Desert Storm) (Life), Alex Haseley (Army - Iraq) (Life transfer), Joseph Jacabo (Army - Iraq), Benjamin Johnson (Army - Iraq), Marue Quick (Army - Iraq/Bosnia) (Life transfer), Richard Requa (Army - Vietnam) (transfer), James Weck (Army - Iraq), Robert Wilkerson (Army - Vietnam) (Life), all elected at the May meeting.

From the John Lyon Past...

The following article appeared in *The Alexandria Gazette* on 17 June 1953...

VFW Sends 10 Delegates to State Meet

“Approximately 10 delegates from the Russell Mitchell Post 609, Veterans of Foreign Wars, will represent their post at the department encampment, V.F.W., opening in Richmond Sunday.

“The group will urge that the encampment be scheduled to meet in Alexandria in 1954 with the Russell Mitchell Post as host chapter. Representatives Samuel B. DeVaughn, Ralph E. Fravel and James J. Campbell will present invitations issued by the City of Alexandria, the Chamber of Commerce, the Retail Merchants Association and other organizations.

“The eighth district, consisting of Alexandria, Arlington, Falls Church and Fairfax Counties, has requested that the V.F.W. system of State division be revised to conform with the division of the State into Congressional districts. This issue will be discussed by the department at the gathering.

“Officers for 1954 will be elected, with George Dalby, of Arlington, on the slate for senior vice commander. Alexandria will present a resolution urging the reappointment of Samuel B. DeVaughn as assistant national inspector general.”

(Editor’s note: George Dalby was a member of Post 3150 and went on to become State Commander a year later.)

State Convention

The Department of Virginia’s state convention will be held June 12-15, 2008 at the Sheraton Richmond West Hotel. Those planning to attend should let the Post know so that we can coordinate several events with you.

National VFW Convention

The 109th National VFW Convention will be held in Orlando, Florida, from August 16 - 21, 2008. Information can be obtained from the national VFW website (www.vfw.org, then 109th Convention), the state of Virginia’s General Orders (www.vfwva.org), from the Post, and recent issues of the VFW magazine. You must book by July 14, 2008 for group rate. Go to www.vfw.org or call 1-888-221-9245 and let them know that you are with the State of Virginia and they will take care of your reservation. Virginia’s hotel is the Rosen Centre. Anyone planning to attend should let the post know so that we can coordinate several items.

A Buddy Poppy Thanks

Thanks to the many members and friends who sent in a donation for the Buddy Poppy included in last month’s newsletter. Your generosity will help ensure our Relief Funds will be ready for the next year when needed. As the envelopes are still arriving, a full tally will be available next month.

Happy Father's Day

Happy Father's Day to all of our Fathers and husbands on 15 June! Wherever you are, you are close to our hearts.

Hours for Post Canteen

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	3 – 9 pm
Fri	3 – 10 pm
Sat	12 noon–10 pm

Last Newsletter?

If you failed to renew your membership dues for the year 2008, you are about to be dropped from the mailing list for the newsletter. To stay on the list, send your dues for 2009 **NOW**. To the Post Quartermaster (\$30) or Ladies Auxiliary Treasurer (\$25) at the address on the front page.

Military Performances

One of the great things about living in the Washington area is the many military band concerts and other performance during the summer months. And two of them happen right here in Arlington.

The USAF Band performs at the Air Force Memorial near the Pentagon on Wednesday and Friday evenings at 8 pm, from 4 June to 28 August. For information, call 202-767-5658 (also for weather updates) or go to <http://www.usafband.af.mil/>. Click on story about "...Summer Lift Off" for these and other concert times.

US Marine Corps holds its Sunset Parade at the Iwo Jima Memorial on Tuesday evenings at 7 pm (6:30 in August through the 12th). Lawn seating and limited street parking. Roslyn Metro 2 blocks away. For info on this and other events, such as the Evening Parade at 8th and I, call Public Affairs at 202- 433-4173 or go to <http://www.mbw.usmc.mil/>

The Army Band performs in Washington on Wednesday (Twilight Tattoo at Ft McNair, 7:30 pm) and Friday nights at the U.S. Capitol at 8 pm. Their 1812 Overture will be 12 August at the Sylvan Theater at the Washington Monument. There are exceptions. During the cooler months, they perform at Brucker Hall on Fort Myer. Call 703-696-3399 or go to <http://www.usarmyband.com/> for info.

The Navy Band performs at 8 pm, Mondays at the Capitol and Tuesdays at the Navy Memorial, through 26 August. Call 202-433-2525 (including weather) or go to <http://www.navyband.navy.mil> for information.

The Coast Guard Band has no regularly scheduled performances in the Washington area. Go to <http://www.uscg.mil/band/> for info.

Cancer Aid and Research

Donations for Cancer Aid and Research are being accepted by the Ladies Auxiliary during early June for presentation during the Department Convention in June. If you care to donate, send your check to Treasurer Catherine Graham at the Post address.

Tenth District Elections

The following were elected or appointed to district positions during the recent Tenth District Convention.

VFW Positions:

Commander: Margo Sheridan (7327)
Senior Vice Commander: Wayne Yancey (7327)
Junior Vice Cmdr: Sterling Moninghoff 1503)
Quartermaster: Jerry Peterson (3150)
Judge Advocate: B.J. Richardson (7916)
Chaplain: Matthew Miller (9274)
Surgeon: Bill Atkinson (9478)
Three Year Trustee: James K. Martin (1503))
Two Year Trustee: J.Gary Wagner (3150)
One Year Trustee: J. David Keith (7916)

Ladies Auxiliary Positions:

President: Mary Smart (1503)
Senior Vice President: Dru Doan (7327)
Junior Vice President: Ellen Carleton (1503)
Secretary: Patricia Jurgensen (609)
Treasurer/ Dep Chief of Staff: Cath. Graham (3150)
Chaplain: Lola Kane (3150)
Conductress: Kathy Merrifield (8241)
Guard: Elsie Weeks (3150)
One Year Trustee: Ines Kerch (9274)
Two Year Trustee: Diana Regan (7327)
Three Year Trustee: Kathi Wallace (1503)
Patriotic Instructor: Jodie LaFreniere-Dajc (3150)
Historian: Betty Gimble (1503)
Color Bearer #1: Ines Kerch (9274)
Color Bearer #2: Barbara Hurlbert (1503)
Color Bearer #3: Mary Corkhill (1503)
Color Bearer #4: Cathy Kerns (3150)
Flag Bearer: Linda Steinway (1503)
Banner Bearer: Ernestine Jenkinse (1503)
Soloist: Ellen Carleton (1503)
Assistant Conductress: Linda Bond (7327)

Recent Events Around the Post



<<< Nearly leading the Arlington County Neighborhood Day Parade in the number three position is the John Lyon unit, consisting of Eric Anderson, Michael Holtz, Nelson Betancourt, and Charles Reddoor carrying the banner, Greg Moscatar and J.Gary Wagner, carrying the flags, and Randy Royce and Karen Stewart. It was about the eleventh year John Lyon has participated in the yearly parade. Post member Royce's AF JROTC unit followed the VFW during the rain-discourage event.

Men's Auxiliary member Stephen >>> Utley presents Amy Stoffel with a rose on Mother's Day. The guys gave the ladies a day off and took over dining room duties for the annual Mothers Day Sunday Brunch. Post 3150 honors all our lady members and guests with a rose on Mother's Day.



<<< Vietnam veterans (left to right, standing) Gene Miller, Richard Hoffman, Eric Anderson, Robert Ponzo, Tom Kane, Jerry Peterson, (and kneeling) Greg Moscatar, Arnold Dixon, and Earl Hovermill gather by one of the certificates of service in Vietnam presented to several of them following ceremonies during Vietnam Veterans Week.

Recent Events Around the Post



<<< Richard Hoffman, Greg Moscatel, and Thomas Kane present Principal Richard J Martin with 100 U.S. flags to be placed in every classroom and office at Bishop Denis J O'Connell High School in Arlington. O'Connell is celebrating its 50th Anniversary Jubilee and is replacing its faded old flags which will be retired with new ones for its special year.

Post 3150 member LtCol Timothy >>> Shindelar is currently serving in Operation Enduring Freedom and sent the Post this American flag which flew over Camp Eggers in Kabul, Afghanistan. The flag is currently on display in the Post Home.



<<< Commander-elect Thomas R Kane presents the Veterans of Foreign Wars Award to AF Junior ROTC Cadet Major Alan Hurtado, during recent ceremonies at the Arlington Career Center. Cadet Major Hurtado was Operations Officer (XO) for VA 821st Cadet Corps this last spring and attended Wakefield High School. (Photo by AF JROTC).

Installation of Officers 2008 - 2009



<<< New Post Commander Thomas R Kane and Junior Vice Commander Charles Reddoor take the oath of office as new Post officers. Quartermaster Richard Hoffman and Surgeon Mark Pando are behind Kane. The installing officer was Tenth District Commander M.C. "Connie" Agresti.

New Ladies Auxiliary President Elsa >>> Weeks, right, and, to the left, Senior Vice President Lola Kane, Chaplain Mary Anne McCormick, Guard Marian MacIntyre, and from the right behind Weeks, Patriotic Instructor Catherine Kerns Deal and Three Year Trustee Karen Stewart take the oath of office. Past Ladies Auxiliary 3150 President Jodie LaFreniere-Dajc was installing officer.



<<< Men's Auxiliary 3150 President Ernie Deal (front) and, rear from the left, Chaplain Vincent Kane, One Year Trustee Daniel Metzler, Secretary-Treasurer Stephen Utley, and Junior Vice Commander Bernard Dodson take their oath of office. Past Post Commander Richard Hoffman was installing officer.



An interesting aside is the Kane family presence: Commander Tom Kane, Senior Vice President Lola Kan, and Chaplain Vincent Kane, one from each organization, were installed during the ceremonies.

VFW 3150

June 2008



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 Movie Night	5	6 D-Day	7 CANCELLED: Flag Day event at Ballston Mall 10 am - 3 pm
8 Sunday Brunch 9 am - 1 pm	9 LtCol Barksdale Visit to Post 3150 7:30 pm	10 Flag Day 6:45 pm Army Birthday 7:00 pm Men's Aux Mtg 7:30 pm	11 Movie Night	12 Awards Night at the State Convention, Richmond	13 State Convention, Richmond	14 State Convention, Richmond
15 FATHER's DAY State Convention, Richmond	16 House Committee 7:30 pm Post O Call 8 pm	17 SPECIAL NIGHT POST MEETING 8 pm	18 Movie Night	19 Ladies Aux Meeting 7:30 pm	20	21
22 Sunday Brunch 9 am - 1 pm	23	24	25 Movie Night	26	27	28 VA Hospital Visit 12:30 pm
29	30					

Flag Day, Army Birthday, moved to Tues 10 June
Post meeting moved to Tues 17 June

4th of July: Bell Ringing 1:55 pm Cookout 3 - 5 pm



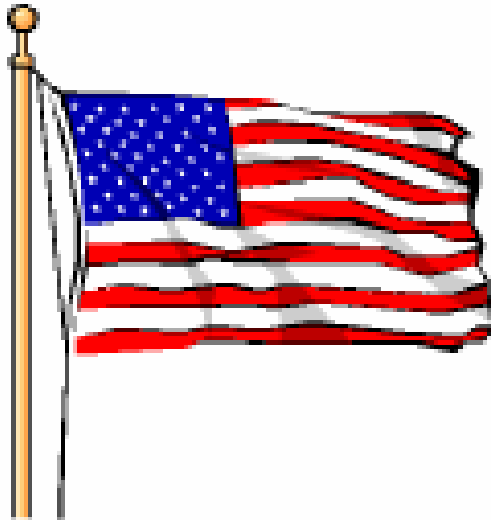
JOHN LYON POST # 3150
"All American Post"
Veterans of Foreign Wars
2116 North 19th Street
Arlington, Virginia 22201-3514

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
P A I D
Merrifield, VA
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Jun 08

Address Service Requested



Flag Day, 14 June 2008

The Flag Act of April 4, 1818, provided for thirteen stripes --- representing the thirteen original colonies, and one star for each state, to be added to the flag on the Fourth of July following the admission of each new state. The Flag Act was signed by President Monroe.