

The John Lyon Gazette

Volume 18, Number 12

June 2012



Veterans of Foreign Wars
John Lyon Post #3150
2116 North 19th Street
Arlington VA 22201
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<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

All State!

Late afternoon on Saturday, 12 May, Commander Nelson Betancourt received a phone call from State Commander Charles Absher that Post 3150 had been named an All-State Post, one of the top posts in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The designation was limited to the top fifteen posts in the state and reflects all aspects of Post life including membership, certain administrative requirements, community activities, and other programs, including participation in Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, and Teacher of the Year programs. This was the twenty-second time in the last twenty-four years that the Arlington Post has been so honored.

New Officers for John Lyon Post



<<< Dewey Carter (left), R. Michael "Red" Lowe and Lola Kane, respectively Post 3150 Commander, Men's Auxiliary President, and Ladies Auxiliary President for the Year 2012 - 2013, prepare to cut the cake following the recent Installation Ceremonies. The trio and their officers will assume their new positions about noon on Sunday, 10 June, when the new State Commander is installed at the State Convention in Williamsburg. Below, all the new officers gather 'round the flagpole following installation ceremonies.



From The Commander:

Dear friends,

YES, it's official! **John Lyon** is a **2012 ALL STATE Post!** Now we're just waiting on word from National HQ to confirm that we're an **ALL AMERICAN Post** as well! Congratulations to all of you for making it happen! Kudos and HOOAH! Job well done!

Well, this is it – my final article as Commander of VFW Post 3150. The truth is that I have thoroughly enjoyed “our monthly chats” during these past two years. This has been my way of sharing my thoughts with you - our members and friends; especially with those whom I never got a chance to personally meet and greet.

As Post Commander, it was always a real treat running into Post members when I was recruiting either at Ft Myer or down in Ft Belvoir. I'd ask “what Post you belong to?”, and you'd reply – “John Lyon and I know who you are, I saw you and your article in the Newsletter.” (Which goes to prove that at least some of you read it. ☺) Sincere thanks for your comments, suggestions, and words of encouragement.

I'll just take these final lines to say thanks. Thanks to each and every one of you. Thanks for your continued membership in this fine Post. Thanks to those of you who come by the Post and visit from time to time. Thanks to those of you that come and lend a helping hand from time to time. And thanks to those incorrigible die-hards that just keep coming back looking for more to do, and feel guilty when they can't make it to every event we host or sponsor. It's a team sport. Together we all do our part, and in the end – just like a jig-saw puzzle – the big picture is realized when all the pieces are in place. Thanks for your enduring support!

It has been a true privilege and an honor having been allowed to work for you. I only hope that I measured up to your expectations and apologize for any shortcomings.

I look forward to seeing you around the Post.

Yours in comradeship,

Nelson Betancourt, Commander (2010-2012)
HOOAH!
John Lyon - VFW Post 3150

“My responsibility, our responsibility as lucky Americans, is to try to give back to this country as much as it has given us, as we continue our American journey together.”
Gen. Colin Powell, US ARMY

From the President of the Ladies Auxiliary:

Dear Comrades and Auxiliary Members:

We all have choices of how we spend our time and there is a lot of competition for our every waking minute. I chose to belong to the Ladies Auxiliary because I wanted to be a part of the support of Veterans. I didn't know how to do that by myself. **The number of U.S. Military Veterans is increasing each year – not decreasing.** Therefore, this increases the need for the services we provide to Veterans and their families. Our support of Veteran's forever requires people and resources. They took an oath to “**protect and serve**” our country and us. **What can we do that measures up to that?** May is a good month to start remembering how your freedom has been preserved, why you have it, and how you can show your appreciation for it.

I could sit at home and write a check to all of the organizations that claim to support our Veterans. But that would never be as fulfilling as helping Belle Woods with the Bake Sale she chose to organize and the Ladies Auxiliary voted to donate the **\$334.00** we earned to the **VFW National Home for Children.** Thanks to all of the members that donated delicious homemade baked goods. It was a very successful event and a real team effort. Belle

also organized the Easter Egg raffle and she and her daughter, Sammie, sold Easter Eggs with prizes in some of them and that money earned went to our general fund. A big **thank you** to Belle, Sammie and all of those who helped .

A **Salute** to Laura and Michelle Betancourt, Auxiliary members; Jodi and Emily LaFreniere-Dajc, Past President and her daughter; and Dewey Carter, Commander Elect, **for stepping up** and making 300 grave decorations in preparation for Memorial Weekend. God Bless You All! (**I am not good at making flower arrangements.**)

At our Post on Mother's Day, the Post and Men's Auxiliary members take over the serving for the Ladies at Sunday Brunch. Connie Agresti, Frank Abbate, and J. Gary Wagner waited on the tables and earned **\$188.25** in tips which they **donated** to the Ladies Auxiliary for our **Cancer Aid and Research Fund**. The Kitchen Crew as usual did a great job; I saw Wilbur Rawlings, Tennessee Binkley, Mike "Red" Lowe, Nelson Betancourt, Sheldon Ellison, Eric Anderson and Butch Hovermill doing what they usually do for 5 or 6 hours. Mike McCartney worked the Canteen. **We do appreciate all** of you for giving up your time and making the Mother's Day brunch a success. Sister Karen Stewart did not take advantage of the "day off", she worked and supervised the Waiters. (Thank you).

During Mother's Day Brunch, I had the honor of awarding a **\$500.00 check to Troy Potts**, a senior at Bishop O'Connell High school. Troy participated in our **Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest** which is a Ladies Auxiliary program. A **thank you** to Sisters Annie McCormick, Karen Stewart and Cathy Graham who did one thing or another for this worthwhile program.

Memorial Day weekend and throughout the summer our Post is visited by many from around the United States. Some visit year after year, but there are always new visitors. I hope you are there from time-to-time to welcome them. See you soon,

Lola D. Kane, President,
Ladies Auxiliary 3150

From the President of the Men's Auxiliary:

The installation of the Post and Auxiliary officers in May 2012 was a huge success. First, I want to congratulate Nelson Betancourt for a job well done in completing his second term as Commander of John Lyon Post #3150. His leadership as Commander, among other accomplishments, won the Post "All American" status last year and as of the writing of this newsletter, it appears John Lyon will win that award again this year. Thank you Nelson for your commitment to and leadership of John Lyon Post #3150, its membership, and the Auxiliaries.

Second, I extend my congratulations to Dewey Carter for his installation as the new Post Commander and to all the other newly installed officers of John Lyon Post #3150. I look forward to working with all of you in the coming year to accomplish our goals and to make our respective organizations better and stronger than ever before. The Men's Auxiliary is committed to support the Post membership and other veteran's causes. It can't be said often enough...*we thank you for your service to our great country.*

Third, I want to thank the members of the Men's Auxiliary for electing me to a second term as the Men's Auxiliary President. Your confidence in me to lead this organization is an honor and I look forward to our organization accomplishing many good things in the coming year. More importantly, your support and participation in our fund-raising and other Post events, helps us help the many worthy veterans who deserve our recognition and esteem. Let's make it happen again this year and have some fun doing it!

Thanks also to Past Post Commander Greg Moscatel and Butch Hovermill for serving as the Installing Officer and Aide de Camp, respectively, in performing the installation of the Men's Auxiliary officers for the coming term. You honored our organization by accepting our invitation to conduct the ceremony and you performed your duties with honor and distinction.

Fourth, I want to congratulate Lola Kane who is also entering her second year as the Ladies Auxiliary President. Lola did an outstanding job as the Ladies Auxiliary President last year and I expect more of the same this year. The spirit of cooperation between the Auxiliaries in sharing the hard work, pleasures, and rewards of our fund-raising events has been a very positive improvement for the entire Post. I look forward in the coming year to working with Lola and all the ladies of the Ladies Auxiliary to make our Post and respective organizations even more successful.

Finally, I want to extend my sincere thanks to Wilbur and Carol Rawlings and everyone else who worked the canteen and the kitchen before, during, and after the installation ceremony. Their hard work made the event the success that it was.

Looking ahead, the Post and Auxiliaries need more new members. I know, this is the never ending mantra of the Post and Auxiliaries but new members infuse new life into our respective organizations and without them, we can't survive. If you have a relative or friend who qualifies as a Post or Auxiliary member, why not extend them *your personal invitation* to join us? Take the initiative by telling them about the rewards of being a member of the VFW and Auxiliaries, provide them with a membership application, and follow-up with them to get them enrolled as a new member. For many of us, we are at a time in our lives where we feel compelled to give something back to our community. Membership in the VFW or the Auxiliaries is one way we can do just that. Help us help others by bringing in new members.

Let have a great year and thanks;

Mike "Red" Lowe
President, Men's Auxiliary
VFW, John Lyon Post #3150

From Your Post Service Officer

Arnold Dixon

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Educational and Vocational Counseling Services

Free Educational and Vocational Counseling (Chapter 36) services are provided to transitioning service members who are:

- Within six months prior to discharge from active duty.
- Within one year following discharge from active duty.
- Current beneficiaries of educational assistance under Chapters 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 1606, 1607.
- Veterans and qualified dependents who are eligible for and have entitlement to education assistance under Chapters 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 1606, 1607.

Services Include:

Counseling to facilitate career decision making for civilian or military occupations.

Educational and vocational counseling to choose an appropriate civilian occupation and develop a training program.

Academic and adjustment counseling to resolve barriers that impede success in training or employment.

To apply for free counseling services complete and return the form located at

<http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-28-8832-ARE.pdf>



Flag Day, Army Birthday, 14 June

The post's observance of Flag Day and the U.S. Army's birthday, both on Thursday, 14 June, will begin at 7 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 Jill Clark Foulkes (Army – Desert Storm/Kosovo/Iraq), Yolanda Creal (Army – Korea Service), Paul Durand (Army – Desert Storm)(Life), Chris Komyanik (Army – Kosovo/Afghanistan/Iraq), Steve Magnin (Army – Iraq)(Life-12), Christopher Mision (Army – Afghanistan / GWOTEM)(Life-12), Franco Ossio (Army – Iraq), Clark Petrillo (Army – Vietnam), Kym Ricketts (Army – Iraq)(Trans), Bill E Riker (Army – Desert Storm), and David E Robinson (Army – Desert Storm)(Life-12), all elected at recent meetings and whose paperwork is complete.

State Convention

The Department of Virginia's state convention will be held 7-10 June 2012 at the Crown Plaza Fort Magruder in Williamsburg,. Those planning to attend should let the Post know so that we can coordinate several events with you.

Auxiliaries Dinner

The Auxiliaries will host a Fish Dinner on Saturday, 16 June from 4:30 – 7:30 pm. The menu includes two pieces of flounder, French fries, cole slaw, hushpuppies, and dessert for \$12.. Sign up in the canteen or call 703-525-0108.

Marching off...

Stanley Johnson, 46, Army veteran who served in Iraq. He was killed in an auto accident on 14 March 2010, in Texas.

Lucian N Butler, 89, on 4 April 2012,. He served in the Army Air Force during World War II.

Dennis Husereau, 64, on 16 April 2012. Dennis was an Army veteran who served in Vietnam with the 101st Airborne Division "Screaming Eagles" and he served as President of the National Capital Chapter of the 101st for many years. He is expected to be buried in Arlington National Cemetery at a date to be determined. In the early days of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, he was often seen in the Post helping transport Walter Reed patients to Sunday Brunch.

Reported by National and verified:

Robert King, 81, on 6 November 2010. He was an Army veteran who served in the Korean War.

David Bunting, 68, on 14 July 2011, in Florida. Dave was an Air Force veteran, serving in Vietnam. He was buried in Fort Gibson National Cemetery in Oklahoma where he had roots.

William Sumner, Past Post Chaplain, 80, on 13 September 2011, in Knoxville, TN. Chaplain Sumner was an Air Force radar operator during the Korean War. For many years he was Chaplain of Arlington County Detention Center.

Leo J Walker, 97, on 1 November 2011. He was an Army veteran serving with the 5th Army in Africa and Italy during World War II and earning a Bronze Star. He was buried at Quantico National Cemetery.

Carl A Holapa, 83, of Warrenton, on 14 February 2012. He was a retired Master Sergeant from the US Army and was a Capitol Policeman for a number of years. He was to be inurned at Arlington National Cemetery

D-Day Ceremony

The Post will conduct a commemorative ceremony marking the 68th Anniversary of the D-Day Invasion at Normandy at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, 6 June.

A Buddy Poppy Thanks

Thanks to the many members and friends who sent in a donation for the Post Relief Fund. 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. Since new postal machines and regulations prevented our mailing Buddy Poppies with the newsletter without great additional expense, the poppies were only mailed, starting 15 May, to those requesting them. (See May newsletter.)

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.

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

Sun, 8 Jul: Post/Auxiliaries Planning Mtg, 1:30 p

Sat, 23 Jul: Highway Cleanup, 8:30 am

Fri, 27 Jul: Korean War Veterans Armistice Day ceremony, 7 pm



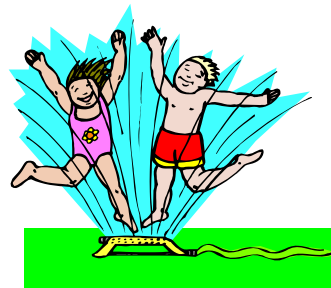
Happy Father's Day

Happy Father's Day to all of our Fathers and husbands on 17 June! Wherever you are, you are close to our hearts.

Sunday Brunch \$7.00
2nd and 4th Sundays
9 am - 12 noon

National VFW Convention

The 113th National VFW Convention will be held in Reno, Nevada, 21 – 25 July 2012. Information can be obtained from the national VFW (www.vfw.org, then News & Info, 113th Convention): the state of Virginia's General Orders (www.vfwva.org), from the Post, and current issues of the VFW magazine. You must book via mail, fax, or the Internet. Virginia's hotel is the **Silver Legacy**. Anyone planning to attend should let the post know so that we can coordinate several items with you. The convention moves to July, partly to allow attendance by members who could not attend in late August because of children in school.



School's out.
Watch out
for kids
enjoying
summer!

New Hours for Post Canteen

The Post Canteen is open as follows:

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

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 Gail Hoffman at the Post address.

VA Hospital Visit, 23 June

Post 3150 will do a hospital visit on Saturday, 23 June to the VA Hospital in Washington. Meet at the Post 12 - 12:30 pm.

Betancourt 10D Senior Vice

John Lyon remains visible at the Tenth District, however at the lowest level in a number of years. Nelson Betancourt moves up to Senior Vice Commander. Leesburg Post 1177 is the result of the merger of Leesburg post and Sterling Post 9478.

Tenth District Elections

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

VFW Positions:

Commander: Stan Dixon (1177)
Senior Vice Cmdr: Nelson Betancourt (3150)
Junior Vice Commander: Travis Potts (1177)
Quartermaster: Chris Braun (7327)
Judge Advocate: David Myer (5412)
Surgeon: Lou Lipscomb (7327)
Chaplain: Bob Smith (9274)
Three Year Trustee: B.J Richardson (7916)
Two Year Trustee: Wayne Yancey (7327)
One Year Trustee: Sterling Moninghoff (1503)

Ladies Auxiliary Positions:

President: Sarah Dugas (1503)
Senior Vice President: Joyce DelVecchio (1503)
Junior Vice President: Linda Bond (7327)
Secretary: Patricia Jurgensen (609)
Treasurer: Betty Gimble (1503)
Chaplain: Floy Lipscomb (7327)
Conductress: Alice Merrill (7327)
Guard: Nancy Huff (7916)
Three Year Trustee: Floy Lipscomb (7327)
Two Year Trustee: Janne Best (7327)
One Year Trustee: Alice Merrill (7327)
Patriotic Instructor: Pamela Koberg (1177)
Historian: Joyce Gibbs (1503)
Color Bearer #1: Janne Best (7327)
Soloist: Ellen Carleton (1503)
Assistant Conductress: Ellie Smith (7327)

Time Capsule?

The Post is considering preparing a time capsule to be opened at a future time. One idea is to provide the membership with the opportunity to donate military items which they would like to see go into the time capsule. If you have an item or two which you would consider donating for the capsule, contact Matt Miller at the Post or leave a message at 703-525-0108.

Post News Email, Newsletter

The post sends out periodic updates and reminders of upcoming events and other information of note to members via blind email. If you do not presently receive these and would like to be added to our email list, send an email to the Adjutant at adjpost3150@va.vfwwebmail.com.

Send an email to the same address if you would like to receive the newsletter by email or download from the Post website at www.vfw3150.org. Indicate whether you want the weekly email or the newsletter.

The Post Offers...

Your canteen at Post 3150 offers 12 different soft drinks plus bottled water and Gatorade, four different wines, and 13 canned and bottled beers at four different price points. And coffee and tea are available for free.

The Post also offers free Wi-fi for its members with a PC for you to use, or bring your own and check with the Canteen Manager to connect and surf the Internet. The Post has five TVs, including a large one, to watch your favorite sporting or other events, and there is a Wii game waiting to challenge you. Use our games or bring your favorites. You can also try your hands at our dartboards.

Want to Communicate with your NoVA Congressman, Senators?

Warner.senate.gov
Webb.senate.gov, and
Moran.house.gov

Recent Events Around the Post

Post Commander Nelson Betancourt >>> presents Lola Kane with a rose on Mother's Day. The guys of the Post and Men's Auxiliary 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. And \$188.25 in tips was presented to the Ladies Auxiliary for their Cancer Aide & Research fund.



<<< Post 3150 hosted members from VFW Post 9936 in Dayton, Ohio (mostly in the black shirts) during their visit to the World War II Memorial in Washington. A group of Dayton Vietnam vets escorted WW2 vet Joseph Button who had not seen the memorial while another got sick and could not make the trip. After dinner, members of both posts gathered at the Post 3150 flagpole.

Nelson Betancourt (second from right) >>> is installed as the Senior Vice Commander of the Tenth District at the recent district convention. Stan Dixon, Leesburg Post 1177 (right), is the new District Commander. Also being installed in the front row from the left are B.J. Richardson (Woodbridge 7916) as Three Year Trustee and Bob Smith Fall Church 9274) as Chaplain.



Recent Events Around the Post

Troy Potts receives his first place award >>> for the Young Americans Creative Patriotic Art Contest from Ladies Auxiliary President Lola Kane (center) and Chairman Karen Stewart at a recent ceremony at the Post. Potts is a student at Bishop Dennis J. O'Connell High School in Arlington.



<<< Commander Nelson Betancourt presents a sponsorship check to David Gould of the Key Science Focus Lightning Soccer Club of the Arlington Soccer Association while another coach, Nabil Bourdouane, looks on from the left. Many of the Lightning Soccer players, always visible in their bright purple jerseys with lightning bolts, were on hand to show their appreciation for the Post's support.

Commander Nelson Betancourt chats >>> with AF Junior ROTC Cadet Wesley Andrade following recent ceremonies at the Arlington Career Center. Cadet Andrade, of the VA 821st Cadet Corps, was presented the Veterans of Foreign Wars Junior ROTC Award from Betancourt and attends Washington Lee High School in Arlington.



Installation of Officers 2012 - 2013



<<< New Post Commander Dewey Carter, (left) receives the gavel from Installing Officer C.D. "Doc" Crouch while outgoing Commander Nelson Betancourt watches from the right. Betancourt also served as Aide de Camp for the ceremony which installed Post Officers for the new year. New officers will assume office in June when the new State Commander is installed at the State or Department Convention in Williamsburg.

The Installing Officer, State Senior Vice >>> President Catherine Graham (right), presents 2012 - 2013 President Lola Kane with her gavel following the Oath of Office taken by new officers of the Ladies Auxiliary 3150. The Installing Conductress was Past President Annie McCormick.



<<< 2012 - 2013 President R. Michael "Red" Lowe receives his gavel from Installing Officer Past Commander Greg Moscatel during the installation of the Men's Auxiliary 3150 officers. Earl "Butch" Hovermill was the Aide de Camp for the ceremony.



The charters of the three organizations are seen on the wall behind the podium. The black drape on the Post charter commemorates recently deceased members.

VFW 3150

June 2012



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6 D-Day 7:00 pm Movie Night	7 Awards Night at the State Convention, Williamsburg	8 State Convention, Williamsburg	9 State Convention, Williamsburg
10 Sunday Brunch 9 am - 12 n State Convention, Williamsburg	11 House Committee & Post O Call 7:30 p	12 Men's Aux Meeting 8 pm	13 Movie Night	14 Flag Day and Army Birthday 7 pm Post Meeting 7:30 pm	15	16 Auxiliaries Fish Dinner 4:30 - 7:30 pm RSVP
17 FATHER'S DAY	18	19	20 Movie Night	21 Ladies Aux Meeting 7:30 pm	22	3 VA Hospital Visit 12:30 pm
24 Sunday Brunch 9 am - 12 n	25	26	27 Movie Night	28	29	30

RSVP for dinner: 703-525-0108

4th of July: Bell Ringing 1:50 pm. Cookout 3 - 5 pm



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

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U.S. POSTAGE
P A I D
Merrifield, VA
Permit No. 9209

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June 12

Address Service Requested



Flag Day, 14 June 2012

"If one asks me the meaning of our flag, I say to him: It means all that the Constitution of our people, organizing for justice, for liberty and for happiness, meant.

"Our flag carries American ideas, American history and American feelings.

"This American Flag was the safeguard of liberty. It was an ordinance of liberty by the people, for the people. That it meant, that it means, and, by the blessings of God, that it shall mean to the end of time!"

---Henry Ward Beecher: