

The John Lyon Gazette

Volume 12, Number 11

May 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

Sleep, Soldier Boy (VFW Memorial Song) by Dorothy Alexander, 1926



Reported John Lyon Gravesite
The Lyon family plot
Historic Blandford Church
Petersburg, VA
(Photo by Andy Hyson)

The battle's over and peace is all around you,
Sleep soldier boy sleep on.
The canon's roar, can never more disturb you,
Sleep soldier boy sleep on.
Your journey is ended your work here is done,
Sleep soldier boy and rest,
Your flag you defended, The vict'ry you won,
Sleep on among the blest.

The sun's gone down, and darkness has enclosed you,
Sleep soldier boy sleep on.
A mother's arms, are waiting to enfold you,
Sleep soldier boy sleep on.
The time is not long when the bugle will sound forth,
Must'ring you back again.
You'll wake with the dawning, and answer to roll call,
Sleep soldier boy till then.

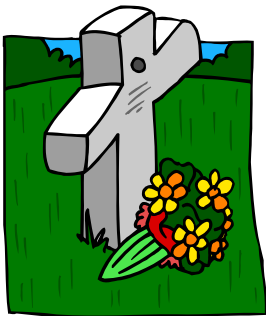
(to Taps)
Sleep in peace soldier boy
Till the bugle calls you with the dawn,
Sleep and rest God is nigh, soldier boy.

("Soldier" can be replaced by "Sailor".)



From the Commander:

I'm recognizing that we are closing in on the end of my second year as commander. Realizing there are only a few months left, I have made a quick review of what we have accomplished this year so far. As in years past, we are supporting Arlington Little League baseball, Lightning Soccer, and the Arlington Baseball Challenger League weekend tournament. The kids in uniform from both the Little League Rangers team and the Lightning Soccer league traditionally join us at the John Lyon Memorial in Cherrydale for our Memorial Day observance. Our post supplied the Color Guard for the Arlington Little League opening day ceremonies several weeks ago. Our Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen contests were remarkably successful thanks to the efforts of Junior Vice Commander Tom Kane and our judging staff. As always, I was supported 100 percent by dedicated Post 3150 members who have "been there and done that". This help and support has come from not only Past Post 3150 commanders, but also from the dedicated Ladies Auxiliary President, Cathy Graham, and auxiliary members. This spells success for our post. I decided not run for Commander a third time. Eric Anderson was elected as the new Post 3150 Commander 2006/2007. Eric has a lot to offer as Commander of our post. He has been one of our most dedicated members and a team player, and I'll be happy to work with him as my commander this next coming year.



We are getting ready for the Memorial Day observance on May 29. As always, this is a weekend affair for us at Post 3150. We form a group and go over to Arlington Cemetery, as well as National Memorial and Columbia Gardens Cemeteries to decorate the graves of former Post 3150 members buried there. There are members of our post who have become experts at locating those graves over the years. I would still be out there searching from last year if it wasn't for them. If anyone would like to join us, we will meet at the post at 12:30 pm on Friday May 26 for the Columbia Gardens and National Memorial Cemeteries, and at 9 am on Saturday May 27 for grave decoration at Arlington Memorial Cemetery. People who join us and gain experience at this annual tradition help us to pass on the knowledge. On Monday

May 29, we meet at the post at 10 am for the 11 o'clock John Lyon Memorial observance and at 12 noon for the 1 pm Clarendon Memorial observance. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

We are working hard as a team to try to qualify as an "Allstate Post" again this year. Only the top 25 posts in the state are recognized as Allstate. This year, membership is the most difficult hurdle for us. If anyone still has not renewed their membership this year, please get it in to us because your membership is very important to us.

We will have our installation of Post and Auxiliary officers on Saturday May 20 at 2 pm. This is the one day out of the year we get to recognize our post officers and volunteers. All are invited to this truly wonderful event.

Yours in Comradeship,

/s/

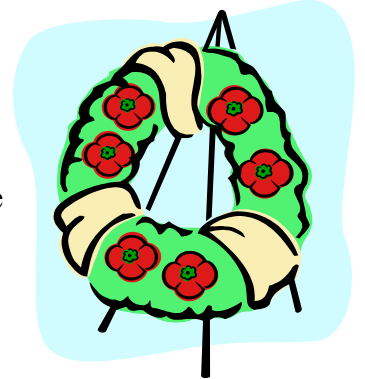
Greg Moscatel
Commander, VFW Post 3150

From the President:

Congratulations to Karen Stewart on being elected President. To close out April, we held a successful Crab Cake Dinner on the 7th of April. We raised over \$450 for cancer aid and research from the crab cakes we sold and a raffle on a chocolate egg. Everyone had a good time listening to tunes by Richard.

May is the time to remember; from celebrating and remembering our Mothers to honoring our dead with Memorial Day. Along with these two major undertakings are a host of other functions we partake of and celebrate.

For those over 55 who are in the Veterans Administration system, there are the Golden Age Games in Hampton, Virginia. This is a weeklong event from 7-12 May. They are looking for support personnel who can volunteer their time for one event or day to help the veterans who arrive from all over to participate in the games. Each day has different events in different venues so check out the link on the VFWVA.org website for more information.



We will still be having Sunday brunch on Mother's Day. This is a treat for our ladies, as the comrades do all of the cooking and waitering. It makes for an interesting breakfast as they take on the whole job. So come for breakfast and cheer the workers on.

The Arlington Day Parade is scheduled for Saturday, May 13th at 2 p.m. We will be gathering at the post at noon and will be lining up on the parade route by 1 p.m. Join us as we march down Wilson Boulevard. The more participants, the more of an impact we can have. So join us on that day.

The installation of next year's officers elected at the April meeting will be on Saturday May 20 at 2 p.m. This is a moving ceremony and allows both the outgoing and incoming Presidents a chance to express their appreciation for the accomplishments of the year we just completed and to look to our future. At the District level we have the district convention on Sunday May 21st at 1 p.m. in Dale City Post 1503. The election of officers at the district will take place at this meeting followed by the installation of officers. All are invited to attend.

To close out the month of activities we have Memorial Day weekend. We start on Friday with grave decorations which continue on Saturday. Sunday is breakfast where we expect our usual crowd, plus some out of town visitors. The parking situation which is always tight can be expected to be more so then and Monday is the ceremonies at the John Lyon Memorial and Clarendon War Memorial. We expect many visitors from Rolling Thunder and other veteran organizations that come into the area; so pop into the post home to visit with fellow comrades and ladies from around the country.

I want to close by thanking all those who work diligently at each of our functions. Without your help, we would not be as successful as we are. Happy birthday to all those born in May.

/s/

Catherine M. Graham

Anderson & Stewart Elected; Installation Scheduled

Eric Anderson and Karen Stewart were elected as Post 3150 Commander and Ladies Auxiliary President, respectively, for the coming year during April elections. See below for complete election results. Installation of these officers and their staffs will be held at the Post home on Saturday, 20 May at 2:00 pm. All members, family, and friends are invited to attend. A reception will follow the ceremonies.

Post Officer Elections

The April Post meeting saw the following elected 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. Moscatel

3 Year House Committee: G. E. Moscatel

Ladies Auxiliary Officer Elections

The April Ladies Auxiliary meeting saw the following elected for officer positions for the next year:

President: Karen Stewart
Senior Vice President: Jodie LaFreniere-Dajc
Junior Vice President: Virginia LePage
Treasurer: Catherine Graham
Chaplain: Lola Kane
Conductress: Ruth Rodier
Guard: Marian MacIntyre
3 Year Trustee: Elsa Weeks

All new officers assume their duties when the new state officers are installed at the end of the state convention in Richmond in June.

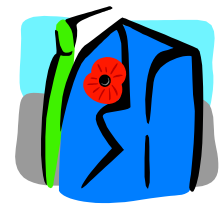
Installation 20 May

Installation of new officers of the Post and the Ladies Auxiliary will be held at 2 pm on the afternoon of Saturday, 20 May. Please come by and offer your support for the team elected to lead our organizations through the next year. A buffet supper will follow the ceremonies.

Buddy Poppy

Enclosed you will NOT find a Buddy Poppy with the compliments of John Lyon Post and Ladies Auxiliary. Too many of the poppies were destroyed in years past and only caused frustration to the recipients. The Buddy Poppy you would have received will be used on the wreaths placed in cemeteries on Memorial Day weekend. You may pick up a free poppy in the Post and wear it proudly over Memorial Day weekend. If you still care to donate to the Relief Fund, an envelope is enclosed for your convenience. All such funds go to support veterans, their widows and orphans. And we will mail you a Buddy Poppy on request with all the risk that entails.

HELP THE BUDDY POPPY TEAM!



John Lyon members will be distributing Buddy Poppies over Memorial Day weekend plus the week leading up to the holiday. There will be some assembled kits available in the Post Home. If you are able to help out for several hours, pick up a kit in the Post home or contact Connie Agresti for additional information.

All money collected from Buddy Poppies goes to replenish our Relief Fund, which, as everyone knows, has been used extensively to support veterans, their families, and active duty forces.

From the John Lyon Past...

The 3 July 1942 edition of *The Northern Virginia Sun*, included the following story:

“Matthews Elected State V.F.W. Head

“Austin J. Matthews, a charter member of John Lyon Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, was elected department commander of the V.F.W. of Virginia at its State Encampment this week in Richmond.

“Mr. Matthews, who served in the Navy during World War I, has long been active in V.F.W. work, having served as commander of the 8th district, chief of staff of the State, junior vice-commander and senior vice-commander. An employee of the Government Printing Office, he has lived in the county for about 18 years.

“Mrs. Helen Edwards, a past president of the local Ladies Auxiliary, was appointed chief of staff at the auxiliary convention which was held in conjunction with the State Encampment. Chester H. Sipes’ election as commander of the 8th district was approved, and he was also appointed department inspector. Mr Sipes is a past commander of the local post.

“The V.F.W. adopted a resolution asking that all conscientious objectors to the war who are holding public office or employed in defense industries be removed from positions where they are paid from public funds.”

Welcome to Our New Members

Welcome to new Post members, Todd Adams (USAF - Desert Storm / GWOT), Lewis Ersland (Army - 3x Iraq) (Life Transfer), Jeffrey Phillips (Army - Iraq), Ronald Rybicki (Navy - Afghanistan) (transfer), Kristine Varga (Army - Iraq), Frederick Williams (Navy - Vietnam), Jeffrey Wong (USMC - Iraq) (Life), and Ladies Auxiliary new member Sally Thomas (Life), all elected at the April meetings.



State Convention Provides a Rare Opportunity

The Department of Virginia’s state convention, to be held June 15-18, 2006 at the Sheraton Richmond West Hotel, provides a rare opportunity for John Lyon members. C.D. “Doc” Crouch is expected to be elected and installed as State Commander during the business session on Sunday morning, 18 June. Not since George Dalby was elected and installed as State Commander in 1954 has this position been held by a member of Post 3150. John Lyon members are invited to attend all or part of this special occasion. Additionally, awards will be presented Thursday evening at 7 pm, including the award to Lt Brian Berke, Post 3150’s Department of Virginia Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. The Post and Ladies Auxiliary are also in contention for other state awards. Group room rates at the Sheraton are \$85.00 per night. For hotel reservations, call 804-285-1234. Reservations must be made by 5/15/2006 for the group rate. Those planning to attend should let the Post know so that we can coordinate several events with you.

District Convention

The Tenth District Convention will be held at 1 pm on 21 May at Dale City Post 1503 (14631 Minnieville Road, Dale City VA 22193, 703-670-4124). All Post and Ladies Auxiliary members are invited to attend. Various awards are expected to be presented and / or announced. J.Gary Wagner is a candidate for District Commander, and Connie Agresti and Catherine Graham are candidates for Senior Vice Commander and Senior Vice President, respectively. The last District Commander from Post 3150 was C.D. “Doc” Crouch in 2000 - 2001.

Happy Mother's Day

Happy Mother's Day to all of our Mothers and wives! Wherever you are, you are close to our hearts.

Sunday brunch will be served on Mother's Day, 14 May, from 9 am - 1 pm. Members of the Post will take over as waiters to give some of our favorite ladies a well-deserved break from their normal routines. Bring your favorite lady and join us.

Marching off...

Dennis Versele, 83, on 26 May. Dennis was a TEC5 in the Army during World War II and was stationed in North Africa and Europe with the 114 AAA Gun Battalion. He joined the VFW in 1958 and transferred to Post 3150 from Roseville, MI, in 1998. A Life Member, he buried in Roseville.

John Lee Gordon, 79, on 12 April. He was a Life Member and brother of 3150 members Carey "Chuck" Gordon and the late David "Winky" Gordon. John was a PFC in the Army during World War II and was stationed in the Baffin Islands and the Artic. He was a member of Post 3150 since 1988 and was buried in Columbia Gardens Cemetery in Arlington.

Arlington Neighborhood Day Parade

Saturday, May 13 is Neighborhood Day in Arlington County. The annual parade will be one of the highlights. John Lyon Post and Ladies Auxiliary will march down Wilson Boulevard in the parade that begins at 2 pm. With about 440 Post members (and 130 in the Ladies Auxiliary) we hope for a great turnout. Commander Moscatel suggests the "VFW uniform" of shirt and tie, grey slacks, and blue jacket for the men and similar style for the ladies, but any attire which is neat and respectful of the organization, your service, and yourself will be acceptable. VFW caps, or any VFW insignia, are always appropriate. Meet at the Post at 12:00.

Cancer Aid and Research

Donations for Cancer Aid and Research are being accepted by the Ladies Auxiliary during May and 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.

Golden Age Games

The Golden Age Games are scheduled for 7 - 12 May in Hampton, VA. To volunteer, see www.vfwva.org.



Rangers Schedule

22 Apr	3:00	Jennie Dean
26 Apr	5:30	Barcroft2
29 Apr	9:00	Bluemont2
1 May	6:15	Drew
6 May	11:00	Barcroft
11 May	6:00	Bluemont3
13 May	9:00	Barcroft
18 May	6:00	Westover
20 May	9:00	Bluemont2
23 May	6:00	Westover
3 Jun	5:00	Jennie Dean
5 Jun	6:00	Jennie Dean
13 - 22 Jun		Playoffs: TBA

Games are played at:

*Barcroft Field - located on South Four Mile Run between George Mason Drive and Walter Reed Drive, next to the DMV;

*Jennie Dean - located on South Four Mile Run, next to WETA;

*Westover - 1001 Kennebec Street, two blocks south of Washington Blvd, near Swanson Middle School;

*Bluemont - located on Manchester south of the Manchester-Wilson Blvd intersection

Drew - (Drew Model School) 3500 S. 23rd Street, near Shirlington Dr and South Glebe Road, north of I-395;

* indicates a map is available at <http://www.arlingtonlittleleague.org/venues/>

Wear a VFW cap or shirt and cheer on our team! For more information, see <http://www.arlingtonlittleleague.org/data/2006/2scheduled2006.htm>

Lightning Soccer

The post also sponsors Key Science Focus Lightning Soccer clubs. As you drive through Arlington on weekends, you will see their bright purple shirts with white lightning bolts on many playing fields. Stop and give them a cheer.

Post Membership 100%

Post membership has edged over 100%. Many thanks to those who responded in the last weeks and sent in their renewals or applications for membership for 2006. The Post greatly appreciates your support, as well as that of members who renewed earlier.

A John Lyon Hello to...

...Jean Beane, whose last name, and that of her late husband, was misspelled in our last issue. It should have been Claude Beane. Our apologies.

...Donna Bierlein, co-creator of the Washington Redskinettes cheerleading team. Donna's story was recently told in the 2 March 2006 edition of the *Arlington Catholic Herald*. A copy is posted in the Post.

...and to Herman and Gigi Cruz, who recently retired and left for their new home in North Carolina. Herman and Gigi, life members of the VFW and the Ladies Auxiliary, respectively, were longtime managers in the canteen and, with their children Frankie and Cathy, were familiar and valuable faces at Post 3150.



**Watch out
for kids
playing in
the warmer
weather!**

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 \$3.250 - \$4.50.

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

Important Warning to Veterans

"KANSAS CITY, Mo., April 10, 2006 --An organization called Veterans Affairs Services (VAS) is providing benefit and general information on VA and gathering personal information on veterans. This organization is not affiliated with VA in any way. This is their URL:
<http://www.vaservices.org/us/index.html>.

"VAS may be gaining access to military personnel through their close resemblance to the VA name and seal. The VA's legal counsel has requested that we coordinate with DoD to inform military installations, particularly mobilization sites, of this group and their lack of affiliation or endorsement by VA to provide any services...

"As a general rule, never provide personal information such as SSN to anyone attempting to help them process a claim without first seeing their credentials." (Source: *VFW News item: www.vfw.org, then News & Info*)

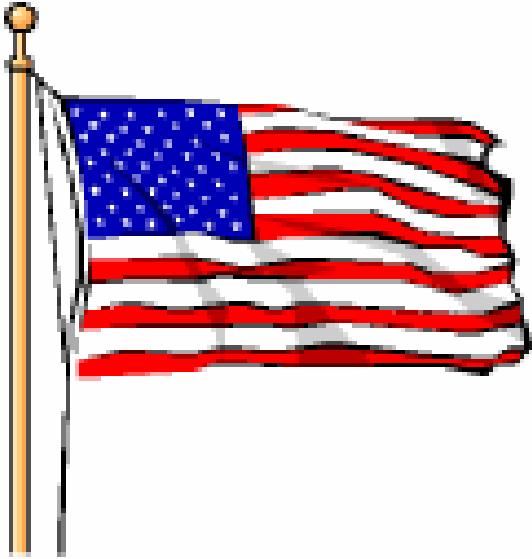
The Night Manager may opt to keep the canteen open later if participation warrants. Closing time for special events also may be later.

On-duty Manager

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.

Highway Cleanup Rescheduled

Highway Cleanup, rained out in April, has been rescheduled for Saturday, 6 May. 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.



Loyalty Day
1 May 2006

VFW Post 3150
and
Ladies Auxiliary 3150



Recent Events Around the Post



<<< Andrew E. Jarvis, Post 3150's Eagle Scout of the Year, receives his award and congratulations from Greg Moscatar at ceremonies at the Post. Andrew is a junior at Bishop Denis J. O'Connell High School in Arlington.

A Post 3150 Color Guard, comprised of >>> (left to right) Tom Kane, Mike Holtz, J.Gary Wagner, and C.D. "Doc" Crouch, marches off the field after leading the parade of teams during the Opening Day Ceremonies of the Arlington Little League.



<<< Following the Opening Day Ceremonies of the Arlington Little League, members of the post met with some of the coaches and players of the Majors 2 Rangers team which Post 3150 sponsors. Framing the banner proclaiming Post 3150's sponsorship are J.Gary Wagner, Greg Moscatar, the Rangers Assistant Coach, some of the players, and Mike Holtz. See story elsewhere on the Little League Rangers' schedule.

Recent Events Around the Post



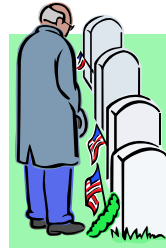
<<< After having noticed a lack of “screaming eagles” in the Post, 3150 members Dennis Husereau (left) and Robert Ponzo, as members of their association, presented a 101st Airborne Division plaque to Commander Greg Moscatel. The original was signed by members of the 101st, including some of the original “Band of Brothers”. The inscription thanks the post for its support of returning wounded soldiers at Walter Reed through the Soldiers’ Brunch program at the Post.

Elsa Weeks and Cathy Graham remove >>> the featured dish from the oven during the recent 3150 Ladies Auxiliary Crab Cake Dinner. The annual dinner was a fund raiser for the Ladies Auxiliary. The evening was well attended and netted \$470 for Cancer Aide and Research.



<<< The Department of Virginia VFW sponsored a cookout, recently, at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Robert Ponzo, right, as well as Connie Agresti, Doc Crouch, and Dennis Husereau represented Post 3150 in helping to serve the food to soldiers at Malogne House.

VFW 3150 May 2006



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 LOYALTY DAY	2	3 Movie Night	4	5	6 Highway Cleanup 8:30 am
7 Golden Age Games 7- 12 May Hampton	8 House Committee 7:30 pm Post O Call 8 pm	9	10 Movie Night	11 Post Meeting 8 pm	12	13 Arlington Cty Parade 2 pm
14 MOTHERS DAY Sunday Brunch 9 am - 1 pm	15	16	17 Movie Night	18 Ladies Aux Meeting 7:30 pm	19	20 Post 3150 & Ladies Aux Installation of Officers 2 pm
21 10th District Convention Post 1503 1pm	22	23	24 Movie Night	25	26 Columbia Gardens & National Meml Graves Decoration 12:30 pm Deli Buffet 5 - 7pm	27 Arlington Natl Cemetery Graves Decoration 8:30 am Cookout 4 - 7 pm
28 Sunday Brunch 9 am - 1 pm Cookout 4 - 7 pm	29 MEMORIAL DAY John Lyon - 11 am Clarendon - 1 pm Open House 2 pm	30	31			

Dinner & RSVPs: 703-525-0108



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
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Merrifield, VA
Permit No. 9209

Dated Material Please Do Not Delay

Post 3150
Memorial Day Weekend Schedule
26 - 29 May

Fri: 12:30 pm: Meet at Post for Columbia Gardens and
National Memorial Cemetery graves decoration.

5 - 7 pm: Deli Buffet

Sat: 8:30 am: Meet at Post for Arlington Cemetery
graves decoration.

4 - 7 pm: Cookout: hot dogs and hamburgers

Sun: 9 am - 1 pm: Special Sunday Brunch

4 - 7 pm: Cookout: barbecued chicken

Mon: 10 am: Principals meet at Post

11 am: “John Lyon Memorial”, Cherrydale

1 pm: Clarendon War Memorial

2 pm: Open House: Deli Buffet

Throughout: Buddy Poppy Distribution

DJ Music every evening.

