

The John Lyon Gazette

Volume 23, Number 10

May 2017



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, 2011 and 2016 Clair B. Poff Public Relations Award for Outstanding Newsletter, and Winner of National Awards for 2010, 2011

VFW Post 3150 hosted eight veterans of Project Gemini, a joint initiative of the Blinded Veterans Association (BVA) of the U.S and Blind Veterans UK for an evening of dinner and camaraderie.

Project Gemini is in its seventh year and is named for the transatlantic cable that connects the two countries and



continents. The group's visit to Washington, DC was in recognition of the centennial anniversary of World War I and the beginnings of blind rehabilitation programs in both countries which followed. The weeklong trip to DC included visits to Washington's

military memorials, various agencies, vision rehabilitation experts, and eye trauma specialists, among others.

Post Commander Dave Hanisch, Jr. Vice Commander Brenna McVaney, Quartermaster James Bertine, Adjutant J. Gary Wagner, Post Advocate Desi Gruel, and Post members Michael Beatty, Jonathan English, E. Ganser, and Walter Sweeney, welcomed the group and joined in discussions of military service, their experiences within the greater veteran service organization community, and the vets' adaptation to blindness

Collectively, the Project Gemini and Post 3150 members represented service in the Vietnam War era, the Falklands War, Gulf War Era, Afghanistan and Iraq.

From the Commander:

Happy Spring Post 3150! As always, I hope this newsletter finds you and yours happy, healthy, and enjoying life! The year is screaming by, but we still have a ton of great events and activities planned all the way through June. If you haven't come into the Post in a while, please stop by for an event, for a beverage, or just to say hello. To keep up with the latest at the Post, join us on Facebook at <https://m.facebook.com/VFWPost3150/>. Look forward to seeing you soon!

This month's outstanding contributor is **Mike Beatty**! Mike served in the Army as a human intelligence collector for the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade. Even though he's relatively new to the Post, Mike has been involved from the get go! He immediately started taking shifts as a volunteer bartender, keeping the canteen open for our membership. As a member of our distinguished Post color guard, Mike participated in the Arlington Little League opening ceremonies, serving as a positive ambassador on behalf of the VFW to our local community! On the GW Veterans Day of Service, Mike selflessly gave his entire day to help A Wider Circle --- a nonprofit organization aimed at ending poverty in our community! Thank you, Mike, for being an actively engaged member of the Post. Your effort and energy have been incredible --- thank you for all you continue to do for John Lyon and our community!

For many Americans, Memorial Day represents the beginning of summer, an opportunity to barbeque with friends, or even a day off from work. For veterans, it's sacred. It's the one day each year specifically designated to commemorate our honored dead. And although we live with the memories of our fallen brothers and sisters on a daily basis, Memorial Day represents a time where we all take pause out of our busy lives to pay homage together. This year will be no different for our Post as we have events planned the entire weekend, Friday through Monday.

As a special tribute, we're also selling a new post tee shirt that aims at honoring those who gave all. We intentionally left the words Memorial Day off of the shirt because as vets we know that our remembrance isn't limited to one day a year and our responsibility to the fallen is never ending. A common phrase used to describe this responsibility is *honor the dead by serving the living*. As an organization, it's our duty to look after the families and friends left behind, and to always remember and honor their sacrifice.

I look forward to spending time with all of you at one point or another on Memorial Day weekend. Instead of one day a year, let our actions and service every day be a tribute to those Americans who gave all. To do otherwise would break faith with our honored dead.

Dave Hanisch
Post 3150 Commander

From the President of the Auxiliary:

May is a month of remembrance, i.e., Mother's Day, Peace Officers Day, and Memorial Day to name a few. One honors those who give us life and nurtured us. Two of these occasions are to honor those who serve and have gone before us. It is a time when everything that can turn green and reflects that life is in contrast to the aim of Memorial Day. Memorial Day weekend we decorate the graves at National Memorial and Columbia Gardens Cemeteries on Friday. Meet at the Post home at 12:30. Saturday we will decorate the graves at Arlington National Cemetery. Meet at the Post home at 0830 to break into teams and get the list of graves and locations.

For those who are new to the Auxiliary, the 10th District Convention is on May 7th at VFW Post 1503 in Dale City. Every member is invited to attend and meet other members from the District.

We did not have a quorum at our meeting in April, so elections were not held. We will have elections at our May meeting. If we do not hold elections this month we will be forced to close as an auxiliary.

Installation this year will be on Saturday June 3 at 4 pm, followed by a BBQ at 5 and music from the Veterans Concert Series beginning at 7 pm. This function is open to all so come on down and meet the officers of the Post and Auxiliary both outgoing and incoming. This will also be the time we can say goodbye to Dave and Kallie Hanisch for all of their good work and his leadership of the past year.

As always look out for the elderly, the sick and those living alone; Happy Birthday and Anniversary to all those celebrating in May.

Loyally yours,

Cathy Graham
President, VFW Auxiliary 3150

Sweeney Elected Post Commander, Installation 3 June

Walter Sweeney was elected as Post 3150 Commander for the coming year during April elections. See below for complete election results.

Installation of Officers. Saturday, 3 June. You are cordially invited to join us as we welcome in our new VFW and Auxiliary Officers for 2017-2018! Installation Ceremony, 4pm | Cookout, 5pm | Veteran Concert Series, live music, 6pm. Bring your friends and family and join us in an afternoon of camaraderie, get to know the incoming officers, and say thanks to the outgoing officers who have done a fantastic job over the past year! All are welcome to attend; those under 18 until 8 pm.

Auxiliary Officer Elections

The Auxiliary elections were postponed to the May meeting.

Post Officer Elections

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

Commander: Walter Sweeney
Senior Vice Commander: Brenna McVaney
Junior Vice Commander: Nick Hatfield
Quartermaster: James R Bertine
Chaplain: Michael Beatty
3 Year Trustee: Eric Grenlin
2 Year Trustee: Patrick Murray
3-Year House Committee: Bill Kelly
2-Year House Committee: Eric Ganser

Positions appointed by Commander Elect:

Adjutant: J.Gary Wagner
Service Officer: Eric Grenlin
Advocate: Amelia Poling
Surgeon: Chad Umbach

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

New Post By-Laws

VFW Post 3150 will consider new By-Laws at the May 15 meeting. Post members will receive them in a special email or can view them at the Members only section of Facebook.

Welcome to Our New Members

Welcome to new Post members Nicolle Gousie (Army – Iraq), Richard Lane (Navy – Lebanon/Persian Gulf/Korea Service)(Life Trans), Kevin Lowther (Army – Iraq/Afghanistan/Korea Service), Chad Umbach (USMC – Afghanistan), Ryan Welch (USAF - Iraq GWOTE)(L12), and new Auxiliary members Catherine Sweeney (life transfer) and Katherine Castelo, all whose paperwork is complete and who were elected at the April meeting or Executive session.

Marching Off...

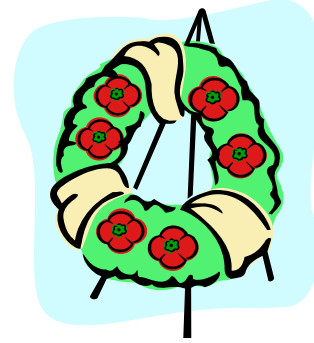
Moses McCray, 92, on 8 February. He was a TEC4 in the U.S. Army during World War II and served in the 406th Quartermaster Bakery Company. He received the Europe-Africa-Middle East Campaign Medal while serving in the Rhineland. He also received the American Theater Campaign medal and the Victory medal. He was buried in Quantico National Cemetery.

Trivia Night, 12 May

Friday, 12 May - Trivia Night & Friday Dinner. Trivia night is back by popular demand! Join us for another great round of Trivia Night MC'd by our very own Post Commander, Dave Hanisch. This is a particularly special night as this will be the last time Dave emcees Trivia Night before he heads off to his next assignment with the Air Force! Prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place teams! Post Opens at 5pm | Dinner served from 6:30 - 9pm | Trivia kicks off at 8:00pm.



**Drive safe:
Spring means
longer days and
more kids
outside.**



Memorial Day

Post 3150 and the Auxiliary will conduct a ceremony at “John Lyon Memorial”, at 11 am on Memorial Day. Also known as the Cherrydale War Memorial, it stands on the 29th Division Highway, i.e., Lee Highway / Route 29, as it passes through Cherrydale. It is across the street from the Safeway at 3713 Lee Highway and on the grounds of the Cherrydale Healthcare Center, about a half a mile west of I-66. John Lyon Post will also join American Legion posts in ceremonies at the Clarendon War Memorial, just west of the Clarendon Metro Station at 1 pm. A complete weekend schedule can be found on the back page.

Veteran Benefit, 6 May

Saturday, 6 May - Ms. Veteran America Fundraiser to benefit Final Salute Inc, 4pm. Come out to the Post and support this great event, hosted by Ms. Veteran America Semifinalist and Army Veteran, Casey McCabe! The evening will focus on bringing awareness to homeless women veterans and will feature a 50/50 raffle, food catered by Dog Tag Bakery and Pork Barrel BBQ, and more. The proceeds will go to Final Salute Inc. whose mission is to provide homeless women veterans with safe and suitable housing. You can read more about Casey here: <http://www.teamrwb.org/blog/the-battle-with-yourself/>



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

Sat, 20 May- Buddy Poppy Drive.

Memorial Day is just around the corner and we will be conducting a **Memorial Day Buddy Poppy Drive on Saturday, 20 May 2017**, from 8am - 2pm at the Commissary on Joint Base Myer - Henderson Hall (JBM-HH)!

We are looking for volunteers to donate 2 hours of their time (8-10am; 10-12pm; 1-2pm) to help distribute Buddy Poppies, represent our Post, and provide information on our mission. We would like to have at least 5 volunteers for each time slot.

Volunteers, **please sign up through this link by Monday, 15 May 2017, <http://signup.com/go/gIJimJN>**. You do not need an account to sign up, simply click on the link, enter your email, and chose the time slot you want to volunteer for. If you have any questions please send an email to johnlyon3150@gmail.com.

Hours for Post Canteen

The Post Canteen is open as follows:

Sunday	1 pm – 6 pm
Monday – Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday - Thursday	5 pm – 8 pm
Friday	5 pm – 10 pm
Saturday	3 pm – 10 pm
Post may extend hours for various events.	

Cemetery Decoration

John Lyon members will place floral decorations on the graves of members and their families at three local cemeteries over Memorial Day weekend. Meet at the Post by 12:30 pm on Friday, 26 May to go first to National Memorial Cemetery and then Columbia Gardens Cemetery. Meet at the Post at 8:30 am to go to Arlington National Cemetery on Saturday, 27 May. If you have an auto permit for Arlington, please bring it with you.

From the John Lyon Past...

The 25 May 1951 edition of *The Northern Virginia Sun*, included the following story:

“V.F.W. Will Hold Rites in Cherrydale

“John Lyon Post and Auxiliary, Veterans of Foreign Wars, will hold annual memorial services Wednesday, May 30, at 11 a.m. in honor of deceased comrades at the marker erected to John Lyon which now is located on the Cherrydale School grounds.

“The marker erected to John Lyon who died in World War I, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars was removed from its original location at Wilson Blvd. and Highland Street in Clarendon to Cherrydale. The memorial service conducted by the Post each year is short and impressive, and the public is invited.”

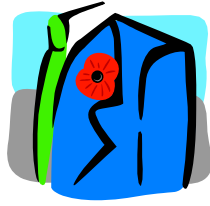
Editor's Note: The above mentioned ceremony continues to this day, at 11 am on Memorial and Veterans Days. The location is across the street from the Safeway on the grounds of the Cherrydale Healthcare Center



**Loyalty
Day
May 1st**

Loyalty Day originally began as "Americanization Day" in 1921 as a counter to the Communists' May 1 celebration of the Russian Revolution. On May 1, 1930, 10,000 VFW members staged a rally at New York's Union Square to promote patriotism. Through a resolution adopted in 1949, May 1 evolved into Loyalty Day. Observances began in 1950 on April 28 and climaxed May 1 when more than five million people across the nation held rallies. In New York City, more than 100,000 people rallied for America. In 1958 Congress enacted Public Law 529 proclaiming Loyalty Day a permanent fixture on the nation's calendar.

HELP THE BUDDY POPPY TEAM!



Brief History of the Buddy Poppy

Among all the flowers that evoke the memories and emotions of war is the red poppy, which became associated with war after the publication of a poem written by Col. John McCrae of Canada. The poem, "In Flander's Field," describes blowing red flowers among the battleground of the fallen.

For over 90 years, the VFW's Buddy Poppy program has raised millions of dollars in support of veterans' welfare and the wellbeing of their dependents. The VFW conducted its first poppy distribution before Memorial Day in 1922. The poppy soon was adopted as the official memorial flower of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

The VFW decided in 1923 that Buddy Poppies should be assembled by disabled and needy veterans who would be paid for their work to provide them with some form of financial assistance. The designation "Buddy Poppy" was adopted at that time and the name "Buddy Poppy" was registered with the U.S. Patent Office.

Today, VFW Buddy Poppies are still assembled by disabled and needy veterans in VA Hospitals. The minimal assessment (cost of Buddy Poppies) to VFW units provides compensation to the veterans who assemble the poppies, provides financial assistance in maintaining state and national veterans' rehabilitation and service programs, and partially supports the VFW National Home for orphans and widows of our nation's veterans. One hundred percent of donations collected from Buddy Poppy distribution go to veterans' assistance, commemoration, and education programs in the local community.

The Post will distribute Buddy Poppies on Saturday, 20 May at the commissary at Fort Myer-Henderson Hall. To help, go to <http://signup.com/go/gJimJN>.

Upcoming Next Month

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

Sat, 3 June: Installation and Celebration, 4pm

Sun, 6 Jun: D-Day Ceremony, 4 pm

Wed, 14 Jun: Flag Day and

U.S. Army 242nd Birthday, 7 pm

Thur - Sun 15-18 Jun: Dept Conv Wmsburg

Sat, 24 Jun: Guitars for Vets, 6 – 10 pm

Event updates can be found on our Facebook page. "Like" us at

"John Lyon VFW Post 3150".

District Convention

The Tenth District Convention will be held Sunday, 7 May at Dale City Post 1503, 14631 Minnieville Road, Dale City, 703-670-4124. Lunch will be served at 12 noon; meetings for both VFW and Auxiliary will begin at 1 pm.

State Convention

The Department of Virginia's state convention will be held 15 – 18 June 2017 at the Fort Magruder Hotel and Convention Center, 6945 Pocahontas Trail, Williamsburg VA 23185, telephone 757-220-2250. Room Rate: \$92.00. Reserve room by 17 May 2017 to insure group rates.

National Convention

The National Convention will be held 22 – 26 July 2017 in New Orleans. The assigned hotel for Virginia is Marriot New Orleans. Special Room rates are available until 9 June. For info or to reserve, go to <http://www.vfw.org/convention/>

Iraq. Afghanistan, GWOT-E Vets Happy Hour, 11 May

The next Iraq, Afghanistan, GWOT-E Happy Hour will be Thursday, 11 May from 5 -8 pm. Bring your vet friends with you.

Recent Events Around the Post



<<< John Lyon members and friends write their answers to questions posed by Dave Hanisch (rear center) during the recent Trivia Night. The event has proven to be a real crowd favorite and will be a regular feature in the Post calendar. Oh, and yes, a team from Post 3150 won the event for the first time although Team Rubicon did not attend!

The Post 3150 Color Guard, consisting >>> of (l to r) Stephanie Benally, Michael Beatty, Jolly Bittick, and Nick Hatfield are lead onto the field by Walter Sweeney (front) to present the colors for the National Anthem during opening day ceremonies of the Arlington Little League. Brenna McVaney was the photographer. The Color Guard consisted, for the first known time, a member of each of the services and a female member.



<<< (l to r) Auxiliary President Cathy Graham and Post Adjutant J.Gary Wagner present the High School Teacher of the Year Award to Greg Haas,. Mr Haas is an AP / Social Studies teacher at Bishop Denis J. O'Connell High School in Arlington.



<<< John Lyon members and two friends (1 to r, front) Boyce Pate, Brenna McVaney, Michael Beatty, Nick Hatfield, Walter Sweeney Alyssa Buckley, (rear) Dave and Kallie Hanisch, Jolly and Stephanie Benally pause at a benefit for the homeless. All proceeds from the event will go directly toward rebuilding a home in Del Ray on National Rebuilding Day (April 29th). Rebuilding Together Alexandria volunteers repair and rehabilitate homes free of cost for those in need, including the elderly, persons with disabilities, military veterans, and families with children.

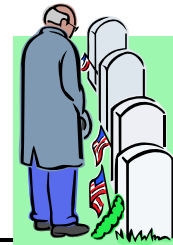
Attending the Arlington County >>> Commemorative Program marking the 100th Anniversary of the American entry into World War I, held in the Arlington Courthouse because of rain, were Dennis Gerrity (left) and J.Gary Wagner. World War I is especially important for Post 3150 as John Lyon was one of the few from Arlington killed in the “Great War”. **For a three page bio on John Lyon, go to <https://commissions.arlingtonva.us/WWI/> And click on “Arlingtonians Who lost their lives in World War I” (about 5 – 6 inches down. John Lyon begins on page 5)**



<<< Some of the John Lyon members and several friends attending the recent wine tasting evening listen to David Magee explain some of the finer points of various wines.

VFW 3150

May 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 LOYALTY DAY	2	3	4	5	6 Homeless Veteran Benefit .4 pm
7 10 th District Convention Post 1503 12 noon	8 VE DAY House Committee / Post O Call 7 p	9	10 GRIST mtg, 7 pm	11 OIF/OEF/ GWOTE Happy Hour 5 – 8 pm.	12 Trivia Night, 8 pm Dinner 6 p	13
14 MOTHERS DAY POST CLOSED	15 NAT'L- PEACE OFFCRS MEMORIAL DAY Post Mtg 7:30 pm	16 Auxiliary Mtg 7:30 pm AF JROTC Awards Night, 6:30p Arl Car Cent	17	19	19	20 ARMED FORCES DAY Buddy Poppy Drive, Ft Myer Commissary. 8 am – 2pm
21	22	23	24	25	26 Columbia Gardens & Natl Meml Cemetery Graves Dec 12:30 pm Food 5 pm	27 Arlington Natl Cemetery Graves Dec 8:30 am Cookout 5p
28 Cookout 5pm	29 John Lyon Mem - 11 am Clarendon -1 p Open house 2p Mmt of Remb 3 pm	30 ←---- MEMORIAL DAY	31	<p>Information: 703-525 0108 during open hours</p>		



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
May 2017

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.
5pm: Finger Foods and Fellowship at the Post. Post open 4 – 10 pm.
- Sat:** 8:30 am: Meet at Post for Arlington National Cemetery graves decoration.
5pm: Cook Out at the Post. Post open 2 – 10 pm
- Sun:** 5pm: Cook Out at the Post. Post open 3 – 8 pm
- Mon:** 10 am: John Lyon Principals meet at Post
11 am: “John Lyon Memorial”, Cherryvale
1 pm: Clarendon War Memorial
2 pm: Open House at the Post
3 pm: National Moment of Remembrance
Post open 2 – 7 pm

For updates, check us on Facebook: “John Lyon VFW Post 3150”

Throughout: Buddy Poppy Distribution

