

The John Lyon Gazette

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November 2005



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 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

Veterans Day 2005

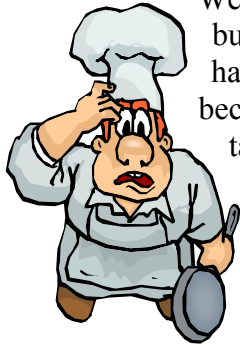
How did Veterans Day get its name? In 1921, in Arlington National Cemetery, an American soldier from World War I was laid to rest in what was to become the Tomb of the Unknowns. Similar ceremonies also took place that day in England and France to mark the end hostilities three years earlier on 11 November 1918. The day became widely known as "Armistice Day". In 1926, Congress officially named the day and in 1938 it became an official holiday. Shortly thereafter, however, World War II broke out in Europe. At its conclusion, Americans sought a way to remember those who had recently given their lives defending freedom. The first "Veterans Day" parade was organized in Birmingham, Alabama for 11 November 1947. Later Congress proposed changing "Armistice Day" to "Veterans Day" to honor all those who had served America in uniform. In 1954, President Eisenhower signed the bill which proclaimed 11 November as Veterans Day. The three-day weekend movement, in 1968 saw the day's commemorations moved to the fourth Monday in October. But the day was seen as too significant, both historically and patriotically, and in 1978 Congress reestablished November 11th as the day for observance.

Our own Post 3150 was named for Lt John Lyon, of the Machine Gun Company of the 116th Infantry, 29th Division. He was killed in France only weeks before that first Armistice Day, on 16 October 1918. It is fitting that we will gather at what we call the "John Lyon Memorial" at the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month to honor his memory and that of the other three Arlingtonians killed during World War I.

We will participate in a second ceremony that day at 1pm at the Clarendon War Memorial. This ceremony, in conjunction with the American Legion posts of Arlington, will remember Arlingtonians from all wars.

The "John Lyon Memorial" is on the 29th Division Highway, Lee Highway / Route 29, as it passes through Cherrydale. It is across the street from the Safeway on the grounds of the Cherrydale Healthcare Center. The Clarendon War Memorial is in the center of Wilson and Clarendon Boulevards where Washington Boulevard crosses. Please join us as we remember. A complete weekend schedule can be found on a later page.

From the Commander:



We are now at the mid point of the year and preparing for the next very important and busy month of the year (November). We're a very good team at VFW Post 3150 and have already accomplished much. It's difficult to point out any one individual because we have many dedicated individuals that continue to show up to perform tasks such as preparing for each Sunday Brunch and setting up the tables the day before. I show up at our post to find people cutting the grass, tending to our beautiful flower gardens, trimming our shrubs, performing the usual maintenance at our post home, on and on. I have just described a winning team at VFW Post 3150. Thanks to all for your thoughtful and dedicated efforts. Our successful accomplishments are because of the efforts of all of our team members.

November is an important month of the year. For November, in addition to our reoccurring Sunday Brunch and serving free breakfasts to Walter Reed Army Medical Center patients, we are looking forward to the VFW Voice of Democracy/Patriots Pen student competitions and judging, the Marine Corp Birthday and Veterans Day on November 10 and 11. The Marine Corps Birthday and Veterans Day will bring many veterans from across the country to our post. The preparation and distribution of Thanksgiving food baskets for junior enlisted military families will be on November 19 at 11:30am. We will celebrate the 71st birthday of John Lyon Post 3150 on November 20 at 4:00pm. We plan to serve Thanksgiving Day dinner at the post on the 24th at Noon until 5:00pm.

On October 22, our plans for an Adopt a Highway cleanup were rained out. Three dedicated post members of our post, (besides me), showed up Saturday Morning to see if the rain would stop and complete the cleanup. It just rained harder causing us to postpone the cleanup to the following Saturday. Thanks for their efforts go to Ralph Huston (past and acting Chaplain and 84 years old), Tom Kane, and George Flanigan. We just redirected our efforts to work inside the Post.

We are all saddened by the passing of Comrades Joe Weyraugh and Irv Monroe. Joe Weyraugh appeared at every Veterans Day and Memorial Day ceremony dressed in a Navy uniform. I will remember Irv Monroe as a friend and longtime supporter of our post.

And a Happy Birthday to our Marine members. At 8:00 pm on November 10, we will mark their special day.

Yours in Comradeship,

Greg Moscatel
Commander, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3150

From the President:

It's hard to believe only two months are left in the year. We have been very busy around our post. On Saturday 22 October the Department of Virginia with the 101st Airborne Association hosted a cookout at Walter Reed Army Medical Center for the wounded, their families and active duty. Department President Debbie Martin, and I worked with 4 comrades from the Post and comrades from the Charlottesville, and Stanardsville Posts to help serve food and drinks to approximately 110 people over the course of four hours. We passed out Operation Uplink cards to those needing them. We also talked with the troops to pass on any needed information and to make them feel appreciated. It was very rewarding. The next day we had 31 folks from Walter Reed show up for breakfast. They appreciated both the cookout and the breakfast. Many of the people we talked with had no idea of what the VFW and its Auxiliary were about, but now have a better understanding as well as a better appreciation of our role in the grand scheme of life.

The holidays are fast approaching and time is running short. First its time to elect a new governor, lieutenant governor, and attorney general for our state so don't forget to exercise your right to vote. This will impact the way taxes are raised and spent over the next four years so get out and vote.

Next we wish our Marine Corps comrades and sisters a happy birthday as well as remember all of our fellow veterans on Veterans Day. Come on out and visit the post during these four days. It is always a busy and fun time. Check the schedule of events in this newsletter for times and events, especially the wreath laying ceremonies at both the John Lyon Memorial in Cherrydale and the War Memorial in Clarendon.



The auxiliary and post will be gathering on Saturday November 19th to put together the Thanksgiving baskets for the families from Ft Myer. This is always a fun and chaotic time. On Thanksgiving Day the post is again having a turkey dinner with all of the trimmings. So, if you do not like to cook and would some camaraderie, sign up for the dinner. The kitchen crew goes all out as always and puts together a fine spread. The Cancer Aid and Research quilt raffle will also be drawn at this time. So if you would like to see who won the homemade queen size quilt, come to the post. Raffle tickets will be sold up to the time of the raffle drawing.

In the December newsletter, I will announce who won the drawings for life membership and the three annual memberships. If you have not renewed yet, you have until 31 December to remain a member in good standing which entitles you to participate in our meetings and receive some of the benefits of membership. If you renew after 31 December, the year of eligibility for cancer grants and insurance begins again so you would have to wait another year to be eligible if you have a need to file for them. So renew before the end of December. Gail Hoffman our treasurer has to turn in our renewals by 23 December so make it an early Christmas present to yourself and the auxiliary and renew early.

Also we will be having an arts and craft/bake sale on December 11 during the Sunday breakfast. If you want to contribute, contact the post and leave a message. Elsie will get back in touch; or just bring down what you would like to add. This will be the final breakfast before Christmas.

Finally, a safe and healthy Thanksgiving to all our sisters, those traveling and those staying home, and a happy birthday to all those celebrating in November.

Catherine M. Graham

Welcome to Our New Members

Welcome to new Post members, Adam Green (USAF - Desert Storm), Robert King (life transfer), Jessica Short (Navy - Iraq) transfer, and MIP transfer Ryan Kresan (USMC Iraq), elected at the October meetings. Kresan is the son of 3150 Life member Mike Kresan.

We also welcome new MIP members to the VFW: Terrence Howard, Michael Jordan, Andy Mosley all of whom recently served in Iraq, and Ricky Morgan who served in Korea.

Winners of Life Membership Drawings

Sixty-two members qualified for the Post 3150 Life Membership drawings by joining or renewing their memberships for the year 2005 - 2006 by 30 September. There were at least three members in each age group. From youngest to oldest, those members whose names were drawn during the Early Bird Dinner, and who will be receiving a free VFW Life Membership, are:

Group A (<31): Jason Waitkoss, Arlington VA
Group B (31-40): Thomas Riisager, Bel Air MD
Group C (41-50): Jay Carlson, Arlington VA
Group D (51-60): Charles May, Phoenix OR
Group E (61-70): David Bunting, Cheverly MD
Group F (>70): Peter Kosutic, Arlington VA

Charles May had "gone Life" with his renewal and was reimbursed the fee he had paid. This makes 41 the number of Life Memberships paid for by the Post over the last six years during the Early Bird Dinner. To qualify next year, get your renewal paid up early.

November Post Meeting Shifted

Because the normal evening for the Post meeting is during Veterans Day weekend, the meeting has been shifted to the following Tuesday evening, 15 November at 8 pm.

Where We Live

Someone asked a while back where members of Post 3150 live. Among the members who were current as of 1 July or who have joined since then, the following is the mailing address breakdown: Virginia: 301, Maryland: 26, Florida: 20; North Carolina: 14; Pennsylvania, 8; Ohio: 6; Arizona and Washington DC: 5 each; California, New York, Texas, and Pacific areas (APO AP): 4 each; Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, and South Carolina: 3 each; Delaware, Maine, Michigan, Oklahoma, Oregon, West Virginia, and Europe / Middle East (APO AE): 2 each, and one each in Connecticut, Hawaii, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Nevada, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin, and Central / South America (APO AA). Four members are currently "Undeliverable".

The Ladies Auxiliary 3150 membership, as of October 2005, is as follows: Virginia: 76; New York: 10; Maryland: 7; Florida: 6; California and North Carolina, five each; Illinois: 4, Arizona, Colorado, and District of Columbia: 3 each; APO Europe, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, Ohio and Texas, 2 each; and Indiana, Maine, Nebraska, Nevada, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Washington, and West Virginia, 1 each.

Most of the out-of-staters are folks who joined John Lyon when they lived here and have now moved to another location and kept their memberships here, or family of members here.

Jimmy Jenkins Funeral

The post has been informed that the burial service for James R Jenkins, who died this last summer, has been scheduled for Monday, 14 November at Arlington Cemetery. Those who wish to attend should line up at the gate by 9 am.

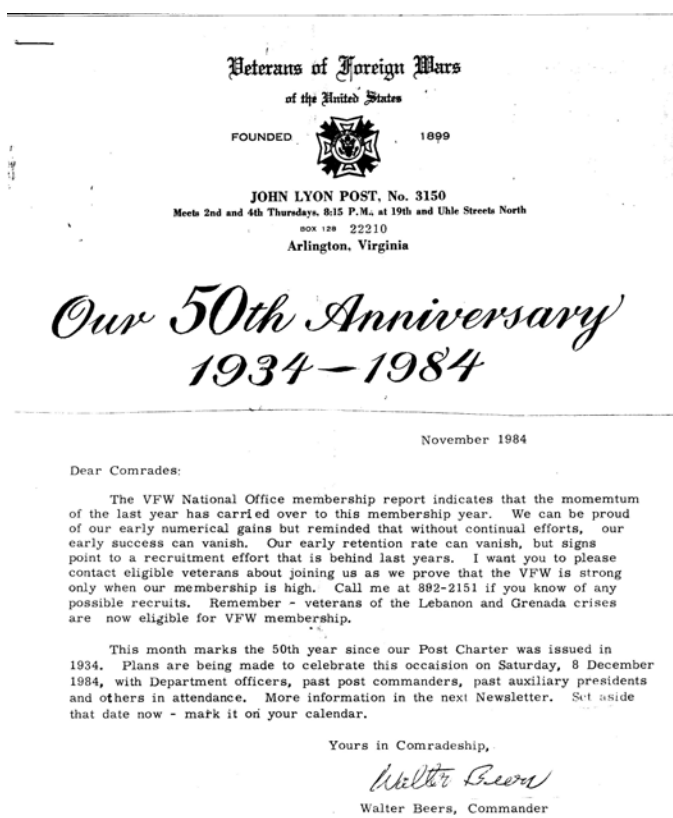
Happy Thanksgiving

The Post will be serving Thanksgiving Dinner from 12 - 5 on Thursday, 24 November. Please call the Post for reservations, by Monday, 21 November, at 703-525-0108.

From the John Lyon Past...

Post 3150 will be 71 years old on 20 November. Below is the front page of the post newsletter from November 1984. Walter Beers was Post Commander at this time and Imogene Robinson was Ladies Auxiliary President.

Commander Beers' second paragraph reads: "This month marks the 50th year since our Post Charter was issued in 1934. Plans are being made to celebrate this occasion (sic) on Saturday, 8 December 1984, with Department officers, past post commanders, past auxiliary presidents and others in attendance. More information in the next Newsletter. Set aside that date now - mark it on your calendar."



Post Birthday, 20 Nov

VFW Post 3150 will mark 71 years of service to the community and veterans, as well as camaraderie for its members, on Sunday, 20 November. A cake cutting at 4:00 pm (or after the Redskins game) will highlight this special day. All members of the Post and Ladies Auxiliary are invited to join in.

VA Warns of Telephone Prescription Scam

WASHINGTON – The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is warning veterans not to give credit card numbers over the phone to callers claiming to update VA prescription information.

"Some unscrupulous scammers have targeted America's veterans, especially our older veterans," said the Honorable R. James Nicholson, Secretary of Veterans Affairs. "VA does not call veterans and ask them to disclose personal financial information over the phone."

The latest scam, currently centered in the Midwest, comes from callers who identify themselves as working for the "Patient Care Group." They say VA recently changed procedures for dispensing prescriptions and ask for the veteran's credit card number.

"VA has not changed its processes for dispensing prescription medicines," Nicholson said. "And we've definitely not changed our long-standing commitment to protect the personal information of our veterans."

Veterans with questions about VA services should contact the nearest VA medical center or call, toll-free, 1-877-222-8387. (Source, Department of Veterans Affairs, News Release, 19 October 2005)

Veterans Day Ceremonies

John Lyon members will gather at 11 am on Veterans Day at the "John Lyon Memorial", across the street from the Cherrydale Safeway for a short ceremony. And again at 1 pm at the Clarendon War Memorial for joint ceremonies with the American Legion posts and other organizations. Both events are family-friendly and an ideal event to reinforce history and patriotism for your sons and daughters -- or grandchildren, if they're visiting. An Open House will follow the afternoon ceremony.

Students, Teachers, and Scouts

The 1 November deadline fast approaches for post essay and teacher contests. See the September issue of *The John Lyon Gazette* for information on Voice of Democracy high school essay contest, Patriot's Pen middle school essay contest, Teacher of the Year, Scout of the Year, Ladies Auxiliary's Young American Creative Patriotic Art for grades 9-12 (See <http://www.ladiesauxvfw.com>, then Scholarships), and Veterans' Tribute Scholarship (available to children and grandchildren, ages 16 to 18, of all U.S. military veterans, active duty, Reserves and National Guard.) Except as noted above, see www.vfw.org, then Programs, then Youth Scholarship or Citizenship. Or call Post 3150 at 703-525-0108 for further information.

Post Canteen Hours

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

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

Post Lunches

The Post serves lunch Monday through Friday from 11 am to 3 pm. Daily specials are \$4.50.

Every Wed: meatloaf, mashed potatoes, veggie

Every Thurs: pork chops, mashed potatoes, veggie

Every Fri: fried shrimp or fish, fries, cole slaw

Mon and Tues will vary. Most every day: also selected sandwiches.

U.S. Marine Corps Birthday 10 November 2005 8 pm

VA Announces New Employment Initiative

"The Department of Veterans Affairs announced a new program designed to help transitioning veterans find employment when they return home from the war on terrorism. The initiative, entitled "Fulfilling the Commitment – Coming Home to Work" focuses on linking OIF/OEF service members to existing resources through local and regional job markets, regardless of where they separate, where they return, or the career or education they pursue

"Current Labor statistics reports that in the first three quarters of 2005, almost 15 percent of veterans in the 20-24 year-old age group were unemployed, which is around three times the national rate of unemployment.

"For more on VA programs visit their website at <http://www1.va.gov/opa/pressrel/PressArtInternet.cfm?id=1036>" (Source: VFW Washington Weekly, October 17, 2005)

Post Membership over 90% Thanks!

Thanks to all members who have renewed their memberships for the year 2006. You have pushed the Post to over 90% for the new year. And, of course, thanks to all Life members who automatically put the Post on an early start towards our goal. Those who haven't renewed yet are asked to send theirs in as soon as possible. \$30 to the Post, National HQ, or on-line at www.vfw.org.

Thanksgiving Baskets

Post and Ladies Auxiliary members will prepare Thanksgiving baskets including turkeys and all the trimmings necessary for a festive holiday dinner for junior enlisted personnel at nearby Fort Myer. The preparations will begin at 11:30 am on Saturday, 19 November. Delivery to Fort Myer will follow. Come join in with this spirit of Thanksgiving.

Free Meal for Veterans

A free meal for veterans again will be offered by two national restaurant chains in connection with Veterans Day.

McCormick and Schmick's Seafood Restaurants located in the following states will be offering a free complimentary dinner to all veterans either on Sunday, Nov. 6 or Veterans Day: Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Nevada, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Texas, Virginia and Washington. Call 1-888-344-6841 or visit www.McCormickandSchmicks.com to find the nearest location. ***Reservations are needed and the veteran will be requested to show proof.*** (Note: there are eight restaurants in the Washington DC area.)

Golden Corral Restaurants throughout the country will offer veterans a free buffet meal 5 - 9 pm on November 14, 2005. See <http://www.goldencorral.net/default.htm> for more information. (Note: the closest locations to Arlington appear to be Fredericksburg or Manassas.)

Reminder to Members

Members of both the Post and the Ladies Auxiliary are reminded to show their membership cards to the on-duty manager when entering the Post home. ABC Rules require it! Remember: Membership remains a privilege to be guarded.

Weekly Email Updates

The Post sends a weekly email update of news and events. These are sent "blind" so your email address remains unknown to all other recipients. To be added to our email list, send an email to the webmaster at tcobb144@aol.com. Your request will be forwarded to the Adjutant who will add you to the list.

Veterans Appreciation

Wal-Mart, a long time supporter of VFW programs, will be starting their annual veterans' tribute, co-sponsored with Kodak. A veteran can receive a complimentary photograph and another copy of the photograph will be placed on the "Wall of Honor" in every participating store through Veterans Day. In addition message books signed by customers will be mailed to military units overseas by VFW National Headquarters.

Cook?

If you can handle a grill or stove --- or would like to learn --- the Sunday morning brunch crew would like you to join them. You will be guided and taught by some of the area's master grill and stove cooks. Once or twice a month is all it would take. See Ken or Eric.

VA and PTSD Disability

"Recently the VA has decided to re-review over 70,000 PTSD disability cases. The review would put in jeopardy those PTSD cases that have already been decided. Their intent is to eliminate fraud, which we support, but their methods could harm legitimate claims and serve as a deterrent for veterans and service members to seek treatment.

"The Senate has included in their Military Construction/VA Appropriations bill an amendment that would require Congressional oversight of the review. Now is the time to contact your legislator and ask them to support the Senate amendment to the Military Construction/VA Appropriations bill that will end the re-review of PTSD claims.

"You can email your legislators with the click of a button visit http://capwiz.com/vfw/mail/oneclick_compose/?ale_rtid=8079626 to send your legislators a prepared message today!" (Source: VFW Washington Weekly, October 17, 2005)

Marching Off...

Helen Davis, the mother of Joe Weeks, who nearly made it to Willard Scott's greetings list at 99.

VFW Post 3150 Veterans Day Weekend Schedule

Thur 10 Nov

4 - 8 pm Finger Food

8 pm USMC Birthday: Cake Cutting
DJ Music

Fri 11 Nov

11 am John Lyon Wreath Laying,
Cherrydale War Memorial

1 pm Wreath Laying Ceremony,
Clarendon War Memorial

4 - 8 pm Deli Buffet
DJ Music

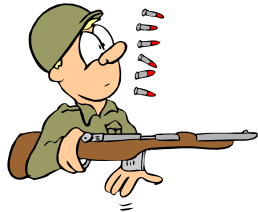
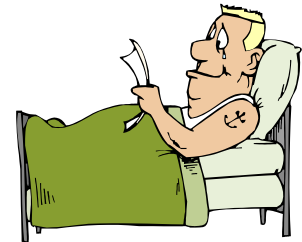
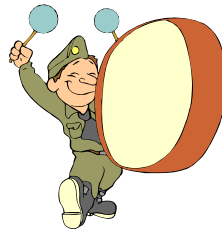
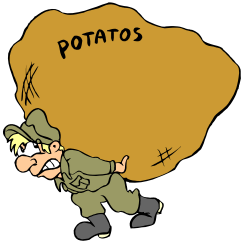
Sat 12 Nov

3 - 6 pm Cookout
DJ Music

Sun 13 Nov

9 am - 1 pm Sunday Brunch

3 - 6 pm Deli Buffet



Ah! The Memories...!!!

Happy Veterans Day!

Recent Events Around the Post

Commander Greg Moscatel (right) >>> presents a replacement All-American Commander certificate to Past Commander Eugene D. Miller III during the October post meeting. The original certificate had been lost and National Headquarters provided a replacement. Miller --- and Post 3150 --- were named "All-American" for the year 1990 - 1991. This is the highest award a post can receive and this was the only time John Lyon has been so honored.



<<< George Flanigan, Ralph Huston, Harry Lazo (Morningside Post), J.Gary Wagner, Pat Sivigny (Woodbridge Post 7916), Greg Moscatel, and Ralph Turpin pause prior to cutting the cake during the VFW's 106th birthday held at the Post.

Navy veterans Harry Lazo, B.J. >>> Richardson (Commander of Woodbridge Post 7916), Shirley McAlhaney, Junior Vice Commander Tom Kane, Senior Vice Commander Eric Anderson, Connie Agresti, George O'Connell, and "Doc" Crouch gather around the Navy birthday cake following Anderson's reading of the CNO's Greetings during the Navy Birthday celebration.



Recent Events Around the Post

Three Generations of Weeks --- and two >>> Ladies Auxiliary 3150 members --- were on hand to serve patrons during a recent Sunday Brunch. From the left are Elsa Weeks, Debbie Breesman, both Ladies Auxiliary members, and granddaughter Amy Breesman.



<<< Commander Greg Moscatel explains the concept of the Gold Star Mother during ceremonies at the post honoring those mothers who lost their sons and daughters in combat.



Junior Vice Commander Tom Kane >>> (right) presents a Halloween Safety Trick or Treat bag to Key Elementary Assistant Principal Evelyn Fernandez while Adjutant, J.Gary Wagner looks on. The Post presented 640 of the Halloween bags to Key Elementary School, plus 25 to a local civic association, and others to children who were in the post for Sunday brunch and other occasions. It was the fourth or fifth year the Post has distributed the reflectorized safety bags.



VFW 3150

November 2005



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 VOD, Patriot's Pen and Teacher deadlines	2 Movie Night	3	4	5 Judging for VOD and Patriot's Pen. 1 pm
6	7 Post O Call 7:30 pm House Committee 8 pm	8 Election Day Vote!	9 Movie Night	10 USMC Birthday 8 pm Finger food 4 - 8 pm	11 VETERANS DAY 11a m John Lyon Mem. 1 pm Clarendon 2 - 6 Open House	12 Cookout 3 - 6 pm
13 Sunday Brunch 9 am - 1 pm Deli Buffet 3 - 6 pm	14	15 SPECIAL NIGHT Post Meeting 8 pm	16 Movie Night	17 Ladies Aux Meeting 7:30 pm	18	19 Thanksgiving Basket Prep 11:30 am
20 Post 71st Birthday 4 pm	21	22	23 Movie Night	24 THANKSGIVING DAY Dinner 12 - 5 pm	25	6
27 Sunday Brunch 9 am - 1 pm	28	29	30			

Happy Thanksgiving!



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

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We fought for it!

Now use your right.

Vote on 8 November!