

# The John Lyon Gazette

Volume 24, Number 5

November 2017



Veterans of Foreign Wars  
John Lyon Post #3150  
2116 North 19<sup>th</sup> 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

\*\*\*\*NOTICE OF DECEMBER MEETING CHANGE & POST CLOSURES\*\*\*\*

The Post will be closed on the following dates for the holiday season:

- November 22-28
- December 17-January 6

The December 2017 Post Meeting will be held during the Post Holiday Party at 2PM on December 16th.



## 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

On March 26, 1982, 100 Vietnam veterans, at the same time, dug into the earth on the National Mall to break ground for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. In the following months, the black granite memorial took form with the names of those who were killed or remain missing in action. It was dedicated on a cold November 13, 1982. In later years,



two statues were added to the area, the first with three soldiers looking out over the wall, and the second, with three nurses with a wounded soldier waiting in anguish, possibly for a med-evac. With 3 million visitors each year, "The Wall" remains one of the most-visited memorial in the nation's capital.



## **From the Commander:**

Greetings Comrades,

The holidays are upon us and this year John Lyon VFW Post 3150 will kick off the beginning of the holiday season by leading the Veterans Day Ceremonies at the Clarendon War Memorial on November 11th at 11AM. In past years, the American Legion Posts in Arlington have lead this event, but this year the torch passes to us. In attendance will be the Arlington County Board Chairman as well as several other local VIPs and we hope you will be there as well! Following the ceremony, the Post will open at 1PM. Prior to the ceremony at the Clarendon War Memorial will be a 10AM ceremony at the John Lyon Memorial. The Post will be closed to the public that morning as we are hosting a group of surviving family members for their monthly care group at the Post. If you are using the Post as a meeting place to car pool that morning, please do not attempt to go inside the Post between 9:30AM and 12PM as it will disrupt the group meeting inside.

A couple other events on the horizon that you should get marked on your calendar:

- Marine Corps Birthday Celebration: Nov 10 at 6PM
- Preparation of Thanksgiving Baskets for Needy Families: Nov 17 at 6PM
- John Lyon's Birthday Celebration: Nov 17 at 7PM
- November Post Meeting: Nov 20 at 7:30PM

With the holidays about to begin, we are reminded that a new year is soon to come as well. With the new year comes a new calendar for the Post and on January 8th at 7PM the Post Officers will meet to finalize the January-June Post calendar. If you have any ideas or suggestions for events at the Post or community service projects, please reach out to me at [walter.sweeney3150@gmail.com](mailto:walter.sweeney3150@gmail.com) so that I can get your idea represented at the planning meeting. That being said, the planning meeting on the 8th of January is open to all Post Members, so you are welcome to come and represent your ideas or otherwise weigh in on the plan yourself!

Out of a desire to best serve the members of the Post and structure our events in a way that best fit your interests, a survey to all members will be sent out before the first of the new year. You may answer this survey anonymously if you choose and all information received will be considered when making the calendar for the next six months and beyond! The more participation we get in the survey, the better!

Finally, I would like to highlight our outstanding member of the month. 1-Year House Committee Member Andre Paige has been worthy of recognition since taking on his position in the House Committee this Summer and volunteering to work the canteen once every week. Not only has Andre donated a significant amount of his time to the Post, but he regularly takes advantage of opportunities to improve the Post in many other ways. The newly installed automatic paper towel dispensers in the restrooms, the drain cover in the parking lot, and a multitude of other items are all Andre's handy work. Thanks for all you do, Andre!

Semper Fidelis,  
Walter Sweeney  
Post Commander  
VFW Post 3150

## **From the President of the VFW Auxiliary:**

Hello again, time seems to be flying by this month. Hard to believe Thanksgiving is just around the corner. Some of my fondest memories of Thanksgiving are spending them at my grandparents' homes either in Maine or Oklahoma. The smells of all the food cooking, the chilly air outside, football playing on TV. A magical time for family and friends. Laughing and arguing over whose team would win. Dad and Deb were ALWAYS

Boston Patriots fans, or anyone who played against the Redskins! LOL... Dad even called them the "Dead Skins" just to rile me up. But neither team usually played on Thanksgiving. Normally it always seemed to be the Cowboys and "The Bears". I could be wrong, the older I get the worse my brain retains things, Deb would know as she is the real sports fanatic along with Dad. Anyway, it was great fun watching football with Dad. I always seemed to root for team Dad didn't want to win! Loved that. It's so funny he had three daughters but two of us could talk football with him, and every chance I got, I would crank him up over it.

Dad was always about God, Country, and Family. I often wonder if he would be against the NFL Players taking a knee during our National Anthem. As a kid growing up on Marine Corps Bases, we were taught to follow the rules regarding our Flag. Reveille was early, just before the sun came up in most cases. They let us sleep until we had to get up for school. Bugle call to colors played for the raising of the Flag at 08:00, and Bugle retreat played at 17:00 followed by a very loud gun being fired somewhere. No matter what we were doing when these things happened (Except Reveille) we were taught it was an opportunity to honor our Flag, Nation, and Military traditions, so we stood up faced the direction of nearest Flag with our hand over our hearts until it ended. In this few minutes a day, it instilled in us a respect. We were lucky to be Americans, to live free, be what we wanted. Doing anything other than standing, facing the colors and placing our hands over our hearts was considered disrespectful. If Dad had ever heard we had not done this and showed disrespect, we most likely wouldn't have been able to sit down for at least a week. Luckily that never happened. I look around Arlington National Cemetery today, seeing hundreds of thousands who were buried there with the flag draping their coffin. I have seen coffins coming home on commercial aircraft and see the Flag on them, the reverence, and solemnness as that person is taken from the aircraft to the hearse on their final trip home. I'm all for free speech, I just believe there are better ways to protest then disrespecting a Flag that so many have died for to protect our rights. The Flag doesn't represent anyone group of people. It represents us all. It doesn't see color, It adorns the bodies of those who have fought for our rights, to their final resting place. So, this season I have made the decision to boycott the NFL games, until such a time as the all stand in respect of our Flag and National Anthem. I'm sorry I will miss Thanksgiving with football this year, but I think my Dad would agree with my personal protest on this issue. Tell me your thoughts, what do you think, drop me an e-mail, I would love to hear your thoughts on this. Thank you!

On this Thanksgiving day, I wish you a lifetime of happiness and health. May you have a home filled with laughter and love. Happy Birthday and Anniversary to those celebrating them this month, and don't forget to check on our elderly. Make sure they are doing well.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Weeks President, VFW Auxiliary Post 3150



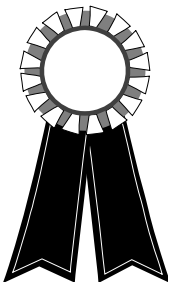
**The earliest known photo of John Lyon Post 3150 in action is of this Home Defense Recruiting Station from 1941.**

## Welcome to Our New Members

Welcome to our new Post members: Tyler Burriss (Army – Afghanistan), Kyle Ellison (USMC-Iraq/Afghanistan/GWOTE), William Frye (Afghanistan), Evan Hammitt (Army – Afghanistan), Kyle Harris (USMC – Afghanistan), Samuel Hart (Navy – Afghanistan), Nicholas Ingle (Army – Afghanistan), Trevor Kenney (Army – Afghanistan), Hunter McAtee (USMC – Afghanistan), Daniel Riley (USMC – Afghanistan), Michael Schmidt (USMC – Afghanistan), Paul Hurley (Army – Iraq/Afghanistan/GWOTE), Robert Senkel (Army – Afghanistan), Erin Hummelsine (Army – Iraq/Afghanistan), Trevor Kenney (Army-Afghanistan), Michael Cole, Theresa Knight, and Adam Silver; and new Auxiliary members Danielle Grigsby, Caitlin Kenney, and transfer Shirley LaFreniere, all elected at recent meetings. some still contingent on supplying necessary paperwork.

## Post 3150 to Mark 83<sup>rd</sup> Birthday

John Lyon Post 3150 will celebrate its 83<sup>rd</sup> birthday at 7 pm on Friday, 17 November. The Post was chartered on 20 November 1934. All members are invited to join in the celebration.



**Be a Winner: Vote!**  
**Tuesday, 7 November**  
**Study the issues.**  
**Your vote counts!**

For info on Virginia elections, go to  
<https://elections.virginia.gov/> and click on  
“Upcoming Elections”  
You will need a photo ID to vote.

**Post Opens at 1 pm for all Sunday  
afternoon football games  
“NFL Sunday Ticket” at 3150!**

## UFC 217, Sat 4 Nov, 6 pm

UFC (Ultimate Fighting Championship) Event 217 features Michael Bisping vz George St-Pierre Saturday 4 November.

The Post will carry it on our 8 TV's in the canteen and the large screen in the great hall. Everyone will have a front row. Post open at 5 pm.

Prefights start at 8. Main event at 10 pm.

This event is open to members, active duty, veterans, their family and friends.

**HELP THE  
BUDDY  
POPPY  
TEAM!**



In honor of Veterans Day, John Lyon VFW Post 3150 will again distribute Buddy Poppies over the holiday weekends, **specifically on Saturday, 4 November. 8 am – 2 pm at Fort Myer Commissary. Volunteers are requested** sign up to volunteer here: <http://signup.com/go/pDZmfZo>. If you can't help out on 4 Nov, you may distribute at another time and location **in Arlington County**. Kits will be available in the Post ---- bags containing 200 poppies and two cans each for volunteers. Be sure to get the permission of any store you collect in front of. Please mark the cans with your name, location, and date. All cans and undistributed poppies should be returned to the Post no later than Wednesday, November 15.

Donations received for Buddy Poppies continue to represent the primary means for the Post to rejuvenate its Relief Fund. National By-Laws restrict the use of Relief Fund proceeds to the care and assistance of needy veterans, their families, Americanism education, and to commemorating and perpetuating the memory of our deceased comrades.

National By-Laws also limit the distribution of Buddy Poppies to the immediate geographic vicinity of our Post (i.e., the County of Arlington). VFW Auxiliary members who participate will see the funds they collect distributed to the relief funds of the Auxiliary. Thank you for your assistance. **Remember: you're not “selling” them, but “distributing” them and graciously accepting donations.**



## Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, And Teacher of the Year

The deadline for getting any essay contest entries and Teacher nominations to the Post is **8 pm, Tuesday, 31 October.**

**U.S. Marine Corps Birthday**  
**10 November 2017**  
**Friday, 7 pm**  
**Post Open 5 – 10 pm**  
**Dinner from 6 pm**

## Scout of the Year

Any recipient of an Eagle Scout, Girl Scout Gold Award, Venture Summit Award, or Sea Scout Quartermaster Award may qualify. Deadline is March 1, 2018. Early submission / interest may provide opportunity for additional trip for Scout. Info and applications available at <http://www.vfwascouting.org/> and <https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/scout-of-the-year>

## Post Veterans Day Ceremonies

John Lyon members will gather at **10 am** on 11 November, Veterans Day at the "John Lyon Memorial" --- across the street from the Safeway (3713 Lee Highway) on the grounds of the Cherrydale Healthcare Center --- for a short wreath-laying ceremony. And again at **11 am** at the Clarendon War Memorial for joint ceremonies with the American Legion posts and other organizations. This memorial is in the center of Wilson and Clarendon Boulevards where Washington Boulevard crosses and is just west of the Clarendon Metro stop. Both events are family-friendly and an ideal event to reinforce history and patriotism for your sons and daughters --- or grandchildren, if they're nearby.

## Vets to Wear Medals on Veterans Day

Several years ago, the Honorable R. James Nicholson, then Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and leaders of major veterans organizations asked veterans to wear the medals they earned during military service. The tradition continues this year.

Complete Vet Day Weekend schedule can be found on back page

## Firefighter, EMT, Law Enforcement Nominations due 15 December.

Nominations for Public Service Awards --- **Law Enforcement Officer, Firefighter, and EMT of the Year** --- are due at the Post by 15 December. Nominations include a resume of nominee's background in applicable area, resume of accomplishments in field, photograph, title and address.

## Moved? New Email?

**Please notify us when you move or change your email!** Send an email with your new address or email to the Adjutant at (new email address) [adjpost3150@vfwva.org](mailto:adjpost3150@vfwva.org)

## Hours for Post Canteen

The Post Canteen is open as follows:

Sunday	1 pm – 6 pm
Monday – Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday - Thursday	6 pm – 9 pm
Friday	5 pm – 10 pm
Saturday	5 pm – 10 pm

Post may extend hours for various events.

## Trivia Night

Trivia Night will take a break for the holidays. The next one will be in January.

## End of Year Charitable Donations?

If you make end of the year charitable donations, remember the Post: consider sending a check to VFW Post 3150, 2116 North 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Arlington VA 22201. The VFW --- and Post 3150 --- is an IRS Code 501(c)19 tax exempt organization. All donations are restricted to Post projects and expenses and the post could use the assistance to resupply its accounts and get ready for the new year.

## Dinner before Post Meetings

The kitchen will be open for dinner service from 6-7 pm before Post Meetings. Chicken Fingers, Cheesesteak, Fries, Tots will be available for purchase at the Canteen.



(l to r) Brenna McVaney, J.Gary Wagner, and Jolly Bittick prepare to head out for Highway Cleanup along the section of nearby Lee Highway assigned to the Post. Dennis Gerrity also did a portion of the route several days earlier.

## Links to Events

4 November Buddy Poppy  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1908211732582148>

4 November Poses & Pints  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/795660007283330>

4 November UFC 217 Watch Party  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/350151435424573>

5 November NFL Sunday Ticket  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1305205346291921>

9 November Afghanistan, Iraq, and GWOTE Happy Hour  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/123135264982726>

10 November USMC Birthday  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1963530610585413>

11 November Veterans Day Events (note: the link below captures both the ceremonies and the open e at the Post)  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/2072528749700033>

12 November NFL Sunday Ticket  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/742066292652916>

17 November John Lyon VFW Post 3150 83rd Birthday Celebration  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/278222666002404>

17 November Thanksgiving Basket Prep 1800 - 1900  
(there is no FB event for this)

18 November Thanksgiving Basket Distribution at Ft. Myer 0930 -1100  
(there is no FB event for this)

19 November NFL Sunday Ticket  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/141671103121634>

26 November NFL Sunday Ticket  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/237752703422206>



*Happy Thanksgiving!*

## Qualifying for VFW or Auxiliary Membership

Veterans who served overseas in an active or passive war zone are likely eligible for the VFW. The best indicator is receipt of an Expeditionary or Campaign Medal, although some other qualifiers exist. The most common are World War II, Korean War and subsequent service in country to the present, Vietnam War, Desert Storm, and the Afghanistan and Iraq Wars, but other campaigns and situations, such as Bosnia, Panama, Cuba, and Imminent Danger Pay also qualify. A DD Form 214 or other documentation which shows the qualification is required. Further information is available at the Post or email the Adjutant at [adjpost3150@vfwva.org](mailto:adjpost3150@vfwva.org).

Membership in the VFW Auxiliary is open to men and women whose spouse, parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, sibling (and half-sibling who attain the status prior to the age sixteen) was or is eligible for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States of America. Documentation is required as it is for the Post. Members must also be at least sixteen years old. Those whose family members might be interested can get further information at the Post or email the Adjutant at [adjpost3150@vfwva.org](mailto:adjpost3150@vfwva.org).

## Legacy Life Membership

Legacy Life membership enables VFW Life members to leave a lasting impression on our great organization.

Three prestigious levels of Legacy Life membership are available: Gold, Silver and Bronze.

Each level offers generous benefits reserved exclusively for Legacy Life members. Once your Legacy Life membership begins, an annual endowment in your name will be made to your Post, Department and the national organization. You will feel confident knowing your contributions to our organization are not only helping today's veterans but the veterans of tomorrow.

You may also purchase a Memorial Legacy in the name of a deceased VFW Life member to help future generations know and remember their sacrifice and contributions.

For more information, go to [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) and click on "Join". Then scroll down.

## VFW Life Membership Fee Schedule

	One time	12 months
<u>Age on 12/31</u>	<u>payment</u>	<u>plan</u>
< Age 31	\$425.00	\$40.39
31-40	\$410.00	\$39.02
41-50	\$375.00	\$35.84
51-60	\$335.00	\$32.20
61-70	\$290.00	\$28.11
71-80	\$225.00	\$22.20
81 and over	\$170.00	\$17.20

Post 3150 annual dues are \$40.

### (Corrected Version)

## VFW Auxiliary Life Membership Fee Schedule

<u>Age on 12/31</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Through Age 20	\$253
21-25	\$242
26-30	\$230
31-35	\$219
36-40	\$213
41-45	\$201
46-50	\$196
51-55	\$184
56-60	\$173
61-65	\$161
66-70	\$150
71-75	\$132
76-80	\$109
81-85	\$86
86-90	\$69
91 and over	\$58

VFW Auxiliary Annual dues are \$25. First year is \$30.



## Thanksgiving Baskets

Post and Auxiliary members will prepare Thanksgiving baskets including turkeys and all the trimmings necessary for a festive holiday dinner for junior enlisted personnel in our area. The preparations will begin at 6 pm on Friday, 17 November. Delivery to Fort Myer will be at 9:30 the next morning. Come join in with this spirit of Thanksgiving.

# Recent Events Around the Post

## VFW Day: VFW Birthday

Jolly Bittick (left) reviews highpoints and >>> interesting facts from the VFW's history during ceremonies marking VFW Day: the VFW's 118<sup>th</sup> Birthday while other members listen in.



## US Navy Birthday

<<< (l to r) Navy Veterans E.J. Delpero, Cathy Graham, Jim Bertine, Jolly Bittick, and Jin Lam gather to cut the cake marking the U.S. Navy's 242<sup>nd</sup> Birthday during ceremonies recently held at the Post.

## Celebrating America's Freedom

National VFW Auxiliary President Dee >>> Guillory (center) addresses VFW and Auxiliary members and others at the Celebrating America's Freedom Event held during Yorktown Days at the battlefield where the American Revolution ended. Cathy Graham, C.D. "Doc" Crouch and J.Gary Wagner represented Post 3150 at the events, including a "Homecoming" in the next days for the first National President to be elected from Virginia.






# VFW 3150

## November 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		31  VOD, Patriots Pen, Teacher of the Year deadline 8 pm	1	2	3	4 Buddy Poppy distribution, Fort Myer, 8 am – 2 pm  Yoga, 2pm  UFC, 6 pm
5  Daylight Savings Time ends  NFL Football 1 pm	6	7  <b>ELECTION DAY</b>  <b>VOTE!!</b>	8  GRIST mtg 7:30 pm	9  Iraq / Afghanistan / GWOTE vets Happy Hour, 6 – 9 pm	10  USMC Birthday 7 pm  Food from 6 pm	11 VETERANS DAY  John Lyon Mem 10 am Clarendon Mem 11 am Post Open House 1 pm
12  NFL Football 1 pm	13  House Committee & O Call 7 pm	14	15	16	17  Thanksgiving Basket Prep, 6 pm  Post 83 <sup>rd</sup> Birthday, 7pm	18  Thanksgiving Basket Delivery 9:30 am
19  NFL Football 1 pm	20  Post Meeting 7:30 pm	21  VFW Aux Meeting 7:30 pm	22  POST CLOSED	23  THANKSGIVING DAY  POST CLOSED	24  POST CLOSED	25  POST CLOSED
26  POST CLOSED	27	28	29	30	 Happy Thanksgiving!	



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

**Dated Material Please Do Not Delay**  
November 2017



**VFW Post 3150**  
**Veterans Day 2017 Weekend Schedule**

**Buddy Poppy Distribution: throughout**

**Sat, 4 Nov: Buddy Poppy Concentrated Distribution,**  
**Fort Myer Commissary, 8 am – 2 pm**

**Thur, 9 Nov: Iraq, Afghanistan, GWOTE vets Happy Hour, 6 – 9 pm**

**Fri, 10 Nov: Post open 5 – 10 pm**

**6 pm Food service begins. Menu to be announced.**

**7 pm USMC Birthday Cake Cutting.**

**Sat, 11 Nov: Post open 1- 10pm**

**10 am John Lyon Wreath Laying Ceremony,**  
**Cherrydale War Memorial**

**11 pm Arlington Wreath Laying Ceremony,**  
**Clarendon War Memorial**

**1 pm Post Open House**

**Sun, 12 Nov: Post open, 1 – 6 pm**

***Check Facebook: JohnLyonPost3150 for updates.***