

The John Lyon Gazette

Volume 12, Number 4

October 2005



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



9-11 Remembered

Post 3150 remembered the events of 9-11 during Patriot Day ceremonies at the Post. Kneeling are Commander Greg Moscatar and Butch Hovermill, while standing are J.Gary Wagner, Ralph Huston, Karen Stewart, Tom and Lola Kane, Bill King, Ruth Rodier, Vivien Parker, Ernie Deal, Art Merat, Bobby Largent, Eric Anderson, George Flannigan, Ralph Turpin, Pat Largent, and Suzanne Draeger.

From the Commander:

We had our annual Labor Day back yard cookout at the post. The Ladies Auxiliary did a fantastic job. This has always been their project. This is goodbye Summer and hello Fall time. I expect I'm not the only one, but, I'm looking forward to a trip down the Skyline Drive to see the beautiful Fall foliage. The last time I was up there (in my van) a couple of weeks ago, I spotted a family of black bears alongside the road. I was able to take a few photos with my camera.

We had a very nice observance of the end of WWII including a display of actual newspapers from 1942-1945. We will probably do something similar next year, but I put a request in with a printer friend to see about copying the front pages to preserve the originals.

Our Gold Star Mother, Peggy Varney, came to our post during John Lyon Post 3150 Shirt and Hat weekend. She came with the assistance of her new good friend and neighbor Ingrid. They drove all the way here from North Carolina. You don't find good people like Ingrid often, but they keep showing up at our door. I would like to say thank you to Ingrid for bringing Peggy up to our post several times in the last 6 months.

Don't forget the Sunday Brunch on October 9. This is the day the Ladies Auxiliary has their annual bake sale. Come out and support both of these worthwhile events.

Another important event is our annual Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser. The proceeds from this dinner go to the Northern Virginia Hospice. Local talent will be featured with Karaoke. I might even sing Margaritaville if we get enough donations.

On October 22, we will perform another High Cleanup as our part of Adopt a Highway. The cleanup part took only about 1 ½ hours last time due to the larger than normal participation. We had a good (and satisfying) time doing it. Free donuts and coffee will be served at 8:30 am and start the cleanup at 9:00 am. This day is also our annual Make a Difference Day.

During our Sunday Brunches every 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month, we serve free breakfasts to Walter Reed Medical Center patients and their families. If any of you would like to help out, one way would be to give transportation to the patients. We do have a need for people with a Van or SUV so that a folded up wheel chair can fit in, but we also need drivers with cars to transport the patients not in wheel chairs. This is a much needed and worthwhile effort. If you would like to learn more or desire to help with this please call John Miska at 434-760-1940 or leave a message for me at the post.



And a Happy Birthday to our Navy members. At 7 pm on October 13 we will mark their special day.

Yours in Comradeship,

/s/

Greg Moscatel
Commander, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3150

From the President:

With the days growing shorter and the weather going colder, October is now upon us. The pace of our volunteering efforts is gearing up. The deadlines for several of our programs are fast approaching. VOD, Patriots Pen, and the Teacher of the Year are due 1 November to the Post.

We voted to donate the tips from several breakfasts to the President's Special Project Juvenile Diabetes, the Political Action Committee and the Patriotic Arts Escrow Fund. Check the flyers at the Post to find out which breakfast is supporting which fund. We also voted to support our sisters and comrades in the departments of Louisiana and Mississippi with a donation. So far the Department of Virginia has raised in excess of \$45,000 at the time of writing. We also have a fundraiser for the Northern Virginia Hospice on the 15th of October.

Remember that the early bird dinner although on the 1st of October, the Ladies have until 31 October to renew to be eligible for the drawings at the November meeting. That is one chance at a life membership or one of three annual memberships. So get your renewals in. For those who join up life, their life membership fee will be reimbursed if they win a life membership.

Since the September column was written prior to the National Convention, here is a brief summary. The Department of Virginia had approximately 25 ladies attending. President Peggy Grimes won outstanding President of the Year for our division. We received first place in VFW PAC for our division. We received second place for the following awards: Cancer Aid & Research, Membership, Patriotic Art/VOD, Junior Girls Unit, Legislative, Rehabilitation, Youth Activities, VFW National Home for Children, and for Americanism. In addition, we received an additional award for Americanism. As so many of you have read in the Auxiliary magazine, we raised over \$3,000,000 for Cancer Aid and Research for the 15th year in a row. The national banquet was very enjoyable, and the chance to renew acquaintances and make new ones is always a pleasure.

One of the unexpected highlights of the trip was the meeting in Omaha of another group of VFW travelers. The Missouri delegation was conducting their annual motorcycle run to the national convention. From Omaha to North Platte to Cheyenne to Salt Lake City we hopscotched with these fine folks and met up with them again in Salt Lake City. They raised in excess of \$1700 for the Fisher House Foundation.

Don't forget to watch out for children especially Halloween night and a happy birthday to all who celebrate in October.

/s/

Catherine M. Graham



Welcome to Our New Members

Welcome to new Post members, Steve Brennan (Army - Desert Storm - Haiti - Bosnia) (Transfer), Steve Kreutner (Navy-Southwest Asia), James Lint (USMC-Army - Korea service) (Life Transfer), and Peter Wallace (Navy - Iraq) (Life Transfer), elected at the September meeting, and Ladies Auxiliary members, Anna Lint, elected in August, and Sylvia Painter, elected at the September meeting.

We also welcome new MIP members to the VFW: David Carter, Kevin Havens, Corey Koch, John E. Kutchmanich, Michael Stahley, Walter Toy Jr, John Wildes, and Patrick Zinck, all of whom recently served in Iraq, and Stevie Hamilton who served in Bosnia.

Early Bird Dinner Scheduled

The Early Bird Dinner is scheduled for 4 - 7 pm on Saturday, 1 October. This is a no-cost "thank you" for all renewed and Life members of the Post and Ladies Auxiliary. There will be a charge for non-Early Birds. Call the Post for further information and to signup. RSVP by 9 pm Mon, 26 September.

Last Month for VFW Life Membership Drawings

The Post will again hold a special drawing during the Early Bird Dinner from all members who have joined or renewed by 30 September. The drawing will include one each from the five youngest age groups as well as one in the over 71 age group. The winners will receive a Life membership in the VFW. If the member whose name is drawn had gone Life when renewing or joining, he/she will be reimbursed for that Life Membership and so will not be penalized for having "gone Life". To qualify for the drawing, National must have posted your Direct Dues renewal by 30 September or you must join/renew at the Post by 30 September.

Marching Off...

Irv Munroe, 84, on 19 September 2005. Irv was a World War II Army veteran and served with 84th Infantry Division and 309th Engineer Battalion in Europe. He was injured in Belgium in January 1945 and received the Purple Heart. Irv also served in the Korean War, where he received his commission, and the Vietnam War and he retired from the US Army in the rank of Colonel. He was to be buried in his hometown in Wisconsin and was the husband of 3150 Ladies Auxiliary member Elaine Munroe.

Joseph A Weyraugh, 81, on 14 September 2005. Frequently seen in his Navy uniform on Veteran Day and Memorial Day, Joe was a World War II veteran, having served on USS Zaniah AG70 in the Pacific. He was later a long time employee of the Navy. A Life Member of the VFW, he was buried at Lorraine Park Cemetery. He was the husband of 3150 Ladies Auxiliary member Frieda Weyraugh.

Eldridge Blanks. His death on 13 September 1992 (yes, 1992!) was recently confirmed by his family. A Life Member of the VFW, he was 74 at the time of his death. A TSGT in the US Army, he was a World War II veteran with the 77th Infantry Division in the Pacific and was buried at Florida National Cemetery.

Floyd R. "Richard" Baxter, step-father of Ladies Auxiliary 3150 member Joni Repasch and father-in-law of Joe Repasch. A World War II Marine who spent most of his time stateside and did not qualify for VFW membership, however, he was several times the oldest Marine and helped cut the cake during Marine Corps birthday celebrations. On 14 September.

Past Tenth District Commander and member of Post 8241 in McLean, Barney Marquart was a frequent visitor to Post 3150. He died on 12 September and will be buried in Arlington Cemetery on 7 October.

A John Lyon Hello ...

...to our members in Mississippi and Louisiana, and other hurricane devastated areas. Our prayers have been with you and we hope you all came through in good shape. ...also to Post 3150 and Ladies Auxiliary member Gail Redmond, recently in town from Wisconsin.

From the John Lyon Past...

The following excerpt appeared in *The Washington Post* on 19 October 1958:

“Rivals in Tenth Push Vote Plea

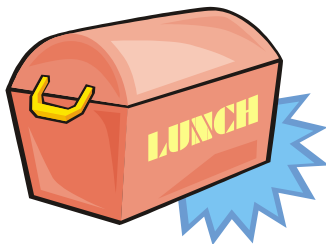
“Broyhill - Rep. Joel T. Broyhill (R- Va) said again last night that the Eisenhower Administration will seek funds in the next budget for a new Veterans Administration hospital in the Washington area.

“The Congressman, who is seeking reelection from Virginia’s Tenth District, spoke before a meeting of the Veterans for Broyhill Committee at the George Mason Hotel in Alexandria...

“The hospital is the 500-bed facility planned for the Soldiers’ Home grounds near the Washington Hospital Center...

“The Tenth District Congressman released a letter from George B. Moran, commander of Arlington’s John Lyon Post No. 3150 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, thanking Broyhill for his interest in veterans’ affairs.”

(Editor’s Note: Congressman Broyhill was an Army Captain and POW in World War II and for years was a member of Post 3150.)



Post Lunch Resumes

Lunch in the Canteen has resumed. Sandwiches and a daily special are featured. Hours are from 11 am to 3 pm, Monday through Friday. Some of the specials planned are hot roast beef and turkey sandwiches, pork chops, tuna casserole, and corned beef and cabbage.

**Moved Lately?
Are you registered to Vote?
Check your new county
for registration deadline!**

Students and Teachers: Deadlines Approach

Deadlines for three contests approach quickly. Entries for Voice of Democracy and Patriot’s Pen essay contests and nominations for Teachers of the Year must be sent to Post 3150 by November 1.

Voice of Democracy: audio essay contest for grades 9 through 12. The 2005-2006 theme is "How I Demonstrate My Freedom". Deadline is November 1, 2005.

Patriot’s Pen: essay contest for grades 6, 7 and 8. The 2005-2006 theme is "Who Are Today’s Patriots?" The deadline is November 1, 2005.

Teacher of the Year: top elementary, junior high and high school teachers who teach citizenship education topics regularly and promote America's history and tradition. Fellow teachers, supervisors or other interested individuals can submit nominations by November 1, 2005.

See www.vfw.org, then Programs, then Youth Development or Citizenship Education. Or call Post 3150 at 703-525-0108 for further information.



**Early Bird Dinner
Saturday, 1 October
4 - 7 pm
RSVP by 26 September
Free for Early Birds
\$7.00 for non-renewed
and non-3150 members**

Increase in VFW Life Membership Fees Defeated

The expected increase in Life Membership fees was defeated at the recent National Convention --- but mostly on technicalities. The increase will likely be brought before next year's convention. Those pondering Life Membership should consider taking action during the next year.

The current rates are:

Age by 31 December:

Through 30 = \$245

31 - 40 = \$235

41 - 50 = \$215

51 - 60 = \$195

61 - 70 = \$165

71 - 80 = \$125

81 and over = \$85

Any applicant whose 31st, 41st, 51st, 61st, 71st or 81st birthday will occur after the date of application and on or before December 31st of the current calendar year, shall pay only the fee that would be required on his next birthday.

Any member who has renewed for the year as an annual member, may have his/her renewal fee applied towards Life Membership until 31 December, when it must be received by National Headquarters.

Weekly Email Updates

The Post sends a weekly email update of news and events. 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.

Navy Birthday

The Post will commemorate the U.S. Navy Birthday on Thursday, 13 October, at 7:00 pm. As usual, members of all services are invited to attend this celebration. The Post meeting will follow at 8 pm.

VFW Outraged by Frivolous Court Case

Washington (September 16, 2005) - The new commander-in-chief of the nation's largest organization of combat veterans is outraged that a federal judge in California has ruled that the Pledge of Allegiance is unconstitutional because it contains the words "under God."

"The First Amendment prohibits the government from establishing a national religion or church," said Jim Mueller, who leads the 2.4 million-member Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. and its Auxiliaries. "It is totally irresponsible for a federal judge to expand his own social agenda by ruling that the First Amendment also prohibits schoolchildren from reciting the Pledge of Allegiance."

"We are a nation at war that is simultaneously coping with the disastrous effects of Hurricane Katrina," said Mueller, a Vietnam veteran who resides in O'Fallon, Mo. "This country and its courts have much more pressing matters to attend to rather than having to waste time and taxpayer dollars on frivolous lawsuits," he said.

"The words 'under God' in our Pledge of Allegiance reflect how our great nation came to be, and the VFW will resist all efforts to change it." (Excerpted from VFW News Release)

Hospice Fundraiser Dinner Set for 15 Oct

John Lyon Post will again be the setting of a fundraiser for the Northern Virginia Hospice Center. The benefit spaghetti dinner is scheduled for Saturday, 15 October from 4 to 8 pm. Karaoke music is expected to follow. Cost is \$5.00 per person. Additional donations to the hospice may also be made. The benefit is in honor of Ileita L. Marsden, mother of Jo Ann Jansen, and is co-sponsored by the Marsden Family.



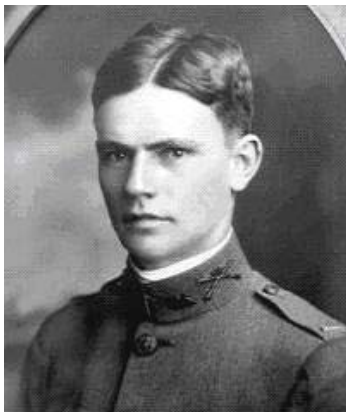
**Watch out for little
spooks and goblins
on Halloween!**

Post Halloween Party

The Post will hold a Halloween Party on Saturday, 29 October starting at 7 pm. There will be music, special prices, door prizes, and snack foods. Dig out your favorite costume and join us as we mark this Fall Festival.

Highway Cleanup, Make a Difference Day 22 October 2005

The Post will again participate in national Make a Difference Day on Saturday, 22 October, by doing our periodic Highway Cleanup along Lee Highway from Rosslyn to Veitch Street. Meet at the Post for coffee and doughnuts at 8:30 am. The post has pick-up sticks and gloves. Long pants and hard shoes are recommended. The event should take about two hours. In you don't want to hit the streets, a Post cleanup will start at the same time.



John Lyon
2 April 1893 – 16 October 1918

Fort Meyer Annual Retiree Appreciation Day October 14, 2005

“The 47th Annual Retiree Appreciation Day activities will commence at 0830 hours with coffee and registration in the lobby of Spates Community Club, building 407, Fort Myer. Members of the FMMC (Fort Meyer Military Community) retiree Council will be on hand to welcome retirees, both from the general population and the Armed Forces Retirement Home. There is sufficient parking across the street from Spates Community Club. Participating organizations will provide items associated with their organization's themes or services.

“As in previous years, organizations such as Rader Clinic, Social Security Administration, Army Community Services, Veterans Affairs, Armed Forces National Bank among others will be on hand to serve you and answer your questions. These exhibitors will be setup by 0830 hours.

“Four buses will depart Spates Community Club at approximately 0930 hours for the annual Retiree Council wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns at 1000 hours. Please make every effort to participate. On your own, please visit the recently built Retiree Plaza located on the corner of Lee Avenue and McNair Road.

“The luncheon will be buffet style and will provide several choices for your consideration, starting at 1130 hours. The U.S. Army Band, Pershing's Own will provide music during lunch.

“This will be followed by drawings for exciting door prizes. There will be a seminar on Combat Related Special Compensation and other subjects that will start at 1400 hours.

“Access Control Information

“Retirees and other eligible personnel are encouraged to register their vehicles to avoid access delays, especially on high access days such as Retiree Appreciation Day. FMMC Military Police Station, 703-696-3525, is open Monday through Friday for vehicle registration.” *(Source: US Army, Fort Myer)*

Recent Events Around the Post

J.Gary Wagner, Greg Moscatel, and >>> Joe Repasch cut the cake during the Air Forces Birthday celebration. The event not only marked the birthday of the US Air Force, but also the Army Air Service, Army Air Corps, and the Army Air Force, and included an homage to the airmen of World War II, during this 60th anniversary year of the end of the great war of the 20th Century.



<<< Post Commander Greg Moscatel explains the significance of items on the POW Table during ceremonies marking POW/MIA Remembrance Day on 17 September.

Post and Ladies Auxiliary 3150 >>> members and friends line up to send a hello to CPL Phillip Deal, recently returned to Iraq for a third term. Deal is son of Ernie Deal and stepson of Cathy Kerns Deal. Those sending greetings are Butch Hovermill, kneeling, and (front) Lola Kane, Cathy Graham, Bill King, Ernie Deal, Cathy Kerns Deal, Robert King, and Herman Cruz, and (rear) Ken Jansen, Eric Anderson, George Flannigan, J.Gary Wagner, and Ruth Rodier.



Recent Events Around the Post

Vintage World War II newspapers, >>> donated to the post, provide a centerpiece for the recent 60th Anniversary of the end of World War II.



<<< Post Commander Greg Moscatel and Ladies Auxiliary President Cathy Graham check over the World War II display with Ralph Huston and John Lundquist, Marine Corps veterans of the war in the Pacific, following recent ceremonies at the post marking the 60th anniversary of the end the war

Donna Bierlein, Louise Lloyd, Vivien >>> Parker, Claude Bean, Jeanne Bean, and John Mallon enjoy their chicken breast dinner during the Ladies Auxiliary Labor Day cookout held at the post.



106th National Convention



The 364-member Mormon Tabernacle Choir sang VFW's official hymn, "Sleep Soldier Boy", among other songs, in the LDS Conference Center auditorium in Salt Lake City during the VFW Memorial Service on Sunday. The theater seats 23,000 with unobstructed views and includes a 3000 pipe organ.



Balloons cascaded from the ceiling while delegates to the convention stood and cheered new Commander-in-Chief Jim Mueller, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Gary Kurpius, or Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief George Lisicki, during one of the victory parades around the massive convention center hall where general meetings were held.



The Virginia delegation marched in Tuesday's Patriotic Rally, led by State Commander Dan Boyer and State Ladies Auxiliary President Debbie Martin, followed by Susie DeShano, flag bearers, J.Gary Wagner (3150) and Chris Birch, and Cathy Birch, C.D. "Doc" Crouch (3150), Kim DeShano, Becky Mason, and Hal Roesch. Along with other entertainment, Tony Orlando brought his band for a return appearance and received a very warm welcome.



Virginia State Ladies Auxiliary President Debbie Martin (left) and 3150 President Cathy Graham flanked State Senior Vice Commander C.D. "Doc" Crouch at the National Convention Banquet held on Monday evening. Tom Ridge, former secretary of the Homeland Security Department, was the featured speaker and recipient of the Eisenhower Distinguished Service Award. President George Bush was the speaker at the morning's Joint Opening Session.

VFW 3150

October 2005



Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

						1 Early Bird Dinner 4 - 7 pm
2	3	4	5 Movie Night	6	7	8
9 Lad.Aux. Bake Sale Sunday Brunch 9 am - 1 pm	10 Columbus Day	11 Post O Call 7:30 pm House Committee 8 pm	12 Movie Night	13 Navy Birthday 7pm Post Meeting 8 pm	14	15 Hospice Spaghetti Dinner 4 - 8 pm w/ Karaoke
16	17	18	19 Movie Night	20 Ladies Aux Meeting 7:30 pm	21	22 Make a Difference Day - Highway Cleanup 8:30am
23 Sunday Brunch 9 am - 1 pm	24 22 -30 Oct Anti-Drug Red Ribbon Week	25	26 Movie Night	27	28 Statue of Liberty Birthday	29 Halloween Party 7 pm
30 Daylight Savings Ends	31	<p style="text-align: center;">1 Nov</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Deadline for VOD, Patriot's Pen, and Teacher of Year</p>				

Early Bird RSVP by 26 Sep at 703-525-0108



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

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Happy Birthday,
Miss Liberty
28 October
1886-2005