

The John Lyon Gazette

Volume 12, Number 3

September 2006



Veterans of Foreign Wars
John Lyon Post #3150
2116 North 19th Street
Arlington VA 22201
703-525-0108 / fax 703-525-8055
<http://www.vfw3150.org>



The John Lyon Gazette: Winner of 1999, 2003 and 2004 Clair B. Poff Public Relations Award for Outstanding Newsletter, and Winner of Second Place Award for 2000, 2001
Ladies Auxiliary Award: Best Newsletter in Virginia, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2004, and 2006;
Best Newsletter in the Nation, 1999



POW / MIA Recognition Day
15 September 2006

Post 3150 Ceremony
7:30 pm

From the Commander

The month of August proved to be an active one with several events taking place. The two activities that really stood out were the Post administrative inspection conducted by Comrade Stan Dixon, the Junior Vice Commander from District 10 on August 10th, prior to the meeting. As we had hoped, it went off without a hitch. My congratulations to all involved.

The second one was the Life Line Screening that took place on the 19th of August. Great turnout with some 90 people from the post and community signed up. If you didn't get a chance to sign up for that event, I'm quite sure if you call Life Line Screening at 1-866-783-LIFE you'll be able to find out when the next event is that is close to where you live.

The house committee has developed, yet another punch list, of items that need to be taken care of to keep your post home safe and comfortable during your visit, which I hope is soon. Just to name a few, items such as re-routing drain pipes for better drainage, replacing the attic floor, and rearranging the canteen area for easier access. To coin a phrase, pardon our dust, while we make things better.



Something which some of us at some time or another have forgotten to do is have in our possession our current VFW ID card. The following is the essence of By-Laws. In accordance with our Social Quarters Rules which are part of our By-Laws (revised: Jan 21, 2002), ALL VFW members and members of the Auxiliary will have in their possession a current dues card for inspection by bartender/manager. Members not having a current dues card in their possession will have to be signed in by a member in good standing. Spouses and significant others of Post or Auxiliary members who come in alone, must be signed in. A guest must be signed in the "Guest Log" and members must be present with their guest at all times. We need to do better with this. Once we all become accustomed to doing these simple things, it will be just like learning to tie your shoe laces, automatic.

Thanks for your support. See you next time.

Yours in comradeship,

/s/

Eric Anderson
Commander, VFW Post 3150

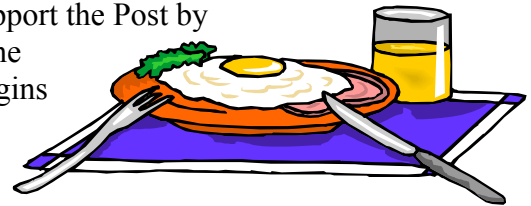
From the President

I hope all of you are enjoying the lovely summer weather. It will soon be over, school will be back in session, football season begins (YEAH!!) and cooler weather will come too soon.

Please be sure to renew your membership. You might want to consider life membership as rumor has it that the life membership dues will be increased next year. Our EARLY BIRD dinner will be Saturday, September 30 from 4 to 7 p.m. The Auxiliary is again offering the "lottery" for a life membership as discussed in last month in the newsletter.

I extend an invitation to all members to join us at the September Auxiliary meeting. Patricia Jurgensen, the 10th District President, will be inspecting the unit on September 21 at 7:30 p.m. Many of you probably know Patricia so this is an opportunity for you to stop by and say hello. As we have done in past years, the Auxiliary invited Commander Eric Anderson to meet with the Auxiliary to share his thoughts and answer any questions or concerns. Eric will join us at the beginning of the September meeting.

I want to extend my thanks to all of the ladies who support the Post by volunteering to serve meals, bus tables, brew coffee, etc., at the bimonthly Sunday brunches. Preparation for the brunches begins on the Saturday before with table setup at 10:00 a.m. All of this is a lot of work, takes a lot of time, but you need to know your good work is greatly appreciated and is not unnoticed. Our brunch attendance has grown over the past months.



Many thanks too to those who come in each month to get out the monthly newsletter mailing. We usually do this on the last Wednesday of the month. This team really hustles.

In offering my thanks to all of you, I am intentionally NOT listing names--lest I omit someone. You folks know who you are -- I just want you to know you are appreciated.

At the last meeting, we voted to donate the September 10th brunch tips to the Pentagon September 11 Memorial Fund. We also voted to hold a bake sale at the September 24th Sunday brunch--so this is a heads up for all of you bakers to participate. The 24th is also Gold Star Mother's Day. The recognition ceremony is at 4 p.m.

A REMINDER: Sign-up sheets are in place at the bar for the Ladies Auxiliary Cookout on Labor Day Monday, September 4 from 2 to 5 p.m.

Be sure to check the Post calendar at the end of this newsletter--September will be a very busy month. Happy Birthday to those of you whose natality day is in September!

/s/

Karen A. Stewart

Welcome to Our New Members

Welcome to new Post members, Meredith Maneri (USAF - Desert Storm) (Life Transfer); Christine Schmidt (USAF - GWOTEM: Bahrain); Eric M Stiller and Ryan Upperman (Army - Iraq) (both recruited by State), and new Ladies Auxiliary member Mary Anne "Annie" McCormick, elected at the August meeting. And a welcome back to Past Commander Miles Hubbard.

Marching Off...

Norman Christ, 60, on 6 August. He was a Marine who served in Vietnam from July 65 to July 66 with 3rd Division Recon, where he received the Purple Heart. He was buried at Quantico National Cemetery.

Charge Your Renewal On-Line Also Change Address, Replace Lost Card

Post members who would like to charge their annual renewals may do so on-line at www.vfw.org. Once you reach the national VFW webpage, click on "Membership", then "Member Tools". You will then see a list of member options which will allow you to pay your annual dues or sign up for Life Membership. You can also obtain a duplicate life or annual membership card or change your address. You will need your membership number, found on your membership card for any of these transactions, plus the Post dues amount to renew (\$30). (If you need help finding your membership number, give the post a call.)

Early Bird Dinner Scheduled

The Early Bird Dinner is scheduled for 4 - 7 pm on Saturday, 30 September. 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, 25 September.

Students, Teachers, and Scouts

The following is an overview of VFW programs and contests for students, teachers, and scouts:

Voice of Democracy: audio essay contest for grades 9 through 12. The 2006-2007 theme is "Freedom's Challenge". Deadline is November 1, 2006.

Patriot's Pen: essay contest for grades 6, 7 and 8. The 2005-2006 theme is "Citizenship in America". The deadline is November 1, 2006.

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, 2006.

Scout of the Year: Any Eagle Scout, Venture Silver Award recipient, or Sea Scout Quartermaster may qualify. Deadline is March 1, 2007. Contact the post for information.

Ladies Auxiliary's Young American Creative Patriotic Art: grades 9, 10, 11 or 12. Deadline is March 31, 2007. See <http://www.ladiesauxvfw.com>, or <http://www.ladiesauxvfw.org/eWeb/StartPage.aspx>, then Programs, then Awards & Scholarships.

Awards are presented at post, district, state, and national levels and can add up to thousands of dollars. Deadlines are to local post.

Further information, including entry forms, brochures, and back ground, are available, except as noted above, at www.vfw.org, then Programs & Services, then Youth Development or Citizenship Education. Or call Post 3150 at 703-525-0108 for further information. VOD and Patriot's Pen forms may also be obtained at www.vfwva.org, then Forms

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

From the John Lyon Past...

The following article appeared in the Northern Virginia Sun, 7 May 1963:

“VFW Tenth District To Convene Sunday

“Delegates from Veterans of Foreign Wars posts of the Tenth district will gather in Alexandria Sunday afternoon for their annual convention, with the home of Russell Mitchell Post 609 at 1317 King Street as the scene of the session. The annual convention of the district VFWs Ladies Auxiliary will take place at the same time and place.

Convention.

“Presiding for the last time over the district session will be (3150’s) District Commander Miles N. Hubbard.

“Commander Hubbard is expected to be succeeded as district leader by George E. McCracken, presently district first vice commander and recently named to lead Post 609 as its commander for the second straight year. Expected to succeed to the post that will be vacated by Commander McCracken is Paul A. Lovett SR., currently district second vice commander and commander of Blue and Gray Post 8469 of Fairfax. He has been an active figure in district veterans’ activities since World War II.

“Endorsed by his post for the office Cmdr. Lovett will vacate is Robert Bassford, past commander of John Lyon Post 3150 of Arlington, who is now serving as district adjutant and chief to Commander Hubbard. There is rumor, however, of at least one other candidate for the post.

“Representing the Department of Virginia officially at the meeting will be one of the Tenth’s most prominent figures, Robert H. Riner of Springfield and its Post 7327. Mr. Riner is a past department commander who is now serving as department public relations officer.”

9-11 / Patriot’s Day

John Lyon Post will remember those lost on 11 September 2001 at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and at Somerset, PA with ceremonies at 7:30 pm. The day has been named Patriot’s Day.

VFW Life Membership Fees to go up?

At least two proposals exist to raise Life Membership fees in the near future. These were considered at last year’s National Convention and defeated on essentially technical issues. They were revised for consideration this year and it seems likely the fees will be raised in some manner. Those considering Life Membership would do wise to take action now before the increase goes into effect.

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 the middle of December.

District Meeting and Department Fall Council Meeting

The VFW and Ladies Auxiliary Tenth District will hold their quarterly meetings at 1 pm on Sunday, 10 September at Springfield Post 7327, 7905 Kincannon Place, Lorton VA 22079.

VFW and Ladies Auxiliary members are invited to attend their meeting.

The Department Fall Council meeting, previously held in Lynchburg, VA, will be held in Staunton, VA, on Saturday, 9 September with only Council members attending.

Gold Star Mother's Day

Gold Star Mother's Day is Sunday, 24 September. Gold Star Mothers are those mothers whose sons or daughters died in combat, and who made, next to those who did not return, the greatest sacrifice for the nation. At least two members of the 3150 Ladies Auxiliary are Gold Star Mothers. We salute these valiant ladies. The Post will hold ceremonies at 4 pm.

Locker Fees Due

Locker fees for the next twelve months are now due. Please submit \$10 to the Quartermaster by 1 September or the locker will be considered abandoned and emptied.

VFW Organizations Birthdays

The VFW as an organization will mark 107 years of serving veterans, their families, their communities, and the nation on September 29th. And the like-minded VFW Ladies Auxiliary will be 92 years old on September 17th. The occasions will be marked by the ladies on Sunday, 17 September at 4 pm and the VFW at 3:45 pm on the 30th, just before the Early Bird dinner.



Back to School Time Watch out for Kids

**And Slow Down! The Police
watch the streets near Key
Elementary School for speeders.**

Why Renew Now? Great odds in upcoming drawing

Yes, it's that time of year again. Even though your annual membership card is good until December 2006, the VFW has begun sending out renewal notices. As it takes a while to get everyone renewed, the process begins early. Those who join or renew by 29 September will qualify (along with all Life members) for the Early Bird Dinner on 30 September. New and renewing Post members will also qualify for the Life Membership drawings done at that Early Bird Dinner. There will be six drawings, one for each of the five youngest year categories and one for those over 71. If you "go Life" and your name is drawn, you will receive a refund for the Life membership payment, so you are not penalized for "going Life" when you join or renew. As the Post is currently over 75% Life, this means that there are only about 100 annual members to compete in those six categories in the drawing. Your chances of having your name drawn are about one in twenty, much better odds than in the mega lottos --- or most any other drawing for that matter. If you have not received a renewal notice, you can send or bring your dues by the Post: \$30 for VFW members. You can also renew by going to www.vfwva.org and following the links.

World War II Veterans

A local photographer has been taking professional quality photos of World War II veterans for the September/October upcoming story in *Virginia Living Magazine*. Three VFW Post 3150 members have been photographed so far. Robb Scharetg would like to take photos of additional World War II veterans for possible additional magazine stories, as well as a possible book. For those who would like to check them out, the magazine webpage is at www.VirginiaLiving.com and the photographer's work can be seen at www.ScharetgPictures.com. Click on Portfolio and then The Heroes Project. If you would like to participate for a photo shoot in September, please contact the Post and leave your name.

Citizenship Day 17 September 2006 U.S. Constitution Approved 1787

Hours for Post Canteen

Opening hours for the Post canteen are 3 pm, Monday through Friday.

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	3 – 9 pm
Fri	3 – 10 pm
Sat	12 noon–10 pm

Baseball Caps in Stock

The long awaited Post 3150 baseball caps were recently received from the supplier and are available in the post locker during normal business hours. "VFW Post 3150 Arlington, VA" is embroidered on the front on the caps around the VFW emblem. The caps are available in black, royal and navy blue and sell for \$18.

Virginia VFW License Plates

The Virginia General Assembly has authorized the issuance of a VFW license plate. The first 350 applicants will receive the plate free of the \$10 application fee. The form may be obtained from the some editions of the Department of Virginia GENERAL ORDERS (www.vfwva.org) --- or from Post 3150. Complete the left side of the form and mail it to the State Headquarters. No money required for the special plate, however, normal licensing fees will apply when due.

Iraq/Afghanistan Vets and 45 and Under Vets

Attention Iraq and Afghanistan veterans and other members 45 and under: The post is hosting a get acquainted evening on Friday, September 22nd between 7 and 9 pm. The first two beverages and a light food buffet is our way of welcoming you home and to Post 3150. This evening will provide you with the opportunity to meet other Afghanistan and Iraq veterans and other 45 and under members. All members invited to stop by and meet our younger members. Please RSVP to the Post at 703-525-0108.



Early Bird Dinner
Saturday, 30 September
4 - 7 pm
RSVP by 25 September
Free for Early Birds
\$7.00 for non-renewed
and non-3150 members

Thanks to Military in the Field

Xerox will print your personalized card and send it to a soldier that is currently serving in Iraq. Go to web site www.letssaythanks.com and pick out a thank you card and add your message. You can't select the addressee, but it will go to some member of the armed services.

9-11 Freedom Walk

The Pentagon is sponsoring an "America Supports You Freedom Walk" on Sunday, 10 September. The two mile walk will begin at 7:30 pm at the Washington Monument, proceed across the Memorial Bridge and then to the 9-11 crash site at the Pentagon. Participants are asked to arrive at the start between 6 and 7 pm on the evening of the walk. A concert will follow at the Pentagon. Information and registration for this and other freedom walks around the country can be found at www.AmericaSupportsYou.mil. "America Supports You" is an ongoing nationwide program launched by DoD to help showcase Americans' support for U.S. military men and women and their families and communicate that support to members of American forces at home and abroad.



Labor Day Cookout

Monday, 4 September

2 - 5 pm \$7.00

Italian Chicken Breast

Tossed Salad

Corn on the Cob

Baked Beans

Sponsored by 3150 Ladies Auxiliary

RSVP: 703-525-0108

VFW Talk Radio

The VFW has its own radio talk show, "The National Defense" hosted by Jerry Newbury. It is available over the Internet or through Podcast, as well as on certain radio stations throughout the nation, including WMET 1160 AM (Saturday, noon - 1 pm) in the Washington/Baltimore area. Go to www.vfw.org, News & Info, then VFW Talk Radio for additional information, other broadcast locations and times, and for internet and Podcast.

Three Ways to Renew Membership

Post members can renew their memberships or convert to Life with or without a renewal notice from National. There are three ways to renew. First, return the notice from National with check or charge information. Second, charge your dues on-line at www.vfw.org. Click on "Membership" then "Member Tools". You will need your membership number, found on your membership card or above your name on the mailing label of your *VFW* magazine. Third, mail or bring your dues to the Post. Annual dues are \$30. And remember that the sooner your dues are paid, the sooner you will qualify for the Post's Life Membership drawings on 30 September.

Address Changes Cost Post \$\$

Because we use the third class rate for the Post newsletter, when we use the "Address Service Requested" line above the address label every other month or so, the Post Office charges us 70 cents to forward your newsletter and send us your new address. **PLEASE let us know before you move!**

Agent Orange Compensation for Navy Veterans

Matt Apuzzo of the Associated Press reported on Friday, 18 August that veterans who patrolled the waters off Vietnam can claim disability benefits for exposure to Agent Orange. This results from a U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims court ruling that opens the door for thousands of servicemen to seek medical coverage. Naval services veterans who served in Vietnam, and are suffering the effects of Agent Orange should contact their Veterans Service Officer.

Website of Interest

National Headquarters VFW Ladies Auxiliary:
<http://www.ladiesauxvfw.org/>

Recent Events Around the Post

John Lyon members gather in the front >>> yard prior to hitting the streets for the recent Highway Cleanup. From left to right, front, are Karen Stewart, Jessica Short, Shirley McAlhaney, and Ralph Huston; in the rear are Robert “Fuzzy” Collier and Tommy Saunders. Also helping was photographer J.Gary Wagner. The post’s area includes both sides of Lee Highway from Rosslyn to Veitch Street.



<<< Commander Eric Anderson and Ladies Auxiliary President Karen Stewart cut the U.S. Coast Guard cake during ceremonies marking the 216th birthday of what once was known as the Revenue Cutter Service among other names.

Junior Vice Commander Michael Holtz >>> and Ladies Auxiliary President Karen Stewart await their ceremonial turns while Commander Eric Anderson explains the history of the medal for wounded military personnel during Purple Heart Day ceremonies held at the Post.



Recent Events Around the Post

John Lyon members gather near the >>> post flag pole during John Lyon Shirt and Cap Day. Members wore their John Lyon shirts and caps throughout Saturday and Sunday to show the community we are here in their midst. In the first row are Greg Moscatel, (kneeling), Richard Hoffman, Karen Stewart, Sue Smith, Ralph Huston, Juanita Diggs, J.Gary Wagner, and Peggy Varney; in the second row are Tom Kane, Eric Anderson, and Connie Agresti; and rear, Butch Hovermill.



<<< Commander Eric Anderson and President Karen Stewart review highlights from the war during ceremonies marking the end of the Korean War 53 years ago.

John Lyon's Cathy Graham and Falls >>> Church Post 9274's SVC Matt Miller serve food to patients and family members at Walter Reed during the recent Department of Virginia "cook out" at the Army Medical Center. Also helping from John Lyon were Connie Agresti, "Doc" Crouch, Dennis Husereau, Jerry Peterson, Robert Ponzo, and J.Gary Wagner. Nineteen members from the Tenth District helped with the cookout, moved inside due to the extreme heat during the first week of August.





September 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 61 st Ann. end of WW II
3	4 Ladies Aux Labor Day Cookout 2 - 5 pm	5	6 Movie Night	7	8	9 Fall Council meeting - Staunton
10 Sunday Brunch 9 am - 1 pm 10th District Meeting Springfield 1 pm	11 9-11 / Patriots Day 7:15 pm House Com 7:30 pm Post O Call 8 pm	12	13 Movie Night	14 Post Meeting 8 pm	15 POW/MIA 7:30 pm	16
17 Citizenship Day Ladies Aux 92nd Birthday 4 pm	18 Air Forces Birthday 7:30 pm	19	20 Movie Night	21 Ladies Aux Meeting 7:30 pm	22 Afghanistan / Iraq Vets and 45 and Under Members 7 - 9 pm	23
24 Sunday Brunch 9 am - 1 pm Gold Star Mothers 4pm	25 RSVP Deadline for Early Bird Dinner	26	27 Movie Night	28	29 Renewal for Life Member drawings	30 VFW 107th Birthday 3:45pm Early Bird Dinner 4 - 7 pm

Call 703-525-0108 for reservations or info



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

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Air Forces Birthday

Commemorating the
Army Air Corps,
Army Air Force,
U.S. Air Force

Ceremonies
Monday, 18 September 2006
7:30 pm