

The John Lyon Gazette

Volume 14, Number 3

September 2007



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, 2004 and 2007 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, Second Place 2006



CELEBRATING THE ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION, NEW YORK

U.S. Constitution 220 Years Old Approved 17 September 1787

“As in all fiercely fought campaigns, not everything was left to debate and persuasion. When New York Antifederalists maneuvered to keep the state out of the new Union, Hamilton and Jay threatened *to take New York City out of the state*. In the end New York ratified by the heart-stopping close vote of 30 - 27.

“Ratification was celebrated by a huge victory parade down Broadway in Manhattan. Thirty seamen and ten horses pulled a twenty-seven foot model ship named *Hamilton*. Workers, artisans, and craftsmen joined merchants in celebration...

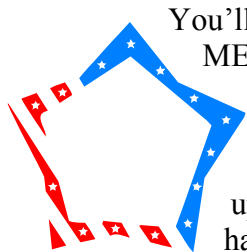
“It was the first of many more tumultuous parades down Broadway under the new government. Later, they would add ‘ticker tape’ to celebrate peace, victory, and --- sweetest of all --- liberty”. (Source: *William J Bennett, America The Last Best Hope, Vol I, p 132*)

From The Commander:

Hope everyone made it through the Dog Days of August. More of that weather yet to come. Keep in mind, drink plenty of water and takes breaks when working.

September as arrived, quicker then most of us would like to see, but here it is, and a busy month it will be. Starting off with the VJ Day Ceremony, celebrating the 62nd anniversary to the end of WW2. A great day to remember our fallen comrades and our comrades who our still with us. My hat is off to all of you who chose to serve this great nation, keeping us free and safe. We will be combining this celebration with the Ladies Auxiliary Labor Day cookout, at 2 pm on Labor Day. All are invited, come and enjoy some great food. To be hosted by the Dale City VFW will be the State Commander's & Presidents Homecoming on Saturday 8 September. All are invited to attend. Brunches on the (9th and 23rd) will be held as scheduled. We are currently averaging about 170 meals per brunch. Help --- especially kitchen help --- is always requested and needed on many weekends. Thanking you in advance for your support. Just come in and let Chefs Ken or Eric know that your there to help out.

We've got many other things going on this month, such as Patriots Day / 9-11 remembrance, VA Hospital visit, U.S. Air Force Birthday, VFW and Auxiliary Anniversaries, Gold Star Mother's Day and a host of others. Check your local listing (calendar) for the time and dates. The VFW and Auxiliary anniversaries are for all to attend. It would be terrific if both sides of the house attend each other's anniversary get together, showing our admiration and support for each other.



You'll probably here me say this again and again. MEMBERSHIP, MEMBERSHIP, MEMBERSHIP. This is the year, YOU could be ALL AMERICAN. It will take all of us to make it happen. Because of some rule changes this year, making it a little easier, you are in a unique position to make ALL AMERICAN happen. I urge all of you, carry that application in your wallet (it doesn't take up much room), ask your neighbor, your friend, are you eligible, if they are, hand them that application you just happen to have in your wallet. Let's do it.

Thanks for your support. See you next time.

Yours in comradeship,

/s/

Eric Anderson
Commander, VFW Post 3150

From the President:

Greetings to Comrades and Sisters!!

Are you enjoying the hot spell? Hopefully, everyone's air conditioning is working well and all of you are careful while out in the heat and humidity. This is our September newsletter and we are preparing it early as Gary and others are off to the convention in Kansas City from the 18th to 23rd of August. It seems like we just returned from Richmond.

I would like to alert you to the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen programs that are cosponsored by the VFW and Ladies Auxiliary. The themes this year are: "My Role in Honoring America's Veterans" for VOD (high school) and "Why I Am an American Patriot" for Patriot's Pen (middle school). If you have children or grandchildren who might be interested in one of these programs, please check with the Post or Auxiliary for program rules and forms. The deadline for both programs is November 1. We have had participants from Arlington County schools, our local Catholic schools, and this year the program has been approved for Fairfax County. It is a very rewarding experience to review student's submissions.

Remember our Ladies Auxiliary Labor Day Cookout. Signup sheets are available at the Post. That is Monday, Sept. 3rd, from 2-5 p.m. Please check out the calendar at the end of the newsletter for events in September.



The hospital visit on Sept. 15 will be fun as we will be honoring a lady veteran's 100th birthday. Come join us!! Meet at the Post at 12:00 noon.

Again, I remind you of the Auxiliary meeting on Thursday, September 20th at 7:30 p.m. As of this writing, Commander Eric Anderson will be joining us. It is also the Ladies 93rd Anniversary Ceremony at 7:15 p.m.

The "Early Bird" dinner is Saturday, Oct. 6th from 4-7 p.m. See last month's newsletter for details on our membership lottery and please pay your dues soonest.

Have a safe Labor Day and Happy Birthday to you folks with birthdays in September!!

/s/

Karen A. Stewart, President

Post Authorizes Men's Auxiliary

The August Post meeting authorized a Men's Auxiliary's being formed at VFW Post 3150. The vote was unanimous among those Post members attending the meeting. One of the next steps will be for those who are interested and qualified to step forward with their intent to join such an auxiliary.

A Men's Auxiliary would augment the Post and Ladies Auxiliary in promoting work of the VFW of honoring our departed comrades by assisting the living through supporting the principals of Americanism, community and youth activities, and assisting veterans and their families.

Membership in the Men's Auxiliary is limited to husbands, fathers, grandfathers, sons, grandsons, brothers, (and half-brothers who attain the status prior to the age sixteen) of persons who were or are eligible for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States of America. Documentation is required as it is for the Post and the Ladies Auxiliary. Members must also be at least sixteen years old. Men who might be interested should call the post at 703-525-0108 and leave their name, address, and phone number so that they may be called. Some information is not available for our early deadline this month, but will appear in next month's newsletter.

Marching Off....

David M "Mac" Crawford III, (90) on 13 July 2007. He was a TSGT in the US Army Air Force and saw duty during World War II in Europe in the Rhine from April 1941 to October 1945. He was a member of Post 3150 since February 2000 when he transferred from Massachusetts Post 6714. He had been living with family in Perry Hall, MD.

Ralph M. "Pete" Binkley (78), on 28 July 2007. He was a PFC in the Army and was assigned to 57 Signal SV Co in Europe as part of the Army of Occupation. He was along time member of Post 3150 but had moved from the area and transferred his membership late last year. He was buried in Nashville, TN.

Welcome to Our New Members

Welcome to new Post members, Robert Sheehan (USAF - Desert Storm/Bosnia/Afghanistan)(Life), and Tim Graham (Army - Panama / Desert Storm) (Life Transfer), elected at recent meetings. The Ladies Auxiliary had not met in time for this month's early deadline.

A John Lyon Hello...

...to our World War II veterans who, this month, celebrate their victory of 62 years ago, and especially those recently in contact with the Post: Frederick Barrett, Walter Burnett, Donald Blanton, David Crawford, Walter Gallagher, John Mallon, Mac Morris, Robert Phillips, John C. Regan, Lawrence Rowley, George Schnebli, and Carroll and Wyllo Wooge.

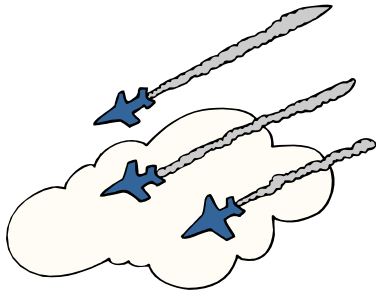
End of World War II Remembrance 2 pm 3 September

A short ceremony to commemorate the end of World War II, 62 years ago, will be held at the Post on Monday, 3 September at 2 pm. The Labor Day cookout will follow the ceremonies.



Labor Day Cookout Monday, 3 September 2 - 5 pm \$7.00 Brats with Sauerkraut Baked Beans Cole Slaw Dessert

Sponsored by 3150 Ladies Auxiliary
RSVP: 703-525-0108



Air Force 60th Birthday

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

Ceremonies

**Tuesday, 18 September 2007
7:30 pm**

First Airman Receives New Combat Medal

“Staff Sgt. Paxton, recently became the first airman to receive the new Air Force Combat Action Medal. The medal was created to recognize Air Force members who were engaged in air or ground combat off-base, in a combat zone including those who were under or engaged hostile forces with direct and hostile fire. Award eligibility is retroactive to Sept. 11, 2001, including posthumous awards. Personnel no longer on active duty can submit packages to the Board for Correction of Military Records. Airmen should contact their local military personnel flight or the Air Force Contact Center at DSN 665-5000 or (800) 616-3775.”
(Source: Military.com, Week of August 06, 2007)

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.

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 2007-2008 theme is “My Role in Honoring America’s Veterans”. Deadline is November 1, 2007.

Patriot’s Pen: essay contest for grades 6, 7 and 8. The 2007-2008 theme is “Why I Am an American Patriot”. The deadline is November 1, 2007.

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, 2007.

Scout of the Year: Any Eagle Scout, Venture Silver Award recipient, or Sea Scout Quartermaster may qualify. Deadline is March 1, 2008.

Ladies Auxiliary’s Young American Creative Patriotic Art: grades 9, 10, 11 or 12. Deadline is March 31, 2008. See <http://www.ladiesauxvfw.org>, 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. Forms may also be obtained at www.vfwva.org, then Programs or Forms. Or call Post 3150 at 703-525-0108 for further information.

Moved Lately?

Are you registered to Vote?

**Check your new county
for registration deadline!**

4 Reasons to Renew Your Membership Now

Yes, it's that time of year again. Even though your annual membership card is good until December 2007, the VFW will begin sending out renewal notices soon. As it takes a while to get everyone renewed, the process begins early. Why do it now?

1. Post and Ladies Auxiliary members who join or renew by 5 October will qualify (along with all Life members) for the Early Bird Dinner on 6 October.

2. New and renewing Post members will also qualify for the Life Membership drawing done at the Early Bird Dinner. There will be six drawings, one for each of the five youngest year categories, and one for those over 71. (The post will continue its program to purchase a Life Membership for those annual members who will be 71 years old by 30 June of each year and who have been members of Post 3150 continuously for the previous five years.). As the Post is currently about 80% Life, this means that there are less than 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.

Ladies Auxiliary 3150 also has a drawing for memberships for those who renew early. See the President's column for details.

3. Consider VFW Life Membership. See tables to the right. The VFW is making it easy by providing three options: Lump sum payment, 12 month payment plan, and 24 month payment plan. For the two payment plans, there is a one-time \$35 payment and the VFW will bill you monthly for the remainder. 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.

4. Avoid all those renewal reminders, letters, and phone calls.

Respond to your renewal notice or send or bring a check to the Post Quartermaster (\$30 or Life membership) or Ladies Auxiliary Treasurer (\$25 or Life membership). For Life memberships, see tables at right. Post members can also renew by going to www.vfwva.org and following the links.

VFW Life Membership Fee Schedule

<u>Age on 12/31</u>	<u>One time payment</u>	<u>12 mos plan</u>	<u>24 mos plan</u>
< Age 31	\$425.00	\$40.39	\$20.23
31-40	\$410.00	\$39.02	\$19.58
41-50	\$375.00	\$35.84	\$18.05
51-60	\$335.00	\$32.20	\$16.32
61-70	\$290.00	\$28.11	\$14.36
71-80	\$225.00	\$22.20	\$11.53
81 and over	\$170.00	\$17.20	\$ 9.14

There is a \$35 charge on the first month on the installment plans, then as above.

Ladies Auxiliary Life Membership Fee Schedule

<u>Age on 12/31</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Through Age 20	\$220
21-25	\$210
26-30	\$200
31-35	\$190
36-40	\$185
41-45	\$175
46-50	\$170
51-55	\$160
56-60	\$150
61-65	\$140
66-70	\$130
71-75	\$115
76-80	\$95
81-85	\$75
86-90	\$60
91 and over	\$50

Gold Star Mother's Day

Gold Star Mother's Day is Sunday, 30 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 2 pm.

From the John Lyon Past...

The following article appeared in the *Washington Post*, 10 September 1944, p. M5:

“Scheduled Events in Arlington Co.

“Thursday

...
“8 p. m. --- Auxiliary of John Lyon Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, meets at home of Mrs Emil Krahnke, 1500 North Harrison st.”

VFW National Birthdays

The VFW as an organization will mark 108 years of serving veterans, their families, their communities, and the nation on September 29th. And the like-minded VFW Ladies Auxiliary will be 93 years old on September 17th. The occasions will be marked by the ladies on Thursday, 20 September at 7:15 pm and the VFW at 2:15 pm on the 30th, just after Gold Star Mothers commemoration.

Advertise on Post Web Log

When you go to our new web log <http://www.vfwwebcom.org/va/post3150> (not to be confused with the post website) you will notice on the right side there is an area available for advertisers to promote their product or service. The Post receives a monthly rental fee from each advertiser, up to a maximum of five. The advertiser has a choice to place the ad on the Post 3150, District 10 and Dept. of Virginia site with each getting a monthly fee. So if you know of a local business that wants to reach our Comrades for approximately \$60 a month, please call me 703-243-2998. The Post has complete control and approval of what is advertised on the site. The Post only has to identify the companies and all site setup and design is done by ad professionals.

Jerry Peterson
Jr. Vice Commander

Early Bird Dinner Scheduled

The Early Bird Dinner is scheduled for 4 - 7 pm on Saturday, 6 October. This is a no-cost “thank you” for all new, 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, 1 October.



**Early Bird Dinner
Saturday, 8 October
4 - 7 pm
RSVP by 1 October
Free for Early Birds
\$7.00 for non-renewed
and non-3150 members**

Websites of Interest

Space activities and phenomena during August and in the next months have sparked renewed interest in our skies. The following websites provide a guide to what is --- and will --- go on.

- <http://www.nasa.gov/>
- <http://spaceflight.nasa.gov/realdata/sightings/index.html>
- <http://www.space.com/nightsky/>
- <http://www.skyandtelescope.com/letsgo>

Hours for Post Canteen

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

Military Spouse Friendly Workplaces

"Military Spouse magazine recently released their list of "Top 10 Military Spouse Friendly Employers". USAA topped the list and was noted for exemplary HR policies. In addition, USAA has a stated goal to comprise 20% of its workforce with military and military spouses. All of the companies on the list offer comprehensive benefit packages, job sharing, tuition assistance, on-site child care, and liberal leave and re-employment policies. Other evaluation criteria included efforts to recruit military spouses, results in recruiting spouses, and policies for spouses of Reserve and Guard members. Other companies on the list, in order of rank, were AAFES, RE/MAX, The Home Depot, Wachovia, Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC), Sears Holdings, Kelly Services, Lockheed Martin, and Starbucks. [Source: Military Spouse Magazine press release Jul 07 ++]", *reported in RAO Bulletin Update, 1 August 2007*

Correction

"Fuzzy" Collier was incorrectly identified as Richard last month. His real name is Robert Collier. We apologize for the error.



Back to School Time Watch out for Kids

Scholarship for Vets

"HORATIO ALGER SCHOLARSHIP: Recipients of a Horatio Alger Association Military Veterans Scholarship will receive \$1,250 per year for veterans who are pursuing a BA/BS degree. Applications will be accepted from 2 JUL 07 through 28 SEP 07. Selected applicants must have met the following criteria:

"Be a veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan or Operation Iraqi Freedom and be a recipient of one of the following campaign medals: Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, or Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (awarded for service in Afghanistan or Iraq only).

"Provide proof of a honorable service record under the United States Military.

"Intend to pursue a bachelor's degree (BA or BS) at an accredited college or university in the United States (awardees may begin their studies at a two-year institution and then transfer to a four-year institution).

"Have no more than 60 cumulative semester/credit hours by the end of the spring 2007 term.

"Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0.

"Be able to demonstrate critical financial need.

"Hold U.S. citizenship or permanent residency.

"Scholarship recipients will be required to attend school on a full-time basis (24 credits hours per calendar year) in order to receive this scholarship. Individuals who are not planning to attend college on a full-time basis should not apply for this scholarship. Scholarship recipients do not receive direct payment of their scholarship funds. Funds are only disbursed to a student's current school and may only be used for tuition, fees, books, and on-campus housing. Funds may not be used to pay off student loans or credit cards. For additional info refer to https://www.horatioalger.com/scholarships_military

"Questions not related to receipt of paperwork can be sent to applymilitary@horatioalger.com. For more scholarship listings refer to www.fastweb.com and www.wiredscholar.com. [Source: EANGUS Minute Man Update 19 Jul 07 ++]", *reported in RAO Bulletin Update, 1 August 2007*

Recent Events Around the Post

John Lyon members gather in the post >>> backyard after the recent Highway Cleanup. From left to right, front, are Paul Dougherty, J.Gary Wagner, Annie McCormick, and Catherine Graham, and, rear, Connie Agresti, Tom Kane, and Arnold Dixon. The post's area includes both sides of Lee Highway from Rosslyn to Veitch Street. Dougherty, his wife and daughter visited the area from Rhode Island where he is stationed with the Navy, and he joined in the quarterly cleanup.



<<< Gathering to recognize the U.S. Coast Guard's 217th Birthday were J.Gary Wagner, Karen Stewart, Connie Agresti, Liv Martin, Greg Moscatar, George Saunders, and John Lundquist. Saunders, an Army veteran, added a new dimension to the ceremonies, by singing *Semper Paratus*, the U.S. Coast Guard song during the ceremony.



Waiting for Commander Eric Anderson >>> to explain the history of the Purple Heart Medal are John Lundquist, Arnold Dixon, J.Gary Wagner, Jerry Peterson, Annie McCormick, Greg Moscatar, Tom and Lola Kane, Richard Hoffman, George O'Connell and Mike Holtz. Missing from this photo are Gene Miller and Bonnie Britton. The ceremonies were part of John Lyon's observance of Purple Heart Day in August.



Recent Events Around the Post

Members of the John Lyon family >>> 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. Kneeling are Jennifer Thompson and Greg Moscater, standing, first row, are Bill Barkley, Carol Rawlings, Karen Stewart, Lola Kane, Juanita Diggs, Liv Martin, Ken Jansen, George O'Connell, and J.Gary Wagner, row, Roy Jobber and Eric Anderson, and back row, Arnold Nixon, Felipe Mendoza, Cathy Kerns Deal, Ernie Deal, Tom Kane, and Annie McCormick.



<<< Past Commander Greg Moscater (right) and President Karen Stewart join Korean War veteran John Walls during ceremonies marking the end of the Korean War 54 years ago.

Post Commander Eric Anderson (left >>> rear) presents old, faded and tattered U.S. flags collected at John Lyon to Post member and Cub Scout leader Mark Stoffel and two young Scouts. The Scouts will properly retire the flags during one of their summer outings as part of their programs to learn respect for Old Glory



September 2007

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday



						1
2	3 62nd Ann. end WW II 2 pm Ladies Aux Labor Day Cookout 2 - 5 pm	4	5 Movie Night	6	7	8 State Commander's & President's Homecoming Dale City #1503, 6 pm
9 Sunday Brunch 9 am - 1 pm	10	11 Patriots Day / 9-11, 7:30 pm House Com 7:45 pm Post O Call 8 pm	12 Movie Night	13 Post Meeting 8 pm	14	15 VA Hospital Visit, 12 noon
16	17 Citizenship Day -- US Constitution 220 years old	18 USAF 60 th Birthday Air Forces Birthday 7:30 pm	19 Movie Night	20 Ladies Aux 93rd Birthday 7:15 pm Ladies Aux Meeting 7:45 pm	21 POW/MIA Remembrance 7:30 pm	22
23 L.A. Bake Sale / Sunday Brunch 9 am - 1 pm	24	25	26 Movie Night	27	28	29 VFW Day
30 Gold Star Moms 2 pm VFW 108th Birthday 2:15pm	1 October RSVP Deadline for Early Bird Dinner	Movie Night			5 October Deadline: Renewal for VFW Life Member drawings	6 October Early Bird Dinner 4 - 7 pm RSVP by 1 Oct

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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Sep07

Address Service Requested



POW / MIA
Recognition Day
Fri, 21 Sept 2007

Post 3150 Ceremony
7:30 pm