



# North Albany Post 1610 American Legion

35 North First Street, Albany, NY 12204

April 2020



## A Message from the Commander

It is with much sadness that I formally announce that our North Albany American Legion Post 1610 is now closed effective Tuesday, 17 March, St. Patrick's Day 2020, until further notice.

This decision was made by all present at the 9th Ward Memorial Association/Post General Membership meeting held Sunday afternoon, 15 March 2020 at the Post. The reason, of course, was the global coronavirus pandemic. This action will be revisited by the Post officers on a regular basis.

The County Legion meeting that was to be held at this post on Thursday, March 26, was cancelled.

I've been advised just recently by County Commander Elmo Kearsing that this year's Boys State (to which we send several Albany High School JROTC cadets each year) is also cancelled (along with most other Legion and Auxiliary activities scheduled for the next several months, I'm sure).

The last hurrah at the Post, as it were, took place on parade day Saturday afternoon, March 14. You're all aware, I'm sure, that both parades were cancelled, but the corned beef and cabbage dinners and sandwiches were still made available (for a modest price). Those Limericks choosing to dine in Scully Hall were entertained by D.J. Michael Collins and his amazing collection of Irish music. Kudos to Mickey Ryan, who pulled this culinary spectacle together, and who policed it all up afterwards, along with Chef Albert "Red" Payne, who ran the kitchen, and the Auxiliary's Sara Wiest, who helped plate the meals, always with a smile. Your commander served as cashier, smiling not so much. It was a bittersweet afternoon that helped take the edge off the sadness of a St. Patrick's Day with no parades.

The hall had been beautifully decorated by Limerick Kevin McDonald, his daughter Tracy Knapp, and her husband Ryan for the Limericks' dinner/dance of the Saturday before. Congratulations to this year's Limerick Marshal Wendy Kindlon, Miss Limerick Grace Bartow of Holy Names Academy, and Mr. and Mrs. Limerick George and Gretchen Riley, all of whom I hear may be back for repeat appearances in 2021.

These are and will be difficult times. Visit our website (<http://northalbanypost1610.com>) often. Be alert to any emails from editor/webmaster Gretchen Riley and the Post. Read your newsletter faithfully. We'll all get through this together. We're family.



**Lawrence Wiest  
Commander**

## Auxiliary News

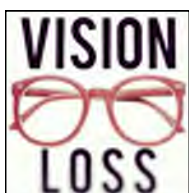
Auxiliary members I hope all are well and taking the necessary precautions to stay that way. As you are all aware, the Post is closed until further notice to help in stopping the spread of this pandemic. Hence, all Auxiliary events are also cancelled. Unfortunately, our April meeting and the women's self-defense classes in April are either cancelled or postponed. New dates will be sent out as soon as we have them. The Veteran Walkathon for April 18 in Cook Park has also been cancelled since the Park has cancelled all scheduled events for at least the month of April.

Poppy distribution for May has not been affected as of now, so please consider contacting Dorothy to offer to help. It is only a 2 to 2-1/2 hour commitment each time and you can use a chair if it makes it easier for you. Contact Dorothy via email at [tomdor2000@yahoo.com](mailto:tomdor2000@yahoo.com).

We have also picked October 17 for our annual Craft/Vendor Fair this year. If you have any family members or friends that are interested in renting a table, have them contact me (518-869-8668 or [judybenner13@gmail.com](mailto:judybenner13@gmail.com)).

**Service, Not Self,  
Judy Benner  
President**

## Some Insight on Sight



Veterans who have been declared legally blind and are certified by the Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped are eligible for an annuity. Call the NYS Div. of Veterans Affairs at 518-486-3602 for an application form and more details. You will have to provide dates of military service, certificate of discharge, the number of the Certification of blindness, proof of residency, and the name and address of the physician providing evidence of the veteran's loss of sight.

## Poppy Distribution

During the month of May, poppies are distributed by Auxiliary members. Donations raised by distributing the poppies is the Auxiliary's main source for money to help the veterans. There is a need for more volunteers for this task.

Poppies are distributed at: Price Chopper in Loudonville, Latham, and Watervliet; The Christmas Tree Store and Boscov's at Colonie Center. Hours at these locations are: 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., 12:30 to 3 p.m., and 3 to 5 p.m. The dates are: May 2, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, and 20. On May 27, at Boscov's the hours are 3 to 8 p.m. For more information, contact Dorothy Curran via email ([tomdor2000@yahoo.com](mailto:tomdor2000@yahoo.com)) or at 518-248-3920. Dorothy will be glad to go over the locations and times open on any of the dates. Please consider helping the veterans by volunteering to distribute poppies. Many hands make for light work.

## 25 Week Club

The next round of the 25 Week Club has begun. While the Post is closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, you are still able to participate. Simply mail your check for \$25 made payable to: North Albany Post 1610, (35 North First Street, Albany, NY 12204). Or, use the mail slot at the Post to drop off payment in a sealed envelope with your contact information.

You can also contact Kim via email: [kluvy14@aol.com](mailto:kluvy14@aol.com). Even if you participated last time, you will still need to sign up for this round.

The first drawing for the 25 Week Club while scheduled to be held on Thursday, April 2, may be subject to change due to the Post being closed. Details are being worked out. Stay tuned for more information.

## Chaplain's News

### Deceased:

George Ryan, Legionnaire – February 20, 2020.

If you know of anyone who is sick or has passed, please contact our Chaplains Charles Lossi at 518-438-6336 or JoAnn DeLisle at 518-426-8463 or [jodee4444@hotmail.com](mailto:jodee4444@hotmail.com) or newsletter editor Gretchen Riley via [ghodges220@yahoo.com](mailto:ghodges220@yahoo.com)

or at 518-526-8753.



**WE NEED  
YOUR HELP**

Your Commander is in desperate need of a Membership Chair.

We are also looking for a House Chairman for the Post. If interested in either of these positions, please contact Larry Wiest, our Post Commander at 518-434-6438.

The Post is still on the hunt for bartenders. If interested, please call Bar Chair Mick Ryan at 518-522-3486. Legionnaires, Auxiliary and SONs are all eligible to bartend. On-the-job training provided!

## Post Officers Needed

As noted above, the following vacancies need filing:

- ▶ 1st Vice Commander – Aide to, and understudy for, the Commander
- ▶ Adjutant – Needs to be a daily presence at the Post, answer the phone, monitor the email account, take the minutes at monthly meetings, prepare agendas for monthly meetings, and attend monthly County meetings.
- ▶ Boys State Coordinator/Chair
- ▶ House Chair

### **Job Description for House Chair duties:**

- Keep books
- Supervise dinners for visitations and county meetings
- Take reservations for non-post parties
- Accept payment from non-post members who rent the hall or pavilion
- Complete hall rental agreements (\$400.00)
- Develop an occasional menu, e.g., scalloped potatoes and ham

- Assist with parties, e.g., warm plates for bring-your-own parties
- Oversee the kitchen, hall, and pavilion
- Set up and breakdown tables and chairs
- Sweep, mop and buff the floor

### Hours:

- Be a presence at events, e.g., monthly APD Supervisors meetings from 11:00 a.m. until 12 Noon, bi-weekly Albany County luncheons for the elderly
- Compensation: \$250 per month

Respectfully submitted by:

**John Sacca**

**Acting Membership Chair**

### **Notice**

As many of you know, the Post is closed for an indefinite period of time due to COVID-19. When the Post does reopen, be sure to check the website for date and time. Together we will overcome COVID-19 and we will be stronger as a result.

**Be separate, be safe, be calm, be confident**

## Website Contest extended

Did you know Post 1610 has a website? Have you visited the Post website? The Post is running a contest to get people to visit the website (<http://northalbanypost1610.com>). Winners will receive a free drink from the bar. One answer per person, please. Email your response to [nap1610@yahoo.com](mailto:nap1610@yahoo.com) no later than April 30.

Here are the five (5) things to look for on the Post website:

1. Name of a link to a document or other website
2. Number of names on the Post Everlasting page
3. Number of open officer positions and on what page
4. Find the typo on the Membership page
5. Furthest out event on Events page

## Upcoming Events — Save the Date

**\*\*As of this time, all previously scheduled events and activities to be held at the Post are cancelled till further notice.\*\***

Saturday, July 18: North Albany Reunion (hopefully). Stay tuned for more information.

### April Meeting Dates (all meetings for April are cancelled due to coronavirus pandemic):

9th Ward/Post 1610 monthly meeting:

Legion:

S.A.L:

Auxiliary:

Community Meeting:

Limericks:

**General Post Phone No.:** (518) 465-4800 **Fax:** (518) 320-0586  
**Post Bar/General Information:** (518) 465-1402 **Email:** [nap1610@yahoo.com](mailto:nap1610@yahoo.com)

### Post

Commander: Lawrence Wiest

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander: Open

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander: Open

Adjutant: John Sacca

Finance Officer: Thomas Tracy

Judge Advocate: Lawrence Wiest

Sergeants-at-Arms: Michael Ryan and William Ryan

Chaplain: Charles Lossi (518) 438-6336

Historian: Michael Ryan

### Sons of the Legion

Acting Squadron Commander: Michael F. Conners, II

### Auxiliary

President: Judy Benner (518) 817-1240 [judybenner13@gmail.com](mailto:judybenner13@gmail.com)

Vice President: Jan Precopia (518) 489-1406 [janprecopia@nycap.rr.com](mailto:janprecopia@nycap.rr.com)

Secretary: Sheila Savage (518) 221-3729 [sheilasavage1618@gmail.com](mailto:sheilasavage1618@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Dorothy Curran (518) 786-1284 [tomdor2000@yahoo.com](mailto:tomdor2000@yahoo.com)

Chaplain: JoAnn DeLisle (518) 426-8463 [jodee4444@hotmail.com](mailto:jodee4444@hotmail.com)

### Editor for the Newsletter

Gretchen Riley (518) 526-8753 [ghodges220@yahoo.com](mailto:ghodges220@yahoo.com)

**Post website:** <http://northalbanypost1610.com>

### **Note from the Editor**

Would you like to know what is happening sooner rather than later? If yes, contact the editor to receive the newsletter electronically. With things changing daily, if not hourly, now is the perfect time to sign up to receive the newsletter via email. Periodically, other information is sent out electronically that may not be in the monthly newsletter. Or, visit the Post website to read it there.