



North Albany Post 1610 American Legion

35 North First Street, Albany, NY 12204
518-465-4800 - nap1610@yahoo.com

May 2021



A Message from the Commander

Our April 18 membership meeting was sparsely attended, especially when compared to March's when Dave Erickson brought in his crew for our meet and greet.

At this meeting, we spoke of the approaching Memorial Day with no parade again, but with, tentatively, wreath layings at the Our Lady of Peace Memorial (11:00 a.m.) and the Albany Vietnam Veterans Memorial (noon).

We spoke of wreath layings at the post Sunday morning May 30 at 8:15 a.m. in front of the post, 8:30 a.m. in front of School 20, and at 9:00 a.m. at the St. Agnes Cemetery flagpole and stone, all before graves decoration at St. Agnes. After which (11:00 a.m.?), we'll all enjoy a hearty hot dog breakfast back at the post.

The next day, Memorial Day, with our Auxiliary we'll conduct our annual reading of the names of our deceased post members inside Scully Hall at 1:00 p.m. If we're lucky to find a bartender, we'll keep the post open a few hours to toast our departed comrades.

We spoke of the post's third Covid vaccine event (Pfizer) to be held on April 20 (1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.), this time administered by Whitney Young to those sixteen, seventeen (both with parental consent) and older.

We spoke of the Auxiliary's May chicken barbeque event and post member Tony Schwartz's annual "Veterans Scramble" golf event held this year on July 12 at Colonie Country Club, with proceeds going, as always, to the homeless vets of all eras via the VA. Particulars of both events can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

At the meeting, Mickey Ryan advised all present that longtime post member, past commander, and Legionnaire Extraordinaire Tom Tracy will be leaving us in May and is moving to his new digs in South Carolina. Tom's departure is a great loss to this post. In the short time I've been active here, I've come to realize just how indispensable Tom is to all things 1610. Interviewing AHS juniors for Boys State; salvaging disreputable post financial records for our accountant; decorating graves, then retrieving, sorting, cleaning, and bundling flags for use the next year; maintaining the grounds to keep the post looking presentable – all of these tasks undertaken of his own initiative and without fanfare (I've omitted more than a few I'm sure) and make Tom Tracy most worthy of our heartfelt thank you. We wish him all the best. And, don't be a stranger.

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This may be of interest to readers my age or younger. On my way home from dropping off Albany Vietnam Vets Memorial financial records at the accountant's office (Monday, April 19) I heard on the car radio that this is the 50th anniversary of the Doors completing their 1971 album "L.A. Woman," at which time lead singer Jim Morrison announced to his stunned bandmates that he was leaving for Paris to live with his girlfriend. He died in Paris that July. A couple years ago Sara and I, while in Paris, visited Père Lachaise Cemetery where a lot of famous people are buried: singer Edith Piaf, playwright Oscar Wilde (whose stone is completely enclosed in Plexiglas to protect it from magic markers and lipstick – his grave being a gay pilgrimage site); and composer Frederic Chopin as examples. We found Jim Morrison's modest grave jammed in amongst more prestigious looking stones of anonymous Frenchmen, littered with food wrappers and empty beer cans, another pilgrimage site nonetheless.



**Lawrence Wiest
Commander**

Auxiliary News

Our Auxiliary is trying to do a couple of fundraisers now. First, the Rada cutlery fundraiser is still going on. We have been sharing on Facebook with the link to our account. If you haven't seen it, just let me know. We will also be entering a larger order for those that do not use Facebook. We can include anything you may want. Again, just let me know via email or call me at 518-869-8668.

We have two girls going to Empire Girls State this summer. They are Maddie Norton and

Kristine Kim. Both are juniors at Colonie Central High School.

I hope you have all seen the flyer for our Takeout BBQ Chicken Dinner that will be on Sunday, May 23 from 2-5 p.m. We are asking for everyone to call the Post at 518-465-4800, or email or phone me to place your order. Dinner will include half a chicken, baked potato, coleslaw, and dinner roll. We will also have a bake sale so everyone can purchase something for dessert. Dinner cost is \$15.00 and you should pay in advance so we will be sure to hold your dinners for you. If they are not prepaid, we will not be able to insure they will be available when you get there. Make checks to NA Auxiliary #1610 and leave at the Post. Walk-ins will be available for as long as the dinners are available. Come support the Auxiliary supporting our veterans and their families.

We are looking for some Auxiliary members that could make some goodies for the bake sale. Just drop off at the Post on Saturday after 2:00 or between noon and 2:00 on Sunday. Just make sure you mark that it is for the bake sale. Poppies with also be available.

I know you see this every month, but we are still trying to get to 100% membership. Call Jan at 518-573-5167 if you are not sure your dues are current.

Boxes for Birthright and Maritime Ministry collections are still in the lobby at the Post for any additional donations. Thank you to all of you who have supported these two groups.

Our next meeting will be May 4 at the Post. (Don't forget your mask!)

**For God and Country,
Judy Benner
President**



**Tri County
2021 Vietnam Vets Raffle
China Beach**

1st Prize – \$5K 2nd Prize – \$2.5K

Five (5) 3rd Prizes – \$500 Each

Tickets \$10 – Only 4 Thousand Printed

Drawing August 8 @ China Beach

Contact Darlene 518.470.7310

**TICKETS BEHIND THE BAR
HELP HOMELESS VETS**



Post Bar Needs Bartenders!



Mickey Ryan, Bar Chair, is in desperate need of bartenders. Bartenders are needed any day or night.

If interested, please call Bar Chair Mickey Ryan at 518-522-3486 or leave a message at the Post. Legionnaires, Auxiliary, and Sons are all eligible to bartend. On-the-job training provided!

Without additional bartenders, soon we will be forced to cut days that the Post is open.

8TH ANNUAL
Veterans'
GOLF
SCRAMBLE
- MONDAY, JULY 12TH -

9AM | PRIZES & AWARDS | \$125/GOLFER

Check in begins at 7:30 AM. Shotgun start at 9:00 AM.
50/50, Long Drive, Closest to the Pin.

**COLONIE GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB
Voorheesville, New York**

To sign up call or text (518) 701-9695, (518) 859-1860, or (859) 361-3541
Send Payment by check to Veterans' Scramble, P.O. Box 67, Selkirk, NY 12158 or
by Paypal at veteranssscramble@yahoo.com (enter paid golfers' names under notes)
Payment due by July 5, 2021.

General Post Phone No.: (518) 465-4800

Fax: (518) 320-0586

Post Bar/General Information: (518) 465-1402

Email: nap1610@yahoo.com

Post website:

<http://northalbanypost1610.com>

Post Commander:

Lawrence Wiest (518) 434-6438

Sons Acting Squadron Commander:

Michael F. Conners, II

Auxiliary President:

Judy Benner (518) 817-1240

judybenner13@gmail.com

Newsletter editor:

Gretchen Riley (518) 526-8753

ghodges220@yahoo.com

BBQ Chicken Dinner - Takeout Only

Sponsored by NA Post 1610 Auxiliary



Date: May 23, 2021
Sunday
Time: 2-5 p.m.
Cost: \$15

Dinner includes:

1/2 Chicken
Baked potato
Coleslaw
Dinner roll

Bake sale for your
sweet tooth!

Poppies will also be
available



For reservations: 518-465-4800 (NA American Legion Post)

- Leave name, order and phone # on answering machine.
- Dinners to be prepaid - payable to NA Auxiliary #1610

Extra dinners will be available on a first come, first served basis.

****Limited seating at the bar to eat and enjoy a drink with dinner**

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