



North Albany Post 1610 American Legion

35 North First Street, Albany, NY 12204

September 2020



A Message from the Commander

Wow! Summer flew right past us, didn't it? Without much to show for it. Right now, I'm out in the backyard writing this message (Thursday, August 20, 1:00 p.m.). Slight breeze, partly sunny, temperature about 76 degrees. I'm making the most out of this perfect weather.

At last Sunday's membership meeting, we formally cancelled the October craft fair and the post's early November Sons' Sunday breakfast at the post after the veterans mass at Sacred Heart. We'll urge that mass still be held as the collection helps pay the church heating bill and the church (unlike the post) can accommodate socially distanced multitudes.

And while the post's Scully Hall/pavilion will remain closed to outside events until January 2021 at least, the socially distanced and masked bar continues to be open under modified hours (specified elsewhere in this newsletter), and even shows a modest profit most days with bell jar ticket sales being steady if not robust. The Twenty-Five Week Club dinner remains in limbo until organizer Kim Rice returns from caregiver leave.

We lost two post legends this past July. WWII vet Jack Mullin passed July 30. He was a PS 20 and VI grad, and served aboard the USS Sarsfield, a destroyer patrolling the Atlantic and the Caribbean. He was a founding member of this post, Post Commander in 1969-70 and again in 1990-91, then Albany County Legion Commander in 1993-94, and Grand Marshal of Albany's 2002 Veterans Day parade. The turnout of Legionnaires at Jack's wake almost overwhelmed the modest Reilly & Son Funeral Home. Jack and Irene "Renee" Scarff were married a month shy of 70 years.

Alice Parker Begley was the sole surviving founding member of this post's Auxiliary when she died July 29 at age 95. She was also a graduate of PS 20 and a graduate of Cathedral. In 1989, Alice graduated from the College of St. Rose at age 64 with a BA in communications. She served both as Altamont village historian and Guilderland town historian, retiring her Guilderland post at age 90. In 2017, Alice was honored in a ceremony at the Empire State Plaza as a "Woman of Distinction" by Assemblywoman Patricia Fahy. Alice and WWII Navy veteran Jim Begley were married 56 years.

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When I was a young vet, I remember the small number of WWI vets who departed us one by one until there was none. That's where we are now with our WWII and Korean War vets and Auxiliary members. Which leaves us old Vietnam Era vets to run the post because I'm not seeing any Desert Storm, Enduring or Iraqi Freedom post members at the bar. Sad.



**Lawrence Wiest
Commander**

Membership News

To date (24 August), sixty-four members have renewed their membership and we have one new member, Mr. Jeffery Miller. Welcome!

Twelve members have renewed their membership online! All members needing to renew their membership are encouraged to renew online. Go to Mylegion.org to set up an account.

We are off to a good start. Thank you to those who have already renewed. We look forward to hearing from all others.

**Respectfully submitted,
John Sacca
Membership Chair and
Bookkeeper**

Auxiliary News

My September welcome letter with meeting schedule is in the mail. If you do not receive this week, please let me or Sheila know so we can double check your address in our records. You will see in the meeting schedule that I am going to do a virtual Zoom meeting on September 15 at 7:00 p.m. Watch for my email in your inbox with the link. Hope many of you can attend.

Jan has started getting dues for this year. Please think about sending yours in soon to her at 1160 New Scotland Rd., Albany, NY 12208. Senior dues are still \$25 with Past President's an additional \$5. Juniors are \$8.00. You can also drop off at the Post in an envelope addressed to the Auxiliary. If no one is there, just put thru the mail slot.

The National Auxiliary is offering ALA Academy classes. They are free and open to all. Just go to alaforveterans.org/ala-academy and sign up. You can do at your own pace and there are many courses available; i.e., leadership skills, why branding matters, fundraising tips, Girls State information, just to name a few.

**Yours for the Auxiliary,
Judy Benner
President**

Chaplain's News

Deceased:

John "Jack" Mullin, Legionnaire - July 30, 2020
Alice C. Begley, Auxiliary - July 29, 2020
Mike Kindlon, Limericks - July 29, 2020

Sick Call:

Dorothy Curran, Auxiliary

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. Or, newsletter editor Gretchen Riley via ghodges220@yahoo.com or at 518-526-8753.





American Legion Auxiliary

MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY EXPLAINED

RELATIONSHIP TO VETERAN:



- MOTHER
- DAUGHTER
- SISTER
- GRANDMOTHER
- GRANDDAUGHTER
- SELF — FEMALE VETERANS WHO HAVE SERVED
- MALE or FEMALE SPOUSE

ELIGIBILITY PERIODS: April 6, 1917, to November 11, 1918; and any time after December 7, 1941

TWO PATHS FOR ALA ELIGIBILITY

PATH ONE

The potential member is related to a living veteran by one of the relationships stated above and the veteran is living AND a current member of The American Legion.



If the potential member is a female veteran, she only needs to have served during the eligible time periods to be eligible for ALA membership.

PATH TWO

The potential member is related to a deceased veteran who served during the eligible time periods and was honorably discharged.



The deceased veteran did not have to be a member of The American Legion in order for the potential member to join the ALA.

For more information, visit www.ALAforVeterans.org

American Legion Membership

Membership includes discount programs and provides vital support to lobbying efforts and veterans services.

Eligibility Requirements

If you have served federal active duty in the United States Armed Forces since December 7, 1941, and have been honorably discharged or are still serving – you are eligible for membership in The American Legion!

Because eligibility dates remain open, all active duty members of the U.S. Armed Forces are eligible to join The American Legion at this time, until the date of the end of hostilities as determined by the government of the United States. You must provide a copy of your DD-214 certifying your service dates.

Under eligibility guidelines for Legion membership, the term "active duty" as used in our national constitution includes "active duty for training."

However, our guideline further defines National Guardsmen and reservists as eligible under services to federal activation orders Title 10, Subsection 672 or Subsection 12301, created following Desert Storm to replace Subsection 672. In other words, to determine eligibility for service members in the National Guard or reserves, the activation order is the authority line. Non-eligible activation orders are Title 32 for the National Guard and Title 10 Subsection 270 for the reserves.

SONS Eligibility

All male descendants, adopted sons and stepsons of members of The American Legion,

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and such male descendants of veterans who died in service during World War I or since December 7, 1941, during the delimiting periods set forth in Article IV, Section 1, of the National Constitution of The American Legion or who died subsequent to their honorable discharge from such service, shall be eligible for membership in the Sons of The American Legion. There shall be no form or class of membership except an active membership.

A link to the membership application to join The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or the Sons of The American Legion can be found on the Post website, Membership page (<http://northalbanypost1610.com/membership>).

(Source: <http://northalbanypost1610.com/membership/> and <https://nylegion.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Membership-Eligibility-1.pdf> and <https://www.legion.org/sons/join>)

Upcoming September Meetings

Legion/9th Ward/Post 1610, Sunday, September 20, 12:30 p.m.

Auxiliary, Tuesday, September 15, virtual Zoom meeting, 7 p.m.

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

Post

Commander: Lawrence Wiest (518) 434-6438
1st Vice Commander: Open
2nd Vice Commander: Open
Adjutant: John Sacca (518) 486-0528
Finance Officer: Open
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. Connors, II

Auxiliary

President: Judy Benner (518) 817-1240 judybenner13@gmail.com
Vice President: Jan Precopia (518) 489-1406 janprecopia@nycap.rr.com
Secretary: Sheila Savage (518) 221-3729 sheilasavage1618@gmail.com
Treasurer: Dorothy Curran (518) 786-1284 tomdor2000@yahoo.com
Chaplain: JoAnn DeLisle (518) 426-8463 jodee4444@hotmail.com

Editor for the Newsletter

Gretchen Riley (518) 526-8753 ghodges220@yahoo.com

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

Post Summer hours continue

Summer hours* at the Post bar continue:

- Monday: Closed
- Tuesday - Friday: 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- Saturday and Sunday: 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

*Hours subject to change. Things change from day to day, sometimes hour to hour. It's best to call the Post with any questions.