



North Albany Post 1610 American Legion

35 North First Street, Albany, NY 12204

November 2020



A Message from the Commander

It was good meeting past commander ('62-'63) Donald "Doc" Rainis yesterday at the October (10/18) membership meeting. At first, I thought he was one of us "young" Vietnam vets, then realized that his mask did wonders for him. He's got sixty-five years as a Legionnaire under his belt and is our most senior living past commander. After the meeting, Doc compared pacemakers with our newly returned chaplain Chuck Lossi. Mickey Ryan says Doc was one helluva golfer.

At the meeting, I announced that the City of Albany made it official: no 2020 Veterans Day parade and no Gold Star Families luncheon afterward. The Joint Veterans Committee is piecing together an 11:00 a.m. wreath laying ceremony on that day at the Our Lady of Peace Memorial on the northeast corner of the South Lake and New Scotland Avenue intersection. The Albany High JROTC color guard will be making an appearance, and organizer Mark Rosenzweig is making arrangements to have a bagpiper play "Amazing Grace." That should be a draw. Remember when Albany's parade stepped off at that very intersection: north to Central then east to the Capitol? That was a long parade route. That was before everybody got old.

After that, everyone will find their way down to Albany's Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Lafayette Park northeast of the state Capitol and the site of the relatively new Gold Star Families Memorial, where another brief, socially distanced and masked wreath laying ceremony will be held at noon. After that, Tri County Vietnam Vets will conduct its annual raffle on site; a 5K, 2.5K, and four \$500 third prizes will be drawn. A limited number of these tickets are still available at the bar. After which, it being a Wednesday, the Post bar will be open at 3:00 p.m.

Kudos to John Sacca and his son Andrew for pruning and manicuring the fireplace area including the fence line alongside the pavilion. Let the flag burning begin!

By the time you read this newsletter (the printed edition anyway) you'll have already voted (and if you didn't, shame on you). And now the fun begins. The time period between Election Day (November 3 this year) and inauguration day (January 20) is referred to as the "interregnum" (Latin for between reigns

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or monarchies). This year hordes of lawyers are expected to descend on the “swing states” and “battleground states,” challenging all of the many mail-in ballots alleged to have even the slightest blemish, e.g. incompletely sealed envelopes, non-identical signatures, late or smudged postmarks, etc. Remember Florida in the 2000 Bush vs. Gore election – the “hanging chad”? Multiply that fiasco by dozens of states. Remember, the majority of mail-in ballots this year are expected to be from those voting Democrat.

Then some Republican controlled state legislatures, alleging voter fraud, will attempt to send their own slate of “electors,” despite what that state’s popular vote was, to the electoral college meeting in D.C. in December and where they (not you) actually elect the next president. Remember the Constitution? Any disputes will find their way to the newly replenished, now arch-conservative Supreme Court.

Fasten your seat belts. It’s going to be a bumpy ride.



**Lawrence Wiest
Commander**

Legion Membership News

A total of seventy-five members have renewed their membership thus far. Thirty-five more to go! If you have not renewed your membership, please consider renewing online. Eighteen members have renewed online! Thank you all.

Did you know that when the newsletter is returned because of an incorrect or undeliverable address, the Post 1610 is charged a

fee, which in reality is more than the bulk rate charged when it was initially mailed? Simply put, this is a waste of Post revenue. Just because the newsletter is sent out bulk rate, it is not forwarded when a temporary, permanent or seasonal address change is filed with the Post Office. It is imperative that you contact us via email: nap1610@yahoo.com or phone the post and advise if you want the newsletter sent to a different address, or simply not mailed until you return 'home'.

**John Wands Sacca
Membership Chair**

Chaplain’s News

Deceased:

John L. McAuliffe III, SONS and Limericks
- October 20, 2020

Sick Call:

Bev Pach, Auxiliary
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.

Auxiliary News

DATE CHANGE!

Be advised everyone that our November Auxiliary meeting has been changed to Sunday, November 8, because the banquet room will be used for voting on Tuesday the 3rd. Meeting will start at 1 p.m. Social distancing and mask wearing will be done.

Items are still being collected for Birthright. Our box is in the bar if you cannot make the meeting. The most needed items are diaper rash cream and disposable diapers, but any other items for children 12 months or less will be accepted. Thanks in advance for your generosity with the project.

Be sure to send in your dues for this year. Janice Precopia, 1160 New Scotland Rd., Albany, NY 12208, is our membership chairperson. I thank her for all of her hard work on this effort. Sending in your \$25 (or \$8 for girls under the age of 18) early helps to make her job much easier and less stressful. If you are not sure if you are up-to-date, just call or email

Jan and she will be glad to help. In addition, if you are not sure we have your most current email address, Jan can help you with that as well.

As Veteran's Day gets closer, please do not forget the veterans in your life. I am sure they are why you joined our organization.

If you have any suggestions for events/projects we might be able to do, please come and tell us about them.

Auxiliary member Dorothy Curran is recuperating at home and continuing with PT and Auxiliary member Bev Pach is at Albany County Nursing Home. If you would like to send a note or a card, I'm sure it would be appreciated. You can contact Jan Precopia for their addresses.

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

Tis the Season to Support Toys for Tots

The 2020 Toys for Tots Campaign is underway! The North Albany Post 1610 will be a drop-off site again this year to support local families. Feel free to bring a new, unwrapped toy(s) for all ages through December 18. Cash donations are also welcomed.

Current hours of operations at the Post:

Tuesday-Friday 3-7 p.m.

Saturday-Sunday 12-5 p.m.

Please contact the Post (518-465-4800) if you have questions about the campaign.

Let's all make this a great Christmas for the children of the Capital District.

Thank you for your support!





Friday Night Darts

Dart league started on Friday, October 9 at 7 p.m. Sign up at the bar if interested. Masks and social distancing are required in accordance with the CDC guidelines and NYS law. For more information, contact Mickey Ryan at the bar.

"Give thanks not just on Thanksgiving Day, but every day of your life. Appreciate and never take for granted all that you have."

~ Catherine Pulsifer, Author ~

Though this Thanksgiving will be different from past ones, I wish everyone a very happy and blessed Thanksgiving. Gretchen Riley, Editor

Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Upcoming November Meetings

Legion/9th Ward/Post 1610, Sunday, November 15, 12:30 p.m.

Auxiliary, Sunday, November 8, 1 p.m. **Note:** This is a time change due to the banquet hall being used for voting on Tuesday.

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

***** Reminder *****

The Post will be closed on Thanksgiving Day.

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

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