



# North Albany Post 1610 American Legion

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## A Message from the Commander

This summer seemed to come and go in the blink of an eye, didn't it? One of the recent highlights was the August 20 semiannual North Albany reunion hosted by the Limericks. The pavilion and picnic tables were well populated by familiar faces. The bar was busy throughout the afternoon and well into the evening. Marshal Wendy Kindlon's take on the day was that everyone had a very good time and attributed a somewhat smaller attendance (still well over a hundred) to the unusual heat (even for August) and a lingering Covid concern. It was good seeing bartender emeritus Herkie Rider, who tells us he really misses his tending bar at the post. And who brought in that drone taking overhead pictures of the assembled multitudes while hovering above Mullen Field? Well done Limericks.

This past August our recently acquired bartender Shirl (pronounced Cheryl) has been opening the bar at 4:00 p.m. Friday afternoons and commencing "Happy Hour" from 5:00 'til 7:00 p.m. that offers two-for-one drafts, wine, well drinks (including Shirl's famous "Sex on the Beach" concoction), popcorn, and perhaps munchies – all this at the ongoing insistence of John Town.

Now get this: Shirl is a big pro football fan and a huge Forty-Niners fan (shades of former bartender Kim Rice – a huge Steelers fan). That being said, she announced to your commander that she will be opening the bar for Sunday football AND Monday night AND Thursday night football. Wow! What's a commander to say other than, "Let's do it!"?

FYI: The end of August Shirl organized and conducted a "drive by handoff" of more than a hundred donated backpacks at the post to back-to-school kids.

I spoke to Mickey Ryan and he assured me that the 2022-23 Dart League season IS A GO, and that the tentative start date is Friday, October 7. Mickey is working out the many details involved and will be reaching out to the usual suspects. I expect there will be or already is a signup sheet posted at the bar.

Speaking of October 7, that's when House Chair Jackie Jones and husband Lormenzo will commence again the post's First Friday Fish Fry with all the trimmings. Details are elsewhere in the newsletter. Mark your calendar.

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The post recently recruited a couple new members who are friends, both in their early thirties, one of whom is a transfer from a Western New York post. Both appear enthusiastic and say they will be bringing in more “recruits” from their circle of friends and associates at NYSDMNA. Good news, yes?

We all remember how long that war in Vietnam seemed and how endless our operations in Afghanistan and Iraq were. We have no boots on the ground in Ukraine – yet – but we are in it, and it’s important that we do not let the war in Ukraine recede onto page twelve of our minds. What happens to Ukraine will affect us as a nation. We will be stronger or weaker whatever the outcome is, however distant the outcome may be. Stay focused. Stay angry. We are all Ukrainians until this is over.



**Lawrence Wiest  
Commander**



### Chaplain’s News

– **Post Everlasting** –

On Wednesday, August 24, at the Cannon Funeral Home, Albany, members of this post conducted a memorial service in memory of Past Commander Ralph Deso, who passed away at his home on August 17, 2022.

**Sick call:**

- Wayne Riley, Legion
- Patrick Ryan, Legion
- Don Perry, Legion
- Carole Egan, Auxiliary

Prayers are asked for Marc DeLisle, Auxiliary member JoAnn DeLisle’s son. Prayers are also asked for Andrew Liuzzi, husband of Auxiliary member Stacy Liuzzi.

### September Announcements

- Auxiliary Meeting: Tuesday, September 13
- Legion Membership Meeting: Tuesday, September 20
- Friday Night Darts: Friday, October 7
- First Friday Fish Fry: Friday, October 7

### Albany High JROTC

September 5 at 9:29 PM

On Sunday, seven cadets from the Sergeant Henry Johnson Battalion traveled to the United States Military Academy at West Point to participate in the annual Buffalo Soldier Memorial Ceremony. The ceremony commemorates the contributions of the Buffalo Soldiers, who served at West Point in the 9th and 10th Cavalry units, from 1907 until 1947. After the ceremony the cadets attended the annual luncheon.

Cadets had the opportunity to meet the West Point Superintendent, Lieutenant General Gilland, and numerous other Academy graduates. LTG Gilland presented each cadet with a challenge coin.

The honored guest was the Reverend Robert Dixon, believed to be the last surviving Buffalo Soldier to have served at West Point. Reverend Dixon is from the Albany area. Cadets came away from the event with a better understanding of the challenges faced by so many of our forefathers, and what they did to make possible the opportunities so many of us have today.

This opportunity was made possible by Albany Common Council member Kelly Kimbrough, who sponsored the cadets and coordinated for transportation. (Source: Albany High JROTC Facebook page.) See pictures on page 4.

## Auxiliary News

I hope everyone had a great summer and survived the hot, humid summer days and have stayed safe and healthy.

Our first meeting will be on Tuesday, September 13, at 7 p.m. I am hoping you are planning to attend. We need to start thinking about projects and events we would like to have this year.

Dues can be paid for this new year, 2023. They remain the same, \$25 for senior members (Past President \$5) and juniors are \$8. Jan will be collecting dues at the meeting. If you are unable to make a meeting, you can send your dues to Jan Precopia, Membership Chairman, 1160 New Scotland Rd., Albany, NY 12208. If you have any questions, please contact Jan at 518.573.5167. We do not recommend doing the online payment to National because it takes too long for our Unit to receive our share and to be notified that you have paid directly.

Our Auxiliary is always in need of new members. Be sure to ask your family members and friends to join us. If you don't have an application, they are available at the Post or contact me if you need one. I will be glad to send you one. There is also a link on the Post website to the application. You would be surprised how many people do not know they are eligible to join the American Legion, Sons or Auxiliary. Tell them about our organization and some of the things we do to help our veterans, military, their families, and our community and it's children. New members keep our organization growing.

The first project of the fall is a continuation of the Give 10 to Education project. Information about the project can be found in the next column.

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



## Give 10 to Education

The Auxiliary is continuing its spring Give 10 to Education this fall. We will be collecting school supplies for the teachers at Giffen Memorial School located in downtown Albany.

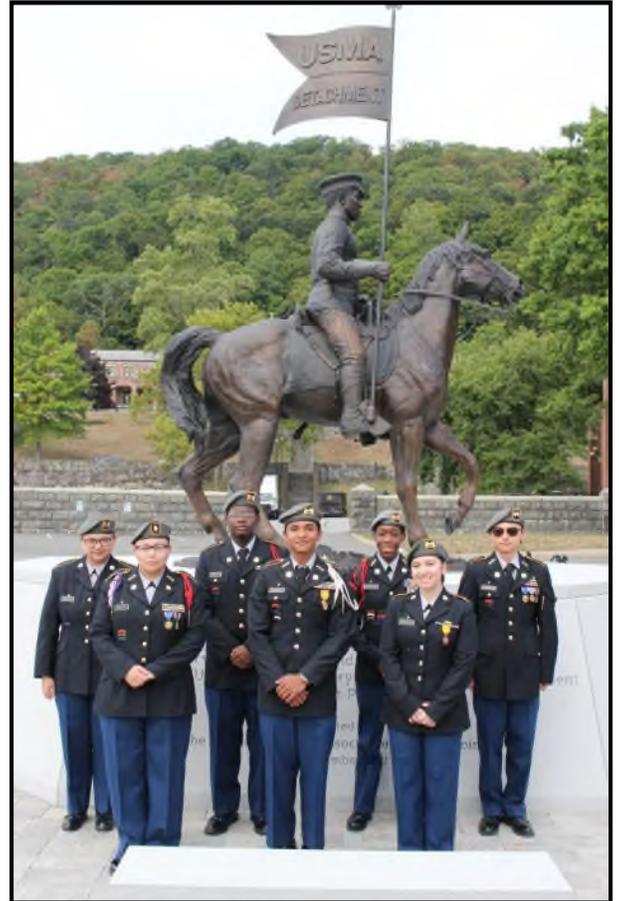
Donations can be dropped off at the Post (there is a box in the foyer) if you're unable to bring them to our meeting on Tuesday, September 13. The teachers at Giffen have to purchase supplies themselves for their classrooms. All donations will be greatly appreciated by the teachers (and the students) and will help toward ensuring a good school year.

Below are the supplies the teachers have submitted to Jan as their wish list. Most of the teachers have asked for wide-rule composition books, pocket sleeves, dry erase markers and erasers, and Expo markers. Here is an Amazon link (<https://tinyurl.com/aj3kmhx9>) to their donation request wish list. Some items are cheaper on Amazon and may be more easily found. At the time the wish lists were given to Jan, some of the items were on sale at either Walmart or Target. That may not be the case now.

Expo markers (black)  
Dry erase erasers  
Green folders (cheap paper ones) (Walmart/Target \$0.15)  
Blue folders (cheap paper ones)  
Composition notebooks (wide rule) (Walmart \$0.50)  
Crayola Colors of the World,  
24ct MULTICULTURAL crayons  
Pocket sleeves (Amazon)  
Post it notes  
Colored cardstock  
Markers  
Pencils  
Wipes  
Glue sticks  
60 green pocket folders with prongs  
60 purple pocket folders with prongs



The Albany High School JROTC cadets with the US Military Academy Superintendent, Lieutenant General Steve Gilland, from left, Ananta Saha, Chika Uzoeshi, Natasa Siegkani, Xavier Smith, Hannah Bolio, Giavanna Bacon, and Kevin Kam.



The cadets in front of the United States Military Academy Buffalo Soldiers Memorial at West Point.



The AHS SGT Henry Johnson JROTC Battalion cadets with the last living Buffalo Soldier, Albany's Rev. Robert Dixon, pastor emeritus of the Mount Calvary Baptist Church.



Former post bartender Herkie Rider and Larry Wiest comparing watches after reminiscing and remembering Tex Wilson at North Albany Reunion, Saturday, August 20.