



North Albany Post 1610 American Legion

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June 2023

A Message from the Commander



The thousands of flags that were placed alongside military and veterans' graves on Sunday morning, May 28, at St. Agnes Cemetery by post veterans and auxiliary members, volunteers, and a contingent of thirty cadets from Albany High's SGT Henry Johnson JROTC Battalion, are now back at the post pavilion, piled high on tables waiting to be inspected for damage, have their stems cleaned, furled into groups of a dozen, and boxed and stored for use again next year. Are there volunteers for this chore? The flags were retrieved on Wednesday afternoon, May 31, by the post's Don Riley and John Sacca, volunteer Bill Atkinson and a contingent of mostly JROTC alumni organized by Major Dave Erickson and led by Yan Thu (USMC Reserve). All were later rehydrated and treated to pizza back at the post compliments of Major Dave.

The previous Sunday, after the exertion of graves decoration, the thirty-cadet cohort returned to the pavilion at the post, where they quenched their thirst with water and juices and were treated to a nutritious lunch of cheeseburgers, hot dogs, chips, and chocolate-covered donuts. The meal was staffed by the post's Patrick Ellis, barkeep Shirl Hall, auxiliary member Sara Wiest, and Steve and Terry Baver, who were up from Staten Island visiting the Wiests. Steve, an Army buddy of your commander, was present earlier for the three wreath layings and graves decoration, and both were present the next morning for Albany's Memorial Day parade and ceremony, at which our John Sacca presided as grand marshal and offered eloquent remarks. Thank you, Don Riley, for spearheading graves decoration again this year. Thank you, Sons and Michael Conners for again providing the wreaths.

Later that Memorial Day, Grand Marshal Sacca and your commander returned to the post and with Chaplain Chuck Lossi and Auxiliary President Judy Benner read aloud the names of those from North Albany killed in action in past wars and the names of our deceased post members to ensure their sacrifice and their honorable service not be lost to time.

This Father's Day afternoon you have the opportunity to treat your dad, spouse, or significant other to a fine meal with live music at a good price right here at the post, all put together by House Chair Jackie

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Jones and her team. But don't delay your RSVP. As you might guess, seating is limited. Details are elsewhere in this newsletter.

Pray for Ukraine.



Lawrence Wiest
Commander



Auxiliary News

May has been a busy month, we held the Veteran Walk-A-Thon and raised \$4218.00. Thanks to all that helped in any way; bought 'Boots' in the bar, made a donation and/or came and walked with us. Save the date for next year; it will be the last Saturday in April; the 27th.

We had the first of two Women's Self Defense Classes on the 19th. We had a full house, and everyone said they had a good time and are looking forward to the second session to be held on June 9. Girls were from 15 to 77 years old so don't think you are ever too old. Maybe we will see about a second class if there is enough interest. Thank you to the 4 Albany County Deputy Sheriffs that taught the class. They were great!! Thanks Sheila Savage for taking charge of this for us.

And of course, on Memorial Day weekend we had the Parade with our own John Sacca as Grand Marshal, decorating veteran's graves with flags in St. Agnes Cemetery and our Post Memorial Ceremony, May 27-29. I hope everyone was able to attend at least one of these events.

I can never forget all of the Auxiliary members that helped distribute poppies all month. We couldn't help the number of veterans that we do if it were not for your help. Total dollars donated will be in the next newsletter since we are still doing this project. Thanks Dorothy for all of the work you do on this huge project.

Anyone interested in knitting or crocheting afghans for veterans in hospice or nursing homes,

please let us know. Even if you can only donate yarn to the women hard at work with this effort.

Just a reminder, we are always collecting aluminum ring tabs for Shriner's Children Hospital in MA, and cancelled stamps and greeting card fronts for St Jude's Ranch.

All members, please remember to keep track of any time you gave to community service projects and any money donated to fundraisers, etc. that we can report to National committee chair people.

Thanks to Jan Precopia, our membership chairman, for getting the Unit to 100%. There were only 2 Units in Albany County to achieve this, and North Albany is one of them.

I have been told on numerous occasions that people are surprised at how much North Albany accomplishes for being such a small unit. We have 75 members total, and everyone works very hard when asked to do all of these accomplishments. I am very proud to be your President.

And while you read this great newsletter, remember that Gretchen Riley, another Auxiliary member, spends many hours putting it together for us.

Over the summer why not invite your family members and friends to join us and become members of our organization. We accept all from jr. members (ages newborn to 17 years) and all seniors (18 and up).

Have a wonderful and safe summer.

A very proud ALA President,
Judy Benner



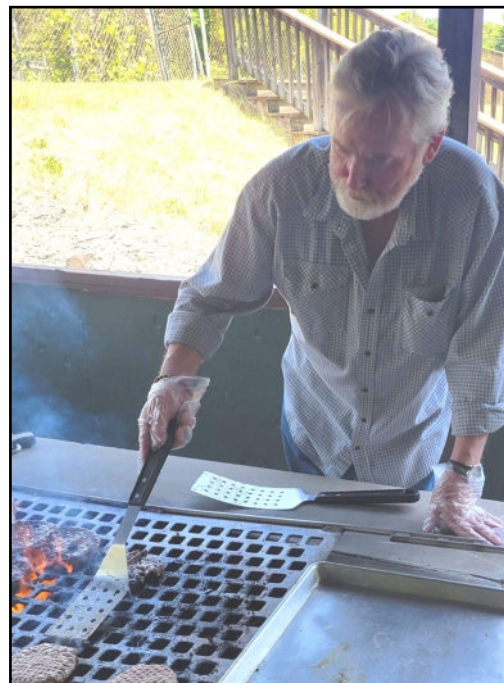
The Thursday before Memorial Day weekend the post hosted the Albany County Legion meeting/meal as it does every May. Pictured above is the crew that cooked and served the scalloped potatoes and ham dinner with green beans, butter rolls, cake, and coffee. Clockwise from left, Sara Wiest, Wanda Austin-Peters, Shirl Hall (who cooked the meal), Brennan Alexis Austin-Peters, and Brooklyn Barnes.



After the County meeting/meal, the Commander, behind the bar, introduced himself to, from left, Past Commander Nick Wendeborn (1984), Terry Smarro, and Jim Person.



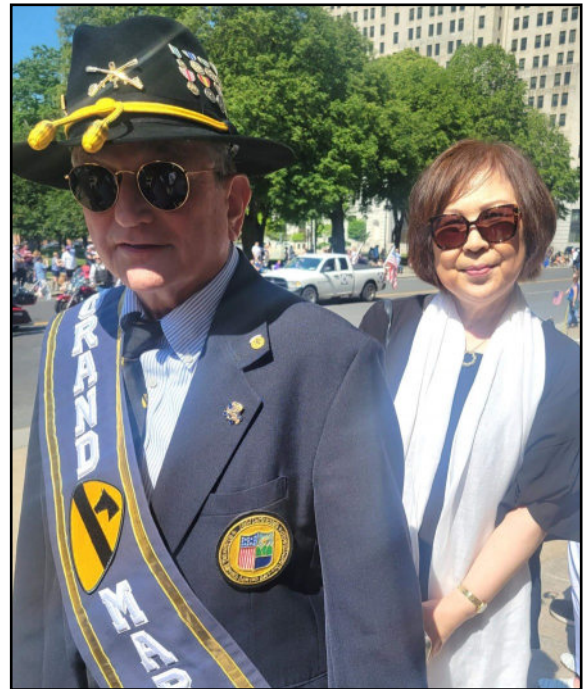
Cadet Jedriel Comas Bertran kneels before one of thousands of graves decorated the Sunday morning before Memorial Day by post members, volunteers, and cadets at St. Agnes Cemetery, Menands.



Later that morning, back at the pavilion, the post's Patrick Ellis (who also prepped the grill) focuses on turning out cheeseburgers for the now-famished Albany High JROTC cadets just returned from graves decoration.



One of the several tables of cadets at the post pavilion included, clockwise from left, Dominic Hung Tun, Susie Hai, Eh Shar blu Say, Lin Nway, Samira Sefadine Ismail, and Ryan Linn.



On Memorial Day, Monday morning, Grand Marshal John Sacca, our post adjutant, and his wife Hiesook Sacca are pictured reviewing the Albany parade from the reviewing stand on the steps of the old State Education Building. They, along with son Andrew, led the parade in a Vietnam era jeep restored and driven by Glen Preece, a Watervliet Arsenal employee from Queensbury.

Chaplain's News

- Post Everlasting -

Past Commander Rick Myers, May 2, 2023

Sick call:

- Don Perry, Legion
- Mickey Ryan, Legion
- Carole Egan, Auxiliary
- Jan Precopia, Auxiliary
- Janis Sabatino, Auxiliary
- Theresa VanDuyne, 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.

The next newsletter will be the SEPTEMBER 2023 newsletter. There will be NO July/August 2023 newsletter this summer.



The American Legion
North Albany Post 1610
35 North First Street
Albany NY 12204

Presents:
Live Entertainment

FATHER'S DAY DINNER

SUNDAY JUNE 18TH

RSVP: NORTH ALBANY AMERICAN LEGION POST 1610
JACKIE JONES 618-388-7128 BY JUNE 16, 2023

Doors open at 1:00pm Dinner will be available from 2pm til 5pm

3 COURSE MEAL

\$25 PP/MEMBERS AND VETS ONLY

KIDS 10-15 \$15

STARTER

MEAT, CHEESE, VEGGIE, & FRUIT
CHAROITERE BOARD
DINNER ROLLS

MAIN

TURKEY & HAM
LEMON & HERB SALMON

MASH POTATOES, BAKED MAC& CHEESE, RICE, CORNBREAD
DRESSING, BRINY
SALADS: TROSS SALAD, MAC SALAD W/TUNA

ASPARAGUS, GREEN BEANS,
VEGETABLE NORMANDY

DESSERT

BANANA PUDDING, PUMPKIN PIE,
VARIETY CHEESECAKE

Thank you for supporting the First of many Building Fundraisers

ON THE MENU

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