



# North Albany Post 1610 American Legion

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## A Message from the Commander

I'm writing to you on the tail end of a wet weekend (Sunday afternoon September 24, compliments of Tropical Storm Ophelia), without benefit of a Bills game on cable, all while my new titanium (R) knee continues to remind me of its presence. I nonetheless am not a complainer.

I look back fondly to a well-attended September 20 membership meeting that included several members of the 369th Veterans Association, Albany Chapter. It appears that all the members of that chapter have joined the post as new members or transferred in. The new 369th members who joined our post en masse by invitation of the commander will hold their monthly meetings at our post an hour before they attend our membership meetings. Other new members attending that evening included Regina Austin, Cyrus Battiste, and Frank Lawrence.

Seated next to past commander Bill Gilheany at the meeting was forty-five year post member Bob Bailey, who initially stopped in to have his membership card looked into by Adjutant John Sacca, and then stuck around to add to the quorum.

At the beginning of the meeting Albany High's JROTC Ryan Linn and Cadet CAPT Dominic Hung Tun each spoke to those present about their experiences at this summer's Boys State after which post member Larry Turner questioned each about particulars of their presentations. MAJ Dave Erickson, director of Albany High's JROTC program, was also in attendance for this meeting. The post will be hosting a picnic for the cadets and their family members on Sunday afternoon, October 15.

Toward the end of the meeting Bill Gilheany made a motion, seconded by Chaplain Chuck Lossi, that First Vice CDR and House Chair Jackie Jones be awarded Life Membership in recognition of her accomplishments rejuvenating the fiscal health and social well-being of the post. Gilheany's motion passed by unanimous vote.

This year's City of Albany Veterans Day parade grand marshals, which will step off on Saturday 11 November at 11:00 hours, will be Albany County Veterans Affairs Director Ken Secor and Vietnam veteran Terry Brown, long time "Duty Calls" columnist for the Albany Times Union.

Ukraine Forever!



Lawrence Wiest  
Commander



## Auxiliary News

Our Auxiliary is under way for a successful year. Just a reminder, your dues are now due. Senior dues are \$35 and Junior's are \$8. You can bring your dues to our next meeting or send them to Jan Precopia, 1160 New Scotland Rd., Albany, NY 12208.

We will be attending the 3rd District Fall Conference on Saturday, October 7. It will be a combined meeting with the 4th District and will be held at Mohawk Post 1450 in Halfmoon. All are welcome. Give me a call if you have any questions, 518-817-1240.

We are still looking for yarn donations to make afghans for Community Hospice clients. Did you know that 25% of their clients are veterans?

Holiday Gift Shop will be back this year at the Stratton VA. Volunteers will be needed on December 6. Please think about coming and helping.

Our Empire Girls State candidates have been invited to one of our meetings. I will advise the date soon so you can think about coming and hearing about their experience.

A baby shower for veterans was held on Friday, September 22, at Stratton VA. There were

10 pregnant veterans, 5 in attendance. All were very appreciative of the gifts they received. Some of the items donated included: clothes, diapers, diaper bags, laundry baskets, toys, receiving blankets, and crocheted sweater sets. Our Unit donated the laundry baskets. Three Auxiliary units were represented: North Albany, Zaloga, and Blanchard-Currey. Carrie Farley represented Gold Star Mothers. Carrie is also a member of our Unit. Thanks to all who donated.

Give 10 to Education update: Our Unit has been doing this project of collecting school supplies which are then donated since 2013! We predominately donated to North Albany Academy for a few years. Other schools to which we donated school supplies included: Sheridan Prep Academy, Brighter Choice Charter School, and Stephen and Harriet Myers Middle School. Giffen Memorial School has been the recipient of school supplies donations a couple of years, most recently this fall. I am told that this year's donation served 437 students in that school.

Our Unit may be small in numbers, but our members have a very generous nature and always step up, as evidenced by the recent school supply donations and baby shower donations.

**A very proud ALA President,  
Judy Benner**

### Pictures from Baby Shower held September 22 at Stratton VA



Expectant parents playing a game at the baby shower. In the background, left to right, is Jo Grace and Judy Stoffels from Zaloga.



Shower gifts given to the expectant moms. The laundry baskets and diaper bags were filled with items.



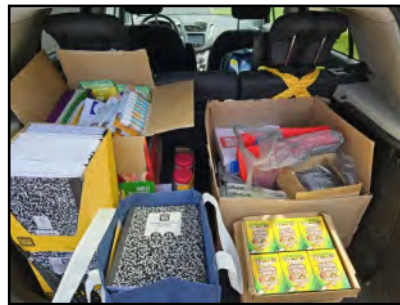
L to R: Auxiliary members Dorothy Curran and Judy Benner enjoying the baby shower.







### Give 10 to Education Fall Project



Top (left to right): 1. Jan Precopia and Judy Benner stand by Jan’s car loading school supplies; 2. Judy Benner loading up Jan’s car with bags full of supplies; 3. Teachers Jessica Felts and Danielle Faseun standing at back of Jessica’s car filled with the school supplies.

Bottom (left to right): 1. Box of donated supplies (colored pencils, headphones, highlighters, 2 packs of lined paper); 2. More donated school supplies (composition notebooks, crayons, post-its, etc.); 3. Gretchen Riley together with teachers Sue Thomas (L) and Alyssa Hebert (R).



Student in Ms. Felts’ classroom using some of the donated school supplies.



Students in Ms. Felts’ 4th grade used new supplies to make a thank you banner.

## Chaplain's News

### Sick call:

- Don Perry, Legion
- Mickey Ryan, Legion
- Carole Egan, Auxiliary
- Julie Severance, Auxiliary
- Shannon Lenet, Auxiliary
- Janis Sabatino, Auxiliary

Prayers are also asked for Andrew Liuzzi, husband of Auxiliary member Stacy Liuzzi.

## Message from House Chair:

We are continuing to have community engagement meetings every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at the legion. All who would like to participate in the planning and volunteering for our community outreach are welcome. Up next is our HARVEST PARTY, October 31, 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Join us. Thank you in advance.

Jackie Jones,  
1st Vice Commander  
House Chair

## October/November Calendar (Partial)

### Sunday, October 15, Noon til 5:00 p.m.

Albany High JROTC Picnic (Pavilion)  
Cadets and Family Members

### Tuesday, October 31, 5:30 til 8:00 p.m.

\* \* \* Harvestfest \* \* \*

(See Message from House Chair Jackie Jones)

### Saturday, November 4, 5:00 p.m.

Limerick Fundraiser for Sacred Heart

### Sunday, November 5, 10:00 til 11:30 a.m.

Sons' Squadron 1610 Veterans Breakfast  
(After the 9:00 a.m. Mass @ Sacred Heart) – \$5.00

### Saturday, November 11, 11:00 a.m.

Central Avenue & Partridge Street, Albany  
Veterans Day Parade Steps Off