



# North Albany Post 1610 American Legion

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April 2024

## A Message from the Commander



This past Friday (03/22) we knew we were going to get snow and that the post had an event scheduled for the next afternoon, so we texted Michael Harbour our snowplow guy and asked for an early plow, before 10:00 a.m., to allow event decorators easy access so they could set up and decorate for a 4:00 p.m. baby shower. Then, shortly before 4:00 p.m., I called Shirl down at the post to ask that she check the entranceway for ice and salt if as needed. She checked and advised me that the salt had gone missing. Sara and I then hatted up and, armed with what sodium chloride we could muster, proceeded to the almost deserted parking lot where we liberally sprinkled the crystals on the area leading to the entrance.

That chore done, we walked into the post to see a beautifully decorated – all pink and white – Scully Hall (with DJ Swizzle setting up), but with few guests as the increasingly heavy and gusting snow picked up ultimately as most of you readers know taking out power lines, Wi-Fi, phone service, and TV with much of it remaining out for days. The post did not lose power, and the shower took place until its appointed 8:00 p.m. closing and a good time was had, I'm told, by all.

After last year's St. Patrick's post-parade dinner, we had just enough corned beef to go around. We ran out of turkey early on. Who knew that turkey would prove to be so popular on this day? Go figure. This year we factored in the fact that the parade grand marshals would be our own Limericks Debbie Ryan-McMahon and Don Riley, also a post member, and planned accordingly.

The dinner event was a success. The dinners and sandwiches were delicious. Our salute to house chair Jackie Jones, who organized it again this year and procured all the victuals. Thank you to Lormenzo Jones and Don Perry who both spent most of three days cooking and prepping. Don even braised some of the corned beef. On that Saturday afternoon North Albany native Wanda (Brooks) Austin-Peters returned to help plate the dinners, build the sandwiches, and serve them with a smile, as did new post member and navy vet Sheila Coleman-Willingham and volunteers Tiffany Chappell and Shanette Fallen. Thank you too to Jeff Hunt and Shirl Hall who endured behind the bar; I'm sure the Limericks tipped you well. Thank you to adjutant John Sacca, who spent the afternoon in kitchen no. 2 scouring pots and pans. I'm sure John didn't get tipped nearly as well. And thank you Limericks for underwriting much of the cost of this event.

At the March 20 membership meeting, the following nominations for 2024-25 officers were made and seconded. Elections will be held at the April 17 membership meeting.

Commander – Jackie Jones	Adjutant – John Sacca
1st Vice Commander – Don Perry	Treasurer – (Open)
2nd Vice Commander – Lawrence Wiest	Chaplain – Chuck Lossi

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We note with sadness the sudden passing last month of Dorothy Curran, for many years a mainstay of our Auxiliary. Dorothy was the Auxiliary treasurer and poppy chair, coordinating the Auxiliary's annual poppy distribution, which each year raises thousands of dollars in support of our veterans at the VA. She was the wife of the late Thomas Curran, an air force veteran and former post member who died in 2021.

**Do not abandon Ukraine!**

**Lawrence Wiest  
Commander**



### **Auxiliary News**

I am sure many of you have already heard that our Unit Treasurer, Dorothy Curran, has passed away. It was very sudden, and her brother has told me there will be no service for her. I hope you will say a prayer for Dorothy and her family. We will be draping our charter at the Post at our April meeting. Dorothy will be greatly missed. She was very active in our Unit as well as at the County level. She was County President Marie Mock's Historian. At our next meeting we will be discussing a replacement for the several positions Dorothy held, especially Treasurer and Poppy Committee, as well as other officers for 2024-25 positions.

If Dorothy contacted you about helping to distribute poppies in May, would you please contact me as soon as possible so we can see where we are at with this project. Either call me at 518-817-1240 or just forward your emails with Dorothy so we can reconstruct what she had already done. If you have not signed up yet to help, please let me know that as well and I can give you the dates and times where we still need help.

Female Vets Baby Shower was March 29, and I will give an update in the May newsletter.

April 27, Saturday, will be the Veteran Walk-A-Thon at Cook Park in the Village of Colonie. Please come and support our veterans. No entrance fee, just a donation at registration. Registration is

11 a.m. and the walk will start at noon. We will meet at the Sharon Dr Pavilion (off Robert Dr). If you cannot walk but would like to make a donation, just contact me.

Two of our members were honored in the St. Patrick's Day Parade last week. Sheila Savage was Limerick Marshal in the North Albany Parade and Debbie Ryan-McMahon was a co-Grand Marshal in the Albany Parade. Know that we are proud of both of you!

I hope everyone has a wonderful Easter.

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



**Rest in Peace Dorothy,  
You will be missed.**

## Grand Marshal and Limerick Dinner Dance and St. Patrick's Day Post-Parade Photos



They done us proud! Grand Marshals of Albany's 2024 St. Patrick's Day parade: Debbie Ryan-McMahon and Don Riley.



L to R: Co-Grand Marshal Don Riley, Sue McMahon Kane, Donnie McMahon (Lizzy's dad), Miss Limerick Elizabeth (Lizzy) McMahon, Ciara McMahon (Lizzy's sister), Christine McMahon (Lizzy's mom) and Co-Grand Marshal Debbie Ryan-McMahon. Debbie is Donnie's stepmother and grandmother to Lizzy and Ciara. Sue is great-aunt to Donnie and Christine's girls.



Limerick Marshal Sheila Savage, center, is surrounded by her family members (all Rourke), from bottom left, grandson Liam, daughter Kathleen, granddaughter Maeve, and son-in-law Brian.



Maryann Carey Ryan with Miss Limerick Lizzy McMahon. Maryann was Miss Limerick 1976. Lizzy's great-grandfather (James Patrick "Specky" McMahon) and Maryann's father (William "Wilbur" Carey) were the best of friends.

Miss Limerick Lizzy McMahon with her grandmother Debbie Ryan-Mahon, Co-Grand Marshal.



Far left: Don Perry and his wife Bonnie catching their breath at the Post bar.



Center: Three kitchen team members, from left, Jackie Jones, Shanette Fallen, and new Post member Sheila Coleman-Willingham



Far right: Bartenders Jeff Hunt and Shirl Hall quenched a lot of Irish thirsts at the Post.

This section reserved for mailing purposes.

### Chaplain's News

#### Post Everlasting:

Dorothy Curran, Auxiliary, March 16, 2024

#### Sick call:

- Larry Benner, Legion
- Don Perry, Legion
- Patrick Ellis, Legion
- Nancy Lucarelli, Auxiliary
- Michelle Perkinson, Auxiliary
- Susan Egan Rooney, Auxiliary
- Janis Sabatino, Auxiliary

### Auxiliary Membership Update

Our unit as of March 23, 2024, has 67 paid members. So, without your dues being paid we will be below our quota for the year! Please bring your membership up to date: senior dues are \$35, junior dues under 18 are \$8.00! Make your check payable to ALA Unit 1610 and mail to Jan Precopia, 1160 New Scotland Rd, Albany NY 12208 or leave in an envelope at the Post!

If you decide to pay online at 317-569-4570, please advise me so I can send you your membership card!

It is through your paid dues that we can continue to offer assistance to our Veterans during the year!

Jan Precopia  
Membership Chair