



North Albany Post 1610 American Legion

35 North First Street, Albany, NY 12204
Office: 518.465.4800/Bar: 518.465.1402
Website: <https://northalbanypost1610.com>
Email: nap1610@yahoo.com

June 2024



A Message from the Commander

Greetings fellow legionnaires, I would like to thank all legionnaires who attended our members meeting for the month of May. Our attendance for these meetings has begun to increase, which is due to our great efforts in bringing new members into Post 1610.

For the month of May, we were able to render fundraisers for the Post. The first "Meet, Munch, and Mingle" small buffet for \$20 was very successful and the Mother's Day event was also very successful. Thank you to all of the members who assisted in ensuring that these planned fundraiser events were able to go forward.

As we continue to journey into the month of June, the Post will be open on Thursdays from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. I would also like to share on May 31 at 10 a.m. the Post will be host site for the Albany County Veterans Service Bureau. A press conference will take place at which time checks will be presented to 10 legions and VFWs who submitted a proposal for a grant. Post 1610 will be one of those posts receiving a check. Feel free to join us. Albany County Executive Daniel McCoy will be in attendance along with county legislators who were instrumental in designating funds for Veteran organizations.

Until we meet again, take care and be in good health. Pray for Ukraine.

Jacqueline Jones
Commander



Auxiliary News

The Auxiliary is preparing for our Give to Education project for delivery in September! A list of needed supplies will be emailed to all members in the near future so you can shop early during the summer months!

On May 10, 2024, two of our members went to Giffen Memorial Elementary School to greet, distribute poppies, and deliver pastries, snacks, candy, and flowers to the teachers to show our Auxiliary

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

appreciation for all that they do for the children in their classrooms! Their motto is “Teach, Love and inspire.” Many teachers emailed to share their appreciation for the snacks and goodies.

We would like to congratulate all who are graduating this year from high school and college!

Special congratulations to one of our members, Anna Benner, who graduated from SUNY Brockport and will be working as a nurse in the ER at Samaritan Hospital!

Thank you to all our members who helped with Poppies this month. The donations collected enable our unit to continue helping our veterans.

I along with Jan would like to thank all our auxiliary members and legionnaires who have worked with

us over the past 21 years! You helped us make our Auxiliary a success and our jobs easier to accomplish our goals!

It is time for our newly elected officers to continue the aims and purposes of The American Legion Auxiliary of “service not self.”

Congratulations and welcome to our officers for 2023-2025 and beyond:

President:	Gretchen Riley
Vice President:	Peggy Norton
Treasurer:	Jan Precopia
Secretary:	Peg Hovish
Chaplain:	Kathy Schmitz-Morfe
Sergeant-at-Arms:	Judy Benner

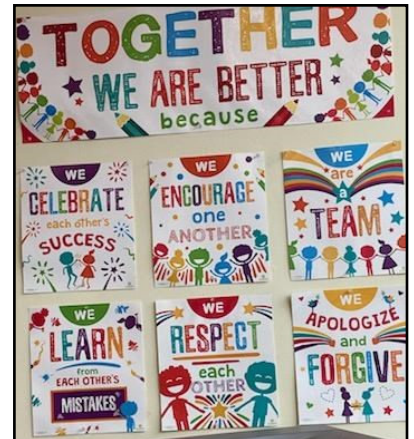
**For God and Country,
Judy Benner, President**



L to R: Ms. William, Ms. Felts, and Mrs. Thomas enjoying the goodies from Auxiliary Unit 1610 for Teacher Appreciation Week.



From the teachers at Giffen Memorial Elementary School.



Posters displayed on the wall in the teachers' faculty room at Giffen Memorial Elementary School.



May 5, 2024: Auxiliary members Jan Precopia and Carol Osl at the Loudonville Price Chopper.



May 5, 2024: Auxiliary members Carol Osl and Erin Stachewicz at the Price Chopper in Loudonville.



The American Flag

On June 14, we celebrate Flag Day because it commemorates the adoption of the flag in 1777 as the flag of the United States. On July 4, many of us will be waving the American flag while watching parades, flying the flag from our yards, and at other celebrations to both honor our country and those who have served and still serve defending our freedoms. At military funerals, honor guards make 13 crisp, intentional folds in the American flag that had been draped on the casket before presenting it to the family. Have you ever wondered why the American flag is folded 13 times?

There are a total of 13 folds in the flag ceremony and each holds symbolic value, according to the American Legion (<https://www.legion-aux.org/blog/the-symbolism-of-the-13-folds-of-the-u-s-flag>):

1. The first fold symbolizes life and how precious it is.
2. The second fold signifies our belief in eternal life.
3. The third fold is made to honor and in tribute of the veteran departing our ranks and defending their country.
4. The fourth fold symbolizes our weaker nature and reminds us that we are citizens trusting and searching for guidance in war and peace.
5. The fifth fold is an acknowledgment and tribute to our country.
6. The sixth fold is in honor of where our hearts lie, as we pledge allegiance to the flag.
7. The seventh fold is a tribute to the armed forces to protect our country.
8. The eighth fold is in tribute to the one who entered the valley of the shadow of death and to honor mothers for whom the flag flies on Mother's Day.
9. The ninth fold is in honor of womanhood and their character that has helped make this country great.
10. The tenth fold is a tribute to fathers who have given their children in sacrifice to our country.
11. The eleventh fold represents the lower portion of the seal.
12. The twelfth fold represents the emblem of eternity.
13. The last fold, when the flag is completely folded with only the stars exposed, reminds us of our national motto, "In God We Trust."

At the ceremony of retreat, the flag is lowered and folded into a triangle. At the ceremony of reveille, the flag is unfolded and raised.

(Sources: <https://www.nvti.org/2023/08/31/the-13-folds-of-the-american-flag/> and

<https://www.legion-aux.org/blog/the-symbolism-of-the-13-folds-of-the-u-s-flag>, blog posted on June 15, 2017.)

Retiring the American Flag

The North Albany Post collects flags all year. A retired flag receptacle is located outside the entrance to the Post where tattered, worn out, or damaged flags can be left for the next Flag Day ceremony.



This section reserved for mailing purposes.

SONS Squadron 1610 News

The SONS got the wreaths for the Post Memorial, the School 20 North Albany Academy 1943 WWII Memorial, and the Flag Display at St. Agnes Cemetery this past Memorial Day. They assisted in decorating the Veterans graves at St. Agnes Cemetery again this year.

Exciting news, by publication date dual Post and SONS member Corey Ruddock will assume the role of SONS commander. Corey is the deputy Veterans Affairs officer for Albany County and has volunteered to lead the SONS Squadron. He is a dynamo. Congratulations Corey.



Chaplain's News

- Post Everlasting -

Russell "Rusty" Jones, Legionnaire and Limerick, May 16, 2024

Sick call:

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