



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

Post Hours:

Thursdays: Noon to 8 p.m.

Capital Plan Fundraising Night — Friday, Happy Hour 5-7 p.m.,

Every other week game night; 50/50

December 2024 / January 2025



A Message from the Commander

Greetings, Fellow Legionnaires, and Happy Holidays!

I hope your Thanksgiving was filled with gratefulness and gratitude. This year, for the third time, our post organized a Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway, providing food baskets to 60 families, surpassing our original goal of 45.

This achievement would not have been possible without our amazing partners: Capital Roots (fresh produce); Regional Food Bank (turkeys); Menz and JNYSURF&TURF, LLC; Albany Community Land Trust; and Market 32 and Hannaford.

Thank you to all the volunteers who made this initiative a success.

I would also like to thank those who attended our November 18 monthly members' meeting.

Upcoming Events for December

- **Christmas Turkey Basket Giveaway & Toys for Tots Distribution**
- Date: Sunday, December 22
- Time: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- **Post Holiday Potluck Party (Legion, Auxiliary, and Sons)**
- Date: Sunday, December 22 — RSVP by Thursday, December 19
- Time: 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.
- Please bring your favorite dish to share and join us for food, fun, and fellowship!
- **Blood Drive**
- Date: Tuesday, December 31
- Time: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
- Help us help the Red Cross reach its goal of 15 liters.
- To schedule your donation, call 1-800-RED CROSS, visit redcrossblood.org, or download the Free Blood Donor App. Use Sponsor Keyword: **northalbanypost1610**.

December Highlight: Honoring a Veteran

On December 2, we were proud to honor United States Navy Veteran Harold Louis Gauthier. He was the father of Michael Gauthier, an Army Veteran.

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Looking ahead to January:

January will be a quieter month, but we encourage you to join us for our bi-monthly Meet, Munch, and Mingle events featuring a buffet. Stay tuned for more details.

Our focus remains on the Capital Plan Fundraising Initiative. Phase One is underway to secure funds for a new roof for our post.

To Donate:

- Make checks payable to North Albany Post 1610.
- Include "Capital Plan" in the memo section.

Your generosity ensures that our legion continues to serve as a safe and welcoming space for veterans and the community.

Thank you for your continued support. Wishing you all a wonderful holiday season and a healthy start to the New Year!

For questions or event details, please contact the post directly.

Thank you for your continued support! Pray for Ukraine.



**Sincerely,
Jacqueline Jones
Commander**



November 22, 2024: Members of Rolling Thunder at "Meet, Munch, & Mingle".



December 2, 2024: JROTC with John Sacca, Adjutant, at Honor A Vet.



December 2, 2024, Honor A Vet: United States Navy Veteran Harold Louis Gauthier was honored. He was the father of Michael Gauthier, an Army Veteran.

Auxiliary News

Happy December! On Sunday, October 27, a number of Auxiliary members from our Unit and from the County surprised Judy Benner with a luncheon. Judy had been President of Unit 1610 for 17+ years. Thank you Judy for all you do!

In November, several members of our Unit participated in the Veterans Day Parade. The weather was good, and it was nice to see so many people, young and old, waving flags along the parade route honoring our Veterans as the parade proceeded down the "Avenue" to the reviewing stand. Following the parade, the Gold Star Mothers' luncheon was held at the Joseph E. Zaloga Post 1520. Auxiliary members Judy Benner, Jan Precopia, and Sara Wiest attended the luncheon.

Tuesday, December 3, was our Unit meeting and Christmas Party and Potluck. This year following a brief meeting we had the pleasure of the Macedonia Baptist Church Children's Choir perform. The children sang several Christmas songs and were absolutely wonderful. It was a lovely way to start off the holiday season. Thank you to Auxiliary member Diann King, director of the choir, for bringing the children. Georgia Benner was the lucky winner of our raffle to have her 2026 dues paid. Everyone had a good time. I also want to say thank you to Judy Benner, Sara Wiest, and Gail Riley for helping to decorate the bar and the hall for Christmas. Nice job, ladies!

On Wednesday, December 4, Auxiliary members from the 3rd and 4th Districts helped with the Auxiliary Gift Shop at Albany Stratton VA Hospital. Veterans at the hospital were visited by the Auxiliary members. Gift cards will be mailed to individuals designated by the Veteran. Thank you to Judy Benner, Chairman of the Gift Shop Committee.

There are a couple of events happening this month at the Post. On Sunday, December 22, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. there will be the Post Holiday Potluck Party for members of the Legion, Auxiliary, and Sons and their guests. There will be a Blood Drive on Tuesday, December 31, from 1 to 5 p.m. Details for donating can be found in the Commander's Message.

January events will include our Unit meeting on January 7; the County visitation dinner at the Joseph E. Zaloga Post 1520 on January 15; Mid-Winter Conference on January 17-19 at the Albany Marriott (details to come) and Auxiliary County meeting on January 28.

Auxiliary membership expires on December 31, 2024...keeping that in mind, please send in your 2025 dues if you haven't done it yet! Members, have you changed marital status, address or emails, if so please let us know.

Wishing everyone a wonderful Christmas and holiday season! May 2025 be a happy, healthy, and good year!

Service, Not Self
Gretchen Riley, President



December 3, 2024: The Macedonia Baptist Church Music & Arts Ministry's Angelic Voices Choir.



November 11, 2024 (L to R): Judy Benner, Gretchen Riley, and Judy Stoffels march in the Veterans Day Parade.

This section reserved for mailing purposes.

Chaplain's News

Sick call:

- Don Perry, Legion
- Patrick Ellis, Legion
- Chuck Lossi, Legion
- Joann DeLisle, Auxiliary
- Marion Garhartt, Auxiliary
- Nancy Egan Lucarelli, Auxiliary
- Susan Egan Rooney, Auxiliary
- Janis Sabatino, Auxiliary



December 4, 2024: Auxiliary members from 3rd and 4th Districts enjoying lunch after helping with the American Legion Auxiliary Gift Shop at Albany Stratton VAMC.



The American Legion Family

The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion, and the American Legion Riders.