



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:

Capital Plan Fundraising — Monday Night Football,
starting Sept. 9; Happy Hour 4-6 p.m.; 50/50

Thursdays: Noon to 6 p.m.

Capital Plan Fundraising Night — Friday, Happy Hour 5-7 p.m.,
Every other week game night; 50/50

November 2024

A Message from the Commander



Greetings, Fellow Legionnaires,

I hope October has found you embracing the change of the season and that it has been fulfilling for you all. I would like to extend my gratitude to everyone who attended our October monthly members' meeting—your participation is greatly appreciated.

I'm pleased to report that four cadets from Albany High, who were sponsored by our Post in partnership with the Gold Star Mothers, shared summaries of their experiences at Boys State over the summer. We were all inspired by their stories.

In addition, I look forward to welcoming our new Post members, Colonel Michael Hutchinson, who will be taking the place of Major Dave Erickson from the Sergeant Henry Johnson Battalion Albany High ROTC, and Vickie Smith, a board member of the City School District of Albany.

Looking ahead to November, I'm excited to announce our 3rd Annual Thanksgiving Food Basket and Turkey Giveaway on November 23, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you know any families who may be in need of a Thanksgiving food basket or turkey, please feel free to email nap1610@yahoo.com with their contact information.

I would also like to congratulate Mr. James Dandles of the 369th Henry Johnson Association, also a member of Post 1610, on being selected as the Grand Marshal for the 2024 Veterans Day Parade. Mr. Dandles was drafted into the United States Army in 1965 during the Vietnam War and served honorably as a Sergeant with Bravo Company, 4th Platoon, 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry, 25th Division.

His remarkable service history includes:

- Departure from Albany, NY, in November 1965 for induction training at Fort Polk, Louisiana.
- Basic and Advanced Infantry Training at Fort Riley in February 1966, with A Company, 4th Platoon, 9th Infantry Division.
- Specialized training at Jungle Warfare School in Fort Sherman, Panama Canal Zone.

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Auxiliary News

At our October meeting, we discussed the need for people for committees, especially Poppy, Finance, and Constitution and By-laws. Sheila Savage and Sara Wiest volunteered for the Poppy Committee. Thank you Sheila and Sara. Judy Benner and Peg Norton volunteered to be on the Finance Committee. Thank you Judy and Peg.

The Veterans Walk-A-Thon which took place on Saturday, April 27, raised a total of \$66,480. Half of the amount raised, \$33,240, goes to the Department President's project, non-profit Hope For The Warriors.

It was decided to participate again this year in Wreaths Across America. We voted to sponsor 5 wreaths. The wreaths will be placed on veterans graves in Saratoga National Cemetery.

Judy updated us on things at the Stratton VA Hospital. She has a list of items needed for the spring baby shower. The baby shower will be held off-site in April at our Post. She also reported there are a number of ways to volunteer at the hospital. There is a need for Redcoat Ambassadors, van drivers, patient transporter, welcome carts, compassionate contact corp (contacting veterans at home) to name a few ways to volunteer. For more information, contact Stratton VA's Center for Development & Civic Engagement-Voluntary Services at 518-626-5506 (Jason Gorman).

The Third District Fall Conference was held on Sunday, October 6 at the Melvin Roads American Legion Post #1231. Five of us attended the conference. Guests at the conference were Kim Quick, Department President, and Yvonne Brunner, Department Third Vice President. This year's President project is Homeward Bound Adirondacks which is a Veteran's Service Organization, Vets Helping Vets. You can learn about the program at <https://homewardboundadironacks.org>. The fall conference was very informative. I'll give more about it at our November meeting. Also, at Fall Conference, Judy Benner received an award, American Legion Auxiliary 2023-2024, 2024 VAVS Meetings Perfect Attendance Award. Congratulations Judy!

October 22 found some of us at the ALA County meeting held in Voorheesville. Judy spoke about the upcoming Veterans Gift Shop at Stratton VA Hospital. The Gift Shop will be on Wednesday, December 4. Anyone who would like to help with this can meet on the 9th floor at 9:30 a.m. Also brought up at the County

meeting was the Veterans Day Parade in Albany. The parade will be held on Monday, November 11, with kickoff at 11:11 a.m. Auxiliary members interested in marching will meet at the Burger King on Central Avenue. If you need a ride, you can call the Zaloga Post. Attire is dark pants, white shirt, and white gloves. Be sure to dress warm as we all know the walk down the "Avenue" can be blustery and cold.

Erwin (Dom) Dominguez, Chief, Center for Development & Civic Engagement (CDCE) says he has been contacted about what donors can donate to our Veterans for Veterans Day. Dom says if he could have a preference, he'd prefer donations to the GPF 1325 fund. The GPF 1325 fund is used to purchase holiday and special occasion events, services, and gifts for inpatient Veterans. If you'd like to donate, you can send a check payable to: Samuel Stratton VA Medical Center and put on the memo line GPF 1325. Or, you can donate online by going to: <https://www.va.gov/albany-health-care/work-with-us/volunteer-or-donate/>. Click on "e-donate" and follow the steps. Copy of the General Post Fund list is on page 2.

Emily Murray, Girls State Citizen, sponsored by our Unit will be at our November 5 meeting. Hope to see you there.

Jan Precopia, our Unit Membership Chairperson, would love it if all dues were paid by November 30. Any member whose dues are paid by November 30, will have a chance to have their membership paid for next year. Drawing will be at our December meeting. If you pay your dues online to National or by phone to National, please let Jan know so she can make a note of it.

Service, Not Self
Gretchen Riley, President



October 6, 2024, Fall Conference, L to R: Judy Benner, Past Auxiliary President, Unit 1610, with Kim Quick, Department President.

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- Deployment to Vietnam in December 1966 with the 9th Infantry Division aboard the USNS Patch.
- Subsequent transfer to the 25th Infantry Division, stationed in Dau Tieng near the Michelin Rubber Plantation and the Iron Triangle, a strategic conflict zone.

Throughout his service, Mr. Dandles earned numerous awards, including the Combat Infantry Badge, National Defense Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, and Good Conduct Ribbon. Additionally, he has shown tireless dedication in advocating for Sgt. Henry Johnson, an Albany native and World War I hero. We thank Mr. Dandles for his incredible service and advocacy.

We are also continuing our efforts in the Capital Plan Fundraising initiative. Phase One of this plan focuses on securing funds for a new roof for the Post. If you feel inclined to contribute, please know that no donation is too small—every bit helps.

To Donate:

Checks can be made payable to **North Albany Post 1610**. Please note “**Capital Plan**” in the memo section. Your generosity will go a long way in ensuring that our Legion remains a safe and welcoming space for Veterans and the community.

Mark Your Calendar:

Our next members’ meeting is on Wednesday, November 20, at 7 p.m.

Thank you for your continued support! Pray for Ukraine.



Sincerely,
Jacqueline Jones
Commander



Annual Veterans Mass and Breakfast

The Annual Veterans Mass and Breakfast will take place on Sunday, November 10. 9 a.m. Mass is at Sacred Heart Church followed by breakfast at the Post. Cost: \$10 at the door. Servers and help with cooking are needed. If you are able or know someone who is, please reach out to Mike Conners (friendsofmikeconners@gmail.com).



The Post is in need of bartenders.

If interested, please call Post Commander Jacqueline Jones at (518)

465-4800. On-the-job training provided!

Bar Hours

Monday: Monday Night Football,

Happy Hour: 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Thursday: 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Friday: 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. (Happy Hour: 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.) Every other Friday: Game night, 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

MONETARY NEEDS - GENERAL POST FUND LISTING

The following list is provided to assist you in making monetary donations to the Stratton VA Medical Center for the benefit of OUR Veteran's care. Our funds most in need of donations are:

Personal Comfort Items - GPF 1312

Provides clothing, toiletries and personal comfort items for indigent and inpatient Veterans in need.

Veterans Holiday Fund - GPF 1325

Provides holiday and special occasion events, services and gifts for our inpatient Veterans.

Social Work Emergency Fund - GPF 1304

Provides indigent Veterans with food, transportation, and stays in local shelters.

Homeless Veterans Assistance - GPF 1315

Provides funding FOR supplies and services for HOMELESS Veterans.

Oncology Patient Fund- GPF 1318

Provides funding for Cancer patient's welfare and quality of life, to include comfort items, snacks, etc.

Stratton Inn - GPF 1327

Provides comfort items for Veterans requiring overnight accommodations.

Adaptive Sports Program - GPF 1328

Provides funding to send Veterans to PARTICIPATE IN adaptive sporting events.

Recreation & Music Therapy Programs - GPF 1329

Provides funding for Veterans to perform/exhibit music, drama and art.

General Purpose - GPF 1337

Provides Rehab, recreation equipment, and other Veteran needs not covered by VA budget funds.

If you or your organizations are interested in providing financial assistance, please contact:

Erwin "Dom" Dominguez, Service Chief, Center for Development and Civic Engagement, at (518) 626-5507

100% of all donations received directly benefit our VETERANS

The Internal Revenue Service has announced that under the Tax Code, donations to Department of Veterans Affairs General Post Funds are deductible from federal income taxes in the manner and to the extent allowable. Donations to support any of the Department's programs are deductible, whether the donor directs that the donated funds be used for a specific purpose or allows the Department to decide how the donated funds will be used.

This section reserved for mailing purposes.

Chaplain's News

Sick call:

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

Thank you to all our Veterans: past, present, and future for their service. For without them we would not have the freedoms we have.



Source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/veteransaffairs/53877322257/in/album-72177720300172803>



The American Legion Family

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