The Zaloga Banner

The Joseph E. Zaloga Post 1520
Serving Our Community, State and Nation since 1946
Kenneth Secor, Commander
(518) 459-1520
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"For God and Country"

April, 2025

Executive Board: Will meet on Tuesday, **April 1st** at **6:30PM.**

General Membership Meeting: The regular monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, **April 8th** at **7:00PM.** As noted elsewhere, at this meeting nominations will be accepted for both the Executive Board and the Board of Trustees.

Board of Trustees: Will meet on Tuesday **April 15th** at **6:30PM.**

Albany County American Legion: Will meet on Thursday, **April 24th** at the **Helderberg Post #977, Altamont** at **7:00 PM.**

The **Honor a Vet** will be held on Monday **April 7th** at the Elks Lodge #49, 25 So. Allen St. Albany at **8:30AM**. This month's honoree will be **Michael J. McClean, U.S. Navy**. Refreshments will be served immediately following the ceremony.

2025/26 Officer/Trustee Elections

During the month of April, nominations for Executive Board and Board of Trustee positions are being accepted. Nominations can be submitted either by contacting Jerry Perry in person or at (518) 459-1520 and leave a message. Nominations can also be made at the April General Membership Meeting. Remember, you may nominate yourself or any other member but in order to do so, you must have their consent, so if they are not present, their consent must be in writing. **Note:** The election of Executive Board and Board of Trustee positions will take place at the May General Membership Meeting. Positions for election to the Board of Trustees are three - 3 year terms along with the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. **Note:** to be considered for an officer position on the Board of Trustees, a nominee must have served a minimum of eight years, combined, on the Executive Board and/or the Board of Trustees. Finally, all those elected, either for the Executive Board or the Board of Trustees will be sworn in during the June General Membership Meeting.

Memorial Day Events

The start of our annual Memorial Day remembrance is the placement of flags in Albany Rural Cemetery on May 18th to honor our Veterans. Then, on May 26th, we march in the Albany City Memorial Day Parade and close out the day with an open house at our post. More info to follow, next month.

Membership

Our membership renewals stand at 495, which represents 85% of our goal of 580. We need 85 members to renew their dues so that the Post can attain 100% membership. As a convenience, you can pay your dues on line at *www.legion.org/renew* or drop it off and/or mail it to the Post. Also, if you know of a member that is financially unable to pay, (nursing home, hospital, financial hardship, etc.) please notify **Harvey Martel** at **(518) 256-2256.**

Volunteers

As previously mentioned in other editions of this publication, the continued successful running of our Post is significantly dependent on members volunteering their time and talents. For example, a hugely popular event at our Post is the Friday night weekly BINGO games. There are several positions (verifiers, callers, etc,) that play an integral part in our operation. If interested, stop in some Friday night to see how everything works or call Bob McGraw, our volunteer chairman on (518) 265-6851.

Mothers' Day Breakfast

You are invited to our annual Mothers' Day breakfast, to be held on Sunday, May 11th from 9:00am to 12:00pm. The buffet will include scrambled eggs, bacon, breakfast sausage, French toast sticks, waffles, gluten free waffles, mini Danish and of course coffee, tea, orange and cranberry juices. Donations, $12.00 for adults, children 6 to 10 $7.00, and children 5 and under are free. It is highly recommended that parties of 8 or more call the Post (518) 459-1520 for reservations.

Special Thanks

March is celebrated as the birthday of the American Legion and as is their custom, our wonderful Auxiliary provided our membership with a scrumptious dinner after our March General Meeting. Thank you, it was much appreciated.

Commander's Message

Ken Secor

Hello everyone. Well Spring is in the air! We have had a few doses of good weather so hopefully it will get warm and stay warm soon. With the warm weather comes many Veteran events and fundraisers. Please get out and support these events that support many Veteran initiatives. One of our next major events will be Memorial Day which we put flags out at cemeteries, participate in the parade, and have an open house at the Post. We will need a bunch of volunteers to ensure the Memorial Day events are successful. If you would like to volunteer please contact Bob McGraw or me. Also, don't forget that May is Poppy month which we will need support with. We are always trying to improve things here at the Post so if you have suggestions please let us know. We may not be able to implement all suggestions but we will try. Have a great month and thank you for being a part of our Legion family

Poppy Distribution

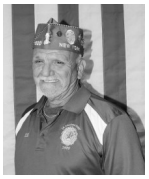
Poppy Chairmen, Roger Gulley and **George Otty** remind us that next month is **Poppy month**. and now is the time to consider helping to make this project of the American Legion as successful as it can be. Don't forget the importance of donations collected from the distribution of this little blossom which go to assist our hospitalized and needy **Veterans**. If you have some time to help distribute these small mementos, which commemorate the sacrifices of men and women who served and died for our **Country** in all wars, contact Chairman Roger Gulley at **(518) 489-0331** or **George Otty** at **(518) 813-0448** and leave a message. They will have various times and locations available to distribute Poppies so please consider donating some of your valuable time to help with this important endeavor. In furtherance of this project, Roger will have a list of times, dates and locations available at our April General Membership meeting.

Walkathon

This year's annual **Albany County Auxiliary/SAL** "They Marchedor Us, Let's Walk For Them" **walkathon** will be held on **April 26th** at the Sharon Drive Pavilion in Cook Park, Colonie. Registration will be at 11:00 AM with the walk to begin at noon. This year's proceeds will be divided equally between the NYS VA Center Healthcare for Homeless Veterans and Homeward Bound Adirondack. If you are interested in donating to these programs, contact **Dave Bishop** at **(518) 590-6483** or **Judy Benner** at **(518) 869-8668** or send your check, made payable to Detachment of NY, and note "Walkathon" on the memo line, and send to J.E. Zaloga Post, 4 Everett Rd. Ext., Albany, NY 12205. Also, "Boots" may be purchased at the bar from Joe. E.

SAL Corner

Joe Eworonsky, Squadron Commander



Hello everyone. I hope you all are well. If your dues have NOT been paid, It's not too late. See Dave Bishop to pay them it is $40. Our Fundraiser was a huge success. We were sold out at 175 tickets. Everyone had a great time and thanks to Charlie our cook and Claire Grant, dinner was delicious. Our own Kevin Pepe kept us entertained for hours and we thank him. Lots of lucky winners that night including Paul Fisk who won the recliners from Old Brick with a special thank you to Sel Somes from Old Brick for donating them. Congratulations also go to Dee Wright for winning the big 50 50. A very big shout out to all those who donated to the raffle, unfortunately because of the generosity of everyone there is too many to list. We raised over $7,000 to go to the charities designated, it was our best year yet. We could not have done it without the volunteers and those that attended. Special kudos go out to Jim Prime, John Trong, Emerson Kelly, Frank Aquado Sr., Dave Bishop, Ron Fountain, Allan Beckner, Tyler Wortham and Danny Holmes. Thank you to the Auxiliary for the deserts along with Pam Tracy, Ann Trong, Patty Eworonsky, Bev Schilling, Donna Salamida, Nancy Kelly, Anna Kelly and Vicki Beckner for all their help. If I forgot to mention anyone my sincere apologies. Congratulations to Max who was our monthly 50/50 winner. Next month you could be the lucky winner. If you have any suggestions they are always welcomed. As always, God Bless America and God Bless the American Legion.

BINGO

Every Friday night a BINGO extravaganza is held in our Klimek Hall. Doors open at 4:00PM with games starting at 7:00PM. Each week prizes in excess of $2,300 are awarded. Also available is a gourmet selection of delectable "BINGO fare". Come and enjoy an evening of games with a chance to leave with a profit. You'll enjoy the repartee with the most friendly callers in the area.

Sick Call

Dave Bernardi - Van Renns. Manor Nursing Home
Joy Kay Innace - At home
John Kafer - At home
Ed Kearsing - Schenectady Center
Herm Ungerman - Peregrine Nursing Home
Mark Rosenzweig - Hospital in Boston
Dan Willis - At Home

"We remember our fallen comrades"

If you know of any Veteran who is ill or suffering extreme hardship please feel free to call **Chaplain Elmo Kearsing at (518) 573-0781.**

Auxiliary News

Our next monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 7:00. Please bring a favorite dessert to share. Thank you to all of the members that always help to set-up, clean up and close up after each meeting. I really appreciate it.

Pam Tracy, President

April County Meeting: will be held on Tuesday, March 25, 2025 at the Helderberg Post in Altamont.

Membership: - $35.00 for Seniors (18 years of age and older), Juniors $8.00 (17 years of age and younger). Make all checks payable to: A.L.A. Unit 1520. They can be mailed to: Pam Tracy, 111 Frederick Avenue, Albany, New York 12205. 518 459 9259. If you leave any form of payment with the bartenders be sure that the payment is in an envelope addressed to me along with your name in the left hand corner. Our Unit goal for this year is 394. We have 361 paid to date. I realize that this is the time of year when dues payments start to fall off but your dues status in the organization is very important. If you have not yet paid your dues, your membership is in a delinquent status and you cannot vote on any matter.

50/50 Raffle: this drawing takes place at our monthly meeting. The cost per ticket is $1.00. You may purchase as many tickets as you would like. This raffle is vitally important in the operation of our Units many programs. If you wish to be in the drawing on a monthly basis, you can send a check along with mailing labels to the Post in care of Beverly Schilling or visit her any Friday night at bingo. Make the check payable to: ALA Unit 1520. The drawing runs from January to December of each year. 50/50 Drawing: The winner of the March 50/50 drawing was Dan Ryan. He received $187.50.

THANK YOU goes out to JJ and Oliver Clas (our Lucky Leprechauns) along with Bev and Larry Schilling, Denise and Jim Rozen and Pat Eworonsky for helping to put up the St. Pat's Day decorations.

Our S.A.L. Detachment hosted a fundraiser on March 8th. Congratulations to all that worked on this affair. It turned out to be a wonderful evening and a huge success.

Our S.A.L. Detachment will be hosting their Annual Walk-A-Thon on Saturday, April 26th at Cook Park in Colonie (use the Sharon Drive entrance). Everyone is welcome to join the walk. Registration is at 11:30am and the walk will start at 12:00 noon. If you cannot make it and would like to donate, you made do so by sending a check to Judy Benner, 13 Broderick Street, Albany, New York 12205. Please make the check out to S.A.L. Detachment – Walk-a-thon.

Poppy Distribution: Our poppy distribution time is fast approaching. Chairperson Claire Grant is seeking volunteers for this project. We Need Your Help. Please contact Claire at 518-527-2934 for dates, times and locations. We need your help to make this program a success.

Nomination of Officers: April is the month for nominations of officers. Nominations are open for the following offices: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Anna Kelly and Anne Trong are the Co-chairmen for this committee. If you are interested in running for any of these offices, please see one of them.

End of Year Dinner: the date for this affair is Tuesday, June 17th. The plans are in the works. More information will follow in the May newsletter.

New Members: The Unit would like to welcome four new members to our group. They are Joanne Holmes, Frances LaBasso, Mary Littlejohn and Sandra Marritt.

Chaplains Corner: Please notify Jo Grace at 518 573 3957 on the passing of a member. Please notify Pat Lito at 518 459 3842 regarding the illness of any member. Get Well Cards were sent to Sandy Fratianni, Mary Faulkner, Nancy Sanders, Gail Marcucci, MaryAnn Davis, Donna Rogers, Eileen Guiry, Past Commander Jerry Perry and Commander Ken Secor. Condolence Cards were sent to Donna Cortie on the passing of her brother and Pat Hennessey on the passing of her husband.

Signs of Spring are appearing in the Gardens.

For God and Country,

Pamela Tracy, President

JOSEPH E. ZALOGA POST 1520
AMERICAN LEGION
4 EVERETT ROAD EXT
ALBANY, NY 12205

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Attention!!!

Department of New York website:

nylegion.net

Vice Cdr Bob McGraw presenting our Post donation of $1000 to Dom Dominguez for the Albany VA food panrty.

PLEASE

Notify the Post if you have a temporary or permanent change of address.

Saturday Night Entertainment

Saturday-Apr. 5th - Brian Zappel

Saturday-Apr.12th - Sal Graziano

Saturday-Apr. 19th - Kevin Pepe

Saturday-Apr 26th - Bill Perry

Coming Soon

April 6th - Easter Ice Cream social
April 10th - National Commander's Visitation, Holiday Inn, Saratoga
May 11th - Mothers' Day Breakfast
May 18th - Flag Placement, Albany Rural Cemetery
May 26th - Memorial Day Parade and Open House

WANT INFORMATION ON THE AMERICAN LEGION ?

Go to **www.legion.org**

Support Our Troops and especially our Members that are serving our Country