



"For God and Country"

The Zaloga Banner

The Joseph E. Zaloga Post 1520

Serving Our Community, State and Nation since 1946

(518) 459-1520

Kenneth Secor, Commander

www.zalogapost1520.org

zal1520@nycap.rr.com

Official Joseph E. Zaloga Post 1520

December, 2024

Executive Board: Will meet on Tuesday, **December 3rd** at **6:30PM.**

General Membership Meeting: As is the custom, there will not be a General Membership meeting in December.

Board of Trustees: Will meet on Tuesday **December 10th** at **6:30PM.** **NOTE** change of date.

Albany County American Legion: Will meet on Thursday, **December 19th** at the **Joseph E. Zaloga Post #1520**, at **7:00 PM.**

The **Honor a Vet** will be held on Monday **December 2nd** at **8:30AM** at the North Albany Post, #1610. This month's honoree will be **Harold Louis Gauthier, U. S. Navy.** Refreshments will be served immediately following the ceremony.

Adult Christmas Party

This year's adult Christmas Party is scheduled for **Dec. 15th** from 1:00PM to 5:00PM. A cocktail hour will be held from 1:00PM to 2:00PM with a ham dinner to be served at 2:00PM. Music will be provided by Scott Mc Nellis for your dancing and entertainment pleasure. A donation of \$15.00, which will include complimentary draft beer, wine and soda, is requested. Tickets are available in the DeMizio Lounge. Remember, for this event, attendance is limited to a member of the Zaloga Post family and one guest. Cut off to procure your tickets for this event is December 8th.

New Year's Eve

A New Year's Eve special will be held on 12/31 from 8:00pm to 12:30am with a selection of appetizers available from 8:00pm to 10:00pm. Available and included for a donation of \$30.00, will be pigs in a blanket, large shrimp platter, mozzarella sticks, chicken fritters, and more, with a cash bar. There will be entertainment for your dancing and listening pleasure. Ticket procurement deadline is December 22nd.

Happy Holidays to all !!!

Membership

Our current membership is 416, which represents 71% of our goal of 580. Note: if your current dues are not paid by December 31st, 2024, you will be in delinquent status and your door key card will no longer work. Remember, please send your check to the Zaloga Post, 4 Everett Road Extension, Albany, NY 12205, or you may pay online at nylegion.net. Click on membership and scroll down to "renew online". If you have any questions about your membership status, please contact us at membership@zalogapost1520.org or call (518) 459-1520 and leave a message with the bartender. Someone will contact you.

Annual Commander's Visitation

The annual visit from our Department/Detachment officers will be held on Wednesday, **January 15th** at the **Joseph E. Zaloga Post, #1520.** This year we welcome **Department Commander, Keith J. Koster, Department President Kim Quick** and **Detachment Commander Gaither Espey** to our County. Cocktail hour will be from 5:00pm to 6:00pm (cash bar) and a Stuffed Chicken Breast dinner will be served at 6:15pm. Tickets are only \$35.00 for this event and may be obtained by contacting reservation chairman **Steve Reidel** at (518) 265-7466. Cut-off date for procuring tickets is December 27th, 2024.

Army/Navy Football Game

On December 14th, the annual Army/Navy football game is scheduled to be played. To enhance your enjoyment of viewing the game, we will hold a tailgating party in the lounge to coincide with the game which starts at 3:00 pm. Complimentary burgers, dogs and snacks will be provided.

Post Closings

Be advised that our Post will be closing at 6:00PM on Tuesday, **December 24th**, Christmas Eve, and will remain closed on **December 25th**, Christmas Day. Also, the Post will be closed on **January 1st**, New Year's Day.

Commander's Message

November was a busy month. We had the Veterans' Day parade, our open house, and the Gold Star luncheon. All were a great success. The success of these events is due to all the members. It was great to see so many members participating and helping out. It was a true example of our Legion family coming together to make things happen. The open house led to five (possibly seven) new members who all said they like all the activities the Post has and the members were so welcoming. I think that says a lot about what we do and the great members we have. As of the writing of this newsletter, the Past Commanders' dinner has not yet happened but I am looking forward to it. We had a lot sign up so it should be a great time. With December coming we have a bunch more events coming up (see the list of upcoming events) that should be a great time. I will be your host at the Army Navy game viewing and the New Year's Eve party which will be a lot of food, fun and prizes so I hope to see a lot of you there. Don't forget to pay your dues for this year and try to help us recruit new members. Stay safe, enjoy the holiday season, thanks for being a part of our Legion family.



Queen of Hearts

The search for the Lady returns!! The ever popular Queen of Hearts game has again begun. As usual, tickets will be available at the bar or prior to BINGO in the hall from 5:30 - 7:00. This version of the game will be different in that cost of a ticket will be \$2.00 and the purchase of a ticket(s) is open to everyone. Drawing is every Friday night during BINGO intermission.



V. A. Medical Center Donation

Kudos to the volunteers who work the snack bar at Friday Night BINGO, led by Virginia Volk, who donated the tips generously given to them by our BINGO patrons. On November 14th, Virginia, along with Donna Salamida presented a check for \$1,000, to Dom Dominguez, Service Chief of the V.A food pantry.



Pearl Harbor Ceremony

On Saturday, **December 7th**, we will hold a remembrance ceremony to commemorate the fateful "Day of Infamy". After a brief ceremony a breakfast will be served. For more information or to make a reservation contact Commander Ken Secor at (518) 421-5710.

SAL Corner



Joe Eworonsky, Squadron Commander



Hello everyone. Happy holidays to all. Please see Dave Bishop for your 2025 membership dues. He is now accepting the money to renew. Deadline is Dec.31st. After that your card will not let you into the building. Your membership card is needed at the bar. The children's Christmas Party, hosted by the Auxiliary, is on December 8th from 1:00 to 3:00. The Sons will assist them in the kitchen and for clean-up so volunteers will be appreciated. We will meet on our regular meeting, December 10th. I hope to see you there. Last month's 50/50 winner was Pat Sbuttoni, who won \$130.00. Please, if you have any suggestions, they are always welcome and as always God Bless American and God Bless the American Legion.

BINGO

Every Friday night a BINGO extravaganza is held in our Klimek Hall. Doors open at 4:30PM 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" prepared by various world renowned chefs. 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.



Toys for Tots

The annual Toys for Tots toy drive spear headed by our local Marine Corps chapter has begun for another year. As you should know, the toys collected are distributed to needy families in the region. The collection box is now in our lobby.

Sick Call

Dave Bernardi - Van Renns. Manor Nursing Home
Ed Kearsing - Schenectady Center
Herm Ungerman - Peregrine Nursing Home

"We remember our fallen comrades"

Forest (Ken) Holmes October 26, 2024

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 JANUARY 21, 2025 at 7:00 pm.** 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

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. 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. **All 2025 dues must be paid by December 31, 2024 to remain in good standing.** Our Unit goal for this year is 394. We have 225 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. Please remain in good standing.

50/50 Monthly Raffle: Congratulations to Renee Fields. She was the lucky winner of \$182.00 from this month's drawing. Thanks to our Beverly Schilling for her continuous hard work on this monthly project.

Chaplains Corner: Get Well/Thinking of You cards were sent to Brigette Christensen, Kathleen Holmberg, Alice Plante, Gloria Allegretta, Deana Barna, Sheree Wright, Kathy Govel, Deborah Prime and Betty Skop.

VOLUNTEER: one who offers their service for the good of the cause. Do you know that we have two very responsible boys that have been volunteering their services for a few years. They are JJ (Age 9) and Oliver (Age 7) Clas. The sons of Mr. and Mrs. James Clas and the Grandsons of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Schilling. They are both elementary school students. They helped with the mailing set-up of newsletters on a monthly basis until we turned the job over to our printer. They now step up to help decorate our dining hall for all occasions. They also help to do clean-up work. We also have 21 year old Caitlin Push, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Push and my Granddaughter. Caitlin came onboard as a Brownie and then a Girl Scout. She continues to work the snack bar at the Children's Parties. Two weeks ago the ladies that volunteer to cover the snack bar for Bingo every Friday night, presented the Stratton VA Medical Center with a check for \$1,000.00. These funds were an accumulation of tips that they had received over a two year period of time. These wonderful ladies are MaryAnn D. Bonnie P., Alice P., Joanne R., Donna S., Beverly S., Carol S., Barbara Z., Claire G., and Virginia V. Pat E., Bev S., Cheryl C., Linda L. Debbie P., Anna K., Sonya L., Ann T., Myrna R., Tracey H., Claire G., Caitlin P., Larry S., Tom G., Bob B., Emerson K. Ken S., Dave M., Jerry P. and myself all gathered to help make the Children's Halloween Party a success. You read these names all of the time. Please come and add your name to the list. We are a large organization that still can use help. All of these actions are the meaning of the word **Volunteer: one who offers their service for the good of the cause.**

County Visitation Dinner: will be held on Wednesday, January 15th at our Post rooms. Cocktail hour will be from 5:00 to 6:00 with a stuffed chicken breast dinner complete with baked potato, green beans, salad, rolls and strawberry shortcake served at 6:15. The cost is \$35 per person. **Reservations must be made prior to December 27th.** Contact Patricia Midgett at 518-489-7084 for tickets. Come out and meet our Department Commander Keith Koster, Auxiliary President Kimberly Quick, and Detachment Commander Gaither Espey who will be honored at this dinner.

The Adult Holiday Party: December 15, 2024. Tickets are on sale at the bar.

County Meeting: The next County Meeting will be held at the **Legnard-Curtin Post in Green Island on January 28, 2025 at 7:00.**

As the variety of Holiday Seasons approach for all of us, please remember that we are all connected in the Circle Of Life.

Let there Be Peace on Earth and Let it Begin with US.

For God and Country

Pamela Tracy, President

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

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 727
Albany, NY

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Attention!!!

Department of New York website:
nylegion.net



Volunteers Needed

If you are interested in doing any volunteering at the Post, contact **Vice Commander Bob McGraw** the volunteer coordinator at **(518) 265-6851**. He will be happy to advise what opportunities are available.

PLEASE

Notify the Post if you have a temporary or perma-

Saturday Night Entertainment

Saturday-Dec. 7th - Brian Zappel

Saturday-Dec. 14th - Scott Mc Nellis

Saturday-Dec. 21st - Kevin Pepe

Saturday-Dec. 28th - Bill Perry



Coming Soon

- Dec. 7th - Pearl Harbor Remembrance Ceremony and breakfast;
- Dec. 8th - Children's Christmas Party
- Dec. 14th - Army/Navy football game and tailgate party
- Dec. 15th - Adult Christmas party
- Dec. 25th - Post closed
- Dec. 31st - New Year's Eve Gathering
- Jan. 1st - Post closed
- Jan. 15th - Annual Department Visitation Dinner

WANT INFORMATION ON THE AMERICAN LEGION ?

Go to www.legion.org

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