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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www.facebook.com/groups/866411328765532

"For God and Country"

May, 2025

Executive Board: Will meet on Tuesday, **May 6th** at **6:30PM.**

General Membership Meeting: The regular monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, **May 13th** at **7:00PM.** We will have an election for both the Executive Board and the Board of Trustees at this meeting.

Board of Trustees: Will meet on Tuesday **May 20th** at 6**:30PM.**

Albany County American Legion: Will meet on Thursday, **May 29th** at the **No. Albany Post, 1610,** at **7:00 PM.** There will be an election for next year's officers at this meeting.

The **Honor a Vet** will be held on Monday **May 5th** at the Ancient Order of the Hibernians, 375 Ontario St., Albany at **8:30AM**. This month's honoree will be **Rocco J. DeMarco, U.S. Navy**. Refreshments will be served immediately following the ceremony.

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.

Poppy Month

Remember, **May** is **Poppy month**. 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 **Chairmen Roger Gulley** at **(518) 489-0331** or **George Otty** at **(518) 813-0448** and leave a message. They have various times and locations available to distribute Poppies so **please** consider donating some of your valuable time to help with this important endeavor.

Membership

Our membership renewals stand at 522, which represents 90% of our goal of 580. We need 58 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.**

Memorial Day

On Sunday, **May 18th** flags will be placed on **Veterans'** graves at **Albany Rural Cemetery.** Volunteers are needed to complete this solemn duty. If interested you may meet at the **Post** at **8:00am** to carpool to the cemetery. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact volunteer chairman **Bob McGraw** at **(518) 265-6851**. Also on Sunday **May 18th**, at **1:00pm,** a **memorial ceremony** will be conducted at Our Lady of Angels cemetery in Colonie to honor our namesakes **Joseph and Edward Zaloga**, as well as their **Gold Star mother Anna Zaloga.** Immediately following, a brief remembrance ceremony will be held at the monument located outside of our Post recognizing the two **Zaloga** brothers.
This year **Memorial Day** will be observed on Monday, **May 26th,** with the parade stepping off at **9:30am**. Those who plan to march can meet at the corner of Partridge St. and Central Ave. n/l/t **9:15am** or at the **Post** n/l/t **8:30am**. Transportation will be provided to and from the parade as well as in the parade for those who are unable to march, with priority given to **Zaloga Post** family. **Post** doors will be open immediately following the parade, however the **open house** will only run from **noon** to **3:00pm**. Please note: the open house following the parade is a great chance for us to "show off" our Post to Legion family members from other Posts as well as any/all neighbors who take the opportunity to visit. While you are here, please be mindful of things that may need doing and don't be afraid to offer your assistance.

Commander's Message

Ken Secor

It looks like the weather has finally turned warm for the season and I have been seeing some of you out and about enjoying the great weather. Along with the warmer season comes our time for Poppies. May is Poppy month and I would like to thank all the volunteers who will be out giving Poppies for donations at various sites. A big thanks to our Poppy Chairpersons, Roger Gulley, George Otty, & Claire Grant, for all the time and coordination they did to make it happen. This past month we had the pleasure of attending the National Commander's dinner in Saratoga. It's always nice to meet the face of our organization. He had a lot of great things to say but emphasized the Be The One campaign and American Legion Family. Both are programs we fully support so we made a $500 donation to him for the Be The One campaign. As you know, supporting Veterans is our mission so we also made a $1000 donation to the VA Food Pantry last month. We could not support these programs without all the volunteers who support our fundraising efforts throughout the year. Thank you to all who volunteer. As always, thank you for being a part of our American Legion Family.

Queen of Hearts

The ever popular search for the Queen of Hearts continues. This popular game will cost you a dollar a chance and if/when the Queen is found it will be a windfall for the lucky searcher. Currently the prize is in excess of $1,400 and is climbing. The tickets are available all week in the lounge and before BINGO on Friday night with the drawing during intermission of BINGO.

Art4Vets

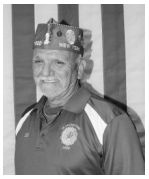
Remember our program to assist Vets who may need a little assistance with issues they are encountering. This program, which runs every Friday morning from 9:00am to noon has a variety of programs ranging from art, creative writing, drama, music and more. Stop in some Friday and see if there is some part of their program that might interest you. For more information contact Penny Lee at penylee56@yahoo.com.

Colonie Crossings Wreath Placement

The annual placement of wreaths at the Colonie Veterans' Memorial at the Crossings by Zaloga Post and other Veteran organizations will take at 6:00PM on Wed. May 21st. Join your comrades in paying tribute to our lost compatriots who should never be forgotten.

SAL Corner

Joe Eworonsky, Squadron Commander



Hello everyone. I hope you all are well. The post held a CPR class on Sat. April 12th. Thank you for all who attended. Thanks to Jim Prime and Larry Schilling who came out for the children's Easter party and assisted me with the event. Good time by all. Nominations were held at our April meeting; elections will be at our May 13th meeting. I raised approx. $400 on the boots that were hung in the bar for the Walk A Thon. Thanks to all that bought one from me. May is Poppy month and your assistance and/or donation will be greatly appreciated; see George Otty or Roger Guilly. At our May 13th meeting Gaither Espey our NYS Detachment Commander along with representatives from Veterans Miracle Center will be attending our meeting so we can present them with our donation to them. Please attend so you can meet them. Congratulations to Ann Forenzo who was our monthly 50/50 winner for $98.00. Next month you could be the lucky winner, all you need is a dollar and a dream. 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
Ed Kearsing - Schenectady Center
Herm Ungerman - Peregrine Nursing Home
Mark Rosenzweig - Hospital in Boston
Donald Thayer - At Home

"We remember our fallen comrades"

David Wallingford - 03/25/25
George E. DeWitt - 03/26/25
Michael Raimo - 03/26/25
Gary M. Chapman - 04/09/25
Vincent J. Perry Sr. - 04/14/25

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, May 20, 2025 at 7:00 pm**. Please bring a favorite dessert to share. Thank you to all the members that always help to set-up and clean up after each meeting. I really appreciate it. **Our Annal Memorial Service will be held at this Meeting.**

May **County Meeting:** will be held on Tuesday, May 27, 2025 at the Legnard – Curtin Post. The **Annual County Memorial Service** will be held at this meeting.

Pam Tracy, President

Graveside Memorial Service – May 18, 2025 – 12:00 pm. This service is held at the gravesites of Joseph and Edward Zaloga and Anna Zaloga (Gold Star Mother) at Our Lady of Angels Cemetery.

Membership: Our year to date membership has topped out at 386 (98%). In this count we have welcomed 31 new members. The latest ones being Lori Keys Campbell, Cheryl Blais, Susan Davis, Darlene Newman and Lisa Scattergood.

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 Unit's 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. The winner of the April 50/50 drawing was: Judith Storey for $188.00.

Easter Social: Mrs. Peter Rabbit made an appearance at our Annual Easter Social on Sunday, April 6th. Fifty of our member's grandchildren had the opportunity to spend some time with her. These children would like to thank Ken Secor, Bev and Larry Schilling, Jim and Debbie Prime, Joe and Pat Eworonsky, Sonya LaBombard, Ann Trong , Nancy Kelly, Leslie Bassett and Kim Aguado for making this a fun time. The Easter Basket Raffle was won by Dianne Waddell and the 50/50 for $135.00 was won by Joyce Schaldone.

THANK YOU goes out to Bev and Larry Schilling and Denise and Jim Rozen under the expert direction of JJ and Oliver Clas on the decorating of the main hall for the Easter/Spring season.

Poppy Distribution: Our poppy distribution time is in full swing. Chairperson Claire Grant can use help in covering the times that are still open. Please contact Claire at 518-527-2934 for dates, times and locations. We **need your help** to make this program a success. Thank you to Claire and the following people that helped to tab the poppies for distribution. They are Donna Salamida, Pat Eworonsky, Ann Trong, Bev Schilling, Vicki Beckner, Dan Willis, Pam Tracy, Roger Gulley, Ken Secor, Tina Haskins, Dave Bishop and Wayne Peplowski.

Nomination of Officers: The following Slate of Officers was presented at the April Meeting. Pamela Tracy – President, Tracey Hubbard – 1st Vice President , Patricia Lito – 2nd Vice President, M. Pat Eworonsky – Secretary , Elizabeth Skop – Treasurer. Nominations may also be taken from the floor. Your dues for 2025 must be paid in order to vote.

End of Year Dinner: Dinner Chairperson Tracey Hubbard is in the process of finalizing this wonderful gathering. The date for this affair is Tuesday, June 17th. The cocktail hour will begin at 4:30 pm. A turkey dinner will be served at 5:20 followed by a delicious dessert. The cost is $ 20.00 . Make all checks payable to A.L.A. Unit 1520 and send to: Sonya LaBombard at 3036 Edgewood Ave., Schenectady, NY, 12306. Sonya can be reached at 518 360 7893. When making your reservation, please let Sonya know who you would like to sit with. **Deadline for reservation is Sunday, June 8th. No exceptions. Dues for 2026 may be paid at this gathering also.**

Father's Day Breakfast – Sunday, June 15th from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. The cost is $12.00 per adult, $7.00 for children 6 – 10 years of age and children 5years of age and under are free. Reservations for parties of 8 or more are required. Please contact Pam at 518 522 9259. Thank you to all that have signed up to help.

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 Cheryl McMullin, Louise Donato, Patricia Mudgett and Mary Ann Davis.

Happy Spring.

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

For information regarding this valuable program, contact Albany County Veteran Services at (518) 447-7710

PLEASE

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

Saturday Night Entertainment

Saturday-May 3rd - Brian Zappel

Saturday-May 10th - Bill Perry

Saturday-May 17th - Kevin Pepe

Saturday-May 24th - T/B/A

Saturday-May 31st - Brian Zappel

Coming Soon

May 11th - Mothers' Day Breakfast
May 18th - Flag Placement, Albany Rural Cemetery and Memorial Service, Our Lady of Angels Cemetery
May 21st - Wreath placement, Colonie Crossings
May 26th - Memorial Day Parade and Open House (noon—3:00pm)

WANT INFORMATION ON THE AMERICAN LEGION ?

Go to **www.legion.org**

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