The Zaloga Banner

The Joseph E. Zaloga Post 1520

Serving Our Community, State and Nation since 1946

518-459-1520

John J. Thompson Jr., Commander

www.zalogapost1520.org

zal1520@nycap.rr.com

"For God and Country"

March, 2024

Executive Board: Will meet on Tuesday, **March 5th** at **6:30PM.**

General Membership Meeting: The regular monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, **March 12th** at **7:00PM.**

Board of Trustees: Will meet on Tuesday **March 19th** at **6:30PM.**

Albany County American Legion: Will meet on Thursday, **March 28th** at the **North Albany Post #1910, Albany** at **7:00 PM.**

The **Honor a Vet** will be held on Monday **March 4th** at **8:30AM** at the **Blanchard-Currey Post #1040, Delmar, NY.** Refreshments will be served immediately following the ceremony.

St Patrick's Day Special

On Sunday, March 17th, from 2:00 to 6:00, you will have the opportunity to experience a Reuben (Pastrami or Corned Beef) sandwich piled high on grilled rye bread with Swiss cheese and sauerkraut (with a side of macaroni salad) like you have never had before for a donation of only $12.00. There will be **no** "call in" takeout orders available. Show your Irish spirit by wearing your green and join everybody who will be looking for the pot of gold.

Support our Troops Committee/Arts 4 Vets

Please consider joining the Post's Arts 4 Vets group. They meet every Friday morning from 9:00 to noon. Currently they are working with "Drama pieces", taking creative writing to develop them into a more or creative expression. They have a music therapist from "Music Speak" and an art therapist from "CREATE". They go to Breezy Lawn Farm on Thursdays to learn about horses and they also enjoy photography. In addition, many of the them will soon begin a college course with Clement Veteran Initiative. For more info regarding any of the Arts 4 Vets programs or initiatives contact Penny Lee Deere @ *penylee56@yahoo.com.*

Membership

We are now in our 9th month of the 2024 membership year. Our renewal is at 539, which represents 93% of our goal of 581. We need 42 members to renew their membership so the Post can attain 100%. As a convenience, you can pay your dues online at www.legion.org/renew. If you have not paid your dues, your green key card will not allow you access to the Post; entrance will only be allowed with a beige key card. If you know of a member who is financially unable to pay his/her dues at this time, please notify Harvey Martel at (518) 256-2256.

Volunteers

As discussed in previous newsletters, volunteers are needed for any number of functions and activities at the Post. This could mean doing something on a one time basis or on a regular (perhaps weekly) basis. The point is, any time a member of our family steps up to help in some way, it eases the burden on those who are already doing so much to keep our Post in the forefront. If you are at all interested in helping out, or would like more information regarding helping please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Bob McGraw at (518) 265-6851 or email him at *robertmcgrawjr@gmail.com.*

Poppy Distribution

Poppy Chairman, Roger Gulley reminds us that **May** is **Poppy month**. Yes, it is a few months away, but 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** and leave a message. Roger has various times and locations available to distribute Poppies so please consider donating some of your valuable time to help with this important endeavor.

Commander's Message

This year the weather has been extremely nice with very few storms (knock on wood), so it has allowed more things to be accomplished at the Post.

The Post was quite busy in February. We had the Post Valentine party and the Super Bowl gathering. The turnout for the parties was very well attended. I really appreciate all the members that are attending so we can continue to provide times to get together.

March is the beginning of a busy period which includes the distribution of Poppies during May. If you can find some time to provide Roger Gulley (Poppies chairman) assistance with this program it would be greatly appreciated. You can reach Roger at 518-489—0331, Bob McGraw (Volunteer Chairman) 518-265-6851, or the Post at 518-459-1520 and leave your name and phone number and someone will get back to you. March 12th is the general meeting at 7 PM and we will be celebrating the Legion Birthday. The Auxiliary, being very gracious, will be providing those attending with a meal consisting of meatloaf, mashed potatoes, vegetables, and dessert. It would be nice to see a good turnout.

March 20th is the last day to have any article (s) in for the newsletter that will be completed on the 21st. March 28th is the Albany County Legion meeting at the N. Albany Post at 7 PM. Hope to see a nice Zaloga turnout.

We still have many projects that need to be accomplished and in need of help to get these projects completed. Please contact Bob McGraw (518-265-6851) if you can provide help.

Hoping every member has a safe month and good health.

John J. Thompson Jr.

Commander

Queen of Hearts

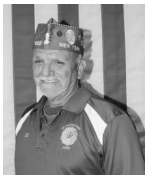
Our Queen of Hearts game continues to flourish with the drawing held every Friday during BINGO intermission. The growth of the jackpot depends on the sales both at BINGO and during the week in the DeMizio Lounge. The cost of a ticket is only $1.00 and the value of the Queen when found is 60% of all tickets sold during that particular cycle.

Alb. County Veterans Service

Scott Leslie has been officially named the Director of the Albany County Veterans' Service Bureau. He is located at 100 Heritage Lane, 5th floor, Albany, NY 12211. His phone number is (518) 447-5678, his fax address is (518)447-7714 and his email address is scott.leslie2albanycountyny.gov.

SAL Corner

Joe Eworonsky, Squadron Commander



Hello everyone. I hope everyone is doing well. If you have not paid your dues yet you are now considered delinquent and your card will not work. Stop into the Post or see Dave Bishop ASAP. Membership is $40. Tailgating is over for the season; they were successful events as we the Son's were able to donate over $2,000. back to our Post. Thank you to all that participated. Valentine's Party was a sold-out event and everyone had a great time. Participation at these events are highly recommended and it keeps your Post active. so, on that note: mark your calendars on Sunday March 17th there will be Rueben or Pastrami sandwiches from 2-6 for $12. Stop in and enjoy these piled high sandwiches. The Children's Easter social is March 24th from 1 to 3. Stop in and sign up the kiddos. The Post is planning on having Taco Sunday on April 7th, more details will follow. There was no 50/50 for Feb. but 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 4:30PM with games starting at 7:00PM. Each week prizes in excess of $2,300 are awarded. Also available is a 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
Bill Kearsing - At Home

"We remember our fallen comrades"

Alexander (Al) J. Green 01/23/24

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

Pam Tracy, President

Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on **Tuesday, March 19, 2024.** Please bring your favorite snack to share. As always, coffee and tea will be provided. Volunteers are needed to help set up and clean up.

Membership: As of today, the Unit has 360 members paid. A paid membership opens doors to our Unit in helping with the many projects that we work on during the year. It also allows many perks for members to get when showing their card. It is not too late to bring your member status up to date. Dues are $35.00 for Seniors (18 years of age and older) and $8.00 for Juniors (under 18 years of age). Please make your check out to: ALA Unit 1520 and mail it to: Pamela Tracy, 111 Frederick Avenue, Albany, New York 12205. If you chose to pay online, please let me know so that I can mail your membership and key card to you.

50/50 Raffle: This raffle drawing takes place once a month. Anyone is eligible to participate in it. The cost is $1.00 per month ($10.00 for the remainder of the year). You can purchase as many chances as you would like. This raffle is also a vital part of the Unit's operation. Please join in on this worthy program. Make your check out to ALA Unit 1520. In doing so, please enclose mailing labels for each monthly chance. You can mail your check to Beverly Schilling in care of the Post or you can see Bev every Friday night at Bingo. The winner of the December drawing was Audrey Boyce for $172.00. The January winner was Bob Napier for $132.00. The February winner was Audrey Boyce again for $130.00.

Main Hall/Bar Room Decorating for Valentines Day: Once again a shout out Bev and Larry Schilling for making the Main Hall look so nice for our Annual Valentine Dinner Dance. Also, a special Thank You goes out Joe and Pat Eworonsky, Bob Baldwin, Tom Gallagher and Anne Trong for a decorating job well done. I would also like to mention all of the Auxiliary members that remained after our monthly meeting on February 20th to help dismantle the decorations.

March /American Legion Birthday Month. March 12th is the Men's regular monthly meeting. A birthday celebration will be held that night. Our own Claire Grant will be serving dinner to our Post members after the meeting. We are in need of helpers to serve and cleanup. Anyone willing to bake can drop their goods off at the Post that day. Beverly Schilling will once again be baking one of her delicious cakes. Our Legionnaires are very appreciative of the meal and the baked goods. Any questions, please call me at 518-459- 9259.

AUXILIARY COUNTY MEETING: Our Unit will be hosting the Albany County Auxiliary Meeting on March 26th at 7:00 PM. I am also seeking baked goods donations for that evening. Please drop any donation off the Post that day. Be sure to put my name on the item.

POPPY DISTRIBUTION: The 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.

Childrens Easter Ice Cream Social: This event will be held on Sunday, March 24, 2024, from 1:00 – 3:00 in the Post Rooms. The Easter Bunny will be coming along with a wonderful storyteller from our own Colonie Town Library. The signup box is in the Lounge area. We are limited to 50 children with two adults per child. Stewart's make your own sundaes will be served to the children. Adults may purchase one for the price of $1.00. Volunteers are needed for this fun activity. Contact Pat Eworonsky at 518 334 0279 if you can give us a hand.

Stratton VA Medical Center Bingo: Chairman, Jo Grace is working hard on getting the Bingo program up and running again soon. Stay tuned for updates.

Chaplain's Report: Bereavement cards were sent to the Family of Al Green (member Jodi Glass' Dad) and the Family of Dolores Michalski. Get Well/Thinking of you cards were sent to Rosella Slausen, Diane Wilsey, Diana Wright, Genevieve Gallagher, Marie Slagen, Jeanne Moseley, Barbara Klen and Judy Miller.

County Meeting: Our next county meeting will be held at **Our Unit on March 26, 2024.**

. 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

PLEASE

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

To view info and photos of events involving our post, go to *Joseph E. Zaloga American Legion Post 1520* on Facebook or the internet.

Saturday Night Entertainment

Saturday-March 2nd - Brian Zapel

Saturday-March 9th - Scott McNellis

Saturday-March 16th - Bill Perry

Saturday-March 23rd - Bill Perry

Saturday-March 30th - Scott McNellis

Coming Soon

March 4th - Honor a Vet @ Blanchard-Currey Post #1040
March 17th - St. Patrick's Day Special
March 24th - Children's Easter Social
Apr. 1st - Honor a Vet @ J. E. Zaloga Post #1520

WANT INFORMATION ON THE AMERICAN LEGION ?

Go to **www.legion.org**

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