



North Albany Post 1610

American Legion

35 North First Street, Albany, New York 12204

October 30, 2009

Dear Legion Family Member and Friends,

Well fall is here and winter is on its way. Try attending some our meetings with your busy schedule. The next regular meeting will be held on November 16th at 7:00 PM. The December executive board meeting will be held on Monday, December 7th, at 7:00 PM and the December regular meeting will be held on December 21st, also at 7:00 PM.



This image provided by the US Navy shows the littoral combat ship Independence (LCS 2) underway during builder's trials on July 12, 2009. Builder's trials are the first opportunity for the shipbuilder and the U.S. Navy to operate the ship underway, and provide an opportunity to test and correct issues before acceptance trials. The second of the Navy's new generation of speedy warships designed to operate close to shore topped 50 miles per hour in builder trials completed this month. Officials say the Independence, a 418-foot ship built in Alabama, traveled in excess of 45 knots, which equates to nearly 52 mph, and sustained 44 knots during a four-hour, full-speed sprint.

(AP Photo/Dennis Griggs - US Navy)

VETERAN ACTIVITIES

HONOR-A-VET

December's Honor-A-Vet ceremony will be held Monday, December 7th at 8:30 AM in the Cahill room, 1st floor of 112 State Street.

Golden Corral's 9th annual MILITARY APPRECIATION Monday, Free "Thank You" Dinner Monday, Nov. 16, 2009, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Golden Corral's 9th annual Military Appreciation Monday dinner will be held on Monday, November 16, 2009, from 5 to 9 pm in all Golden Corral restaurants nationwide.

The free dinner meal is a special "thank you tribute" to *any person who has ever served in the United States Military*. If you are a veteran, retired, currently serving, in the National Guard or Reserves, you are invited to join us for Golden Corral's Military Appreciation Monday dinner.

To date, Golden Corral restaurants have provided over 2.2 million free meals and contributed over \$3.3 million to the Disabled American Veterans organization.

POST INFORMATION

WEB PAGE

The Post web page can be accessed at <http://www.northalbanypost1610.org/>. Among other information, the monthly newsletter, Post history, meeting schedules and current activities are posted on this site.

BARTENDERS NEEDED!!!!!!!

Mick Ryan Here! Need Bartenders, Will Train. Over the last few weeks as you drove by the post and noticed that the lights were off, it is due to lack of help in keeping the place running. Anyone interested call 465-4800 and leave a message for Mick.

MARINES WIN TOP SHARPSHOOTER PRIZE

October 26, 2009 Military.com by Bryant Jordan

The Marine Corps earned bragging rights during the 9th annual U.S. Army International Sniper Competition at Fort Benning, Ga., last week, when Leathernecks from the Corps' Scout Sniper School (West) in Camp Pendleton, Calif., claimed the title of top marksmen.

But because of the nature of their work the top-scoring Marines -- Team 3 of the Pendleton school -- will not be doing any public bragging.

Those Marines, along with most other winners -- Marine and Soldier alike -- are keeping their names confidential, according to Benning spokeswoman Brenda Donnell, who told Military.com today that only two Army team members are being identified. Donnell believes the secrecy is related to the commands the snipers are with.

In all, 31 two-man teams took part in the week-long event that, in addition to the Overall place won by Pendleton's Team 3, featured 1st- 2nd- and 3rd-place winners in the Service Class and Open Class categories, according to a Benning announcement.

Service class teams were Marines or Soldiers who fire 7.62 NATO or small rounds as a primary or secondary weapon system, while those competing in the Open Class were snipers whose primary or secondary weapon fires a round larger than the 7.62, the Army said.

In addition to winning in the Overall category, Pendleton's Team 3 won 1st Place in Service Class.

Other winning teams in the Service Class were:

2nd Place - Team 24, D Company, 2nd Battalion, Special Warfare Training Group, Fort Bragg, N.C.

3rd Place - C Troop, Team 6, 1st Bn., 73rd Cavalry, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg. Team members were identified as Ian Erickson and Justin Chavis. Donnell did not have their ranks.

Open Class winners were:

1st Place - Team 10, A Company, 2nd Bn., 46th Infantry Regiment, 194th Armor Brigade, Fort Knox, Ky. Team members were Staff Sgt. Kevin Wildman and Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Johns, Donnell said.

2nd Place - Team 23, D Company, 2nd Bn., SWT Group, Fort Bragg.

3rd Place - Team 21, U.S. Army Special Operations Command, Fort Bragg.

VETS MAY GET ANOTHER STIMULUS CHECK

October 16, 2009 Stars and Stripes by Leo Shane III

Millions of veterans could get another \$250 stimulus check next year if President Barack Obama can convince lawmakers that the move is needed to help the economy.

The plan would follow the economic recovery checks sent out this spring to senior citizens, disabled workers and some veterans as part of the broader stimulus package.

Veterans and their survivors who are currently receiving disability compensation, dependency and indemnity compensation, or pension payouts would qualify. Any veteran receiving Social Security benefits would also be eligible for the \$250 check.

The plan would apply only to citizens living in the United States, Puerto Rico or Guam.

In a statement Wednesday night, Obama said the checks are designed to help "those hardest hit by the recession." An estimated 2 million veterans would be eligible for the payments, not including those among the 49 million Social Security beneficiaries who could receive checks.

Senior administration officials would not commit to when veterans will see the checks, noting that Congress still must draft and adopt legislation to authorize the payments.

But they believe lawmakers will be open to the idea, with one official noting that "the most important thing we can do to strengthen this economy is provide additional relief to those hardest hit."

Both House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said they will work with Obama on the proposal, with Pelosi saying in a statement that "providing another economic recovery payment is the right thing to do."

The announcement came just hours before the Social Security Administration announced it will not have a cost-of-living adjustment for Social Security recipients in 2010, the first time in 35 years without an increase.

White House officials said the drop in inflation rates negated the need for a Social Security COLA increase.

Another round of \$250 checks would cost about \$13 billion; Obama pledged that the money will not hurt Social Security, but offered no specifics on where the funding would come from.

MEMBERSHIP

We have 197 paid members to date, our goal is 319. All members should remember that 2010 dues are now \$30.00 for a regular membership or \$27.00 if you are age 62 and retired. Retirees should disregard the national dues notice indicating \$30.00. Those notices for 2010 dues were in the mail. We do appreciate those that send their dues in promptly. Active duty personnel should email nap1610@yahoo.com so we can now that if you are active or not, when verified your card will be sent out within a couple of weeks.

Members confined to home due to a long-term illness or nursing, assisted living residences should contact the Post at 465-4800 or email nap1610@yahoo.com to indicate their present status.

Legionnaire Discount;

If you shop at Home Depot or Lowe's, show your American Legion Card and save 10%.

REMINDER:

All honorably discharged Veterans do qualify for Military Funeral Honors. If you have any questions contact myself at nap1610@yahoo.com and I can get you the right phone numbers to contact.

POST EVERLASTING

**HARRY A. HANSEN
WILLIAM HESLER
WILLIAM R. GREGORY**

For God and Country,

Mike Swezey, Commander

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Post Web Page	http://www.northalbanypost1610.org/	
Chuck Kelly, OIC Color Guard	465-4800	