



Ten-Forty Times

The American Legion - Nathaniel Adams Blanchard Post 1040 - Delmar NY

January - February 2012

Coupons Worth \$124,000 Help Our Troops

As a Unit 1040 Auxiliary Member, Roseann Lohery has been involved in the National Security's Program of supplying our troops with manufacturers coupons for use at the commissary bay military personnel and their families. Many members and outside individuals have participated by supplying Roseann with their unwanted coupons.

The unwanted coupons are clipped, sorted, counted and valued before a letter is prepared to the commissary. The commissaries currently supported are Saratoga, Fort Drum and Vogelweh, Germany. The Vogelweh commissary routinely send letters of appreciation to Roseann. The New York commissaries use most of the coupons as they have access to other stores.

Since 2006 we have sent approximately 97,000 coupons worth about \$124,000. Anyone wishing to assist in the program can leave their unwanted, unexpired coupons (clipped or unclipped) in the coat closet in the red, white and blue labeled box fashioned by Elsie Futia.

Please help support this worthwhile initiative by dropping off your unwanted coupons today.

Your e-mail address could have saved you money if you registered it with the Post. Register today!



Final Salute

**Robert Rosenberry
Warren T. Boutelle**

Commando Monument Near Ground Zero Unveiled on Vet's Day



Artist Douwe Blumberg, left, watches as a tarp is removed from his "De Opresso Liber" statue, Thursday, Nov. 10, 2011, in New York. The 16-foot bronze statue honoring the U.S. special operations response to 9/11 was expected to be unveiled Nov. 11, 2011, by Vice President Joe Biden and Dr. Jill Biden. (AP Photo/Mary Altaffer)

The first statue to be placed near ground zero in New York City, to salute the heroes of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, will not be a fireman or policeman but is a lone U.S. Commando on horseback in the Afghan mountains.

Entitled "De Opresso Liber" – "to free the oppressed," the Green Berets' motto, the statue is a tribute to the first organized US forces to strike back at Al Queda's stronghold in Afghanistan. Thirty-four U.S. commandos conducted raids, organized Afghan tribesmen to fight the insurgents and even participated in a cavalry charge.

The statue is 18 feet tall, weighs 3 tons and has a piece of the World Trade Center imbedded in its base. NAUS salutes those who inspired the statue and those who followed through and made sure the statue was completed.

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From The Commander

Welcome to 2012. Hope all had a great holiday season. The Post continued it resurgence in 2011 and we are hoping for bigger and better things in 2012.

We still need the help of the Legion membership. We have had no interest in the reforming of our Color Guard. It doesn't take much to do and we would like to have a minimum of 6 persons. Color Guard members only have 2 functions per year. The Memorial Day Parade, where its about a 2 mile march and the Flag disposal ceremony we perform in June (no marching).

The Color Guard is important as we no longer have 30-40 veterans to march in the Parade. The Parade is sponsored by us and it's a shame we can't let the community that yes, we are still here and we still support this community.

And while I'm at it membership at our meetings has reached an all time low. We need a quorum to conduct any business and that's been a tough goal to reach for the past few years. We serve food and refreshments after each meeting so come on out and see what your Post is doing and help support us so we may continue to support you. We meet the 1st Monday of each month, except July and August. In September we meet the day after Labor day at 7:30.

OK, off the soap box. As we head into the new year we continue to add to our events and remove some which are no longer working. We have suspended the Bingo as it continues to loose money. Also another casualty is the 3rd Thursday Lunch as attendance has dropped way down. The Children's Christmas Party was a huge success this year and we will be continuing to hold it. This was our second one and we had 84 children attend. Karaoke seems to be a big hit as well. So we have signed up for another year. Ken Wells has

started a Tuesday Pool Tournament and that seems to be going well also. If interested sign up at the bar or show up on Tuesday and see if they have a spot for you.

This past Veterans day we went down to the Kenwood Manor Assisted Living facility and we honored 21 veterans for their service. This was an important part of who we are and what we do. The residents were very appreciative of us coming down and spending time with them. We plan to do this next year as well. We may even branch it out to the other facilities in town as well.

We continue to upgrade and improve the Post in both the Lounge and Hall upstairs, if you haven't seen it we have replaced the Lounge carpet and our entrance foyer and stairs.

Superbowl Sunday the Son's will once again sponsor the Superbowl Party to include a TV raffle and food. As usual I'm sure it will be a great time. I'd also like to thank the Auxiliary and the Sons for their continued support. Without your assistance we could not do what we do. Thank you.

We have also made a return to the Albany County American Legion. Our attendance at these meeting has been pretty poor over the past 4-5 years. I will be continuing to attend these and we hope to increase our presence there as well. We will carpool from the Post to the meeting if you would like to come along.

We again this year will be supporting Legion Baseball as well as moving to support the Tri-Village Little League and we even have a Softball team.

So next time your looking for a way to spend an evening with friends come on down to the Post. See the changes that have been taking place at your Post, make some new friends or renew an old friendship.

For God and Country
Steve Riedel
Commander American Legion
N.A. Blanchard Post 1040

American Legion Officers

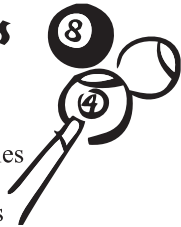
Commander.....Steve Riedel
1st Vice Commander.....Al Hofaker
2nd Vice Commander.....Ralph Ambrosio
3rd Vice Commander.....Jeremy Martelle
Adjutant.....Steve Corson
Finance Officer.....Joe Vandelloo
Chaplain.....Merle Oliver
Sergeant-at-Arms.....Pete Gilbert
Historian.....Ollie Palmer

*Take an hour, once a month and
do something nice for a Veteran!*

POOL TOURNAMENT NEWS

Chris Chadraoui and Don Shrader are front runners with Pete Gilbert still in the mix. It took a while to settle in and set up some rules so that everyone could enjoy this event. With all the discussions out of the picture, it's just pool and pizza every Tuesday night at the Post. There has been a steady turn out every week. Ladies are welcome to join in the action. Open to members and guests.

Kenny "the shark" Wells, Chairman



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MEMBER

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Sons of the Legion News

Happy New Year to All! This past year was an extremely busy one for SAL #1040. Our members helped cook and serve at two 20-week Club dinners and the Past Commanders/Presidents Dinner. We hosted the Super Bowl Party, served corned beef sandwiches in March, hosted Italian Night and organized and served at the Thank-a-Vet Dinner. We also organized, cooked and served at six Breakfast Buffets. That's an incredible undertaking. Thank you to all those members who made this possible.

We currently have 225 members and with a lot more planned for 2012 we need help from a greater number of members. Attendance at our December meeting was wonderful. I'm asking all 225 members to step up to the plate and pitch in at least two events during the 2012 year. Coming up next is a Breakfast Buffet on January 29, the Super Bowl Party on February 5 and the 20-week Club Dinner soon thereafter. We'd also like to host some fish fry dinners during lent this year.

We communicate monthly with our members by e-mail so please make sure your e-mail is registered with us. Send a note to **nabpost1040@gmail.com**. Our meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7pm. I hope to see you at a meeting real soon.

Robert Wagner
Commander

*Sons of the American Legion
Paying Tribute to the Service of our Fathers*

 **Continues**
Karaoke All Winter Long!
JAN 21, FEB 18, & MAR 17

Sons of the Legion Officers

Commander	Bob Wagner
1st Vice Commander.....	Bob Wagner
2nd Vice Commander.....	Barry Bedrosian
3rd Vice Commander.....	Danny Williams
Adjutant	Don Guertze
Treasurer	Don Buist
Historian	Mike Coffey
Sgt at Arms	Butch Levine

Legion Auxiliary News

Season's Greetings to all Auxiliary Unit 1040 Members & families! Thanksgiving is a near memory and we are getting in the spirit for a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year! Thanks to all those who have and continue to support our unit. You all have something of value to share, please participate.

A few reminders: All Auxiliary Unit 1040 member dues must be paid by 12/31/11. FAILURE TO PAY DUES WILL SUSPEND YOUR LEGION PRIVILEGES; UN-PAID MEMBERS NAME LIST WILL BE POSTED IN LOUNGE. Please notify Harriet Minick if you have questions.

The Nov. 27th breakfast buffet was missing the Auxiliary volunteers that signed up to work. PLEASE REMEMBER WE ARE COUNTING ON YOU! WHEN YOU VOLUNTEER, FOLLOW THROUGH.

There are still many unit committees that are going with-out a chairperson. No experience necessary! To those of you who are chair people of a committee, it is still necessary for you to send the unit president your reports on a monthly basis as well as the County chairperson of your committee. We want credit for your hard work!

Our next meetings are January 17th and February 21st 7:00pm. Mid Winter Conference is January 27th & 28th, if you wish to attend let us know and we will send you a form to fill out and send in. Aux unit 1040 is hosting the Aux County meeting on Feb. 28 at 7:00pm – chairperson and committee needed to organize refreshments.

We are planning a game night at the post – Jan 21st – 6:30pm, bring a game & snack. All welcome. Keep a look out for the February Quilt Raffle tickets being mailed soon. The raffle will be drawn at the Auxiliary's March Madness on March 3. The proceeds of the raffle and the T2T event go to support the many programs the Auxiliary sponsors, locally and nationally, servicing our veterans and their families. Your support is crucial for success.

Service not self,

Francine Waldron
President, Auxiliary Unit 1040

Legion Auxiliary Officers

President - Francine Waldron
459-1846
forester6@aol.com

Treasurer - Tracy Risko
439-4108
TRisko@NYSBA.com

Vice Pres. - Harriet Minick
439-2857
grammy12209@hotmail.com

Secretary - Dale Lukatschat
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LADIES AUXILIARY MARCH MADNESS TRASH2TREASURES EVENT

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to the
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(no furniture)

Craftsmen & Vendors, Food & More

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January 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 7:00 PM Legion Meeting	3	4	5	6 5:00 PM First Friday Food Nite Sausage & Peppers	7
8	9	10	11 7:00 PM SAL Meeting	12	13	14
15	16	17 7:00 PM Auxiliary Meeting	18 5:00 PM Cheerleaders Fundraiser	19 12:00 PM Third Thursday Lunch	20	21 6:30 PM Bring a game & a snack Sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary 8:00 PM Karaoke w/ Marie
22	23	24	25	26	27 9:00 AM Auxiliary Mid-Winter Conference @ Colonie Marriott	28 9:00 AM Auxiliary Mid-Winter Conference @ Colonie Marriott
29 9:00 AM Breakfast Buffet	30 7:00 PM Board of Directors Meeting	31				

LEVINE'S LANDSCAPING

FALL & SPRING CLEAN UPS

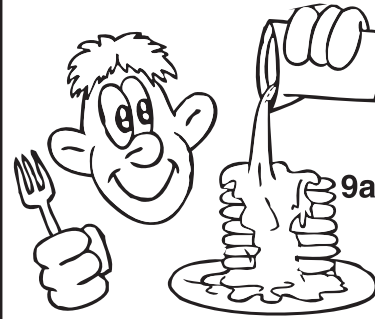
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It's more
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giving back
to the
Veterans.
Do your part!



BREAKFAST BUFFET OPEN TO THE PUBLIC JAN 29, FEB 26 & MAR 25

9am - Noon - - - Adults \$7, Kids 12 & under \$4

Pancakes, French Toast Omelettes,
Scrambled Eggs, Home Fries,
Sausage, Ham, Fruit, Juice & Coffee

February 2012

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

			1	2	3 5:00 PM First Friday Food Nite To be announced Sign up for e-mail to know more.	4
5 3:00 PM SUPER BOWL PARTY	6 7:00 PM Legion Meeting	7	8 7:00 PM SAL Meeting	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 12:00 PM Third Thursday Lunch	17	18 8:00 PM Karaoke w/ Marie
19	20	21 7:00 PM Auxiliary Meeting	22	23	24	25
26 9:00 AM Breakfast Buffet	27 7:00 PM Board of Directors Meeting	28 7:00 PM Auxiliary County Meeting	29			

The Editor's Corner

Thank you to all the members who have recently submitted their e-mail addresses. We now have e-mail addresses for 183 of about 730 members in total among all three organizations. SAL leads the race with 46% of its members submitting e-mail addresses. Was this prompted by the SPECIAL OFFER that we announced in the last issue? For those of you who did not register, you missed out on a free drink in the Lounge during Thanksgiving week.

It's important that we get your e-mail address because sometime in the not to distant future, the *Ten-Forty Times* will more than likely be distributed electronically in full color on a monthly basis. Please sign up now. Send your e-mail address to me at nabpost1040@gmail.com. Please be sure to include your full name and the organization (RL, AUX, SAL) that you belong to. There may be another special offer coming soon. *Hey, you never know!*

Barry E. Bedrosian

20 WEEK CLUB WINNERS

10/28 - Dorothy Lupperle	11/25 - Joann Vandeloo
11/4 - Judy Dearstynce	12/2 - John Rees
11/11 - Bill Townsend	12/9 - Butch Levine
11/18 - Tina Mancuso	12/16 - Matt Downey

LADIES AUXILIARY QUILT RAFFLE

1st Prize – Hand Crafted Quilt
2nd Prize – Hand Crafted Quilt
3rd Prize – Decorative Wall Hanging
4th Prize – Decorative Table Runner

Drawing Date: March 3, 2012

\$1 per ticket
12 tickets for \$10
(same person)
20 tickets for \$15

Tickets available from members
or in the Lounge.

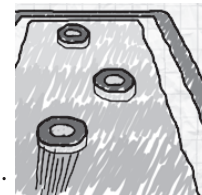
**ANNUAL WIDE SCREEN TV RAFFLE
HELD SUPER BOWL SUNDAY**

**TV GOES ON DISPLAY
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minick and giacone win shuffleboard tournament

Harriet Minick and Phil Giacone won the first half of the shuffle board league. Merle Oliver won both games of Horse Collar at the leagues Christmas Party. The league starts again in January.



*Dick Drew
Chairman.*

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Legion - Gregory Bishop, Paul Garrison and William Hammer

Auxiliary - Darlene Pompai, Celcia Matthews and Evelyn Valentino

Sons - John D. Woops, Michael D'Ascoli, Robert Havill, Robert W. Dunn, Mike Kelley, Michael Cathers, Timothy Holmes, Kevin Pittz, Gregory Pittz, John Defino, Douglas Vogel, Carl Macri, Peter Lauricella, David Alexander, Steve Barber, Earl Langenbach and Joe Ciulik

Thanks to our Veterans for their service!



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Around the Post

I would like to first wish everybody a very Happy, Safe, and Prosperous New Year. The members of Post 1040, had a very successful 2011. All 3 organizations, AL, LA, SAL, all met their quotas and increased their memberships.

Many thanks to Janet Morris for her supervision of the Children's Christmas Party and thank you to all her staff for their assistance. Janet starts buying presents now, watching for all the sales for next years party. Frank Wickham came to the rescue again bringing Santa Clause (played by John Weidman) by Fire Truck, due to the lack of snow.

Thanks also to SAL Commander Bob Wagner and his crew for the successful Tinsel Ball. The hors d'oeuvres were delicious and the open bar a real surprise.

Butchie Levine and his crew really have it together for the Breakfast Buffet. The omelets are a big hit. Congratulations to the whole crew. I understand we are going to keep the buffet's going in 2012. I want to thank all who give their time to the post to make these and all our events successful.

In December, the Board of Directors appointed PJ McKenna Bar Steward & Banquet Manager. Please contact PJ with questions about the Lounge or to reserve the banquet hall.

Our Bethlehem Central Cheerleaders won their tournament in Orlando, FL and are on their way to Las Vegas for the National Title. There will be a fund raiser Jan. 18th.

Phil Giacone
Chairman of the Board



Tinsel Ball Raffle Winners

1st Barb Fabbie-\$400	3rd Goodwin-\$100
2nd John Osterhaut-\$200	4th Lori Wright-\$50

Board of Directors

Clark Zeh	George TenEyke
Dick Drew	Joe Vandeloo
Steve Riedel	Al Hofaker
Larry Justice	Mark Wahl
Joe Giacone	Phil Giacone <i>Chairman</i>

Chairman Needed for Round Robin Tournament

The Post would like to start up the Round Robin Tournament again on Wednesday nights at 7:00PM. We need someone to volunteer to be Chairman. The event is Coed and open to all Post Members.

How the Round Robin works; Each night we will draw for teams. The event consists of Pool, Shuffle Board and Darts. The teams play each other in the elimination matches, with the final two teams playing for the championship.

The event is very exciting, and it's not a commitment to play every week, you come when you want, as there are different teams each week. So, somebody please step up to the plate, so we can get this tournament started.

Phil Giacone
Chairman of the Board



So, You Didn't Hear About It?

That's because we don't have your e-mail. So, get over to your keyboard right now and send your name and organization name to us at nabpost1040@gmail.com.

Cruise With Us!

9 Nights to Bermuda/Caribbean

When: April 26, 2012 thru May 5, 2012
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Spend a Minute with a Member

Ray Bender, former Naval Signalman is in his 43rd year as a member of the N.A. Blanchard Post of the American Legion. Born in Albany, New York Ray's dad was an Albany Firefighter. At 17, Ray joined the U.S. Navy. He attended Boot Camp in Sampson, New York near Buffalo and completed Armed Guard School in Norfolk, Virginia. As a qualified gunner he was one of 27 Navy men assigned to a Merchant Marine Vessel.

Ray's first mission was aboard one of 170 Liberty Ships that sailed from the U.S. to England in 1943 with supplies for the English and United States troops. Following that assignment he headed to the Invasion at Normandy but his orders were changed slightly and was specifically assigned to the taking of Omaha Beach was the responsibility of United States Army troops, with sea transport provided by the U.S. Navy and elements of the Royal Navy.

After that Ray qualified as a Signalman and a highly qualified one at that. He was able to read 14 words per minute by light which far exceeded the Navy's standard of 8 words per minute. As a Signalman, Ray headed to Pearl Harbor on an LST (Landing Ship Tank) and was then assigned to the Destroyer USS Adams headed to Okinawa. While at sea, Ray recalls being passed a dark pair of sunglasses one day with specific instructions to keep them on. As Ray looked up he saw a bright light - - - the bombing of Nagasaki, Japan. Ray was discharged April 26, 1946 wearing the American Theater Medal, the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, the Victory Medal and the European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal.

Upon his return Ray worked at Montgomery Ward and then for NBC, IBS and Millbrook Bakeries as a Route Manager, retiring in 1986. Ray and his late wife Elsie of 28 years, loved to dance. Ray recalls many Saturday nights at the Blanchard Post dancing to the Cordialeer's in the late 70's and early 80's. In his 43 years at the Blanchard Post, Ray has served as Secretary, Bell Jar Chairman and Part-time Bartender. He continues to enjoy bowling. Ray has three adult children; Richard, Diane and David.

Last month Ray travelled with 34 other Capital District Veterans to Washington, D.C. on the Patriot Flight. Ray was moved by the ceremonies and thank you's he and his comrades received while entering the Albany Airport and also when arriving in Baltimore as they were greeted by Cadets from the U.S. Naval Academy.

So, if you every want to know about LST's or why our Bell Jar Tickets were once confiscated by the Gaming Commission, just ask Ray.

DUES ARE DUE!

Thank you to all the
RL, AUX & SAL
members who
have paid their
2012 dues.

Anyone who has
not paid their dues
by January 31 will
be suspended of
privileges until their
dues are paid.
Unpaid member
names will be posted
in the Lounge.